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   and Tourism ......................................... Mr A R Winde
Minister of Social Development ..................... Mr A T Fritz
Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs
   and Development Planning ......................... Mr A W Bredell
Minister of Housing ................................... Mr B S Madikizela
Minister of Education ................................. Mr D A C Grant
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The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL[B 3—2012]

(Debate on Vote 1 – Premier)

†The PREMIER: Mr Speaker, Cabinet members, the Leader of the Opposition, leaders of political parties, hon members, Director-General, colleagues, friends and citizens of the Western Cape, it gives me great pleasure to present the 2012/2013 Budget Vote of the Department of the Premier.

I would like to begin this morning by thanking the Director-General and everyone working in my department for their hard work and their dedication to achieving one of the government’s key strategic objectives, namely “building the best-run regional government in the world”.

As I explained in last year’s budget, this objective has become the focal point of the Department of the Premier and rests on the philosophy that if we want to create the conditions for job-creating economic growth and increase the opportunities that are available to all our citizens, we have to get the machinery of government working properly. As the National Development Plan, which is a brilliant plan, so clearly states, if we want South Africa to work, we have to have a competent state before we have a developmental state.
It has to be a competent state. We have to have the right regulatory environment and we have to have leadership at every level of society. It is that leadership that we would like to achieve in the Western Cape in a competent state with the right regulatory environment because we, too, very much in the province would like to contribute, and make the most valuable contribution, to co-operative governance and the National Development Plan. That is what the Department of the Premier has concentrated on over the last three years.

By adopting a new approach to governing, which includes changing our organisational structures, operating practices, personnel systems and service delivery models, we have aimed to build an efficient, transparent, responsive and corruption-free government that delivers cost-effective services to our citizens.

We recognised from the outset that building a world-class administration that delivers services efficiently and effectively is going to take time. While we have laid the foundations over the last few years, we realised that we still have a long way to go when it comes to building the walls and erecting the roof on those foundations. That is why we have earmarked 2019 as the outer time frame for when we expect to see the delivery of some of the indicators falling under the strategic objectives.

†Mr M OZINSKY: After your government is long gone.

†The PREMIER: However, I’m pleased to announce that we have reached an important milestone this financial year, which is that this is the first time our government has had the opportunity ... [Interjections.] ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The PREMIER: ... to allocate funding directly to the deliverables focused on realising our 11 strategic objectives. This milestone highlights that we have progressed from the conceptualising and planning stages to where our government expenditure is directly aligned to the implementation of the plans contained in our strategic objectives.

Mr Speaker, may I say here today that the most difficult thing I have ever done in my political career is to take a plan and to turn it into budget line items with clear deliverables that are measured over time. That has been enormously difficult. We have also introduced a transversal management system which is going to achieve the strategic objectives, not in little silos but across government as a whole, because we all own those objectives together. I would like to thank every one of my colleagues for their extraordinary leadership in making that happen. It is understandable that when people are rooted in a particular way of doing things and when the silos are there and all the compliant mechanisms focused on individual departments, it takes extraordinary leadership of this Cabinet to make a transversal management system work. It has also taken extraordinary guidance by our colleague, the Director-General, and many others to ensure that that has happened. We are at that point two and a half years into our term.

I also know – and I don’t say this in any way demeaningly – that unless the national government can do the same with the National Development Plan, it will simply remain a plan on paper. That plan has to be landed in a budget. It has to be landed in government.
It has to be landed in transversal management systems focused on achieving outcomes, otherwise it will be just another plan that sees the dustbin of history.

We are very committed to work with the national government. I think the irony is that when we speak about co-operative governance, which is a requirement in our Constitution ... [Interjections.] ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Ozinsky!

†The PREMIER: ... there is no province in South Africa that works so hard to get co-operative governance going with the national government as the Western Cape does. We have also made this progress, despite the Western Cape government’s commitment to do more with less in the province, which is directly in line with the National Treasury’s call for austerity.

In this regard, it is important to note that the budget I’m presenting today is only R5 million more than the 2011/2012 Adjustments Budget of the Department of the Premier. [Interjections.] In other words, our main budget has increased by less than 1% and, as the hon members know, we are now doing the work in very many corporate areas of 10 departments previously. We have taken away the fragmentation and we have given a centre that works consistently and logically across this government to ensure transversal management, consistency and fair practice.

†Mr M OZINSKY: [Inaudible.] ... doing nothing.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Ozinsky!

†The PREMIER: Furthermore, ...

†Mr M OZINSKY: They’re doing nothing.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Ozinsky!

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Throw him out! [Laughter.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The PREMIER: Mr Speaker, please don’t throw out the hon Ozinsky. His party is about to do that. We don’t want to all gang up on him. [Laughter.][Interjections.]

Furthermore, Mr Speaker ... [Interjections.] Just wait for the hon Magwaza. Furthermore, we have continued to reduce the percentage of underspending in the Department of the Premier. Last year we reduced this to 0,39%, ie R2,45 million, compared to 1,27% in the 2009/2010 financial year. We are on track to having reduced our underspending even further during the 2011/2012 financial year to 0,1%, meaning that we will have spent 99,9% of our budget.

The total budget for the Department of the Premier for the 2012/2013 financial year is R699 million. This amount is broadly divided into five programmes, namely Executive and Administrative Support, Provincial-wide Strategic Management, Human Capital, the Centre for e-Innovation and Corporate Assurance.
I will now go through each programme briefly to explain some of my department’s key successes and highlight some of the key deliverables planned for this financial year.

Programme 1: Executive Support (Administration)

That is broadly the administrative functions of the Department of the Premier. Programme 1: Executive Support provides the back office support to the Premier, the Cabinet and the Director-General and receives R67 million for this financial year, a slight increase from last year’s R66.7 million.

One of the reasons why there has been a negligible increase is because no funding has been allocated to the recently closed Western Cape Provincial Development Council after our government met all its financial obligations during the previous financial year.

The work of the Humans Rights Directorate and the Human Rights Advocateur situated in my office, Ms Thandi Mpambo-Sibukwana, also falls under this programme.

One of the key ways in which we have upheld and promoted the rights of some of the most vulnerable citizens in our province is by paying personal attention to ad hoc complaints of human rights violations that were brought to the attention of the Office of the Premier during the past year.

These types of complaints are often complex in nature and fall across a number of provincial departments and the three spheres of government, and even across provincial boundaries, as exemplified by the work that we’ve done over the last three days to deal with the person who is critically ill in the Eastern Cape and whose son lives in the Western Cape. The transversal nature of these problems means that they are often simply referred from one government department to another without being resolved. That was a highly unsatisfactory situation.

However, when a complaint is received by my Office, Ms Mpambo-Sibukwana will personally go and investigate the complaint, will contact the correct officials in the relevant government departments and will follow up to make sure that the issue is resolved, if indeed it is resolvable by government.

A good example is the tragic case that was reported to us by residents living in an informal settlement in Lavender Hill. Residents reported that a young boy who had cerebral palsy was being locked up with his six-year-old sister in their shack each day by their mother who worked in Constantia. The young boy didn’t go to school and he spent his days in a camping chair because there was no money for a wheelchair. When the community brought this case to our attention, Ms Mpambo-Sibukwana immediately visited the family with social workers, who registered him for a social grant and gave him a wheelchair. He was also enrolled into a nearby school and was registered with the City of Cape Town’s Dial-A-Ride programme. Since then, he has been admitted to the Gugulethu Home where he lives during the week and comes home over the weekend, and now his situation is far, far better.

This case highlighted the fact that there are many families living in disadvantaged areas who have children with disabilities and don’t know how, or don’t have the means, to care for them.
To address this problem, the Human Rights Directorate, the Department of Social Development and the Department of Health will be launching a programme in partnership with Iris House, an institution that works with severely disabled children, to teach parents how to care for their disabled children and to relieve parents at times when they need to do other things so that their children are not neglected and not left alone during those times. Five other NGOs have also been identified to be part of this programme, because the children in this province whose rights are most profoundly neglected are disabled children in poor communities.

†Mr M OZINSKY: That’s why we have a Children’s Commissioner.

†The PREMIER: Sometimes they are so dreadfully neglected that children get tied to beds, or deaf children who can’t communicate get locked up because their parents are embarrassed by them. These children are a very special focus of ours.

During this financial year a tracking system will be developed in the Human Rights Directorate to track all complaints received from the public, from the initial inquiry up to its finalisation. This will further assist my department in ensuring all complaints are adequately resolved.

The Human Rights Directorate has also continued with its teenage pregnancy prevention programme.

Girls’ soccer tournaments that have focused on raising awareness of the dangers of teenage pregnancy, were hosted across the province with approximately 800 girls participating. The Directorate also awarded bursaries at the end of last year to 14 girls presently enrolled in an institution of higher learning. In this financial year the Human Rights Directorate will link its Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Programme to our government’s Mass Opportunity and Development (MOD) Centres, of which there are over 200 now in the province, to give young people constructive things to do in the afternoon, rather than to run around unattended, being under the influence of drug lords and other undesirable influences in the afternoon while their parents are still at work. The MOD Centres are one of the key flagships of this government and we believe have the potential to turn around much social dysfunction in many communities.

The International Relations Directorate in the Department of the Premier will continue to focus on strengthening our strategic partnerships with other countries, particularly in areas where we can increase trade and attract investment, and learn lessons from best practice in other regional governments and apply them to this province.

I will, for example, Mr Speaker, be leading a delegation of local and provincial government officials and representatives from the business sector to attend the next Regional Leaders’ Summit in São Paulo in Brazil in April, where we hope to continue strengthening our trade links and deepening relations with our four regional partners – Bavaria, Upper Austria, Georgia and São Paulo in Brazil – particularly in the areas of sustainable energy and development, which is the theme of this year’s summit. As we all know, the green economy is one of the key strategic, competitive and comparative advantages for the Western Cape and has the capacity to create thousands of jobs in the future, especially if we make our partnerships locally and internationally worthwhile for us. That will be our focus when we attend this year’s Regional Leaders’ Summit.
†Mr M OZINSKY: When are the Nazis coming here?

†The PREMIER: When are the Nazis coming here? Which Nazis? [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members!

†The PREMIER: With great respect, I think that is the most profound insult to one of our international partners, because I don’t think there is any partnership that has produced greater benefits for the poor in the Western Cape than, in fact, our partnerships in Germany. [Interjections.] Let me simply say this. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Order, hon Ozinsky!

†The PREMIER: I just would like to express ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon member Ozinsky, order!

†The PREMIER: I would like to express our sincere apologies from the House to the Bavarian government and to all of the German assistants that we’ve had. We have just put R50 million into Khayelitsha, a massive new mobile clinic was opened by the Fraunhofer Institute and various other things happened. I think it is totally disgraceful. None of our partnerships have rendered more benefits to the poor of this province than precisely that one, Mr Speaker. I apologise to all of the generous people in Germany who’ve made this progress possible.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Apologise to the victims of the Nazis.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†Mr M G E WILEY: Forgive him for he knows not what he says. He’s a ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon members, order!

Mr M OZINSKY: [Inaudible.]

†The PREMIER: Maybe if you read some history you’ll know why I’m in this country at the moment.

The International Relations Directorate in the Department of the Premier will continue to focus on strengthening our strategic partnerships with other countries, particularly in areas where we can increase trade and attract investment and learn lessons from best practice in other regional governments and apply them to this province.

I will lead a delegation of local and provincial government officials and representatives. I’ve read that, sorry. I’m just so amazingly shocked by what has been said, because if there’s one government that is really undermining people’s rights and oppressing them and making their conditions worse than it was under the abominable government of apartheid, it is the ANC in the Eastern Cape and Limpopo and, in fact, in seven out of the nine provinces.
†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: And the Western Cape. [Interjections.] Think about the people in Nyanga.

†The PREMIER: Yes, the ANC in the Western Cape was pretty bad as well but, thank goodness, that’s why people ... [Interjections.]

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Think about the people in Nyanga.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: You want to go all over, except here.

The SPEAKER: Order!

†The PREMIER: Mr Speaker, let me continue.

Programme 2: Provincial Strategic Management

The budget for Programme 2: Provincial Strategic Management is R32 million. During my State of the Province Address I stated that we will only make progress in this province if government, citizens, civil society and business play their role and fulfil their specific responsibilities. That is what underpins our government’s slogan “Better Together”. In fact, it is much more than a slogan; it is our brand.

Our Provincial Transversal Management System (PTMS) also rests on this philosophy. It ensures greater integration and a better co-ordination between provincial departments, other spheres of government, the private sector and civil society in order to achieve the outcomes contained in our 11 strategic objectives.

The working groups, steering groups and sector committees have been meeting on a regular basis to discuss ways in which to tackle some of the major challenges facing our province, including unemployment, alcohol and drug abuse, and road safety.

We also continuously undertake performance reviews of this system in order to make it more efficient and effective. This has resulted in a number of new working groups being created that will concentrate on the following issues: The green economy, mental health, women and child health, climate change adaptation and resource-use efficiency, youth and family development and civic participation and diversity.

A key focus under this programme is the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of our strategic objectives. The Executive Provincial Dashboard continues to serve as a critical tool to red-flag projects that are falling behind schedule or are running over budget and as a way in which members of the public can hold our government accountable.

During the previous financial year the Provincial Strategic Management Branch in the Department of the Premier also developed a set of transversal outcome indicators that will measure the results of the provincial strategic objective outcomes and will assist our government in assessing whether interventions in the strategic objectives have been successful and where changes or new interventions are required. We aim to finalise this set of outcome indicators by the end of the month.
During this financial year we will also establish a new subprogramme, called the Strategic Projects Facilitation Unit. Up to now, events have been organised by provincial departments on an ad hoc basis and have not been properly aligned to our strategic objectives. This new subprogramme will ensure all events hosted by the provincial government will result in real benefits for the province and its citizens by developing an integrated events strategy that will also be aligned to the events and projects of local and national government and the private sector so that we use all of our resources to the maximum benefit of this province and the outcomes we are trying to achieve.

Programme 3: Human Capital (Corporate Services Centre)

Mr Speaker, Programme 3 is Human Capital and the budget for this programme is R134.7 million. This is up from last year’s allocation of R119 million, mainly due to money being shifted from other departments to fund the Employee Wellness programme.

We are also still on track to save R135 million by 2014 through the establishment of the Corporate Services Centre, of which Human Capital is one of the components, and I would say the key component.

The corporatisation of human resources over the last two years has also laid the foundation for the development of best practice systems and processes in human resource administration and labour relations, which are critical to achieving our objective of becoming the best-run regional government in the world.

Realising the outcomes contained in our eleven strategic objectives also hinges on a competent and qualified workforce internalising our government’s core values, namely accountability, integrity and responsiveness. That is why it is crucial that we have the systems and processes in place that result in the appointment of the right people in the right places, hold them accountable for their performance and invest in their training and development.

In this regard there will be two new developments in the Human Capital programme during this financial year that are aimed at further improving our human resource function. First, we will begin piloting the migration from the Persal system to the SAP human resource management system. This process will take two to three years to complete and will be introduced in a phased manner, starting with the 11 departments currently serviced by the Corporate Services Centre, followed by the Departments of Education and Health.

The migration to SAP has also revealed the benefits that result from adopting a shared services approach. If the SAP system had to have been purchased by 11 departments separately it would have cost our government over R50 million. However, by driving the migration process through the Corporate Services Centre it will cost approximately R11.2 million.

The second development is that the Corporate Services Centre will introduce an on-line job application service during the first quarter of the new financial year that will replace the manual process of applying for advertised posts. We anticipate that this on-line service will reduce the time spent on the filling of vacancies, while at the same time alerting registered job seekers of appropriate jobs advertised at any particular time.
We also plan to utilise provincial libraries, e-business corners and Thusong Centres to assist candidates in accessing this service. This online application service will also pave the way for the establishment of a fully-fledged e-recruitment system, which will be introduced towards the end of the financial year. This system will to a large extent automate the entire recruitment process, thereby empowering line managers to decide where, when and how to advertise for a position. The online application service and the e-recruitment system that will follow will contribute greatly to creating a world-class administration.

We will also continue focusing on providing training to existing staff at our Western Cape Provincial Training Institute in Kromme Rhee in Stellenbosch. Last year 4 457 employees participated in training courses at the institute, and the target for this financial year is 5 459 employees. In fact, we don’t just want numerical targets and outputs; we want outcomes. I trust that the outcomes will be better trained, better motivated, fit-for-purpose staff who are doing a better and better job for all the people in this province.

More lecture rooms will be added to the institute by converting underutilised store-rooms. This will increase the number of spaces available from 350 to more than 441 per day.

Our government also recognises the pivotal role ICT can play in training programmes, which is why ICT infrastructure is being installed at the training institute, including a commercial broadband link later this year. All education, training and development practitioners will also be trained in the use of interactive technology, particularly with regard to e-learning.

Finally, a service provider has been appointed to investigate and establish a new institutional model at the training institute. The service provider will conduct a feasibility study on the current status of training, infrastructure and systems, resources, capacity and funding in the province. An environmental scan will then be performed to identify possible expansion areas and programmes that can be implemented. This will also be an inclusive process as provincial employees will be consulted and will be given the opportunity to contribute to the final institutional and funding model that will be established. This new model will result in a more streamlined and modern approach to transversal training in the province.

Mr Speaker, another exciting project launched under the Human Capital programme this year is the Premier’s Advancement of Youth (PAY) project. This is a very important project, which was alluded to by the hon Minister of Finance, Economic Development and Planning in his budget speech yesterday, in which he said that what we were actually doing was implementing the youth wage subsidy that the National Treasury wants but that the unions are blocking in order to keep young people out of jobs and condemn them to the perpetual poverty. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members!

†The PREMIER: If the hon Ozinsky objects so much to our partnership with Bavaria, why was it instituted under the ANC, Mr Speaker?

†Mr M OZINSKY: Because it was instituted under the NP.
†The PREMIER: It was not. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The PREMIER: The Regional Leaders’ Summit includes regional governments all over the world. The ANC were the biggest participants in it because, in fact, far different from us when we go to add value to this province, they went on jaunts all over the world.

†Mr M OZINSKY: You’re doing Hernus Kriel’s work. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Premier, proceed. [Interjections.] Order, members! [Interjections.] Hon members, hon Minister, hon Ozinsky, order!

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Put the Minister and Ozinsky out. [Laughter.]

†The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: Put the Premier out. [Laughter.]

*The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Mr Speaker, on a point of order: I object to the attitude towards the Premier. Members should act respectfully towards the Premier. I think the member should withdraw it.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Can I address you on a matter?

†The SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Can I address you on a matter, Mr Speaker? Please just give me one second.

†The SPEAKER: The hon Magwaza has already responded and withdrawn the statement.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: But we must encourage the Premier to speak to you.

†The SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: That’s the only thing I’m asking.

†The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Brown. Hon Premier, you may proceed …

†The PREMIER: Another exciting project that I’ve just mentioned …

†The SPEAKER: … and address the Chair, please. I’m saying you may proceed and address the Chair, please.

†The PREMIER: I have been. As you can see, I’ve been looking into your eyes, but I will continue to look into your eyes, Mr Speaker. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members!
The PREMIER: Mr Speaker, another exciting project launched under the Human Capital programme this year is the Premier’s Advancement of Youth project, which is pioneering the youth wage subsidy and what we believe should be mass apprenticeship schemes.

The purpose of this project is to provide 1 000 matriculants who graduated from school in 2011 with the opportunity to work in the Western Cape government for a period of one year in order to obtain skills sets and experience to make them more marketable and to gain contactable references on their CVs. It’s opening an opportunity for them, and if they use that opportunity they would be able to go through the next door in their lives with work experience and with a good referee’s report.

The project is aimed at matriculants who are not enrolled to study further, are unemployed and have no network or support to help them make career choices, and that is what we want to do for them.

On-the-job training will be provided to these young people in all the provincial departments from March until December 2012. A number of FET colleges spread across the province have also been contracted to conduct work and readiness induction training. They are doing that. I was delighted to see, the other day when I went up to the gym, two young people learning about the equipment and physical training and getting training in that part of our administration as well. They are in every government department. It’s a huge project for us, and we’re very proud of it.

We plan to continue this programme next year. From September the new intake will be recruited from the class of 2012 matrics to start in April 2013 with the support of the district offices of the Western Cape Education Department.

Mr Speaker, we hope that the PAY programme will provide opportunities to matriculants who do not have the means or the support to study further or find a decent job. I encourage all those matriculants who have been selected for this year’s programme to make the most of this amazing opportunity to gain skills and work experience and to forge working relationships with officials working in the provincial government.

Programme 4: Centre for E-Innovation (Corporate Services Centre)

Mr Speaker, I stated in my State of the Province Address that if we aim to create an internationally competitive knowledge economy, improve productivity and enjoy access to new markets, we need to invest far more in fast and affordable broadband infrastructure. We need to link over 4 000 government facilities in the province to one another and to business, civil society and citizens.

That is why Programme 4: Centre for E-Innovation receives the largest share of my department’s budget, i.e R372.8 million. This is a slight decrease from last year’s expenditure due to the fact that the payment for Microsoft licences was brought forward to take advantage of the lower exchange rate.

Two priority projects identified by the provincial Cabinet also fall under this programme:
Firstly, partnering with the City of Cape Town’s fibre optic broadband connectivity project, which I provided details about in my State of the Province Address, and which has been allocated R18.5 million per annum for the next three financial years; and secondly, implementing electronic content management – e-filing – in the provincial government, which has received R13 million and will contribute, amongst other things, towards consolidating our software licensing and creating a central platform for the provision of ICT support and maintenance across provincial departments.

The Centre for E-Innovation has continued to increase the services it provides, including:

- A total of 8 300 users had been migrated to the new technology platform by January 2012, which is up from 2 900 users who had been migrated by the end of the 2009/2010 financial year; and

- providing ongoing support to the Western Cape government’s installed base of 14 500 workstations, as well as 46 000 workstation in 1 500 schools;

Mr Speaker, that is an extraordinary achievement in the roll-out of access to the new technology.

†Mr M OZINSKY: You’re very modest.

†The PREMIER: I’m very modest, because there’s every reason to be. By the end of this financial year the Centre for E-Innovation aims to have –

- migrated 80% or 14 500 users to the new technology platform;
- migrated 22 sites to broadband infrastructure;
- further embedded IT governance maturity at a level three maturity level; and
- increased the Ce-I service standards compliance from 75% to 80%.

I would really like to congratulate Mr Lance Williams and his extraordinary team for the achievements of the past two years. They have been quite exceptional, changing a Jurassic Park information technology system to a modern one in over two years. That is serious evolution.

Through these initiatives we are confident that we can position the Western Cape as a competitive place to invest and do business and empower all of our citizens to become economically active and take control of their own lives.

*Programme 5: Corporate Assurance (Corporate Services Centre)*

Managing fraud and risk and ensuring a mature internal control framework form the foundation of good governance in any organisation.

Mr Speaker, all of these functions fall under the third component of the Corporate Services Centre, namely Programme 5: Corporate Assurance. This programme receives R92.9 million this financial year, which is an increase of almost R10 million from the previous financial year.
The main reason for this increase is that two provincial priority projects have been identified under this programme, namely the strengthening of Legal Services and the strengthening of Forensic Services as a result of our government’s commitment to rooting out corruption in all provincial departments. That’s quite a heavy job, as you can imagine, Mr Speaker, having taken over from the ANC. These two priority projects have received R7 million for this financial year.

Some of the Corporate Assurance programmes’ key deliverables targeted for the 2012/2013 financial year include the following:

- Further embedding enterprise risk management in the operations of our government to achieve a risk and control maturity level of 1 to 2 in 75% of the departments and 2 to 3 in 25% of the departments;

- Developing a tool to measure our own maturity rating. We aim to appoint a service provider before the end of March to assist us with this process in order to ensure the tool that is developed is independent, objective and in line with international best practices;

- Increasing the internal audit coverage in terms of strategic risks included in the coverage plans to at least 45% and ensuring that high-quality reports are compiled and issued that will improve our control framework;

- Conducting training for provincial employees in areas such as the promotion of administrative justice and access to information, the conclusion and management of contracts and the provincial legislative process. That will be a massive administrative improvement across the province.

Mr Speaker, one of the greatest threats to service delivery is corruption. If we aim to become the best-run regional government in the world, it is critical that we tackle corruption and improve the level of fraud awareness in the Western Cape government.

That is why the capacitation of the Forensic Investigation Unit (FIU) in the Corporate Services Centre will continue receiving focused attention during this financial year. In light of the skills shortage in this unit a decision was taken to outsource this function.

While some may argue that this may cost more, a failure to root out corrupt practices would cost our government far more in the medium and long term and also destroy our capacity to deliver services to our citizens. Just look at what happened, for example, in provinces like the Eastern Cape and Limpopo when corruption runs riot.

The improvements made to the FIU have resulted in a significant dent made to the backlogs our administration inherited in 2009. For example, of the initial backlog of 115 cases brought over from the 2009/2010 and previous financial years, only 21 remain in progress and the majority of these cases are currently in the reporting phase. Action has also been taken against a number of government officials as a result of FIU investigations.

Mr M OZINSKY: [Inaudible.]
The PREMIER: I’m saying it again, because you obviously didn’t listen.

†Mr M OZINSKY: The majority are still … [Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon member!

†The PREMIER: Mr Speaker, during February 2012, eight individuals were arrested – now you might listen to this, hon Ozinsky – which never happened under the ANC …

Mr M OZINSKY: [Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon member!

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: There are so many untruths … [Inaudible.] [Interjections.]

†The PREMIER: During February 2012, eight individuals were arrested …

†The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Mr Speaker, on a point of order: The Leader of the Opposition says that the Premier is saying untruths in her speech. [Interjections.]

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I’d like to address you, Mr Speaker. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Order!

†Mr M G E WILEY: You’re going to get a chance in a minute.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Are you the Speaker?

†The SPEAKER: Order! Over to you, hon Brown.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: When someone on that side said “That’s an untruth”, I said, “There are many untruths in this House”. I didn’t say this Premier is untrue.

†The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Brown.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I think the Chief Whip heard that too.

†The SPEAKER: Thank you. You may proceed, hon Premier.

†The PREMIER: Thank you very much.

Mr M OZINSKY: [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: Mr Speaker, during February 2012 – whether the hon Ozinsky wishes to believe it or not – eight individuals were arrested in connection with the sale of government issue baby formula. This formula is clearly marked for government use but information was received that these tins of formula were being sold at various outlets in the George vicinity.
An FIU investigator was sent to George to investigate and liaise with the SAPS. Within two days arrests were made and the individuals appeared in court and have been released on bail.

Furthermore, eight individuals were arrested on fraud and corruption charges two weeks ago in connection with supply chain management irregularities at the George Hospital, which were investigated by the FIU. Three of these individuals were former Department of Health employees. Two of them were previously dismissed in connection with this case and the third had left the department. This case has been remanded to 18 May this year.

Mr Speaker, under the Corporate Communications subprogramme we have developed a comprehensive Western Cape government brand and communication strategy which we will continue to review, improve and implement during this financial year.

In this regard I believe that this budget speech would not be complete if I failed to refer to the hype that arose around the Western Cape government's communications tender towards the end of last year. I would like to reiterate once again that there was nothing improper, let alone corrupt, in awarding this tender. I have said this from the very beginning and have provided all the documentation to show that the process was transparent, fair, equitable, competitive and cost-effective. However, what I have acknowledged is that there were administrative problems …

†Mr M OZINSKY: What action did you take?

†The PREMIER: … and every administrative problem is defined as maladministration, because it is an administrative problem. What I have acknowledged is that there were administrative problems in particular around the bidding process and the transversal applicability of the contract. Yes, there were problems. It is never desirable to have to start a tender process three times and the money we spent on this, which amounted to R8 196,29 on readvertising the tender, could possibly be classified as *prima facie* fruitless and wasteful expenditure. Yes, it was, because we didn't have to advertise it three times, and we did at the cost of R8 196,29. There were definitely administrative problems and there was definitely money spent unnecessarily on advertising it three times.

However, this does not make the process followed or the tender that was awarded corrupt. There is a massive difference between maladministration or fruitless expenditure and corruption. More importantly – and this is a critical point – it was our internal systems that picked up these administrative problems and as soon as we became aware of them, through our internal processes, we took immediate steps to rectify the situation and to ensure that the same mistakes would not be made again. This is the very reason why we have put these internal systems in place – in order to assist us in spotting problems so that we can tighten our supply chain management in order to meet best practice.

I've also conceded that even though there was nothing untoward – certainly no manipulation at all or any intention to manipulate – about the fact that a political adviser of mine sat in tender evaluation or adjudication processes, I acknowledged immediately that this potentially sets a precedent for premiers who do have the intention to be corrupt. I have said that it will therefore not happen again.
It is for this reason that I have taken the decision that my political advisers will not participate in tender processes in the future.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Why don't you fire them?

†The PREMIER: It will be very, very useful to know when the ANC is going to stop manipulating every single tender process – also, allegedly, through their life partners who go and meet people and ask for a hefty, fat fee to influence government decisions on tender processes. It will be very, very useful to find out when the ANC is going to be that upfront about any administrative problems or any other issues that have profoundly and corruptly affected just about every tender in the national government. There was absolutely zero undue influence and zero attempts to influence the outcome of a tender process by any politician in this government at any stage. [Interjections.]

Mr Speaker, as I said earlier, we acknowledge that much work still needs to be done to rectify the weaknesses we inherited and to get all provincial departments working seamlessly together to achieve all our strategic objectives, including becoming the best-run regional government in the world. We have a long way to go to achieve that, because I want to tell you that we are up against some very tough competition, as we see when we meet our regional leadership partners all over the world and what outstanding governments some of them are and how well they are run, to the point that Germany has to now save the whole of Europe because they manage their finances so well, as the hon Ozinsky probably knows.

I believe that the initiatives that I’ve outlined today will contribute greatly to the goal that we have. Furthermore, the systems and processes we have put in place in the Department of the Premier over the last three years are already bearing fruit and are placing us ahead of the other provinces and national government. For example, we are the only province and state department in the country to have achieved 100% compliance two years in a row when it comes to finalising and submitting performance contracts and financial disclosure documentation to the Public Service Commission by the relevant deadlines. We are also the only province to have achieved unqualified audits across every provincial department for the last two years.

†Mr M OZINSKY: That’s not true!

†The PREMIER: While we saw some slippage …

Mr M OZINSKY: [Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon member!

†The PREMIER: I wasn’t talking about entities; I was talking about departments – if you’d listen.

Mr M OZINSKY: [Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon member!

†The PREMIER: While we saw … [Interjections.]
†The SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky!

†Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Speaker, on a point of order: With respect, you’ve spoken to the hon member Ozinsky on numerous occasions. This is a constant running commentary. Can it please be addressed?

†The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Wiley, for the advice. Proceed, hon Premier.

†The PREMIER: Furthermore, Mr Speaker, the systems and processes we have put in place in the Department of the Premier over the last three years are already bearing fruit and are placing us ahead of any other province and the national government. I’ve read this before.

While we saw some slippage during the previous financial year, we are committed to continue leading the other provinces and state departments when it comes to audit outcomes, and we have devised a comprehensive plan to achieve this in the 2012/2013 financial year. Whether or not the Opposition understand this, every year when you get an unqualified audit, the Auditor-General, quite rightly, raises the bar to the next level. When you get over the first hurdle, then you have to get over the next hurdle and the next hurdle and the next hurdle. We’re on levels that, in fact, most provinces in the rest of the country couldn’t even get near to getting over.

Mr Speaker, we believe that by setting aspirational goals we will continue striving for excellence in the province and, in particular, the way we work in government.

It is crucial that other spheres of government, business, civil society and individuals commit themselves to doing the same so that we can work in partnership to create an environment in the province that encourages economic growth, investment, employment and the creation of opportunities.

Mr Speaker, by being “Better Together” we can successfully place the Western Cape ahead of all other regional governments in the world.

Although I began by thanking the Director-General and his colleagues, I would like to end by doing exactly the same. I would like to thank all the staff of the Department of the Premier – the very senior officials who are here today – most sincerely for their vision, their unbelievable hard work, their huge efforts in keeping me in line, which is not an easy task, as you can imagine, Mr Speaker, and for their determination to make the Western Cape the best-run regional government in the world for all the people who live here.

†Ms J L HARTNICK: Mr Speaker, in the 2011/2012 financial year the budget for the Department of the Premier was approximately R694 million, and the budget for the 2012/2013 financial year is just over R700 million, which is a R5,784 million increase. It is pleasing to note that the biggest increase is dedicated to Programme 3: Human Capital.

Mr Speaker, a government will not be functional if there is no real investment put into Human Capital. The increase in the Human Capital budget will definitely be beneficial to the Department of the Premier as well as all the other departments, as the Department of the Premier serves a coordinative function in that it supports the other departments of the Western Cape Government.
The DA prospers on the notion of “fit of purpose”, and what better way to ensure that all employees are fit for purpose other than continuous training, wellness programmes, leadership development programmes and the development of people management strategies and action plans?

In the 2011/2012 financial year, the Department of the Premier developed 62 standard operating procedures, 24 wellness screening sessions, in both the metro pole and the rural areas, and started the roll-out of the leadership development programme. They also completed the Barret survey, facilitated 23 feedback sessions and developed the Barret Action Plan. The Barret survey is an instrument used to measure ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†Ms J L HARTNICK: The Barret survey is an instrument used to measure how happy staff is, and the standing committee is looking forward to being briefed about the details surrounding this survey.

Mr Speaker, by constantly investing in employees, through training and keeping them fit for purpose, like the Department of the Premier is doing, the department has a low staff turnover rate, which provides the department with a wide range of skills and highly competent staff. If the goal is met the Western Cape government will in fact be the best-run regional government in the world.

Mr Speaker, we are living in a day and age where systems are ever-changing and progressive technologies are used. Our government cannot be left behind. For this reason it is important that governmental employees are continuously trained and remain competent in order to keep up with the times. The DA considers the e-innovation as extremely important and welcomes the R372,849 million allocated budget for the 2012/2013 financial year.

The migration to more advanced systems will benefit all in the long run as it will bring provincial government institutions on par with international best practice and ensure that they are fit for their respective intended purposes and serve the public in a cost-effective and efficient way.

E-governance makes the Western Cape Government even more transparent as it allows the public access to the progress of governmental projects. This is an example of service delivery, an innovative example, because building houses or restoring roads are not the only forms of service delivery. The Western Cape government is really displaying true democratic features by being a government of the people, for the people, by the people.

The e-governance initiative also takes a “Better Together” approach as it plans to centralise governmental systems, which will see the implementation of a uniform e-filing system and migrates the IT operation system to a technologically more advanced one. The DA is very excited about this programme as it enables optimal service delivery by providing strategic direction, innovative information and community technologies in the Western Cape government.

Mr Speaker, Programme 5: Corporate Assurance (Corporate Service Centre) was allocated R92,985 million this financial year, as opposed to the R82,904 million that was allocated last year.
With this allocation the Department of the Premier aims to enable a mature framework in all departments in the Western Cape government through embedded risk management, improved business processes and zero tolerance towards fraud or corruption. The department also aims to provide legal support encompassing legislative drafting, litigation support and corporate legal advice in order to keep all the decisions of the Western Cape government within the law, all of which contribute to becoming the best-run regional government in the world.

Mr Speaker, our Constitution enshrines good government principles in section 195. While reading them, I am sure you will be reminded of the Western Cape government while under the DA. The nine principles include: That a high standard of professional ethics is promoted and maintained; that there is efficient, economic and effective use of resources; that departments are development-orientated; that services are provided impartially, fairly equitably and without bias; that people’s needs are responded to and the public are encouraged to participate in policy-making; that departments operate in an accountable manner; that transparency is fostered by providing the public with timely, accessible and accurate information; that good human resource management and career development practices are cultivated to maximise human potential; and that departments implement the representative targets of government with employment and personnel management practices.

Mr Speaker, am I not correct in saying that the Western Cape Government characterises these principles? It is prevalent in the Department of the Premier’s 2012/2013 budget, and for that reason I welcome and support the budget allocated to the Department of the Premier and will uphold my oversight role to maintain the good governance in the Western Cape.

I rise in support of Budget Vote 1.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Mr Speaker, I just want to tell the House a little truth: Max Ozinsky is not going to be kicked out of the ANC. He has served the ANC and our people since he was 20 years old. Now that is ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Order!

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Now that is the absolute truth. [Interjections.] Anything else that’s said in the House is untrue. [Interjections.]

Mr Speaker, hon Premier, members of the House, the Director-General and his officials, I would like to thank the chairperson of our standing committee, hon Jenny Hartnick. I often hear my colleagues saying how difficult it is in their standing committee, and I know that we’re not an easy group in their standing committee, but I must say that I’m very pleased to be in that standing committee. You’re fair, you’re efficient and you’re effective. You’re not biased, you allow for the questions and you manage it all. You are a wonderful woman of strength, and I have great admiration for your leadership in that standing committee. I’m very sorry that you’re not the MEC for Education. [Interjections.] I think you would have understood and run this very important department, where all our children are affected, with a lot more heart.

I also want to thank our committee coordinator, Wasima, for just running after us all the time.
Mr Speaker, I want to make an apology to the Premier that I am unfortunately not going to be listening to her response to me. If she heckles me in this session, I’m going to be very fine with it. The session is running too late. I didn’t know that the Premier was going to speak for so long. I am unfortunately not going to be here, but I will read it in the Hansard and I’m sure my colleagues will inform me. My humblest apology.

This department’s vision is to be the best-run regional government in the world, and the Premier here will perform the function of leading that role, but I’d like to unpack a bit about what it means to be the best-run regional government, because I believe it is an important part of service delivery.

†The PREMIER: Well, let’s hear from the ANC.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I’ve given the Premier permission to heckle to me today. I’ll tell you a story, Premier. When I served as Premier for nine months, I tell you, even your side thought it was going very well. I find it very schizophrenic when I hear you speak about maybe just my nine months and maybe the five years, because even then those who served in the House thought that it was going really well. I’m just telling you this, just in case you ... [Interjections.] I know, as a former Premier, how important it is to get the systems, accountability and transparency working to create a competent state.

I equally understood, in a province as fractured, as polarised and as unequal as ours, how important it was to give leadership. [Interjections.] I gave the Premier permission to heckle me, because I’m leaving. The Premier, as first citizen, must be seen ... 

†Mr M G E WILEY: Why are you leaving? You’re the Leader of the Opposition ... [Inaudible.]

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: No man, Mark Wiley, stop heckling me.

†Mr M G E WILEY: Why are you leaving? You’re the Leader of the Opposition.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Wiley!

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I’ll tell you later where I’m going.

An HON MEMBER: Send him out!

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: The Premier, as first citizen, must be seen to be the leader of this whole society. You can’t continue to go into battle with citizens of this province. Whether it is telling Simphiwe Dana that she can’t possibly be feeling bad about being black here or whether it is telling people who travel, because they are allowed to as this is a united and unitary state, that they are coming to Cape Town for education or that they go to Gauteng or anywhere, our Constitution gives us freedom of association and freedom of movement. You cannot be seen to be going into battle with these people.

I even saw this thing with Dr Boel Smuts. The poor man has just had huge attacks from our Premier. I think you have to be seen to be responsive to all the people. You have to listen to all the citizens of this province, not just the citizens of some parts of the province.
I would have liked to see you mete out the same kind of attacks on protesters in Chapman’s Peak, for example, that will be meted out anywhere else in the province. You don’t bother to listen to protest. You sidestep all of it. I’ve never met a Premier and an Executive who does this. You govern this province – showcase what you do. All you ever do is say how good you are and how bad the rest of the world is. [Interjections.]

In fact, what is really interesting, Mr Speaker, is that the opposition at a national level ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: The Premier deals with an Opposition, she deals with her government as if it’s an opposition government. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: She’s in opposition to the Opposition in the Western Cape and she’s in opposition to the government at a national level, but she doesn’t serve in the House there, so she uses the whole government to remain in opposition. It must be a very tiring thing to do.

For me, there are really serious problems here. Grabouw is a serious problem. Is it true that there’s no land in Grabouw? Is it true that the land just outside the Groenberg High School is land that has been identified and allocated before? Because you can’t deal with the problem, you then say, “Oh, it’s national’s fault”. That, for me, is a really big problem. It’s called spin, but it’s also called a wonderful Arabic word. It’s called Fitna. It’s gossip. It’s not true.

Is it true, Madam Premier, since your department is also the department of monitoring and evaluation, that 200 children who marched in Khayelitsha say that they have to share textbooks or that they have no textbooks? Is it true that they don’t have a textbook? The last time I heard, every child in the Western Cape had a textbook. I was very, very pleased by it. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I really want to know whether, in the monitoring and evaluation in your department, you are checking up on these things. Those people who live in Constantia say: “It’s well run. We have no potholes. We have none of these things. Our children go to good schools.” Where I live, in Rondebosch East, the children go to good schools, there are no potholes and so forth. In fact, the City of Cape Town even gives me a black bag. I can afford a black bag, by the way.

†Mr M OZINSKY: They don’t give us black bags.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I don’t know, you live in the wrong area. [Interjections.] Is it true that the same can be said for the children in Nyanga, Gugulethu, Mitchells Plain and anywhere else? I’d like to live in a best-run regional government, but I’d like to live in a best-run regional government ... [Interjections.] ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!
†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: ... for all the people in this province, hon Lentit. [Interjections.] I don’t want to live in a best-run government where only I live. I want my brother in Strandfontein to also live in a best-run government. I want my sister to also live in a best-run government. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon Magaxa and hon Minister Madikizela, please come to order!

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: There are some things that really bother me, and I have to just put them on record. The Premier says: “We’re going to build so many schools for the refugees”. Madam Premier, the ANC, in five years, built 50 schools for everyone. Anybody who makes the Western Cape their home and they have children and the children must go to school, that’s what we built the schools for – not for the refugees – because they belong here. They’re South Africans. They live here. That is why we built schools.

Of course, the hon MEC for Housing said “We built 73 000 houses”, and in many of those houses the people couldn’t live. I’m sure, MEC, when I put my question to you I will ask you exactly how many of them. There were 85 000 serviced sites in five years.

I think we must have quality homes. If that has happened, then that’s a big problem, but you must build the houses now – you’re in government. [Interjections.] Of course, you will rubbish it. I must tell Tokyo, who doesn’t even live in the Western Cape, that I gave the contract to my brother or somebody. That’s how you’ll rubbish it. The media will pick it up and they will be very pleased to do that. Yesterday, the Premier heckled me. [Time expired.]

[Nksz T N BEVU: Somlomo, mandibulele umhlalingaphambili weKomiti ohloniphekileyo ilungu uHarthnik ngentsebenziswano.]

[Ms T N BEVU: Speaker, let me thank the chairperson of the Standing Committee, the hon member Harthnik for her co-operation.]

†Three years after the DA took over power in this province, programmes of the Department of the Premier have still not been measured; hence they are still operating under estimated performances. This means that we are being refused means to measure the impact of her centralising modernisation. Strangely enough, the Premier is the worst enemy of national centralisation.

The Premier is celebrating the success of turning what she calls “Jurassic Park IT” into a modern one; yet in their APP they admit that only 20% of the user base has migrated to this new technology platform. Who is this modern technology then supposed to benefit?

Their Centre of e-Innovation, the Corporate Services Centre, has doubled its consultants, contractors and special services for the period 2010/2011. The same happened to lease payments. Yet, on their expenditure trends 61,86% allocated to the programme is for compensation of employees. Are these employees being paid for work done by consultants and contractors?
If the Premier thinks that we believe her when she says that there was no undue influence made by her political strategies in the tender process of TBWA, then she undermines our intelligence.

Mr Speaker, let me say to you, with respect to the Premier of the province, that she is rude. [Interjections.] Maybe the Premier thinks that it’s crude politics of Westminster, but she is rude. Yesterday was a typical example, when she said to a member ["lthetha ububhanxa"][It means nonsense.]

I’m very concerned about the DA’s attitude, in particular that of the Premier and her insensitivity about the history of this country. Some of us have had serious traumatic experiences of apartheid for the Premier to come and call us refugees in our country now. [Mna ndazalelwaphaya ekhaya sobahlanusizalelwephaya eSt Monicas. Ndiyacingaka ukuba sonke phaya ekhaya sobahlanu sizalelwe phaya eSt Monicas. Kodwa namhlanjendixelelwaphaya ndiyimbacu kwilizwe lam ekhaya apho ndazalelwakhona ekhaya apho oobawosabusakakhona. Utata wam wam notatomkhulu wam nabaya phaya e-NY 5. NamhlanjendixelelwakuleNdluukubanndaumadyiyimbacu.]

[I was born in St Monicas. I think all five of us from my family were born in St Monicas. But today I am told that I ama refuge in my own country, in my own home where my forefathers are coming from. Both my father and my grandfather were burried in NY 5. Today I am told in this House that I am a refuge.]

The Premier and her government are fast polarising this province, taking us back to the apartheid years. It was very painful for me to watch what was happening at Grabouw on Human Rights Day.

Meanwhile the pot is boiling, especially in the black townships. People are angry. They are angry because of unfulfilled promises and the anguish it is causing, and the gap between our potential and the reality.

I observed the police being partisan again, protecting DA supporters against others. The scene was reminiscent of the apartheid years when the security forces shielded and used IFP supporters to murder and terrorise people in the townships.

†Ms V HANI: Mr Speaker, who is the political head of the Western Cape Provincial Government?

†Mr R B LENTIT: Helen Zille! [Laughter.]

†Ms V HANI: In law it is her, but in practice it is a single special adviser, Ryan Coetzee. [Interjections.] We see him as the player, referee and the rules committee in many documents. Where things go awfully wrong, like in the communications contract, we see the manipulative appointment of staff, even outside the Department of the Premier. We saw how this hon Premier has put him on an invincible pedestal in her address at the opening of the Legislature.

The DA would do all a favour and save at least R20 million a year in direct remuneration by firing the Premier and her all-male team to only keep one supreme autocratic man in the DA system of meritocracy, called fit for purpose – or is it “wit”? – for that much dreamed about pie in the sky open opportunity society as, in fact, he rules all single-handedly.
The not so royal reign of Ryan is notorious and nobody may oppose it, as he enjoys some magic protection as the puppet master controlling and micro-managing all. Some deem him as a sort of reproduction of the Russian Rasputin who was both hated and honoured by different people.

Is it any wonder then that the Premier has so much time on hand to be out of the province, use hours on cosmetic treatment and appearances, spending most of her time on social platforms and on electronic communication devices or that she could go on long excursions to promote non-motorised transport? Too often we see the Premier on her bicycle off to get curry elsewhere.

Overall, this budget is seen as anti-poor as it is only passing on conditional grants and dedicated funding for poor programmes, but the province has not shown commitment with own funds and ideas to alleviate poverty, inequality and joblessness. It only holds rich investors, big business and already developed areas as viable.

Is it any wonder that it is also seen as anti-black when the Premier speaks of Eastern Cape schoolchildren as refugees and infers a singer to be a professional black?


[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[I was born here in this Cape Town. The first born from my family was born in 1942 here in this Cape Town. Another thing is that the hon Premier knows that even the honFiglan from that side as she mentioned yesterday, was born here in Cape Town. Even those coming from the Eastern Cape their parents were born here in Cape Town. They were driven away by the the apartheid government she was working with it. People should not forget such things and we should not be discriminated against because we are free now.]

Everybody has the right to go and study wherever he or she wishes. I'm sure that most of them are from the Eastern Cape. Ukuba uyakhumbula kakhle abantu abaninzi banikwa uohumaphele ukuya eMdantsane. Banelungelo nabo lokuza apha beze kufunda.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[We should not forget that many people were driven away to Mdantsane. They have a right to come hare and get educated.]

In her term we saw a large number of blacks leaving. Many she got rid of, such as the former Director-General. Many Heads of Department and senior managers were replaced by pale male candidates.
Where are the black redundant workers as a result of modernisation, and what happened to those orphans? Why are redundant employees not put into the large numbers of vacancies across departments? Are these jobs reserved for further DA cadre deployment or what?

What is going on in the Department of the Premier with the high vacancy rates? What is done to allay suspicions that it mostly caters for whites only? Why do so many whites get contract appointments that are swiftly converted into permanent positions? [Interjections.] Yes, you know it. [Interjections.] Why are so many blacks said to be kept on contracts for long periods?

She has also swelled her budget by R200 million this year. Is this part of her amassing of power and centralisation, or should we ask Ryan these questions? Should we ask Ryan why so many officials indicated great dissatisfaction in the surveys that were done in her administration and what is done to address this? [Zikrakra eza ziphumo zolwa phando.]

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[The results of that research are bitter.]

Why is taxpayers’ money wasted on hiring large numbers of consultants and service providers or on outsourcing so much work? Is the perception founded on the fact that her department’s work is conducted by people from outside? Is this why “fit” for purpose works? [Interjections.] That is who I am.

Would he tell us why the Premier disregards women, the youth and people living with disability? Why are programmes cut and replaced by games of chance or lottery-style opportunities for a select few, as you heard yesterday when he couldn’t answer as to what is done for women development? It was that lottery style that he was giving us, and there was also no plan for that. [Interjections.] Why does the Premier not advance the plight of these vulnerable and marginalised people and raise awareness about them? Perhaps Ryan can pass to you another little note in order for you to tell us what his thinking is on this?

It would be interesting to know why Ryan has double-dipped and moonlighted for the very same government that paid his salary as strategic communications officer in the past and now for the second time appointed TBWA Hunt Lascaris as the preferred provider with a flawed process that had to be condoned and corrected after the fact.

The DA’s disingenuous writing of prohibitions to prevent officials from also doing business with government is made rubbish by her adviser’s past scandalous behaviour and the shameful numerous examples unearthed by the Auditor-General in his report on the DA-run City of Cape Town where millions of rands were paid to employees.

While the Premier is ranting and complaining on Twitter and elsewhere, does she also read the criticism, or does she use rose-tainted goggles screening out messages calling her a fake Botox babe and more plastic than Barbie? [Interjections.] Will Ryan tell us how to change those perceptions?
How dare this Premier misconstrue and change what President Jacob Zuma said in his State of the Nation Address, which she attended in person, as she misleadingly bad-mouts the head of state of the Republic of South Africa? [Interjections.] Yes, indeed. Does Ryan know that there are lies, damn lies and DA lies? Can he teach the DA anything else, as that party is presently guided by smoke, mirrors and lies?

Speaking of being truthful, the hon Premier also has another trait, and that is to disappear under the radar screen when scandal hits her government. Yes, she remains silent on the McNamara drug issue, as it was bungled by MEC Fritz.

For the second time we do not hear her, now that her MEC for Community Safety, Dan Plato, fights the SAPS in an erratic outburst of rage after various drugs were found in the house of his personal assistant and three other suspects were arrested at that house and appeared in court for the illegal possession of tik, dagga and heroin. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon McKenzie! Order!

†Ms V HANI: Is the Premier going to deal with this unacceptable situation or will we have to ask Ryan to save this administration from an even bigger embarrassment?

Mnu A M FIGLAN: Somlomo, ndicela ukubulisa kuqala. [Ugaxeleko.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[Mr A M FIGLAN: Speaker, I want to greet first. [Interjections.]]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!


[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[Mr A M FIGLAN: Speaker, I want to make a plea because every time I am disturbed I count my minute. Speaker, let me first thank the the chairperson and members for welcoming in this committee. It is clear that we are a team as we all see that the hon member Ms Hani and myself are wearing the same colours. I want to make a plea that we benefit from the explanation about language, especially the indegenous language spoken by the black people of this province, the isiXhosa language when we speak about the problem I am having with the word “nonsense”. “Nonsense” according to my knowledge means something which does not exist. Anyway I must get to my speech.]}
Mr Speaker, the strategic objective of the Department of the Premier is to ensure that the Western Cape becomes the best-run regional government in the world. But this does not happen overnight, and it takes commitment and understanding from the department and officials to ensure that everything is done in order to reach the goal.

This department is very grateful for the increase in the budget, and the money must be applied in order to ensure that service delivery is integrated for maximum effect, and that delivery becomes citizen-centric. Enkosi ngokuthetha ububhanxa.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[Thank you for talking nonsese.]

To achieve this, the Department of the Premier has to improve the way they work. Much of the duplication of functions needs to be eradicated, and the focus will have to be on getting all departments to work better together to bring about better outcomes.

Ndiyacinga ukuba urhulumente ophetheyo ufike lo rhulumente besuka kule ndawo kwafuneka etshayele amanyala enyoka ngenxa yokungcola ebekukhona. Ndifuna ukubulela urhulumente esinaye ngomsebenzi ongcono awenzayo.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[I think that when the existing government came into power they had to clean up the evils of the past government. I want to thank the existing government for the good work they are doing.]

Within the department there are five different programmes, and some of the key programmes are efficient and transparent institutional governance and corporate assurance.

Mr Speaker, in order to ensure that this province becomes the best-run regional government in the world, corruption must be rooted out. This is why the increase in the allocated funding to the Department of the Premier can be used to assist the forensic investigation capacity. This is a very important unit, for its function is to ensure that government staff members will not abuse the taxpayers’ money. The understanding by officials of why the unit is needed, as well as its importance, should serve as a key aspect to ensure that the mere thought of wanting to be corrupt or allow corrupt practices to exist will not be tolerated and that it is detrimental to the achievement of the objective of ensuring the world’s best-run regional government.

Apart from ensuring that internal mechanisms are in place to bring about the realisation of becoming the best-run regional government in the world, it is also the department’s goal to ensure that mechanisms are put in place to allow easier access to information about government, and that all possible ways are explored to ensure more investment in the province.

Noosomashishini abasakhasayo babalulekile.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]
[Even the emerging business people are important.]

This is why the e-governance programme is also important. More ways need to be explored to make the establishing and opening of businesses in the Western Cape a quick and easy process. At the moment it takes about six months to open a business in South Africa. The process of e-governance should assist so that the registration and assessment processes are far quicker, and can be done from anywhere in the world.

Assistance should be one of the key priorities to people wanting to open a business in the Western Cape, and in conjunction with the Department of Economic Development, as well as national government, innovative and easily accessible ways must always be explored in order to encourage investment.

Mr Speaker, for the 2012/2013 financial year, the Department of the Premier is allocated R699.8 million. This budget has to fund five different programmes, as well as ensuring that the targets set out in the Annual Performance Plan are met.

It is important that the people of the Western Cape are also empowered to be able to understand and access the information that is there for their use, and be able to apply the information and development and grow the Western Cape.

Wonke umntu ke, ayikhethanga bani.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[That includes everyone, it does not exclude anyone.]

This can only be done when more people have access to the internet. We live in a technological age where the development of technology changes by the day. This is why the Department of the Premier is one of the key role players in the Provincial Broadband Implementation Plan, to which R12.5 million has been assigned. This department collaborates with the Department of Economic Development and Tourism to bring affordable broadband infrastructure to every citizen in the metropolitan area by 2020. As seen, this plan constitutes huge investments in growth-creating infrastructure, and this is one reason why the access and assistance with the opening of a business is so important.

The collaboration to bring affordable broadband connectivity to every citizen in the metropolitan area is also done in conjunction with the City of Cape Town. This is in respect of fibre optic broadband connectivity.

Mr Speaker, this roll-out is in line with the strategic objective of the Department of the Premier, but it is more than that. It is also about service delivery to maximum impact. Imagine the technological impact that access broadband connectivity will have on education in the Western Cape. It will mean having the world at your fingertips, as well as more learners having electronic access to textbooks and support material. It also means that every learner would have access to information, but the responsibility will still be with every learner to ensure that they use the opportunity that will be provided to them.
Broadband access will ensure technological leapfrogging, where you do not have to be attached to a personal computer but would be able to use a smartphone or the latest technology. Integration of broadband with cellphone technology will mean much easier access to information, and for learners this will be somewhat of an equalising factor.

However, the access to broadband will not just benefit learners and businesses. It will also assist the effective functioning of the Western Cape government. More buildings of the provincial government as well as of the City of Cape Town would eventually have access to faster connectivity, thus making the Western Cape internationally competitive, improving productivity and providing much easier access to new markets and economies.

The increase in the budget of the Department of the Premier is welcomed, as this means more assistance to ensure that the strategic objective of the department, as well as the target in the Annual Performance Plan, are realised.

The transversal approach of “Better Together” ensures that people of the Western Cape will live better together. [Interjections.]

†The PREMIER: Yes. You haven’t been here long. The hon member hasn’t been here very long, Mr Speaker, but it is practice for somebody to answer the debate on their budget in this Parliament. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon Magwaza!

†The PREMIER: He clearly doesn’t know that, so I’m explaining to him. Clearly he hasn’t learnt those basics since he’s been here. [Interjections.]

Mr Speaker, I’d like to begin by thanking the hon Hartnick ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The PREMIER: I’d like to begin, Mr Speaker, by thanking the hon Hartnick for a most constructive input here today, focusing on our vision and how we are going to use technology increasingly to help the efforts of human beings to implement that vision to the advantage of all.

The hon Hartnick is indeed a very fine leader of my portfolio committee, and I am very grateful to her for all the work she does and her conciliatory style and her inclusivity. Thank you very much, hon Hartnick.

Then we can turn to the hon Brown, in her absence. The fact that the hon Leader of the Opposition is absent for my reply to the debate on the Department of the Premier’s Budget Vote is a disgrace. [Interjections.] It is an absolute disgrace. When it is the Budget Vote ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The PREMIER: ... for which you are the Leader of the Opposition you change your other arrangements and you give enough basic respect to the House and to this institution to be here.
Can you imagine for one moment, Mr Speaker, if that were the case in the national Parliament, where President Zuma was replying to the debate on his Budget Vote and the Leader of the Official Opposition, Lindiwe Mazibuko, walked out before he gave his reply? There would be a scandal, because it would show total contempt for Parliament but, in fact, this indicates as well as anything else that the ANC, as reflected and exemplified by their Leader of the Opposition, has total contempt for the House, total contempt for Parliament and total contempt for governance. I think it’s also a very serious reflection of the Chief Whip of the Opposition for allowing the hon Leader of the Opposition to leave before the reply. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order!

The PREMIER: After that, there was the delightful irony of the ANC trying to tell us how to run the best-run regional government in the world. Which example should we follow, Mr Speaker? The example of Limpopo that is now under administration or the example of the Eastern Cape that is now under administration, particularly as far as education goes, because education there is worse than it was under apartheid? Is it perhaps the example of the regional government of Gauteng, where the Department of Health is now under administration, or the Free State, which is increasingly under administration, or the North-West, where every single local authority is under administration? Which example of a regional government can the ANC point to that can provide any example for us to emulate?

You see, the great irony is that while we are not in opposition to ANC-run provinces, as the hon Brown suggested, we are in political competition with them because we are competing political parties. Do you know what, Mr Speaker? They are losing.

Mr Speaker, the hon Brown comes and rides the hoary old hobbyhorse of inequality. I must show her the international study that said that the Western Cape, and specifically the City of Cape Town, is the least unequal city in South Africa – the least. The most unequal city in the world, according to that study, is Johannesburg, currently run by the ANC.

An HON MEMBER: Followed by Cape Town.

The PREMIER: No, actually not followed by Cape Town; followed by Port Elizabeth. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The PREMIER: Followed by Port Elizabeth. Followed by the place that bears the name of Nelson Mandela. Followed by that place. The truth is that we still have inequality – tragic inequality – in South Africa.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: The truth!

†The SPEAKER: Hon McKenzie, order!

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: You don’t like the truth.

†The PREMIER: The only government that is working to deal with the tragic legacy of apartheid and inequality is the DA government of the Western Cape.
Mr Speaker, the only way to deal with the tragic legacy of inequality and poverty is through rapid economic growth and job creation. What the ANC is doing in all the governments it runs – whether it’s national, provincial or local – is destroying the capacity of the economy to grow and preventing young people from getting jobs and making it more and more difficult for business to start jobs or for people to get jobs. That’s the truth. The governments that are promoting inequality and poverty and entrenching the legacy of apartheid are those that are run by the ANC all over this country. They must not come and try to tell us.

I’ve just been looking now at the Eastern Cape. While we have built 30 schools for people that we are welcoming in the Western Cape, ... [Interjections.] ... the Eastern Cape has spent a fraction of its infrastructure budget.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: Where? [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon Magwaza! Order!

†The PREMIER: They spent a fraction of their infrastructure budget. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! [Interjections.] Order, hon members!

†The PREMIER: They have spent a ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Premier, take your seat, please. Hon Magwaza, if you are going to undermine my authority, then I will really ... [Interjections.] Order, hon members! Take your seats. Proceed, hon Premier.

†The PREMIER: Thank you. In fact, the Eastern Cape cares so little about sick people, about children who require education and about people who have to commute and travel that they have only spent a fraction of their infrastructure budget. That is how little they care about people.

When people want health care and when people want education, and they happen to have the misfortune of being born in the Eastern Cape under an ANC government, they either stay there as hostages in the schools to Sadtu that waste the entire first quarter of the year while being on strike ...

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Mr Speaker, on a point of order: We are dealing with the Western Cape budget. We also know it’s a political ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon McKenzie! That’s not a point of order.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: I didn’t finish what I wanted to say.

†The SPEAKER: That’s not a point of order.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: I didn’t finish what I wanted to say.

†The SPEAKER: Finish, hon member. What is it?

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: I want to say that I know this is a political ...
†The SPEAKER: Order, hon member! That’s not a point of order. Take your seat, please. [Interjections.] Order, hon members! Order! Premier, continue.

†The PREMIER: And so we have children in schools across that tragic province. If they are lucky enough to be in classrooms or if they are in broken-down mud huts or under trees, wherever they are, they are being held hostage by a union, called the South African Democratic Teachers’ Union, that is ensuring that they will be trapped in poverty for the rest of their lives because they will not be able to read ... [Interjections.] ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Ozinsky! Order!

†The PREMIER: ... write and calculate at the appropriate level ever to get a job. Those are the children whom we welcome here, whom we build schools for here, whom we assist here and whom we support here.

I’m very interested in the ANC’s focus on this word “refugee”, because it tells you more about their attitude to refugees than anything else. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Ozinsky! Your interjection is too loud.

†The PREMIER: I don’t think the word “refugee” is a pejorative term, but the ANC thinks it’s a terrible term because they use the word “makwerekwere” and other words – disgusting words. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky!

†The PREMIER: Every definition of “refugee” includes as a component the broad overview of people who seek refuge. The United Nations requires “across boundaries” to support people financially who are seeking refuge, but every definition includes people who are disgraced inside their own country because their rights are being violated in one part of that country. That is why they are also called internally displaced persons, which is a category of the overarching definition of people seeking refuge, i.e refugees. There is no reflection whatsoever on refugees. [Interjections.] There’s no reflection whatsoever on refugees.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Mr Speaker, on a point of order: Will the speaker please address you and not the members? [Interjections.] She must look at you when she addresses the House.

†The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon McKenzie. Premier, please address the Chair.

†The PREMIER: I’ll certainly address the Chair. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

*Mr H P GEYER: He has a better face.

†The PREMIER: Much better. [Laughter.]

Mr Speaker, the word “refugee” has no pejorative or negative connotation about the individual at all. The negative connotation is about the place that forces them to leave and seek their rights elsewhere.
The word reflects a great amount of empathy for people who are forced to leave the place where their rights should be realised but are not realised because of the criminal maladministration of the ANC in seven out of the nine provinces. That’s the truth.

Because the ANC does not want to face the fact of their criminal negligence and corruption, they have to deflect it because of their shrewd prejudice against people who are displaced for whatever reason. This controversy reflects much more about the ANC’s prejudice and about the ANC’s abuse of their own people in their ANC-run provinces than it says anything about me or the DA, and that’s the truth. [Interjections.] They are trying to deflect attention from their criminal neglect, maladministration and corruption, and that is the issue. That is the scandal of the majority of South Africans. Their life is worse today in many instances, and most certainly in education in the Eastern Cape, than it was under apartheid. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon members, order! [Interjections.]

†The PREMIER: Don’t ask Mamphela Ramphele. She researches and works there all the time. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky! Hon members!

†The PREMIER: Mr Speaker, the hon Brown has the effrontery to say that I must try and be a Premier for all the people. I am the Premier for all the people. [Interjections.]

I spend many, many hours of my day working to deal with people’s rights that are being violated across the country actually. [Interjections.] Just recently, as I said, I spent an entire afternoon trying to move somebody from a hospital in the Eastern Cape where they were dying to the Western Cape so that they could be saved. I spent all my time doing that. I never bother about people in the rich leafy suburbs, because my commitment is to improving the lives ... [Interjections.] You can look at my tweets and you will see. I am looking at the crucial crisis of people who are neglected and marginalised, and I will continue to do that.

Mr Speaker, we can expect the ANC to continue twisting things and manipulating things. [Interjections.] The hon Brown spoke a straight “fitna”, to use her term, which we haven’t used as the word is unparliamentary. She spoke “imfungumfungu” [rubbish], which I’m now allowed to use, but not “ububhanxa” [nonsense.] I believe that they are synonyms, but I respect your ruling. [Interjections.]

I believe that they are synonyms, but I respect your ruling. [Interjections.]

Mr Speaker, the hon Leader of the Opposition spoke complete nonsense, and I will say it in English because you can still say it in English.[Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The PREMIER: She spoke complete and utter nonsense when she said that I have ever called anybody a professional black. I never have – never ever!

†Mr M OZINSKY: You did.
†The PREMIER: Now he’s talking nonsense, too. What I said was you are a highly respected black professional, and a black professional is the very opposite of a professional black. The ANC will do everything to twist what you say and manipulate it to achieve the outcomes that they want, and exactly the same with the issue of internally displaced people, which is one category under the rubric of people who take refuge from unbearable circumstances, i.e. refugees.

I have spent a lot of time thinking of why there is such an outcry over this, Mr Speaker, and I’ve come to the following conclusion: I think millions of people in South Africa are profoundly embarrassed by the ANC’s corruption and maladministration. [Interjections.]

We have this extraordinary phenomenon where the ANC thinks that they own black people. Many people, for understandable reasons, feel a very strong allegiance to the ANC – for historical reasons. That is why there is such a deep sense of failure and embarrassment about how the ANC has governed this country. That is why people run away from provinces like the Eastern Cape to get their most basic rights met. People have to run away from that and try to deflect it into another argument. [Interjections.]

We are seeing displaced anger and embarrassment here, but we will continue exposing the huge abuse of human rights, the extraordinary oppression and the relegation of learners to a lifetime of poverty by maladministration, corruption, Sadtu strikes, go-slow and absence from the classroom in the Eastern Cape and other provinces.

We will do our very best to make sure that every child who comes here gets a decent opportunity, even if we have to raise private funds to do so, as we have, for example, in Imizamo Yethu, which now has the very best and most modern school on this continent, not only in Cape Town, ... [Interjections.] ... not only in the province, but in the whole of this continent. Here comes an hon member who has his son at Bishops, but he can easily put his son in a school in Imizamo Yethu and also get the best school. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members!

†Mr M OZINSKY: He lives in Gugulethu. Why would he ... [Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky, why would he ... [Inaudible.]

†The PREMIER: Well, ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Premier!

†The PREMIER: He’s very lucky at Bishops.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Premier! Hon Ozinsky, if you keep on undermining my authority, I just want to warn you that I will really ask you to leave the House. [Interjections.] Thank you very much.

†The PREMIER: We have state-of-the-art, world-class schools, and the children coming out of that school in Imizamo Yethu will have a brilliant education. They will be fit for the knowledge economy.
They are little children whom we care for as much as we care for every other child in this province and, incrementally, we will make sure that every child gets the rights that those children have to have a first-class education in a school where the poorest of the poor live in Imizamo Yethu. [Interjections.]

Let me get to Grabouw, Mr Speaker, because in Grabouw we have a situation where a school has been full – Umyezo Wama Apile. It has traditionally been full. [Interjections.] You can also put an apostrophe where there are two A’s next to each other. [Interjections.] Umyezo Wama Apile. You can also say Umyezo Wama’apile because that’s how you say it in speech, but now they’re getting syntactically correct. I will say Umyezo Wama Apile. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The PREMIER: Let me simply say this: It is quite extraordinary that in 2009 we asked for the ideal piece of land to build a new school. Three Ministers later in the national Department of Public Works it is still impossible to find out where that is in the process.

An HON MEMBER: That’s normal for the ANC.

The PREMIER: The other morning at 07:15 I phoned Thulas Nxesi, the current national Minister. One never knows how long they are going to last. I said to him: “Minister, we are now in a crisis. Will you kindly get this process moving so we can release this land and get the school built for which the money is budgeted?” He said: “I don’t know where it is in the process, but I will try to find out.” Of course, then the unrest erupted.

Now, because of the complete incompetence, Mr Speaker, of the ANC at national level and a department that the Minister himself says is in intensive care unit, completely corrupt and completely collapsed, we are now going to have to build two schools in Grabouw. One is a temporary school which we will move heaven and earth to try to complete by the beginning of the next term. We will move heaven and earth to try to complete a temporary school by the beginning of next term, and then we’ll have to build another school. Because of the complete incompetence and inefficiency of the national Department of Public Works we’ll have to build a permanent school when eventually they wake up to go through their processes of releasing that land. Maybe like the rest of the Department of Public Works they are waiting for a bribe to release that land. I want to give them some news. They are going to get no bribes from the Western Cape. They are going to release their land and they are going to do their job properly by ensuring that we can give education to all the children who come to this province. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Ozinsky! I’ve warned you.

†The PREMIER: It’s fascinating indeed, Mr Speaker, ...[Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky!

†The PREMIER: It’s fascinating indeed, Mr Speaker, that at the beginning of a new year, 600 new pupils suddenly arrived at a school, at Umyezo Wama Apile.

An HON MEMBER: But why?
The PREMIER: That’s a good question – but why? – because normally in a well-run education department parents come in the October the year before and register their children precisely so that one can make preparations. If there is going to be a crisis of overcrowding, a well-run department like the Department of Education in the Western Cape can make provision for temporary classrooms or can do whatever it takes. However, when 600 brand-new people suddenly arrive in the first couple of weeks of the term, what are you going to do about it when you have a national Department of Public Works half asleep and when people start burning out their classrooms? Funnily enough, it makes the overcrowding a little worse. That is the kind of problems we face there but, nevertheless, we are doing our very best to have a temporary school built by the beginning of the second term ...

[Interjections.] ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Skwatsha! Order!

†The PREMIER: ... which we will do whatever we can to fix.

The hon Brown also mentioned the fact that 200 children were marching in Khayelitsha, saying they don’t have textbooks. Well, we will investigate to see where children don’t have textbooks. Not too long ago when I went to a school in Langa – in fact, it was quite a while ago that I was in a school in Langa – I was walking across the school field and I found some textbooks casually thrown away in the grass on the field. [Interjections.] It’s a very, very serious matter that textbooks need to be looked after and need to be taken care of and not lost or thrown away. Mr Speaker, I’m frankly sceptical of many of the things that were said on that march, and I’m not sure about the textbooks. We will investigate that, because we want every pupil to have textbooks. What was also said, amazingly, on that march by one of the students who was in high dudgeon and toyi-toying along was that the pupils are sick and tired of learning in mud schools or under trees. Now that is blatant “fitna”. That is blatant “imfungumfungu”. [Interjections.] It’s blatant nonsense, because nobody in the Western Cape, and specifically in Khayelitsha, is learning under trees. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The PREMIER: That applies to the place that has got worse since apartheid ...

[Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon Chief Whip, order!

†The PREMIER: That applies to the place that has got worse since apartheid, and that is the Eastern Cape, where many children are learning under trees still. I intend to go to the Eastern Cape to point out to all the hon members exactly where those places are.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Rietpoort. Do you know Rietpoort?

The SPEAKER: Order!

†The PREMIER: It really is amazing that if the Western Cape is so terrible for poor people why so many poor people seem to prefer this province. It must be much worse somewhere else, otherwise people wouldn’t bother to come.
When people do come, they are welcomed, they are given all the opportunities ... [Interjections.] ... and they are given the most generous package of free basic services in the country.

However, let me say another thing, Mr Speaker. We will never be able to keep up with the growing trend of migration to the Western Cape. We will never be able to keep up with that process, because it is escalating as more and more ANC provinces completely collapse and fail in their basic duty, and that is where the scandal is and nowhere else.

Then hon Brown started talking about building quality homes. Mr Speaker, she may have missed something – and she certainly has – because her national Minister of Human Settlements, who’s Tokyo Sexwale, is the person who’s changed the policy. He has changed the policy. He took the grant for top structures, slashed it and, in fact, turned it into infrastructure grants and a whole range of other grants that are not used for building top structures. That was Minister Tokyo Sexwale, and we are implementing his policy.

I shall tell you that although the hon Brown said that Mr Sexwale doesn’t live in the Western Cape, he must be the person with more houses and hotels in the Western Cape than anybody else who doesn’t live here.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: That’s good! [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.]

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: That’s what we’re about. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The PREMIER: Perhaps we can make arrangements to send the hon Brown a copy of my Hansard so that she can at least read my reply to the nonsense that she spoke here today.

†Mr M OZINSKY: It will put her to sleep.

†The PREMIER: Yes, she might need it actually. She might need it to calm down a bit.

The hon Bevu spoke about the transition that we’re making from the ANC’s Jurassic Park technology where they still work off stiffy discs to modern technology in the new Centre for e-Innovation. We are rolling out this project incrementally throughout the province, which is a whole lot more than most other provinces are doing.

Then the hon Bevu basically said that I had been rude, but the interesting thing is that when the Premier of Gauteng, Nomvula Mokonyane, speaks about health migrants to Gauteng no one makes a peep. “Migrants” is a much worse word than any that I’ve ever used, because it comes straight out of the apartheid lexicon.
To say people are migrant workers and to say people are urban migrants is apartheid speak, but Nomvula Mokonyane got up in her State of the Province Address and pointed out how much pressure health migrants are putting on the health system there.

Mr M SKWATSHA: [Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Skwatsha!

†The PREMIER: In fact, Nomvula Mokonyane ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Skwatsha! Order!

†The PREMIER: ... uses apartheid words, and the ANC says nothing.

An HON MEMBER: Shame!

The PREMIER: That shows what outrageous political opportunism they show – outrageous political opportunism, double standards and hypocrisy – because they condemn something if it comes out of the mouth of a person with a paler colour. If a person with a darker colour says it, they keep “tjoepstil”, dead quiet, “thula tu”. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, members!

†The PREMIER: They say nothing. I’ve heard many, many people ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon Minister Madikizela, order!

†The PREMIER: I’ve heard many ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon Magwaza, order!

†The PREMIER: I’ve heard many, many people referring to white South Africans as settlers. Where is the outcry? That’s a very funny double standard. Then I’ve heard many people append the word “bullet” ...

Mr M OZINSKY: [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: You see, there you go – settlers. Then I’ve heard people appending the word “bullet” to settlers. [Interjections.] Then I hear people appending the word “bullet” to settlers and I never hear an outcry there. I hear people singing, “Kill the Boer, kill the farmer”. [Interjections.] They even sing it after ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon members, order! Hon Skwatsha, your interjection is too loud.

†The PREMIER: ... there’s been a court order, but somehow that is fine.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Speaker, on a point of order: It’s very difficult when you allow the hon Premier to address us personally and you don’t allow us to respond to her.
If she doesn’t want us to respond to her then she must not point a finger to us directly.

†The SPEAKER: Thank you. That’s not a point of order, hon member. [Interjections.] Order, hon members! Order! Continue, hon Premier.

†The PREMIER: These things work both ways and every way. There is nothing pejorative, nothing at all, about referring to people as internally displaced people, which is a category of refugee – nothing pejorative at all. [Interjections.] There is nothing pejorative about it at all. It is, in fact, a reflection of the place that drove them out. [Interjections.]

Then I want to know why so many people in the Western Cape – who we regard as citizens of the Western Cape, whose schooling and health we pay for and who have jobs here – still refer to themselves as amagoduka. That’s surely a contradiction in terms. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Magwaza!

†The PREMIER: People come here for education and health, whom we give it to with pleasure and with increasing commitment – and it’s improving day after day, as you know, and the schools for our poorest learners are getting much better than anywhere else in the country and the best public hospital in the whole continent is in Khayelitsha now – but why do people still refer to themselves as amagoduka? When I say to people, “Here in the Western Cape is ‘igoduka’”, they say, “No, no, no, ‘igoduka’ is in the Eastern Cape”. Can we get rid of some of those contradictions, please? [Interjections.]

If the Western Cape is home, which we absolutely accept, then the amagoduka are the people who stay here, and not people running back to other provinces.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: This is a boring speech.

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members!

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Mr Speaker, on a point of order: Is it in order that the Premier refers to you as “igoduka”? [Laughter.]

†The SPEAKER: Take your seat, hon Skwatsha. Proceed, hon Premier.

†The PREMIER: Mr Speaker, what I’m saying is that the ANC can’t have it both ways. They can’t keep on saying the Western Cape is a separate country, as they keep on saying, and then get outraged when we say ... [Interjections.] ...

†The PREMIER: ... that people are internally displaced because they can’t get their rights elsewhere. They can’t keep on referring to the Western Cape as a different country and then get outraged when we say that people take refuge here to get their basic rights. They can’t claim to be permanent citizens and residents of the Western Cape, as we regard them to be, and then call themselves amagoduka. It doesn’t work that way.
They must decide one way or the other, because we are sick of these contradictions. You can fool all of the people some of the time, but you can’t fool all of the people all of the time. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members! Ohloniphekileyo Magwaza, ndiza kucela ukuba uyishiyi le Ndlu nje ukuba uqhubhe usenza le nto uyenayo, hayi ngoku. Ndisakulumkisa. Ndiza kucela uyishiyi le Ndlu.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[Hon Magwaza, I wil have to ask you to leave this House if you continue doing what you are doing, not now. I am warning you. I wil have to ask you to leave this House.]

Continue, hon Premier.

†The PREMIER: Thank you very much indeed, Mr Speaker. I’ve answered most of hon Hani’s diatribe, because the ANC only says the same things in different ways all the time, only to tell her that nobody lost jobs due to modernisation. Everybody was placed, and she knows that. There were no consultants hired to achieve modernisation, saving this province millions. I’ve made this point repeatedly, and I will do so again here today for the last time.

Finally, I would like to thank the hon Figlan also for his lesson in semantics and morphology relating to saying that something is nonsense in isiXhosa, and I will go and read the nuances of the different ways of saying so before I speak in Parliament again. [Applause.]

Debate concluded.

†The SPEAKER: Order! The proceedings will break for five minutes, just to allow the guests of Minister Grant to settle in.

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL [B 3—2012]

(Debate on Vote 5 – Education)

†The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Mr Deputy Speaker, I acknowledge the hon Premier, fellow members of Cabinet, hon Members of the Provincial Parliament, the Superintendent-General of Education and all senior officials from the Western Cape Education Department, invited guests from the education community, ladies and gentlemen. Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you for giving me the opportunity to present the 2012/2013 Budget for education in the Western Cape.

It is my privilege to welcome a number of special guests to this important occasion for education in the Western Cape: My wife, Cheryl; Prof Brian Figaji, Chair of the Education Council; and Prof Diya Reddy, Vice Chair of that Council. Thank you for joining us today.

I also want to mention as special guests – although for obvious reasons they cannot be present here today – all the principals of the schools in the Western Cape.

My time as Minister has reinforced my belief that they are crucial to the quality of schooling available to the young people in our schools.
We salute them and the large body of professionals they manage on a day-to-day basis for their dedication and their commitment to improvement. A copy of today’s budget speech has been made available to all of them as a sign of my respect for them as partners in providing a quality education to all Western Cape learners.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the Western Cape government recently undertook its mid-term review to determine the progress made as a government since 2009. I am pleased to report that in education we have made good progress in laying the necessary foundation to achieve our strategic objectives of improving learner outcomes and the quality of education in the Western Cape.

Mr Deputy Speaker, you and the members have in front of you a report which we released in November last year detailing the progress made in implementing our Strategic Plan for Education since 2009.

Today I will report briefly on some of the progress we have made, focusing specifically on what we are doing better and what we are doing smarter to achieve our strategic objectives. I will also focus on what we plan to do to work better and smarter in the 2012/13 financial year to build on the progress that we have made.

The overarching objective of this plan is to improve the life chances of and to create opportunity for all children in the Western Cape through the provision of quality education.

We are committed to improving learner performance in literacy and numeracy and in the National Senior Certificate examination, as well as reducing the learner drop-out rate.

To deliver on this commitment, we identified 10 key priorities. Every budgetary decision is guided by these priorities and will continue to be informed by the need to improve learner outcomes and to provide greater access to quality education.

The 2012/2013 Budget

One of this government’s primary focus areas is to reduce poverty. The only sustainable way to beat poverty is by creating opportunities for economic growth. Through being educated, people are better placed to secure a job, earn an income and ultimately lead lives they value. The importance of education in reducing poverty is therefore reflected in the Western Cape government’s budget.

Earlier this month the Minister of Finance, Economic Development and Tourism announced that within the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), the Western Cape Education Department would receive over a third of the provincial budget – an allocation of R45,381 billion.

The department will receive R14,229 billion for the 2012/2013 financial year – 35,7% of the provincial budget for that financial year. This is an increase from the previous financial year with expenditure in education growing on average by 13,3% per annum in nominal terms since the 2008/2009 financial year.

The budget for education will be used to fulfil the objectives set out in our strategic plan with public ordinary school education continuing to be the main focus of the department’s funding with an allocation of 80,1% of the education budget.
The performance of public ordinary schools is a key indicator when determining the performance levels of this government in education over the last two years.

What is particularly gratifying is that the performance of our public ordinary schools is continuing to show a positive trend, particularly in the results achieved over the last two years in the National Senior Certificate examinations. This is a reflection of a maturing provincial education system responding positively to a number of systems improvements. It shows us that each year the department, together with our schools, is working better and working smarter to improve the quality of education in the Western Cape. In the 2012/2013 financial year we will seek to deepen the systems improvements we have made since 2009.

How are we working better?

Mr Deputy Speaker, this government has prioritised the improvement of learner outcomes in the province by implementing a number of initiatives and programmes to –

- improve the literacy and numeracy levels of our learners; and
- increase the number and improve the quality of passes achieved by our learners in the National Senior Certificate examinations.

The 2011 National Senior Certificate results indicate that we are getting better at improving learner outcomes in the province. The Western Cape was the top performing province in the country with an increased pass rate of 82,9% – an increase of 6,2% up from 76,7%.

In the same year we also exceeded our previous record of the number of candidates who achieved access to Bachelor Degree study. A total of 801 more learners qualified in 2011.

These improved results are a product of targeted, sustained and sensible systems solutions. To ensure that we continue to work better in improving learner outcomes in 2012, we will work at adding greater value to the system for the benefit of our teachers and our learners. The department discussed with each of our schools their National Senior Certificate results to identify problem areas and to set improvement targets for the year ahead.

Schools requiring targeted support from the department have been identified according to their subject needs. Our tutoring programme will continue with effect from April, with greater emphasis being placed on the quality of tutors provided to each school.

This year will see a focus on individual learner improvements. Schools have been requested to identify learners who are at risk so that specialised support can be provided to these learners and their educators.

*In an effort to support the development of our learners, the department provided schools with CDs containing, inter alia, examination papers for use by learners. We made sure that our Grade 12 learners received their Tips for Success booklets as early as January this year – a Western Cape initiative being followed by other provinces.
I am very pleased to announce that this year, as part of the department’s efforts to improve learner outcomes in the province, all our Grade 9 learners will in April receive a Grade 9 Tips for Success booklet which will give Grade 9’s the advice needed to select the right subjects as they prepare to move from Grade 9 to Grade 10. These booklets will be provided to each of you today.

Mr Deputy Speaker, while improvements in learner outcomes at the top end of the system are one of our priorities, we also need to ensure that our learners have the requisite literacy and numeracy skills by the time they reach high school if they are to reach their full academic potential. That is why we allocate significant resources to the foundation phase to improve our learners’ abilities in literacy and numeracy.

In the last two years the Western Cape government has expanded systemic testing of learners in these areas dramatically. In addition to testing the literacy and numeracy competencies of our Grades 3 and 6 learners, the department introduced testing for Grade 9 learners for the first time in 2011. Learners in Grades 3, 6 and 9 are tested every year.

In 2011 we saw solid progress in our mathematics results with Grade 3 learners increasing their results from 35% in 2008 to 48,3% in 2010. Similarly the results in Grade 6 increased from 17,4% in 2009 to 23,4% in 2010.

While we are seeing improvements in this regard, the levels in numeracy are still not what they should be. Similarly the levels of literacy in Grades 3, 6 and 9 are still low. Learners are not reading enough complex texts with comprehension and are not writing long enough paragraphs. We have therefore made the provision of quality texts and materials one of our priorities, both in planning and in financial allocations.

This government is firmly of the belief that textbooks are an essential educational resource for the development of reading, writing and language skills. This time last year in this Chamber I made the unprecedented commitment that over the next three years all children from Grades 1 to 12 will receive a textbook in every subject that they are taking.

In the 2011/2012 financial year the department exceeded the national norm for textbook provision by allocating an additional R133 million for textbooks. At the start of the 2012 school year learners in Grades 1, 2, 3 and 10 benefitted from a record-breaking roll-out of over two million textbooks and readers. For the first time learners in Grades 1 and 2 now have a mathematics textbook and our Grade 10 learners have textbooks for the seven subjects that they are taking.

To expand this initiative in the 2012/2013 financial year, we have allocated an additional R144,301 million to the provision of textbooks in addition to the R240 million norms and standards funding provided for textbook provisioning.

The majority of this allocation will be directed at providing textbooks to learners in Grades 4, 5, 6 and 11. We will target the remaining Grades – Grades 7, 8, 9 and 12 – in the 2013/2014 financial year to ensure that we meet our strategic goals for textbook provisioning by 2014 in line with the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements (Caps).
Mr Deputy Speaker, this government remains committed to providing our learners with the best learning environment possible. In line with this commitment we have undertaken to replace school infrastructure that is not suitable for maximising education outcomes.

In 2010 I announced the department’s infrastructure plan, which included the replacement of 20 schools built with inappropriate materials usually during apartheid. Since the announcement of this plan we have completed the building of eight replacement schools and in the 2012/2013 financial year expect to complete a further 13 schools. I am pleased to report that we are well on track to achieve this target.

Mr Deputy Speaker, while we are determined to replace as many schools as possible, we also need to build new schools to keep up with the growing demand for schooling in certain areas. Last year we completed the building of 11 new schools in this province serving learners living in poorer areas where we have seen increased growth.

Because of the growing demand for better education infrastructure, we have invested heavily in our Infrastructure Programme to the tune of R2,347 billion over the MTEF. Of this figure, R518,356 million has been allocated to the construction of new facilities and the replacement of inappropriate structures in the 2012/2013 financial year. [Interjections.] An amount of R572,168 million and R505,579 million will be allocated to the 2013/2014 financial year and the 2014/2015 financial year, respectively.

Mr Deputy Speaker, while the Western Cape government is doing it all it can to provide our schools with texts, support and infrastructure needed for improvement, we believe that this is only part of the support needed for better learner outcomes each year. The support and commitment of dedicated teachers and principals who use these resources wisely remains the key. *The effective use of resources for teaching and learning implies that all of us understand the objectives of quality education and commit ourselves in this regard. This shared involvement in the outcomes envisaged so far has been an outstanding characteristic of the Western Cape school system.

†In this regard I am pleased to announce that all 1,452 principals of our schools have signed off on their School Improvement Plans, or Sips. The Sips are an online management tool that requires schools to set targets for improvements for each grade. These improvement targets are determined by principals in consultation with the relevant district office after careful analysis of the Grades 3, 6 and 9 literacy and numeracy test results, the Annual National Assessment results, the National Senior Certificate results, internal test results and data available on areas such as absenteeism. Once determined the targets are captured into the Sips database and monitored to ensure that each of our schools is progressing.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I am delighted to see the commitment of our school principals to improving the learner outcomes at their respective schools as part of an overall team effort.
This government strongly believes that hard work should be recognised and progress rewarded. Where schools are working better and producing improved results, particularly in literacy and numeracy, we want to reward them and incentivise them to continue this improvement.

I am therefore delighted to announce the launch of an incentive programme that rewards primary schools that have improved the number and quality of passes in the Grade 3 numeracy systemic testing and high schools that have increased the number and quality of mathematics passes and National Senior Certificate passes with access to Bachelor Degree study.

Mr Deputy Speaker, R25 million has been allocated to this incentive programme. Schools receiving these incentives will ensure that the funds received are spent on items that enhance their capacity to deliver a quality education to our learners.

These items could include one or more of the following priority areas:

- School maintenance;
- The purchase of new IT equipment for administrative or teaching purposes; and
- The promotion of mathematics, such as the purchase of books with extra mathematics exercises and mathematics manipulatives and games.

The incentive programme has been well received by our schools and now provides us with the opportunity to reward schools for working better and improving their learner outcomes. We are pleased to be able to show our schools and our educators that we appreciate their hard work in achieving our shared goals of improving learner outcomes in this province.

Mr Deputy Speaker, we cannot expect all our schools to improve their results and qualify for incentives such as these if we do not provide our educators with the opportunity to grow professionally.

In our strategic plan for education in 2009 we made the commitment to provide educators with opportunities for ongoing professional development and training. To deliver on this commitment we have increased the budget allocation for the professional development and training of our educators with an allocation of R95,2 million in the 2012/2013 financial year.

Equally important as the training of our educators is the training of our school leadership and management teams. This year we are offering a number of training courses at the Cape Teaching and Learning Institute, including courses on the roles and responsibilities of deputy principals and heads of departments, workshops for aspiring school principals, school management team training and an induction programme for new school principals.

Importantly, today is the last day of the school governing body elections. Our schools have conducted a successful election process and we wish all our new school governing bodies success for the three years they have ahead of them.
The importance of these new school governing bodies should not be underestimated. They have major responsibilities which they exercise on behalf of schools, including determining the admission policies of schools and the code of conduct for learners; the drafting of the school budget; determining school fees, where appropriate; and, crucially, the right to interview and nominate educators and principals for appointment. Given these responsibilities, it is essential that all members of every school governing body understand their responsibilities.

Extensive training to the new school governing bodies will take place between April and June 2012 to ensure that the new members of each school governing body have the knowledge and skills needed to govern their school successfully.

Mr Deputy Speaker, any system which functions through a high level of institutional autonomy – as does our public school system – requires a clear framework within which to exercise its responsibilities. This has to be provided by my Ministry and the department. Examples of this framework are the recently published revised definitions of serious learner misconduct and the draft Code of Conduct for School Governing Bodies.

If we are to work as a team better together to improve education outcomes in this province, we need to ensure that our schools, educators, principals and school governing bodies have the necessary support from our district officials and the head office.

In 2009 we made the responsiveness and efficiency of the Western Cape Education Department one of our priority goals. Our aim was to restructure operations at head and district offices so that we can provide better service, rapid response and support to our schools and educators with a view to improving the overall quality of education. We have made a number of improvements in this regard which have contributed to the overall satisfaction levels in our service delivery.

Mr Deputy Speaker, we are deeply committed to directing the majority of the resources I have mentioned today at improving the education outcomes of the schools that serve our province’s poorest communities and ensuring that our most vulnerable learners have every opportunity to receive a quality education and to compete in life.

It is sometimes asserted that this government does not spend sufficiently on the poorer members of our society. The facts do not support this claim. The figures show that consistently the poorer 60% of our school population receive the greater allocations in terms of important indicators such as norms and standards funding, school feeding, new infrastructure and learner transport.

In line with this commitment it is a key strategic objective of this government to reduce the number of the province’s underperforming schools, i.e schools with a Grade 12 pass rate of less than 60%.

Since 2009, I am delighted to report, we have seen significant improvements in reducing the number of underperforming schools. The number of underperforming public high schools dropped by more than 60% from 78 in 2010 to 30 in 2011.
Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to tell you about a community in the Western Cape which demonstrates how we are working better to improve the life chances of our learners. In this community there are 21 high schools. In 2009 the National Senior Certificate results at these high schools were poor, with 15 out of the 21 schools achieving under 60% with an average combined pass rate of 53,6%. However, two years later, under this government, there have been some phenomenal increases in this area. Since 2009 the average pass rate increased by 13,5% and the number of learners passing increased by 24,9%. There has also been a remarkable 44,8% increase in the number of Bachelor passes.

Of the 15 underperforming schools in this community two years ago, there are now only six. This represents an impressive decrease of 60%.

It is evident that, under this government, the life chances of the learners in this community have improved dramatically since 2009. This can be attributed to the increased distribution of human and financial resources to this area, an area which has historically experienced under-investment. This area is Khayelitsha.

This story of the Khayelitsha high schools in the last two years is an example of how this government is fulfilling its commitment to reducing the socio-economic inequalities that many people in the province encounter every day.

The fact is that the majority of our resources are quite rightly being invested in improving the quality of education in poorer areas, such as Khayelitsha, and the return on this investment is beginning to show across the whole province. [Interjections.] Let me repeat that, Mr Deputy Speaker – and the return on this investment is beginning to show across the whole province. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

The MINISTER: For instance, our poorest schools in national quintile 1 in the 2011 National Senior Certificate examinations improved their pass rate from 57% in 2010 to 70% in 2011. The pass rate across schools in the poorest three national quintiles increased to more than 70%.

The department invested R3,2 million in the provision of individual backpacks with stationery to foundation phase learners in all of our 301 national quintile 1 schools at the start of the 2012 school year. Our young learners are now able to commute to and from school with their new backpacks filled with books and work materials which they otherwise would not have brought home for extra reading and study.

Mr Deputy Speaker, there is no doubt that poverty has a severe impact on learning. A hungry child cannot learn or function properly. Basic nutrition is a prerequisite for a quality learning experience. This government is therefore committed to expanding the roll-out of our nutrition programme in schools serving the province’s poorest communities.

The Western Cape’s nutrition programme remains one of the better-run in the country and provides warm nutritious meals to over 430 000 young, poor and vulnerable learners across the province every day.

To allow our children to get the most out of each school day, the department’s nutrition programme has been expanded over the last two years. This expansion is reflected in the budget increases that have been effected since 2009.
In the 2009/2010 financial year R112 million was allocated to the department’s school feeding scheme. This figure was increased to R173 million in the 2010/2011 financial year and R227 million in the 2011/2012 financial year. I am delighted to announce that we will increase this investment in the 2012/2013 financial year to R244.8 million. We will also allocate R203 million for learner transport to assist learners living in our poorer rural areas to get to and from school. Again, this allocation represents an increase.

Furthermore, this year we have allocated R43 million to compensating our schools for the fees that they forego to ensure that more learners from the province’s poorer communities have the opportunity to attend school and receive an education. In the 2011/2012 financial year we paid out over R20 million in compensation to 511 schools in the province.

In the 2012/2013 financial year we will allocate R21 million for incentives for educators in rural areas. This initiative aims to improve the quality of teaching and learner outcomes in the rural areas, particularly in our most remote and poor areas.

Mr Deputy Speaker, this government will continue working to improve the quality of education outcomes achieved by schools that serve our province’s poorest communities and to expanding access to a quality education to all learners in the Western Cape, particularly those who face a number of life obstacles.

In an open opportunity society for all, it is essential that we provide opportunities for all learners to access a quality education, including those children with barriers to learning.

The Western Cape already leads the country in the provision of special needs education. Our ongoing commitment to these learners is reflected in the allocation of R851.7 million that will be made to this programme in the 2012/2013 financial year. This represents an increase from last year. In this sector of the department there has been a shift to a continuum of support spread across a range of settings, including mainstream schools, full-service schools and special schools.

District-based and circuit-based teams – which include learning support advisors, social workers, school psychologists, therapists, and officials responsible for school nutrition and the care and support of learners living with HIV/AIDS – provide support in all the various settings where learners may experience barriers to learning. In addition there are 450 itinerant learning support teachers.

A focus area in the special school sector has been the Schools for the Deaf. The task team established to investigate the quality of education for the deaf in the department made various recommendations in their 2011 report, many of which have already been implemented.

Mr Deputy Speaker, we have also developed new ways of working smarter so that the budget allocated to education is spent as responsibly and efficiently as possible. Working smarter means that we are able to get more value out of the public funds we spend in improving the quality of education in the province than before.
**How are we working smarter?**

The Western Cape Education Department has developed a number of key initiatives to unlock efficiencies within the system.

Human resource stability is a key factor in the efficient functioning of schools. The department has developed a number of smart approaches to ensure that the staffing needs of schools are met quickly and effectively. These include the more frequent publication of vacancy lists, an online application system for principal posts and a revised process for the appointment of school support staff. Overall vacancies are filled more quickly, staffing stability is enhanced and appropriate screening results in a safer environment for learners.

The department introduced a planning calendar for the 2012 school year which included the various dates and details of training programmes and workshops. The introduction of the planning calendar is a simple but smart way of encouraging our educators, principals and school management teams to plan ahead and to take advantage of the development opportunities on offer.

To ensure that we get more out of the budget allocated to textbook provisioning, the department has negotiated excellent prices with publishers, resulting in savings of between R5 million and R6 million. These savings will be used to purchase additional textbooks for our schools. This initiative has shown that through smart planning the department is able to get better value for money than before and accelerate the roll-out of our ambitious textbook provisioning plans.

We also developed a new system for ordering textbooks online. The system offers schools a comprehensive choice of textbooks from the national catalogue of Caps-approved textbooks while also making it quick and easy to place orders online. This system has allowed us to speed up textbook delivery, with planned delivery for the 2013 school year to be completed by November this year.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the unfortunate reality in this country is that where there is poverty, there generally is crime. Crime impacts on our schools and their capacity to provide a quality education. Learner behaviour is negatively modified by the influence of gangs, drugs and sexual or physical abuse. Crime has a disproportionate effect on learners in poorer communities and it is therefore a priority of this government that we find ways of reducing the impact of crime on learning opportunities.

We will therefore allocate R24,2 million in the 2012/2013 budget to the department’s Safe Schools programme. This represents an increase of R1,2 million and demonstrates this government’s commitment to working smarter to improve the safety of our learners and the security of our schools. Our Safe Schools programme will provide targeted support to schools to address issues such as youth development, substance abuse, conflict management and mediation, gangsterism and safety management.

In order to protect our schools from vandalism an additional 50 schools will receive core security infrastructure such as alarm systems, safety gates and burglar-proofing. The department will continue to encourage and forge positive engagements with various sectors to help curb incidents of vandalism and damage to school property. These sectors include neighbourhood watch groups, armed response companies, local police, parents and learners themselves.
When a school is vandalised the department has to provide funds to repair the damaged property or to replace stolen goods. These funds come from the department’s maintenance and repair budget, which has been allocated an amount of R114,725 million in the 2012/2013 financial year. This represents an increase of R6,3 million compared to the previous financial year.

We are therefore grateful for the support we receive from public-private partnerships such as the one initiated at the Parkwood Primary School between the department, Lead SA and other community organisations last year. The Parkwood Primary School experienced several break-ins where classrooms were damaged and electrical cables stolen. Lead SA offered their support to help repair the school with the support of other organisations. In a matter of days the school had been transformed with a new coat of paint, fixed electrical cables and improved security infrastructure.

Their involvement in this project illustrates what can be achieved when people, organisations and the government form partnerships that are committed to achieving a common goal, namely making our schools safer and more secure together.

Mr Deputy Speaker, we will be encouraging and facilitating similar public-private partnerships this year to achieve similar outcomes at our schools. While on the subject of partnerships, I must highlight the fact that the Education Council – under the able leadership of Prof Brian Figaji and his Deputy – has brought together an important cross section of informed and stakeholder opinion. This Council will increasingly make an invaluable contribution through its advice in the formulation of education policy in this province.

Another kind of partnership is our close co-operation with the appropriate local and provincial government agencies aimed at a co-ordinated approach to the expansion and effective delivery of Early Childhood Development and Adult Basic Education and Training services. This transversal approach to important needs that are not confined to formal education is significant.

In addition to these smart initiatives the department is leading the rest of the country in the delivery and roll-out of ICT infrastructure to strengthen and support quality teaching in our schools.

Recently the Premier made an exciting announcement in her State of the Province Address regarding the establishment of a special-purpose vehicle or public-private partnership to bring broadband access to every school, as well as every provincial and every municipal government facility, in the Western Cape over the next two and a half years. It is our view that high-speed broadband connectivity is the foundation on which information technology can be integrated into our schools, making equitable access to the information highway possible for all users, regardless of location.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I am pleased to announce that, in line with the department’s commitment to working smarter in improving education outcomes in this province, we will be investing R34 million of the department’s R60 million ICT budget in the Premier’s project. High-speed broadband connectivity will enable the department to improve the quality of education in this province through the provisioning of high-quality curriculum material and teaching aids, improved communication and remote technical support.
To further our commitment to working smarter and expanding access to leading technology in the province, I am delighted to announce the launch of an exciting new initiative that will see each school principal in this province receive a PC tablet. These tablets, which will be delivered later in the year, will improve the way in which we communicate with and provide support to our principals. This government values the work that our principals do to improve education outcomes in the province and it is our hope that the provision of these tablets will help them work smarter.

Conclusion

Mr Deputy Speaker, a year ago I said in this House that I was under no illusion that we still had some way to go to achieve our strategic objectives. We have worked hard. The Western Cape Education Department, under the able leadership of the Superintendent-General, Penny Vinjevold, and her senior management team, has spared no effort in the best interests of the learners of this province. Head office and district level officials have clear education goals in sight. At school level these are reflected in the School Improvement Plans.

I thank everyone involved for their tireless efforts in bringing us closer to where we know we must be and for ensuring that thousands of our children are in better learning environments than they were before. But we have not achieved all of these goals – education is a work in progress – and I stand here again today with our combined commitment to continued hard work and to further improvement.

The beneficiaries are the young people in our schools, the educators and support staff who deliver the service and the broad community of parents, institutions of learning and business and industry – in other words, the total society of the Western Cape.

So far today I have not mentioned one of the most important elements of any school system. It is also missing from this budget, as it is something that we can neither purchase nor build. It is parental involvement in the education of children.

The enrolment process for the 2013 school year already began at the start of this month and we call on parents to register their children early so that we have all children living in the Western Cape enrolled before the end of the school year.

We strongly encourage parents to talk to their children about what they are doing at school, what they read, what they wrote and what sums they did each day of the school year. We also want parents to speak to teachers about what they are doing in school to build these skills, and what parents can do to help their child’s teachers. Through the combined effort of learners, teachers and parents, as well as support from the department, we are confident that we can continue to increase the levels of competency in literacy and numeracy levels in this province.

Finally, Mr Deputy Speaker, as we move forward another year, I am confident that we have built here in the Western Cape a strong team, a driving force, consisting of our educators, officials and learners of the Western Cape. With further support from our parents and communities we can achieve all of our goals. This is working Better Together in action. [Applause.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Proceedings will now be suspended, and the bells will be rung to indicate the resumption of proceedings.
Ms C LABUSCHAGNE: Mr Deputy Speaker, the budget for Education of R14,229 billion for the 2012/2013 financial year and the total medium-term budget of R45,381 billion are welcomed. The appropriation represents 35.7%, as the Minister has said, of the total provincial budget for the 2012/2013 financial year.

The earnestness with which this government is addressing the future of our youth by offering quality education is proved once again by the way in which the funds are used, the problems are dealt with and the results obtained. The child, the learner, remains the focus. Consequently, the results will demonstrate the empowerment of our youth as a ripple effect.

The hon Witbooi read out loud the poem by Ingrid Jonker, *Die Kind*, during the Human Rights debate last week. This thought has stayed with me and I am using it today as my frame of reference.

In 1976, the youth fought for their rights, but these rights came at a price. Since 1994, a democracy is being established in South Africa. Another very important context in any society is the family. The family as an entity has always been the unit that instils in children the difference between right and wrong, that maintains discipline. This is the unit where one learns that, for example, destroying furniture, cars or anything because one’s parents cannot provide in one’s immediate needs or simply because one cannot have one’s own way, is wrong. The family has always been a microcosm of the macrocosm where values and norms are conveyed.

As Ingrid Jonker’s poem is read against the background of apartheid, which also influenced a child’s life in the pre-democracy, it can also be read today against the background of the task of education as a service delivering institution, namely that it should address education, hope, dreams and opportunities for the youth – in other words, it should prepare the youth for the future.

Education has for a long time already gone beyond the mere ability to read and write, covering the full development of the child in order to achieve problem solving and critical thought. Consequently, it is the entire environment in which children find themselves that has an impact on the ability to develop, and this is what provision has to be made for.

I am again quoting from *Die Kind* by Ingrid Jonker:

... die kind lig sy vuiste teen sy moeder  
wat Afrika skreeu skreeu die geur van vryheid en heide  
in die lokasies van die omsingelde hart ...

Mr Deputy Speaker, with family dynamics under constant threat from economic circumstances, social problems and physical shortcomings, education also has to make provision for taking responsibility for the care of learners. Poverty is a very real problem in South Africa and also in the Western Cape.

The Western Cape Education Department ensures that all learners in the Western Cape have not only the same opportunities of a quality education but also the ability to utilise this to the full and without exception.
An example of this is that “no fee” schools have been extended to all schools in the national quintile 3 in the Western Cape since 2010. Currently, there are 667 “no fee” schools in the province.

In 2011, the Education Department compensated schools with R21 million for the remission of school fees. I therefore support the call for more parents to avail themselves of this opportunity if support is required.

Poverty has always been associated with famine. The inability to learn effectively on an empty stomach hampers the quality of teaching being received. The school feeding scheme of the Western Cape Department of Education currently provides a nourishing meal for approximately 426 000 learners every school day, while the learner transport scheme provides bus transport for 49 000 learners on about 500 routes.

The aroma of freedom referred to by Ingrid Jonker can be achieved in the classroom only if there is a text-rich environment to learn from. The R144,301 million voted for this financial year is one step closer to ensuring that it will be possible to provide text books in every subject for every learner from Grade 1 to Grade 12 over the next three years.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I am quoting again:"Die kind lig sy vuiste teen sy vader wat Afrika skreeu skreeu die geur van geregtigheid." Justness in education refers to putting things right for the shortcomings of the past, the past that also includes the shortcomings of the previous provincial government. In this regard, the R518,356 million budgeted in the 2012/2013 financial year for infrastructure, the building of new schools and the replacement of inadequate schools is of cardinal importance. By the end of 2011 there were already 14 schools under construction, eight being planned and 11 undergoing feasibility tests.

The focus on school improvement plans will also give schools the necessary influence on what needs and priorities to address. The new policies and guidelines with regard to raids on schools, together with the continuing buy-in of communities to help safeguard schools, are aimed at managing schools as a safe environment where learning, development and socialisation can take place without fear. The continued focus on safe schools is essential, and the extended budget for this purpose is evidence of the Western Cape Department of Education’s commitment to safety in schools.

The odour of justness can be achieved only if provision is also made for learners with special needs. Using the Department of Basic Education’s special schools audit as a basis for the province’s own investigation into the needs of schools for special needs in the province is welcomed.

It is, however, necessary to persevere in assessing and supporting schools addressing the needs of learners with special needs. No child, regardless of the level of need, may be left behind. Every child deserves to develop to his or her potential. The extension of programmes supporting inter alia autistic and blind learners is appreciated in this regard.

Mr Deputy Speaker, Ingrid Jonker continues to say"... die kind is teenwoordig by alle vergaderings en wetgewings".
While presence is important, presence in education goes beyond the mere presence of learners in schools during school hours. Firstly, one should ensure that learners are ready for school by the beginning of their school career.

One of the highlights of 2011/2012 was the priority enjoyed by the foundation phase of education. In the medium term, R162,318 million was budgeted to improve and expand the Grade R programmes. It is also heartening to see how seriously early childhood development (ECD) centres in general are addressed. The medium-term budget for ECDs is R1,47 billion. Here it is important that the problems experienced by ECDs can be addressed in consultation with the Department of Social Development.

Secondly, the child has to be present up to the end of his matric year. The commitment of the WCDE to address retention of learners is welcomed.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the “meetings and legislation” also concern the administration of schools. The role and importance of competent school governing bodies, as was pointed out by the Minister, are cardinal to the success of every school as well as to the education our learners are receiving at every school. The continued training and development of principals and educators is important for building the best capacity. To achieve and develop accountability, all officials will sign performance contracts aimed at improving learner achievement.

The systematic introduction of regulations and policies setting out the minimum teaching hours and school hours as well as declarations of interests by members of governing bodies and procurement processes are laudable. The guidelines – aimed mainly at the functioning of governing bodies – will also contribute to positive results.

Mr Deputy Speaker, Ingrid Jonker also said “... die kind wat net wou speel in die son by Nyanga is orals ...”

Learners should task themselves to learn and nobody may prevent them from doing so. It is for this reason that the Western Cape Schools Act of 2010 prohibits any political activities on school grounds during school hours. Creating a learning environment does go beyond merely bringing the learner and the classroom together without interruption. It also entails the way content is presented.

Trade unions, and especially Sadtu, should therefore concentrate more on supporting and motivating educators with a view to improving the results in the classroom and being proper role-models for our youth instead of holding schools, principals and learners captive with demands.

In this respect, government’s policy of “Better Together” is one that can easily be implemented in the work place and in the learning place in favour of our learners. By internalising the values of excellence in the profession, transparency and accountability as well as integrity at all times, the total development of our learners can be taken to new highs.

Ingrid Jonker says “... die kind wat ‘n man geword het trek deur die ganse Afrika ...”
The future focus of access to broad-band internet for every school in the province, the development of e-education and the focus on quality education and teaching, together with the total development of every learner in the province, are some of the factors making possible the application of “Better Together”. For the last time I agree with Ingrid Jonker, “... die kind wat ‘n reus geword het reis deur die hele wêreld ...”.

I thank the Minister and the WCDE for their dedication and I support the budget as submitted.

*Ms J A VAN ZYL: Mr Deputy Speaker, the R14,229 billion for Education is, apart from Health, the largest allocation of the provincial budget. However, if one looks again at the department’s vision of “creating opportunity for all through improved education outcomes”, this vision may remain just a dream for some learners in this province if decision-makers gamble with the future of our youth.

The recent events at Grabouw cannot be wished away. It is a telling example of how it should not have been done. Cope rejects all violence, arson and looting accompanying the protest marches. If classrooms and equipment are burned down by angry people, they deny the learners the opportunity to attend school and receive instruction.

However, there are a number of unanswered questions regarding this matter that are certainly of importance to the community of Grabouw. Minister Grant confirmed in the standing committee that the Department of Education had been waiting for the transfer of land from the national Department of Public Works since 2009 to build a new school in Grabouw. The immediate question then is: Is the national ANC government serious about the literacy of the youth in South Africa? But given the situation in other provinces it is clear that there is no clear direction and/or political will to make education in this country a priority.

Deputy Minister Marius Fransman, also the Western Cape leader of the ANC, said however that alternative land was indeed available to build a school. Was the Department of Education contacted prior to the protest action with regard to alternative land? Could the protest that turned violent and destructive be prevented if the national ANC government did not drag their feet? Where does the Department of Education now all of a sudden get the land to erect temporary classrooms? Could this land not have been used before the protest action?

Mr Deputy Speaker, politics cannot keep the youth of South Africa hostage. We would also like to know: We have heard two sides; what is the truth? The Department of Education owes the community of Grabouw an honest answer. If there is egg on the face of the ANC in the Western Cape, specifically Deputy Minister Marius Fransman, he should come clear in public and tell the truth. Or maybe it is too close to 2014? [Interjections.]

Where does this leave the learners of Grabouw? They do not have a school where they can be taught; their school was closed last week as a result of the protest action. They are now at home or in the streets. Learners of Botrivier are being transported to Grabouw because the Botrivierschool cannot accommodate learners whose home language is Xhosa and who are Xhosa speaking. How many Xhosa speaking learners from surrounding areas are also being transported to the Grabouw school? Could this be a contributing factor?
Almost 49 000 learners of all ages use transport for learners. Last year the department undertook to negotiate with the service providers to pick up learners living less than five kilometres from the school on the same route where the learners are transported, if there are seats available. In practice this does not work out.

Mr Deputy Speaker, transport for learners remains a huge source of concern and the policy has to be revised to guarantee safer and more accessible transport for learners, especially those in rural areas.

Safety of learners and teachers on school grounds is of paramount importance. The Safer School programme drastically require more attention, especially at schools where learners have lost their lives. Parent involvement, and ongoing parent involvement, together with the community policing forums (CPF), can play a valuable role in this regard. I salute every educator with the huge task of turning the youth of today into the leaders of tomorrow through teaching and support.

Mr Deputy Speaker, in conclusion I want to express my gratitude towards the department and its head for all they are doing for the children of the Western Cape in giving them the necessary education. Cope supports the budget.

Nksz M TINGWE: Sekela-Somlomo, kunandi ukuthetha emva kuka Alta.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[Ms M TINGWE: Deputy Speaker, it is nice to speak after the hon Alta.][Inaudible.] ... leaves much to be desired.]

†The department has committed to ensure that teachers and learners spend more time in class teaching and learning, but a learner and an educator at Umyezo Wama Apile are not privileged enough to benefit from that commitment. They have a right to learn. The Freedom Charter says that the doors of learning and culture shall be opened, but that is not the case in Grabouw today; the doors have been closed.

Minister Grant, were there no better intervention methods that you could have implemented in that school? What is so hard about going to speak to the education stakeholders of that area so that Better Together can work there as well? How do you intend to bring back the lost learning time at Umyezo? What results do you think we will get from that school at the end of the year? Much more needs to be done in that area to prevent it from happening elsewhere in the near future.

Minister, you continue to diagnose “poor performance” in township and rural schools and low intake of learners as a cause for closure of schools, and yet the majority of such schools were closed down because they were built on private land. Whilst you are closing down schools in the province, the province faces a huge challenge of overcrowded schools – in the main, previously disadvantaged schools. It has become more fashionable, Minister, for you to sing your favourite song of “underperforming schools”, and yet there are no concrete and practical interventions except handouts and ad hoc interventions as you only sometimes react when communities wage an uprising through protest.

Minister Grant, you stopped the ANC initiative in Bitou. [Interjections.] I know what I am talking about.
The ANC in Bitou did fundraising, because they know what working together means, for the building of two urgently needed classrooms in the new community of New Horizons.

You told the company to stop; they must build those classrooms later, in two years’ time. They had started their construction work, and when you were confronted about it, as expected, you gave an arrogant response. You said: “I run the whole province; Formosa Primary School is not a priority”. If indeed you are serious about your Better Together, why did you refuse the assistance you were given? Or were you not happy because of the ANC initiative?

With this budget the ANC would like to see all the Dinaledi Schools fitted with computer laboratories so as to ensure that learners do the science practicals, as science is a practical subject. We are happy with the school nutrition budget. We hope that food gets to learners on time and that they get quality food, especially in the deep rural areas of the province. We would like the Minister to tell us whether he will ensure that even primary schools in rural areas will improve their numeracy and literacy skills, and get awards like Rustenburg and Oakhurst Girls’ Primary Schools.

We have not heard the Minister telling us how he plans to combat the dropout rate, especially in rural areas, or are they also not on his priority list?

The DA-led government has no regard for the country’s heritage and history. It is no surprise anyway, because you see yourselves in the Republic of Cape Town. Certain former model C schools are given permission to remain open on such historic days, such as 21 March, Human Rights Day. Plettenberg Bay Primary School kids went to school on 21 March; just think about it.

Madam and Father Christmas wanted to ensure that learners are at school while Madam Zille insults our families, calling them refugees. Madam Premier’s remarks on refugees is not something new as she shouted the same remarks in her Sopa when she said: “The influx of learners from the EC placed a major burden on our education”. I want to give the Premier a piece of free advice. You might as well tell her, hon Grant, that she needs to learn, familiarise herself with and understand the Freedom Charter when it says “South Africa, including the Western Cape, belongs to all who live in it, black and white”. I wonder if the same would be said about white learners who move from all over the province and abroad to the greater Westerford, Bishops and other former model C schools.

Can the same be said about white monopoly capitalists from all over the world who perceive the Western Cape as their republic, who flood the province, particularly when they vote for Madam, bowing to the evil altar of entrenching racial divisions? It is no surprise really because last year in October the very same DA-led government told the House that they were going to get architects from abroad because we did not have architects in the province who were fit for purpose, regardless of the institutions of higher learning that have such courses.

That was testimony that Madam Zille is a mouthpiece of white monopoly capital and the elite, and has no experience of teaching in under resourced, overcrowded schools without sanitation and electricity. The recognition of a few black schools in comparison with many former model C schools creates a false impression that success is equitable in Western Cape schools. This is just window-dressing.
For the information of Minister Grant, Masiyile and Luhlaza High schools in Khayelitsha have forever been the best black performing schools, even whilst I was in high school myself.

I want to say to the DA that the ANC will support the budget as long as it redresses the imbalances of the past in our education system. I thank you.

†Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, listening to the hon member Tingwe is a bit like déjà vu because it reminds me of the days when in the eighties the communities had to stand at their schools to prevent them from being burnt down. It is an absolute irony that we have to do the same now in communities to protect the schools to prevent, again, the ANC from wanting to burn the schools down.

For the information of members of the public that are here today, but weren’t here yesterday, the Leader of Government Business stipulated, and laid it out very clearly, that what is happening in places like Grabouw at the moment is not by happenstance. It is part of a clearly delineated document, which is a top secret document that came into the hands of the DA. It is called Operation Reclaim and it is headed up by Marius Fransman and a couple of his committee members. Exactly what is laid out in that document is now taking place. [Interjections.] As member Tingwe says, it has repercussions and there is lost time and there are ad hoc interventions.

The fact of the matter is, as the hon Minister has already said in his speech, that more is being done for the underprivileged schools in this province than in any other provinces in the country. We devote more time and we build more schools on a per capita rand-for-rand basis than any of the other provinces. I would like to congratulate the Minister, but more particularly the Superintendent-General and her staff, for an outstanding budget and for the report of last year. There are very few provinces, I think, in the world that could boast with the results that they achieved last year, both academic as well as their developmental results.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to speak briefly about the facilities development that is taking place at the moment. Thirty schools were built in the last two years – the highest in the country. This is absolutely significant because they are creating opportunities for those people who feel that they are being deprived of an education elsewhere in the country and for them to get an opportunity in this province. That is significant. It is a tragedy for the rest of the country that they are failing the young people of the country but, on the other hand, it is a tribute to the DA governorship that we are able to provide these resources where they are not able to do so in other provinces.

I want to relate a situation with regard to facilities that I am a bit concerned about. On Wednesday, on Human Rights Day, I went to a school in my constituency area where this Parliament funded a talent show for the youth. It was well attended, may I say, from right across the community. I would like to thank the Minister for having made sure that a security fence was put around this school which has been vandalised extensively in the past. But what really disappointed me was the condition of the hall that we hired. A lot of wiring was exposed, most of the toilets were vandalised, all the fire escapes were barred and bolted, which in themselves created huge other problems, and there were holes in the roof.
What I am concerned about is that unless, as the Minister has already said, there are agreements with the communities to ensure that they take ownership of these facilities, then all the proactive measures that the department is taking will come to nought because the facilities within those secure environments will not be secure for very long. I believe that there needs to be service level agreements both between the community organisations as well as the police. A security plan for each school needs to be work shopped in the community and agreed to by the community.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to touch on the topic of the whole development of the child. I would like to read to you the first South African National Youth Risk Survey of 2002. It says – and I quote:

Physical inactivity has become a major public health problem in South Africa, contributing to the chronic, non-communicable disease epidemic. Physical activity is necessary to maintain good emotional and physical health as well as to prevent disease. Individual behaviours which feature recommended levels of physical activity, especially if practised from childhood, can improve self-esteem and reduce the risk of obesity, which is closely associated with diabetes and certain types of cancer, anxiety, stress, high blood pressure and elevated cholesterol, which contribute to heart disease and strokes. This Youth Risk Behaviour Survey is the first nationally representative study about the prevalence of physical activity and inactivity among high school learners in South Africa.

In that regard the national curriculum says that each child must enjoy 40 minutes of physical activity per week for life orientation skills. I am very concerned that the quality of this particular activity is not what it should be and it is not as measurable as it should be.

I have already related to the House that there is a service provider in my area that started an initiative. The Minister talked about this initiative and how critically important these partnerships are that have been highly successful. Five school principals, mostly from schools in the disadvantaged communities, have extolled the virtues and the benefits of this programme where qualified service providers come in and offer physical activities. The attendance levels, both of classes and at the schools, have gone up exponentially as well as the participation and enthusiasm of the scholars themselves.

Mr Deputy Speaker, lastly I would like to touch on the issue regarding the curriculum itself. I would like to see, if it is possible, that in the near future more emphasis should be placed on artisan hand skills type development or opportunities for scholars in schools at the moment, looking at the redevelopment of techno-centres that many of our schools used to have. I say this because although maths and science, and other academic subjects, may be very important, the fact of the matter is that not every child is academically inclined, and persons with hand skills are easily employable, especially in service-related industries and construction industries.

The Royal Maritime School in Simonstown, for instance, is a very successful model where employment is virtually guaranteed as a result of the skills that these youngsters learn, particularly for the niche market.
There is a definite opportunity for niche market development of school curriculums, and I would really like to see the department – and I hope that Parliament can assist in this matter – approaching industry for them to develop a niche market curriculum for their scholars.

Once again I would like to thank and congratulate the Minister and his department for the hard work they have done and the outstanding results they’ve achieved this last year.

†The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to start by thanking all members of the House who participated in this debate. Secondly, if I don’t cover the issues that you have raised, I have made notes and I will make sure that you get answers to your questions within a week or so.

Let me touch on some of the key notes that I have made here. I wish to thank the hon member Labuschagne for having made the child the focal point of education. While we often emphasise the importance of education with regard to economic development, it is so easy to forget that education is also the route by which young people achieve their dreams and hopes. Government believes that quality public education for all learners eventually shows all learners the way to make their dreams come true.

†I further want to say that there any many ways in which this budget aims to make these objectives possible, at all levels, and to suit the needs of different ages and abilities. Education in this province does not value any one child less than another. In partnership with our teachers and principals, SGBs, parents, care-givers and officials we will use the budget I presented to the best advantage of our young people.

I would like to thank the hon Van Zyl for her concern about learner transport. I can assure you that we are still working hard to try and refine that policy. We will also look into the whole situation around Botrivier and the transport there. You also spoke about your vision for safer schools as well. This is an ongoing worry for us. I’d like to thank you for your support of the budget. It is much appreciated.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Does she support this budget?

†The MINISTER: Well, that’s what I heard.

I would like to thank the hon Tingwe for her support of the budget as well. [Interjections.] Let me say to the hon Tingwe that I have listened carefully to her questions relating to Grabouw. I have been informed that there is a debate scheduled for the House next week.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Really.

†The MINISTER: And I will certainly respond in much greater detail at that time.

In the meantime, let me assure you that we are looking at ways of correcting the overcrowding as a matter of urgency. [Interjections.]
Now let me talk to your assertion about the dropout rate. It is a terrible situation which we inherited. But if I have a look at the statistics there are 2 000 more learners in Grade 11 in the Western Cape in 2012 and 4 000 more learners in Grade 12. So we are actually making some inroads, but we have a long way to go. From figures that I saw the retention rate was of the order of 47½% from Grade 1 to Grade 12 over the period 2000 to 2011. But it is our goal by 2019 to have a retention rate of between 75% and 80%. So we have a long, long way to go. We are currently just at the 60% odd level. [Interjections.]

I am not going to respond to rhetoric; I find it, frankly, a waste of time. [Interjections.] So please excuse me from any comment in that regard. I’d rather stick to education, quite frankly.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Well, we’ll all be happy if you do ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

†The MINISTER: Hon Wiley, thank you for your contributions, as usual. I share your concern regarding the facilities. Unfortunately our infrastructure and our maintenance budgets can only stretch that far. We have to find a balance between maintaining existing infrastructure and building new infrastructure. [Interjections.] The one thing I realised, looking at the country as a whole, is that we have a long way to go. [Interjections.] But the one thing I can say is that in the Western Cape we do have a plan, we are delivering on that plan and so far we are on time and on budget.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Is it a question or is it a point of order, Mr McKenzie?

†The MINISTER: We also ... 

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just take your seat, hon Minister.

An HON MEMBER: It is not a point of order.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am listening. [Interjections.] Order! Mr McKenzie, I am waiting for your point of order.

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: Mr Deputy Speaker, there is a saying that there is a good wife behind every man.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Come to the point of order. [Interjections.]

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: The point of order ris ... 

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: [Inaudible.] [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, Mr Carlisle!
†Mr P C McKENZIE: My point of order is: It is the custom in the House that when a Minister’s wife is in the House she sits in that front bench over there, not behind...

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr McKenzie, I hear what you are saying, but the lady is sitting behind the rope; I am satisfied that I am correct.

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: She is such a good wife ... [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat. [Interjections.] Please take your seat. Please carry on. [Interjections.] Order! Order!

†Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, on a point of order: I would like you to rule on one of the Rules of the House regarding members standing up on frivolous points of order. [Interjections.] That is a frivolous point of order, and I would like you to rule on it please. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.] Mr McKenzie, take your seat. I have already ruled that is a point of order and you can carry on now. [Interjections.] Please sit down now, you’ve made your point.[Interjections.]

Order! Minister Grant, you can continue.

†The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Mr Deputy Speaker, I would also like to assure the hon Wiley that we are working transversely in terms of skills development.

There is a huge mismatch in this country between skills demanded and skills supplied. We are sitting with figures of approximately 60 000 unemployed graduates, and approximately 70 000 technical and skilled jobs which are not supplied with people. Together with Minister Winde’s department, and the Department of the Premier, we are trying to bridge that gap. In our planning for schools where multi-purpose schools are available, and schools of special skills, we are trying with our limited resources to make a dent in that area. We will also be working with Minister Van Rensburg in the rural areas to see what we can do to address that going forward.

*Mr Deputy Speaker, I think I have finished laughing! [Interjections.] I want to conclude by again thanking the department ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER: ... and also ...

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Mr McKenzie, you are talking much too much.

*The MINISTER: ... the way in which member Labuschagne is managing the standing committee. Reference was made to the Premier and her male Cabinet. But I just want to tell you that if there is any gender imbalance, it is certainly not in the Department of Education. I thank you.

Debate concluded.
†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I suspend the business of the House for a few minutes to allow the galleries to be cleared and the new department to enter, may I just point out to Mr McKenzie that his point of order was quite valid. I didn’t like the point of order, but it was valid. The floor of the House stops at the rope. But before you get up on a point of order again I want to refer you to Rule 36, which is your evening reading for tonight. Have a look at Rule 36. The House is suspended for 5 minutes.

BUSINESS SUSPENDED AT 14:54 AND RESUMED AT 15:00.

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL [B3—2012]

(Debate on Vote 7 – Social Development)

†The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr Speaker, I wish to welcome the Premier in her absence. I also welcome Cabinet colleagues – my dear Cabinet colleagues, I must add – and members on both sides of the House, the ANC and the DA. I see Cope is missing. I also wish to welcome the ID, community and religious leaders in the gallery, representatives from our service delivery partners and other NGOs who are seated in the gallery. I also welcome my dear colleagues in the corner. I value my colleagues in that corner, including the few that are absent. The new HOD, especially, is very welcome. I also wish to welcome any citizens of the Western Cape.

Introduction

Mr Speaker, the Social Development budget is tabled against the background of significant shifts in the policy and legislative environment governing my department’s mandate.

Firstly, the provincial Cabinet, as an executing authority for the province, has approved Provincial Strategic Objective 8, which aims to promote social inclusion and reduce poverty in the Western Cape. The department has been identified as a key department for implementing key priorities under Provincial Strategic Objective 8 (PSO8), namely:

- Early childhood development for linguistic and especially second language English, cognitive and personal development of young children;
- The reduction of drug- and alcohol-related harms;
- Youth and family development; and
- Support for vulnerable groups.

Those are the four key areas that we will be focusing on.

Mr Speaker, the provincial Department of Social Development is also required to play a supportive role in the implementation of food security and after-school programmes under PSO8, together with the Department of Education and together with the Sports Council.
What is interesting from all the debates and all the speeches that I heard this morning, starting with the Premier’s speech and going onto the Minister of Education’s speech, is that poverty reduction was mentioned as a common thread that runs through all departments. I think we need to build on this.

In addition to our provincial strategic shifts, our department has to meet new statutory requirements for service delivery under the recently introduced Children’s Act, the Child Justice Act and the Older Persons Act.

As such, we have realigned our targets and budgets to deliver on these priorities with quality services that (a) are properly targeted, (b) rely on evidence-based best practices, Ms Magwaza, and (c) — and I want to emphasise that — are cost-effective.

Our approach is reflected in key shifts in the budget. Primarily we have shifted funds away from unnecessary goods and services, advertising, catering, salaries and travel and subsistence. We have shifted these additional funds to make them available to our best performing NGOs and NGO partners that provide services aligned to our Provincial Strategic Objective 8 priorities and legislative mandates.

The Budget

Mr Speaker, I now want to come to the budget. Allow me now to give you a short overview of the department’s budget for the 2012/2013 financial year, with a focus on the most significant funding allocations.

The department’s total budget allocation for the 2012/2013 financial year amounts to R1.4 billion, an increase of just over R100 million from the previous financial year.

Programme 2: Social Welfare Services by far takes the lion’s share of the budget. It has also received the biggest proportional increase in the budget, reflecting our shift away from unnecessary internal departmental costs in favour of service delivery to all our citizens — and I want to emphasise, service delivery for all our citizens.

Indeed, in the past three years the administration has increased its allocation to welfare services from 70% of the total Social Development budget in 2009 to nearly 84% for the 2012/2013 financial year. This also shows an increase because in the 2011/2012 budget it was 81%.

Mr Speaker, in terms of alignment with Provincial Strategic Objective 8, the following sub-programmes in welfare services have been prioritised in this budget.

Firstly, substance abuse, prevention and rehabilitation sees an increase of 14% to R77 million this year, nearly R10 million up from the previous year. You will remember that during the alignment period we also increased that amount by, I think, approximately R12 million. This will enable us to provide treatment for over 5 000 individuals in need of facilities across the province. This amount also includes increased provision for public information and early intervention services to help prevent the onset of drug- and alcohol-related harms.
In addition, we are increasing our provision for youth treatment and early interventions, and for Foetal Alcohol Syndrome prevention programmes, especially in rural areas, for the information of hon Prins. [Interjections.] We are forging relationships with the Cape Town/Tygerberg Football Association. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER: I want hon members to also realise the following. We are also forging relationships with the Cape Town/Tygerberg Football Association, which will see 14 000 players having access to early intervention programmes from our basket of services from the Department of Social Development. I think this is a phenomenal announcement today. I think this speech responds to the Leader of the Opposition’s point about showcasing.

Secondly, our services to vulnerable persons receive significant increases. Programmes for persons with disabilities will be funded to the tune of R70 million, an increase of nearly 50% on the R48 million allocated in the 2011 budget. Provision for care and services to older persons increases to R154 million, from R140 million budgeted at the beginning of 2011.

Mr Speaker, you will remember that this programme received R140 million last year, and through savings in our Adjustment Budget we were able to channel an additional R12 million to the older persons programme in January 2012. I really think that needs applause. [Interjections.] Anyway, we are not at a concert! [Applause.][Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon McKenzie!

†The MINISTER: This increased net allocation is carried through into the current financial year. Both of these areas of service are of critical importance for the department and for this government. We as government have a responsibility to do for the people what they cannot reasonably be expected to do for themselves. Disabled citizens – and I think the Premier spoke about the whole issue of disabled citizens this morning – and frail and impoverished older persons are often the most vulnerable members of our society through no fault of their own. It is therefore incumbent on us, as the Department of Social Development, to provide safety nets for these citizens. This we will continue to do in partnership with the Department of the Premier and any other department that will join us.

For too long we have lived with situations where disabled children are chained and locked up in a shack because their families cannot cope with them, or find them to be a source of embarrassment. This phenomenon must stop. People living with disabilities can lead meaningful lives and contribute to civil society like anyone else.

We currently have 23 service centres across the province for persons living with disabilities. This is a relatively new concept, but we are committed to capacitating most, and more, organisations to offer this service in our communities. We are incredibly excited about this.

In the case of older persons, we have been able to establish 225 old-age service centres across the province – I repeat, 225 centres. We shall continue to grow the number of service centres so that nobody has to be excluded because of distance.
At these service centres the older persons take part in programmes and activities that promote active aging and overall well-being. Physical exercise is now part of their routine. We provide the facilities, they attend the programmes, and in that way we can make their lives better together. They also have access to a basket of social services under one roof – from assistance with pension grant applications, to ID document applications, to chronic medication and housing issues all in one. Added to this is the provision of a hearty, warm and healthy meal.

Mr Speaker, the third area of social welfare services that has received extra resources in line with our Provincial Strategic Objective 8, is child care and protection services, which include our ECD programmes. For the information of the hon Ms Magwaza, this sub programme sees an increase of R60 million, or nearly 15%, to a phenomenal amount of R406 million this year – last year it was R355 million. More than 90 000 children will benefit from this allocation. The increase in funding has also come with a drive to improve the quality of ECD services.

You will recall that in mid-2011 the former Minister of Social Development, Patricia de Lille, embarked on a campaign to get all ECD facilities in the Western Cape registered and compliant with legislation. An amnesty period was offered for all ECDs that were operational before 1 February 2011 to come forward to apply for registration with the department before 31 July 2011. The response was phenomenal.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: You like that word! [Interjections.]

†The MINISTER: We discovered over 2 000 unregistered facilities, most of which have come forward to apply for registration.

It is important to note that the registration process involves provincial and local governments, the latter by far being the most complicated and time-consuming process. Since starting the registration process of the more than 2 000 facilities who received amnesty, we have also completed, on our side, 300 new registrations to date. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon McKenzie! Order!

†The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I have in the interim also signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the City of Cape Town, in which we undertook to make every attempt to accommodate the ECDs with as little red tape as possible, while still ensuring that the safety of the children is not compromised. Now all new ECDs must complete the registration process before they can open their doors legally.

We have a very good example of one municipality. The Stellenbosch Municipality has capped the amount for municipal charges relating to the registration of ECDs at R200. This makes it so much more affordable for poor people who own ECD centres to comply with registration.

I want to encourage all other municipalities across the province, through my colleague Minister Bredell, to find similar ways to accommodate the poor in their quest to be compliant, because people want to comply, but they cannot afford a R900 registration fee.
We are also running a pilot project – and this is a phenomenally interesting … [Interjections.] We are running a pilot project, for the information of the hon McKenzie, with Dr Galant, a dentist, who is providing oral health care to the children of at least two ECDs. We are thinking of rolling out the pilot project at a later stage. We are just very grateful that people realise that oral health is as important as all other forms of health. I want to thank Dr Galant, if he is in the gallery today.

Mr Speaker, a further shift under welfare services that should be noted here is the absorption of the HIV/Aids sub programme into the Care and Support Services to Families sub programme, which receives a total allocation of R38 million. We made this shift in order to mainstream the projects run under the HIV programme with other chronic illnesses psychosocial support services.

Our budget for Programme 3: Development and Research also sees significant shifts to align our funding with strategic priorities under Provincial Strategic Objective 8. Most notably, our youth development budget jumps tenfold, from R2,4 million to R24 million. [Interjections.] It is no secret … [Interjections.] And I am sure hon Ozinsky will join me in saying that it is no secret that I am passionate, and every committed, about educating the youth and extending as many opportunities as possible to the youth of the province, both urban and rural, hon Prins, … [Interjections.] …

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Proceed, Minister.

†The MINISTER: … so that they are able to participate in society and lead a meaningful life. This project, and our shift, has already seen significant returns on our investment.

I firmly believe that young people should go to school, stay in school, and grab hold of every opportunity that comes along to pave the way for a better adulthood. I am also acutely aware of the limited opportunities and the many obstacles that young people face in their daily lives. In this regard we will work tirelessly with the Premier’s department, with Minister Grant’s Department of Education and Minister Meyer’s Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport, and all other departments.

I am delighted to report that our combined efforts with the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport to make the MOD centres more attractive to learners, have … [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members, order!

†The MINISTER: … indeed yielded positive results. The MOD centres which offer sport, educational and cultural activities after school, between 2 and 6pm, play a vital role in using an existing establishment to promote social inclusion.

I have personally visited several MOD centres at both primary and high schools, and I can honestly say that the meals provided to these learners by the Department of Social Development are a daily highlight to many children. Surely, making a meal available in a controlled environment, where the learners have to attend the programme and where they also have a role to play in making the programme work, makes a lot more sense than simply setting up a weekly soup kitchen in the middle of the Parade, and nameless faces and nameless people line up for their hand-out and then go back to where they come from without the state having made any impact on their lives.
Mr Speaker, our efforts don’t stop at the MOD centres. I have recently, together with the Two Oceans Youth Academy here in the Chamber, launched an academy of excellence for young people. The first phase focused on soccer and Hip Hop dancing. Raw talent is identified in communities and at the MOD centres. These exceptionally talented learners are then absorbed into the academy of excellence where their unique skills are further developed by excellent coaches – and I want to emphasise this, excellent coaches.

They also benefit from life skills coaching and have to embrace a high level of discipline and respect. They are then exposed to sport opportunities that could potentially see them in a sporting career. We are also well on our way to extending this programme to include Hip Hop, and we are quite far with the Hip Hop programme, music and theatre. If we are able to develop our young people to their full potential, it is important that we learn to speak their language, and we’ve actually seen how behaviour has changed in a very short period. This programme has so far reached 750 young people and more than 50 older persons during the academy’s various outreach programmes. We have touched lives from Graafwater to Macassar, to Nyanga and to the Strand and beyond. It is a very interesting programme, because young people are also taught to respect older persons. It is an inter-generational programme, and they go and do work for older persons. That is what we must promote.

The Chrysalis Academy is another lifeline we offer to our young people in their quest to find direction in their lives. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon McKenzie, order! Hon member, I am warning you. If you don’t want to listen, I am … [Interjections.]

†The MINISTER: This year we aim …

†The SPEAKER: Hon McKenzie, order! Continue, hon Minister.

†The MINISTER: This year we aim to put more than 600 young people through this intense three-month programme where they not only learn valuable life skills, but they also get exposed to vocational training like catering, carpentry, welding and safety and security work.

Mr Speaker, it does not stop there. At the end of last year we made sure that there was a plan to place each and every graduate from Chrysalis. Some went back to school. This was – and I refuse to use the word “phenomenal” – really great. Some of these young people went back to school to go and finish Grade 10. They went back into the mainstream schools.

An HON MEMBER: Can we have a list?

The MINISTER: Yes, we can give you the list. Others enrolled with an FET college where we acquired study bursaries for them, and a number of them joined the department as interns. I am really grateful for that. What it means is that this government doesn’t just talk; it doesn’t just come and talk theory here and little philosophies, but we actually practically apply what we are saying in concrete ways that makes a difference to the boys.
We appointed four boys in Bishop Lavis, and hon Hani will be happy to hear that we also appointed graduates in Beaufort West. We must all find ways of using these graduates in all our programmes in government. We are really serious about that.

Lastly, the department is also rolling out several youth development weekends and holiday camps for deserving matric students. We have particularly identified average and well-performing schools located in poor and middle-class communities, schools that attain more than a 60% pass rate. We said that it is perhaps Minister Grant’s business to eliminate the 30 poor performing schools, but as a department we cannot give an incentive to mediocrity and to failure.

Many of the schools that attained more than a 60% pass rate are going on more than 20 of our camps in the next few months. I just want to make this point, hon members, that when you go to Bishops your father and mother can afford to send you to camps, but we normally host these camps at Chrysalis Academy. In this instance we are saying we support the efforts of Minister Grant in saying thank you to schools so that they even do better in trying to attain a 100% pass rate. That is very interesting.

We also don’t allow students to just go for free. Each one must pay at least R50 to go to a camp so that you don’t feel you are entitled to this. We must eliminate this notion of entitlement and let people pay for what they get. Let us restore their dignity and let them feel valued for whatever they get – in this case the camps.

The increase in the youth development budget has come with a significant decrease to the budget for the Sustainable Livelihoods programme, which has been reduced from R19 million last year to R4 million in this financial year. It is vital that you understand the rationale behind this shift. Sustainable Livelihood projects previously duplicated functions of projects of the Departments of Economic Development and Tourism. More importantly, over 90% of the department’s previous Sustainable Livelihood projects failed, and several projects have ended up with full-scale forensic investigations by the FIU. It is for that reason that we have shifted the focus.

The expertise to establish and nurture business enterprises does not reside within the Department of Social Development, nor should we expect it to. An executive decision has been taken to have the Department of Economic Development and Tourism take the lead in driving entrepreneurship projects since the department has officials with the relevant specialised business and economic skills.

Mr Speaker, Programme 1: Administration sees a decrease from the previous financial year’s allocation, a trend we started last year when the 2011/2012 Goods and Services Budget of R190 million was shaved down to R170 million during our adjustments budget, and the savings were transferred to welfare services. In keeping with this approach a lower amount of R189 million has been allocated. We must stop wasting money on catering. Let the NGOs get the money that we save on catering.

An HON MEMBER: Entertainment.

The MINISTER: Yes, no entertainment, that’s why you don’t get jazz concert tickets, hon member. [Laughter.] [Interjections.] I will get, yes.
Compensation of employees sees a slightly overinflation-related increase of R478 million from last year's R434 million, making provision for recruiting additional social workers and related professionals where we have identified the need for capacity in our local offices. I will, however, not overinflate this department's staff complement. We employ people based on the jobs that they need to do, and I expect everyone to work smartly. Much smarter, not harder, hon McKenzie.

Managers have to deploy their human resources sufficiently and effectively. So far I am pleased to say that the department has embraced this approach. A total of 89% of our funding to be used for NGO-rendered welfare services has already been earmarked for specific projects, ready for the start of the financial year. This is great. I would like to congratulate everyone involved in this huge effort, from our local offices through to our programme managers and to the funding panels for getting this done – 89% has already been allocated.

Mr Speaker, this brings me to another key shift in our focus and approach to NGO funding. I am pleased to say that with our increased allocation to NGOs for welfare and other services, we have also brought in increased accountability mechanisms to ensure that the public gets value for their money, that the beneficiaries of our services receive quality services, that they actually receive the services, that the money doesn’t get stolen between the door and the office and that it actually reaches the people. Mr Skwatsha had to save those poor people in Gugulethu. He knows exactly what I am talking about.

As such we have introduced a funding adjudication panel that evaluates all applications for funding from NGO service providers to evaluate the quality of the services, their compliance to legislative prescripts and the alignment of their projects to Provincial Strategic Objective 8. We have also included in the contracts that we have concluded with our NGO partners a provision that allows the Auditor-General to visit the NGOs we fund and to scrutinise their financial and non-financial data. I think this is great. We are therefore increasing funding to NGOs, but also increasing accountability. I will also be strengthening accountability measures for our officials who are tasked with monitoring, evaluation and, where necessary, capacity-building of NGOs to ensure spot-on service delivery.

Conclusion

We have made generous increases to key programmes in our efforts to improve the lives of the poor and vulnerable in the province. At the same time we shall continue to promote and practise austerity measures.

I have cut back significantly on catering, jamborees, the big mass meetings that we hold once a year ...

Ms J WITBOOI: [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER: We will cut it, hon Witbooi. We will cut back on mass gatherings, advertising material and any other spending that we don’t consider vital to our core mandate of promoting social inclusion and reducing poverty. Any proposal for an event or campaign needs to be convincing, and we need to be convinced of the impact and the sustainability of the programme before we will allow it.
I want to give a practical example. For the first time on 16 June we are not going to have an event. In fact, we are going to have a culmination of all the programmes that we are running; that will be the big event. It will be a culmination, a showcase of a sustainable programme that will end and will continue throughout after 16 June.

Reducing poverty remains a huge challenge, and I am hopeful that the shifts and changes we will implement will result in more people being able to access much needed services. We must ensure that all communities can access Department of Social Development (DSD) services with human dignity and respect and that programmes have a social impact for the better.

I always argue that unless we do that, and unless each and every official of the Department of Social Development can give the people that access our services human dignity and respect, we must close our doors because we are not worthy then as public servants.

Mr Speaker, the department can only operate effectively and efficiently, specifically at our local and regional offices, if departmental officials refrain from using departmental resources and services as a leveraging tool for political purposes. I want to make this point: I want to give the House the undertaking today that if I receive any report, from anyone, claiming that a DSD official, while on duty or in the line of their duties, has propagated any party-political programme, whether it was DA, Azapo, ANC, PAC or whatever other party, I will personally ensure that such allegations are properly investigated. If these allegations are found to be true, those officials will be brought to book. Officials are exactly officials; they are not political deployees and they are there to deliver services to all the people, including the poor, black, white, pink, red, yellow ...

†Mr M OZINSKY: Refugee.

†The MINISTER: Whatever. We will deliver for all.

Mr Speaker, before I finally conclude, I want to say something about partnerships. In the public gallery we have a number of very interesting young people, and not so young people, who have been very great partners with us during times when we called on some of the public. Some of them are big corporates. When we desperately needed a hot-water system in an old-age home in Gugulethu, a particular company came forward and provided us with R75 000 – and we had to give the other amount of R50 000 – so that hot water could be provided for old people in NY1. The other system was stolen so we had to come and rescue the situation. I want to thank all the companies today, and all the people working with us as partners, because the whole notion of this government is about Better Together. It is always better, hon Hani, together. [Interjections.]

Before I finally conclude, Mr Speaker, I wish to thank the Premier for her fierce – and I want to emphasise “fierce” – leadership, guidance and support. I want to say thank you to my Cabinet colleagues for their great support, and many times it went beyond our colleagueship. I want to say thank you for their absolute friendship. My late night call, from most of you, when I was sick I really appreciated. I want to say thank you to my Ministry staff. They were rejected from the gallery, at first, but they are now back again!
Thank you for your hard work; I have taken serious note of it. To my executive team under the new leadership of Mr Mike Richardson, and every single Director, Chief Director, Regional Director, the CFO, Mr Smith, I want to say thank you very much, guys, for the work you do. Charles Jordaan, I can call you in the middle of the night and you’ll answer your phone – you are forced to answer your phone! I want to say thank you to Marion and to everyone who stands in for me all the time.

Mr Speaker, the reason why I am focusing on the management team is because we had many different acting Heads of Department. I want to thank Mr Gerhard Ras for acting for a while; I want to thank Marion Johnson for her time in an acting capacity, and everyone else who acted. I want to thank Juan Smith for acting. I really want to thank you for just standing in while we tried to steady the ship. I am happy a pilot eventually arrived through very dangerous waters – what is it called, shark-infested waters – and that we can now move forward.

I also want to just thank all our service delivery partners, our NGOs. I will continue to cut funds to make it available to the NGO, because an amount of R8 million to the older persons programme makes an impact, it makes a difference.

†The SPEAKER: Please address the Chair, Minister.

†The MINISTER: Whether some of us in the House understand it or not, we will do that. I want to say thank you. Where we have problems, let us resolve our problems.

I also want to thank our sister departments for their continuous support. I see officials here from Mr Dan Plato’s office. I see Mr Kenny Africa, Mr Gideon Morris and Adv J C Gerber.

Finally, I want to say that I am looking forward to a challenging and rewarding year. Let all of us put our heads together and roll up our sleeves to make the Western Cape Better Together. Let’s make the Western Cape Better Together – not for ourselves, but for the impact that it has on poor communities, on the vulnerable and on people living with disabilities and so on. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The MINISTER: Finally, and lastly, I want to say to my wife, Diane, and my son, thank you for your support and thanks for always being Better Together with me. I thank you. [Applause.]

*Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: Mr Speaker, first I would like to thank Minister Fritz for his political leadership. His speeches are always heartening to me because he does it with so much passion. Thank you to the members of the standing committee – Ms Hartnick, Ms Labuschagne, Mr Lentit and Ms Magwaza. Thank you very much.

An amount of R1,412 billion was allocated to the Department of Social Development in the budget year. The primary purpose of the department is to ensure a comprehensive network of social development services to empower the poorest of the poor and to care for those who are defenceless and those with special needs.
As we have heard, this budget is to the benefit of our communities. Circumstances can and are going to be created where defenceless people’s needs can be addressed and solved. The needs of our diverse communities can be addressed only if there is political will and responsibility accompanied by the ethics of caring. The ethics of caring plays a central role in the paradigm shift regarding social values of our environment and community.

The provincial government offers a government of moral leadership that subscribes to concepts of guardianship, responsibility and caring. This budget addresses sustainable development reflecting the surrounding value of the ethics of caring.

Building diverse communities requires a holistic approach to solve the complex problem and to improve and maintain the quality of life. It is this complexity that makes this concept so challenging.

Moral leadership requires actions and is more than just lip service – and here I am referring to every member of the department and the standing committee and to our hon Minister. Alleviation of poverty is the first and most important investment we as caring government understand.

It is virtually impossible for anyone to acquire new skills if one is hungry or worried about violence or where one is going to get something to eat tomorrow. The basic needs have to be satisfied first. The development programme addressed by the Department of Social Development satisfies these basic needs. I think it is often exceedingly difficult because it is complex and the people are still poor, but we are trying our best to address it. I believe where we and the non-governmental organisations are involved, a difference is indeed being made.

Mr Speaker, I wish to repeat: The development programme that has been designed and is going to be carried out by the Department of Social Services is welcomed. Correct nutrition and the marketing of social inclusion and reduction of poverty will address these basic needs.

It is indeed a concern that the outcome of this programme may be influenced by the shortage of social workers. This service delivery must be measurable. With the budget the social care network is extended to give direct support to children without parents. Programmes to reinforce family ties and families are envisaged.

Our early childhood development (ECD) facilities that are registered and monitored to offer our young children the best opportunities are an ongoing responsibility. Together with the ECD facilities, the implementation of the Children’s Act is seen as a focus. Once again I am worried about the number of social workers and the allocation of the budget to address this.

The triple threat of drugs, alcohol and crime are addressed by the Departments of Social Development, Cultural Affairs and Sport, and Community Safety. These vices result in dysfunctional communities. In the recent past, Minister Winde increased the number of subsidised spaces in rehabilitation centres for drug dependence from 3 700 to 4 800. An additional R77.73 million will be spent in the 2012/2013 financial year to solve these problems.
The Western Cape is the most proactive province in South Africa for solving the drug problem. The Western Cape is the only province that is spending resources and making workable decisions to deal with the drug problem. However, attention should still be paid to the legislative definition of treatment. Norms and standards should be created to improve work performance.

The Department of Social Development has ensured that all legal rehabilitation and treatment facilities in the province are registered with the department. I thank the Minister for this, since it has been a major task performed by you.

The department’s initiative to extend community-based treatment programmes to the platteland is being watched with expectation.

Our older persons’ knowledge and skills can make a significant contribution to our communities. The Active Aging Project for 10,000 persons is heartening. Mr Charles Jordan and Christine in particular know how we were constantly asking questions in the standing committee about this Active Aging Project and the aged persons. I thank them for this.

A government that cares addresses the needs of persons with disabilities. With the budget, provision is made for integrated programmes and service delivery to this specific group of defenceless persons. Together with the Department of Health a programme will be established to help children with disabilities at and from birth.

Teenage pregnancies are and remain a source of concern. Innovative thinking and approaches towards single young parents and the preventative programmes for teenage girls are essential. An integrated programme led by the Departments of the Premier and Social Development is already in place. The initiative to focus on men and boys to make them aware of their role as man and son in the family environment is encouraging. Once again the outcome and monitoring of this “Fatherhood” programme are highly necessary.

The successful initiative to hold parents accountable who are not paying maintenance is currently being hampered by the Department of Justice. If this matter could receive attention we will be grateful to the Minister.

The World Bank and other organisations have found that there is an intimate relationship between crime and poverty. In most cases, crime and poverty occur in the same community. The Department of Social Development strives at empowering individuals as well as groups by means of community development, by providing them with the skills they need to bring about changes in their communities.

A set of values and practices that play a special role in preventing poverty and also with regard to disadvantaged persons, strengthens families and communities and keeps them together, and also deepens democracy. Programmes for building healthy families and for the families offer opportunities for family members to communicate with one another and to experience social inclusion and equality. Youth development is primarily addressed by the MOD centres. With the assistance of the department, the children become enthusiastic to remain at school. The more time a child spends at school, the less violent he is. This initiative not only teaches children about the academy but also how to live in the community; in other words, what is acceptable behaviour.
The department is primarily a department that touches the hearts of our communities. A community’s involvement and social inclusion form the core of reconciliation. In this way, issues are addressed actively and consensus is reached on core issues. An example is the implementation of the Liquor Act. Minister Winde announced in his budget speech that the Western Cape Liquor Tribunal would be appointed, as well as the Board of the new Western Cape Liquor Authority. Communities should assume responsibility to take part in the battle.

In spite of the ANC’s criticism, the appointment of Mr Mike Richardson as HOD is appreciated. The absolute financial and administrative chaos that was caused by the ANC and addressed by Minister Fritz will now be a thing of the past. The misapplication of funds by non-governmental organisations and monitoring of such funds will be addressed by this appointment.

Mr Speaker, the Annual Performance Plan (APP) reads – and I quote:

Clause 12 of the NPO Act 1997, Act 71 of 1997, is in conflict with a Western Cape DSD’s contracting condition as it relates to the manner in which government-funded assets must be distributed when an NPO is dissolved or wound up. This matter will be followed up with the national Department of Social Development during 2012-13.

We request that this matter be addressed urgently.

As mentioned at the beginning, the underlying value exercised by the Government of the Western Cape is the ethics of care, by which the diversity of our society is taken into account; service is delivered by meeting the basic needs of our communities; obstacles to service delivery are removed; skills are developed, and economic development is increased and maintained.

This department is reconciliation in movement. In the words of Mr Mandela: “Without reconciliation, we will not be able to give our people a better life.” And this is exactly what the department, guided by Minister Fritz, is striving at. I thank you.


Emva kweenyanga ezintandathu unyanzelekile ukuba ugoduke uye kuhlaziya iphephamvume lakho ukwenzela ukuba uphinde ubuyele apha.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[Mr M NCEDANA: Speaker, the department of Social Development is one of the important spheres of government as it is looking at the welfare of the people. But I want to start by quoting from the isiXhosa saying which is “The man’s grave is next to the road”. Speaker, I will leave it to you so that you can interpete it to the hon Premier because at some stage this saying has created a notion whereby black people, the people of Africa were changed into slaves in their own land.

From being made slaves the name was then again changed to migrant labourers. It was after they were removed from their places of origin like Ndabeni, Goodwood and they were driven to the place called the Transkei, after that they were called refugees. Mr Ncedana, who is my forefather was born here, but was driven away and also his cattle and sheep were stolen from him. He had to start again to have livestock there. Therefore his family cannot be called refugees here. That is an insult. The word “ubugoduka”(foreigner)which the hon Premier say we must debate about comes from this issue of migrant labourers because one was given this name because they cam from the Transkei to work here for six months. After six months such people were forced go back home to renew their permits before they could come back here again.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! I want to request members to stick to the Vote. [Interjections.] Order, hon members! [Interjections.] Order, hon members!

†The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Mr Speaker, on a point of order: Can the hon member … [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Hon member Mbalo, if you don’t want to listen I will request you to leave the House. [Interjections.] Hon member, if you don’t want to listen I will request you to leave the House.

†The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Mr Speaker, could you kindly request the speaker to stick to the topic of the Budget Vote? [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members! [Interjections.] Order, hon members! [Interjections.] Order, hon Ncedana! I am not saying that members are not allowed to do an introduction, but please stick to the topic; that is my request. I am not referring to you, hon Ncedana; I am referring to all members, I am referring to all speakers. Thank you very much. [Interjections.] Order, hon members!

Mr M NCEDANA: Speaker, the hon Minister spoke about the importance of family values and what I am talking about is linked the Minister’s budget speech. I am not going to talk about amounts, that this went that way and that one went that way. Time will come for me to do so. Now I am talking about the basis. Maybe if I was speaking English you would understand me clearly. Now I am talking about the basis of the family values, respect and dignity. That is what I am talking about. It is unacceptable for us to be called as foreigners as we were called by the hon Premier. This is as a Xhosa person...

The SPEAKER: Hon member, I want to warn you for the last time. If you don’t want to listen I will request you to leave the House.

Mr M NCEDANA: As a Xhosa person, as an African and a person who is affected by the speeches made here about us black people I am forced to respond to these utterances. I do not think this budget is benefitting the poor and I must say that you know that I do not hate you because are the one of the people who speak the things I like. I said a yesterday that here in the Western Cape the problem is not money. The problem is about doing what is supposed to be done.

I like your commitment and that you are going to ensure that you are not going to be selective. I like what you say when you promise that you are going to walk your talk as to help the poor of the poorest. We thank you for that as the Congress of the People. We will look you with a critical eye as talking and doing are different things, not only here in the Western Cape, but in the whole country in order to ensure that at the lives of our people are improved.

That is a responsibility of all politicians. The core responsibility of every government servant, every employee, every political leader of government is to improve the lives of the people, especially the lives of the poor. We can’t be apologetic about it.
[Siyavuya xa kukho ingqwalasela kulutsha kuba abantwana abakhulayo bekhulela enyhunyhwini abakhuli kakhule.]

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[We are happy when there is a focus on the youth because children who grow up from slum areas do not get proper development.]

And I would really urge you to take time and go to eNyhunyhwini. Member Visser will be happy to take you there, we were both there, so that you can see it for yourself. When you come back you will be able to understand the conditions that that particular community is living under. I would have thought that if we talk about quality services to everyone, those people will be prioritised because the conditions under which they are living are not conditions where a human being can live. [Interjections.] This is in Philippi.

A child from that area does not even have a place to play. [Akukho bantu bano-kuze bahlale emanzini ekubeni siyile singurhulumente.]

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[There are no people who can stay in floods after we have visited them as the government.]

This government went there. To date those people are still living in those conditions; nothing has been done. The standing committees don't only consist of the Housing or Local Government Standing Committees that went there. What about the other standing committees? It affects all the departments.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Ncedana!


[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[Mr M NCEDANA: In conclusion, Speaker, I would like to ask you no to be biased when presiding over debate, by co-operating with us. I am not saying you are biased, but I am not impressed sometimes. I wish you could tell them when they disturb from that side. That is my request to you from me.]

†Mr R B LENTIT: Mr Speaker, in a province with as much potential as the Western Cape it is of vital importance that its social development and interdependent entities function well together to effect social upliftment.

Our province is still plagued with crime and social injustices that threaten the moral fibre of our society. It is therefore crucial that the Department of Social Development’s strategies of dealing with early intervention mechanisms to fight drug usage, gangsterism and teenage pregnancies among the youth of the Western Cape are clear and ready to be implemented.
NGOs, such as Rape Crisis, should have clear channels in working together with the department to render vital services to our affected communities.

*Mr Speaker, I want to emphasise this again. I was shocked to see that no mention is made of Rape Crisis in the APPs, although there were media reports. I have spoken to the Minister about this and I know that Rape Crisis is now going to be attended to and that they are going to receive money from the department.

†In order for NGOs to carry out services the necessary funds must be allocated. Regular oversight by not just us, as Members of Parliament, but by the department to NGOs is necessary to avoid unnecessary challenges. Success and continuous engagement with NGOs such as Rape Crisis are important to protect the well-being of vulnerable groups in our province, namely our women and our young girls.

The increase in numbers regarding our social services, mental health care and related professionals is crucial. I commend the Minister and his department for their commitment in seeing that this is done.

I further salute the department for utilising the recommendation of the standing committee regarding NPOs who are recipients of the estimated R700 million in support of their respective causes. The department has set out to clearly differentiate between outsourcing services and responsibilities by documenting its activities to increase transparency of these beneficiaries.

*I want to call on the Minster and the department. When we see the Annual Performance Plans (APPs), there should be more than mere numbers. Bring it to us; you will not be punished unnecessarily. We become aware of the successes of the department only when an issue is raised.

†Mr Speaker, I have raised concerns regarding the issue of human trafficking. It is further notable that the department and municipalities will join forces to curb human trafficking. This may prevent the exploitation of our women and young children and have an impact on the underbelly of the crime circuit.

*Young women are lured to our province where they work as slaves and are used as prostitutes. Once again I call on the Minister ...

†The SPEAKER: Hon member Lentit, your time has expired.

†Mr R B LENTIT: In conclusion, Mr Speaker, the department has allocated R1,4 billion … [Time expired.]

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: Mr Speaker, firstly, I want to thank the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Community Development that we have been speaking about. I want to thank the department for always accommodating us when we have questions that need to be answered, or when we ask them to come and explain issues that are not clear to us.

I also want to thank the NGOs that care for our people in the province. They are the ones that we rely on. They are very important to us, as we look upon them to assist us in changing the lives of our people in the province.
I will be failing my constituency if I cannot talk about what the Premier said today. In fact, I am still very disturbed with her calling, once again, the students of Grabouw “amagoduka”, refugee learners, and internally displaced. In Afrikaans they call them “inwoners”.

An HON MEMBER: Inkommers.

*Ms N P MAGWAZA: Inkommers, yes.

†Let me explain who these children are. Perhaps that is what is important. I want to explain who these children are. These children stay in that area as a result of their parents being evicted from the farms where they were staying.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon member Magwaza!

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Mr Speaker, on a point of order: I would like to know how this is connected to the budget which we are discussing today.[Interjections.]

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: Mr Speaker, …

†The SPEAKER: Take your seat.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: Okay.

†The SPEAKER: Take your seat, hon member. [Interjections.] Order! I requested members, especially the speakers, to please stick to the subject. We are not dealing ... [Interjections.] Hon member, take your seat.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: Oh, I thought you had finished, sorry.

†The SPEAKER: I am making that call for the second time. You may continue, hon Magwaza.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: I want to explain myself to you. I am talking about the importance of family values and the family unit. That is what the Minister touched on today.

I am saying those children stay in Grabouw as a result of their parents being evicted from nearby farms. Some of them have been given the dop system for the rest of their lives. [Interjections.] I am talking about their parents. As a result those kids are looking forward to changing their lives. I am saying here today: If a Premier of a province can call them amagoduka, “inkommers”, iimbacu elizweni labo [refugees in their own land]. That is something that we will never forgive. How can you do that, DA? It is a “skande”! [Interjections.] You are laughing at it because …

That is something that we will never forgive. How can you do that, DA? It is a “skande”! [Interjections.] You are laughing at it because …

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon member!

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: … you have never felt apartheid.
The SPEAKER: Order, hon Magwaza! Please address the Chair.

Ms N P MAGWAZA: I am addressing the Chair. Some of the people who are laughing and enjoying themselves are doing so because they gained a lot from the apartheid legacy. These children want to change their lives. They want to be treated as dignified citizens, or dignified students, in the country of their birth. I am saying here today, let them enjoy it, but the situation has to be turned around.

Mr Speaker, let me come back to my speech.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: [Inaudible.]

Ms N P MAGWAZA: And I don’t want to listen to Mr Carlisle because he still has to resolve the Chapman’s Peak saga! [Laughter.][Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Order!

Ms N P MAGWAZA: Mr Speaker, a social development budget is expected to identify and address key issues that speak to the vulnerable and the poor amongst us.

When one considers the challenges that millions of people face after 350 years of sustained discriminatory practices that continue to render them victims of disease, violence, unemployment and chronic poverty, it becomes clear that the achievements that government claims are not enough to redress the inequalities that still exist in our society.

Perhaps more worrying is the fact that in a province like ours which, according to the DA, is world-class, these issues persist unchallenged. Instead they are swept under a carpet of a momentary lapse of memory. We may forget, but the reality stares us in the face and demands that we face up to it.

MEC Winde said unemployment rates have gone down to pre-recession figures. I would like to know if this is something to celebrate. Should this give the unemployed youth a reason to celebrate? The DA will spin anything to get publicity. And yes, the MEC got publicity, simply speaking. Mr Speaker, there simply aren’t enough government-driven programmes to create sustainable employment that are designed for the poor. If these programmes exist, they are concentrated in towns where the youth are again inhibited from accessing them.

MEC Fritz said today that R77 million will be spent on expanding substance abuse programmes. I wish to get more detail on this because previous programmes have failed. The MEC says this should see over 5 000 people across the province being treated. Again, we would like to see concrete plans.

When our national government tries to intervene through poverty relief efforts to assist people through government grants, it is accused of creating a nanny-dependency state. When our people complain that they don’t have equal access to education and health care services, they are told to live to their best potential in the DA’s open opportunity society.
This play of words is simply astounding and demonstrates a lack of connection by the leaders. But what can we expect? We all know that if it was up to the DA, we would pretend that 350 years of colonialism didn’t happen and that apartheid was just a figment of our imagination and that we’d just move on with it. But we can’t just move on with it. We have to act decisively and properly to help those who need it the most.

Again, Mr Speaker, the infrastructure programmes are concentrated in the CBD, away from the places where the needy live. They offer no immediate relief but are only geared towards entrenching the inequalities that continue to be a barrier to social cohesion, and keep some away from fully participating in the economy of our province.

The Department of Social Development seems to have a very ad hoc attitude towards dealing with gangsterism, the infiltration of drugs into all corners of our society and the lack of service delivery. Where are all the programmes that are aimed at keeping our youth off the streets? Where are the programmes that teach young men about how to turn away from peer pressure? Where are arts and sports interventions and other programmes that will make townships safe and make crime and violence less appealing to bored young people?

Does the open opportunity society take into account that in our townships once your child reaches the age of 18 you pray every day that they will stay away from alcohol, drugs or gangsterism, and if they escape these, that they won’t die because they were at the wrong place at the wrong time? Can you imagine what it is like to live with this kind of uncertainty? The Department of Social Development has to date reached zero youth through the Ke Moja programme. This is a preventative measure that is aimed at teaching school …

†Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Speaker, on a point of order, and I am sorry to interrupt your speech, hon member: Once again member McKenzie just waltzes into the House. He has been referred, by the Speaker, to a provision in the Standing Rules that he should bow to the Chair when he walks in, just like everybody else.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Mr Speaker, on a point of order: When I came in I bowed to you and you saw that.

†The SPEAKER: I didn’t see that, hon member. [Interjections.] But that’s fine. Thank you very much. [Interjections.] Order! I think the Deputy Speaker has already referred you, and I think it is up to you, hon member, to abide by that.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: The Department of Social Development has to date reached zero youth through the Ke Moja programme. This is a preventative measure that is aimed at teaching school-going children so that they can acquire skills to stay away from drugs. What relief are you giving to working single parents who are trapped in townships, away from assistance and support? The Ke Moja programme has been a complete failure. How can we expect this administration to understand when they sit in ivory towers with no interest in what’s happening on the ground?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: [Inaudible.]
Ms N P MAGWAZA: Teacher Carlisle, thank you very much. Instead of using money to help young people, the budget for entertainment in this department has increased dramatically. The department relies on contractors who get the bulk of the budget, with a 31% increase in development and research. We have also seen that victim empowerment and support have been reduced, and I wonder if this is in line with promises to help root out crime and drug abuse in our communities.

The Office of the Premier has increased its budget, and yet we see no programmes that speak to children’s and women’s issues. This is a crime, because the Western Cape is still one of the most unfriendly places for children. If you don’t believe this, open a newspaper to see yet another child missing, yet another woman killed. We are sinking.

How can we all depart from the same place when we require such different interventions from the State? Our communities face such diverse challenges. We need leadership that will address us all and understand our needs, a leadership that listens and can deal with diversity.

The administration has withdrawn funding from NPOs, that is, community organisations. Why is this so? There are preferred community organisations, but others are suffering.

The Premier is bringing out our hatred for apartheid. The Premier is insulting black people on a daily basis and insulting our intelligence by speaking on our behalf. What does the Premier know about amagoduka? What does the Premier know about being forced into 13% of the land? What does the Premier know about having your family deemed illegal in your own country? I call on the Premier to stop stirring up our emotions for political points.

A letter from Mike Fraser from Pniel said on the refugee statement – and I quote:

> It is appalling, insensitive, degrading, insulting and extremely dangerous. What about people of other ethnic groups who stream into the Western Cape in search of better opportunities? This is the first time that the term “refugee” has been used to describe South Africans who migrate from one province to another in search of better opportunities. Not even in the darkest days of apartheid was this term used in this context.

[Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

Mr H P Geyer: [Inaudible.]

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: Thank you, Oom Bokkie.

Mr Speaker, there is one other thing that I want to touch on. If there is a backlog in terms of registering ECD centres, this says a lot. The aunties and the mamas who look after these children are forced to take supplies from their own groceries. Some of them are getting grants from the state, which is R1 000 a month, which they use on their families and the children that are in our ECD centres.
I also want to raise the issue about the long queues. The Minister has to speak strongly to Sassa. He has an oversight role over Sassa. People are still queuing from 2am at these pay points for an opportunity just to register. If the Minister is serious about addressing these issues, can he pay a visit to one of these places and see for himself?

†The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr Speaker, I want to thank the hon Marais for the very nice compliment and for supporting the budget. I also want to thank her for her incredible leadership of the standing committee.

I want to thank every single person on that committee. I mean it – everyone knows that I mean it. I think your committee, as a point of departure, has at its centre the desire to get solutions for all of us. You do your oversight role right, you don’t do me any favours, and I get harassed. I am being lashed with a whip, as the hon Lentit said. I want to thank you for that robust oversight. That is the point I want to make. We must be held accountable so that we can go and do service delivery, so that we can go and look at those long queues that the hon Magwaza spoke about and where I have the oversight role, so that we can see that it makes a difference in the lives of people. I want to thank the hon Marais for that.

I also like your position and your point about a holistic and transversal approach regarding the department. We cannot continue to work in little silos as departments. Until we get that into our heads and into our not-so-thick skulls, perhaps we will get many more end outcomes, and make a better, constructive and bigger impact. I liked what someone said here – I think it was hon Lentit – that we must stop chasing numbers and that we must start making a difference, we must start making an impact and give quality service delivery. I completely agree with that.

I also agree with the hon Marais when she says that the whole issue in Social Development is relatively complex, and we don’t always see the immediate results of our interventions. But in the long term, in my opinion, one will see the impact. You don’t immediately see it, but in the long term you will see behaviour change.

Mr Speaker, I want to specifically talk to the youth academies that we are launching and have almost become mini-Chrysalises. I want to call them mobile Chrysalises. You don’t need to have people sleeping there; the people can be somewhere in their own home. We need to keep this engineered programme so that we change the behaviour of those people at an early intervention programme stage, hon Magwaza, to stop having 100 rehabilitation centres when we can stop it at an early stage and invest money here in the early intervention programmes. So we definitely don’t need all those little rehabilitation centres where people sit like little patients with little eyes popping out. Let us do that and have young, robust, fantastic boys and girls on our programmes.

I want to come back to the point that you raised about the family. At the basis of all our work is the strengthening of the family. It is always the basis, and not a family as we always knew it, because there are also many single-parent families now, and very strong mothers. And there are many cases where fathers raise their children who are very strong and give absolute great parental guidance in those families. I think we must embrace that. We must embrace a broader interpretation of what a family unit is, but always, of course, strive for a mother and father for ... [Inaudible.] ... 100 children or one child, but that we have the family as the basis.
Mr Speaker, I want to talk very quickly today about absent fathers. I think someone alluded to it just now. I had a very interesting discussion the other day. I actually have very interesting discussions with a lot of people in my building. I go into the little tearoom, for instance. In fact, I have asked my department to look at the state of the tearoom where the cleaners sit. It is atrocious. I want to have some changes made there as a matter of urgency. I went in there the other day and one woman spoke to me about her son and the relationship he has with his father. The real father is completely absent, and she said that the other father didn’t give him enough attention.

Then I saw the whole point of what we are raising in the House today about some of our facilities and some of our prison numbers at the moment. I want to give hon members a statistic. There are only 16 children in our prisons in the whole province – only 16. Last week, on Friday, there were 411 children in the facilities of the Department of Social Development.

I think it is an anomaly. I think it is an imbalance. Until we understand the way in which the Child Justice Act must be given effect to, we are going to have children going to our facilities. Then we as a society feel it is okay because it is a so-called place of safety. We know what happens in our places of safety. I am saying that the essence of the Child Justice Act talks to any facility as a last resort, and that any facility should be a place of last resort. The child should be reintegrated back into his family first, as a first option, and then one should look at other community programmes where the child can be placed. As a last resort he should go there, and only if a Schedule 3 crime was committed then the child should be kept there. Until we make those substantive interventions, hon Magwaza, our places will be full and we will have private operators who get paid per bed, and when you get paid per bed, it is not in your interest to release children; you keep them there to have your beds occupied. That’s in contrast to what the Act says. And I will see to it that in the next three years – and I promise you we will be here for the next three years – we will empty the places of safety for children.

I will tell you why we want to empty those places. The prisons have already been emptied, so if you can do it in prisons you can also do it there. We must get stronger probation officer reports and we must get training for our probation officers. That is all part of our strategy.

*I want to say to the hon Marais that we are taking the issue of disabled persons and older persons very seriously. I think this is addressed by our entire budget. We want to ask everybody in our society to work together. When a child is locked up in a cubicle, this must be reported so we can intervene and effect a change in the life of that child. Often the parent does not do this wilfully, but she has to go to work and really has no other option.

†We are always talking about she, she, she; but where is the he, he, he? Where is the father? They first arrest the woman, but nobody asks where is the father of the child. The poor woman then lands up in Pollsmoor, but no one ever asks where the father of the child is. We must stop abusing our women in that way. Let us make both parents responsible and hold them accountable for the safety and well-being of our children.

We wish that the maintenance issue can be addressed, hon Marais We tried to do that with the national department. I don’t want to go into the politics because we want to get a result. We were flatly refused.
Unfortunately all the enquiries are still coming to us and then we have to channel them through. It just becomes a bureaucratic headache. We would really like to resolve the maintenance issue and look at a number of those issues. You also spoke about care, diversity and competency so that we can have effective service delivery. I completely concur with you on that.

I want to thank Mr Ncedana for the issues that he raised. I sort of understand the context of your earlier points. I have a completely different view. I used to lecture on slavery at university, so I have a completely different view of it. I just want to say that we will always support the building of family values. I completely agree with you that every public servant must take ...

An HON MEMBER: Responsibility.

The MINISTER: ... responsibility – you are absolutely correct – to improve the lives of every citizen, but especially the poor. I want to concur with you on that issue.

It is very interesting that you raise the issue of Philippi, hon Ncedana. In the House we don’t always say what we do. But somewhere here in the public gallery there is a gentleman who is working on a programme with a group of children. They walk from one of the squatter camps in Grassy Park, through Philippi, to school. The distance is too short for them to qualify for a Department of Education bus subsidy. So we, as Social Development, are busy working with the Oasis Place of Safety to see how we can support those children specifically in winter – and this is in Philippi – to get to school. We have also worked with the school principal. I think the point the hon member is making is: Get this known, publicise the things that we are doing.

I want to thank the hon Lentit for his point regarding early intervention strategies. That’s the only way forward. We cannot but do early interventions. Let’s try and see the point about early interventions. It may look like a simple soccer game that Minister Meyer is arranging, and I heard hon Magwaza asking questions regarding that issue. It may be a simple game, but the ramifications of that game are very powerful as an early intervention programme. That is why I announced in my Budget Vote that the Department of Social Development is busy talking to the Cape Town/Tygerberg Football Union. They have approximately 14 000 children who play football there. We asked them to look at the issue of drugs, early alcohol usage and smoking, and should any of this be picked up we asked them to channel those children through to the Department of Social Development so that we can get that basket of services out to the boys – and to the girls. I think that is going to work. It may just sound like numbers, but it is an early intervention.

Let me give you another example. I want to talk about this point specifically in the context of nutrition. Many of the boys from the Nyanga area come to Lansdowne by taxi very early on a Saturday morning to play sport. For the information of the hon Ozinsky, I am very involved in sport. Lansdowne is a relatively middle-class area. The parents of the boys who are better off started feeling very guilty. They now prepare breakfast for the children so that they can have something to eat before they play a game. We are now working with the Tygerberg Union to see how our nutrition programme can target those boys who come from those areas, so that before they play a game of soccer and before they faint on the field, they have something in their stomachs.
†Mr M OZINSKY: Bowls?

†The MINISTER: I tried bowls, but it didn’t work. Then I tried balls and it almost worked!

The hon Lentit spoke about the Rape Crisis intervention that we did. I am happy to say that we did an intervention. I am working with my HOD on an intervention. We are looking at how we can fast-track an intervention after we have agreed that money must go to a particular entity. The period it takes is still too long. I have spoken to the HOD about this issue. We are going to look at a much quicker way of getting the money to the people.

I want to say that many of our programmes, hon Magwaza, are also using TV and Solly Philander’s Taxi Radio extensively. Solly Philander will appear for next to nothing. There is a person in the gallery, Ms Corff, who is one of the presenters on that programme; it is good to have her here. She is doing very good work for social development publicising our issues.

The hon Magwaza raised many issues. You raised the issue of the Premier and the refugees in my debate again. At one point I thought: What does it have to do with me? And then I thought again. [Interjections.] And I thought again ...

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: Don’t spoil it.

†The MINISTER: I don’t want to spoil it. But I want to mention it because you raised it in my debate. I then looked at what you said. I started to look at the fact that it is a pity that the debate has degenerated into a political debate. [Interjections.] The reason why I am saying that, hon Magwaza, is because I also made a point in my speech about research and specific evidence-based interventions. You made a very interesting point about the people who were evicted from the farms. It would be very nice to go and do some research about it to actually see whether it is so or not.

I want to make a further point. You made a point about the issue of poverty and the unemployed youth. In my speech I specifically referred to actual intervention programmes regarding unemployed youth. The Chrysalis Academy is probably the best tool and vehicle at this point dealing with unemployed youth.

It is very difficult to respond to generalisations, hon Magwaza, and I am saying this with respect; I am not saying this in a disrespectful way. There is one point you make all the time. You keep on saying the people are forced to come to the CBD. I have an issue with that. I will tell you why I have an issue with that. You really want to keep the young people and the youth in our townships, in little colonies, in little lock-up colonies so that they cannot come out of the townships. They cannot see what is happening in the CBD; they must stay in the townships because that is good for them.

Ms N P MAGWAZA: [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER: You said it. And then you said that you are worried when a child turns 18, 19 or 20 because they go into drinking and drugs. It is because they don’t get out of the township; you want to keep them in the townships because everything ... [Interjections.] Let them come to the CBD. [Interjections.]
Let them come. [Interjections.] No, I am serious. Because it is only when they come to the CBD that they can see here are jobs, there’s a big building ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members! Order!

†The MINISTER: That’s why my department has camps to take children out of their environment, move their horizons and broaden their horizons. That changed me and that will change many of them. [Interjections.] What’s so idealistic about taking a boy on a train? I know the trains are a problem and Minister Carlisle has a problem with them. What is so idealistic about that? We take them on a train to the beach. We did it on youth days. Hon Ozinsky will tell you about it. It wasn’t 20-year olds; they were about 16- or 17-year olds. I don’t know where they come from with the age of 20. But that happened. [Interjections.]

I actually support you, hon Magwaza, on one point about the Victim Empowerment Programme (VEP) and our Crime Prevention Programme. What you are saying is very interesting. That is exactly the point that we are making about getting our probation services right so that we can get more of our children into very early interventions – children in conflict with the law – so that we don’t need to lock them up because they just become professional gangsters in all our facilities.

I want to finally say that ... [Interjections.] [Laughter.] I want to finally say that ... [Interjections.] Hon Magwaza, you also ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The MINISTER: Hon Magwaza, you also invited me to go to Sassa. Don’t worry, they know me at Sassa. I am there at 5 o’clock in the morning and I stand there.

An HON MEMBER: Eight o’clock.

The MINISTER: No, no, five o’clock; there’s a long queue already. I want to make this point, hon Magwaza. It is not only that line at Sassa; it is our lines at Social Development, it is the lines at unemployment, it is the line everywhere. Everywhere where people queue, and the vulnerable and unemployed queue, bureaucrats think they have a right to mistreat people and not treat them with dignity and respect.

Therefore, the department has now employed a number of customer care people to look at the way our people are treated when they stand in a queue. If you are standing in an unemployment queue it means you paid UIF; you have a right to dignity. I stood in that unemployment queue, so I know what I am talking about; I know exactly what it is. I am not talking hearsay; I have experienced the unemployment queue. It was only for two months, but I experienced it. It was a very long queue. The point I want to make is that I have been to the queue. I recently went to the Sassa queue, and I am interacting with Director Terblanche in the Western Cape all the time regarding the issue of queues. They are giving me very good co-operation.

And then I finally have to say, and I know you are going to say I am spoiling my speech, but hon Magwaza, I can come to no other conclusion with the invoking of the refugee debate –and I want to ask for the invoking of the refugee debate.
I want to ask you: Where is the family today? And I specifically want to ask the family of Anton Fransch: What happened to the welfare and the well-being of the family of Anton Fransch? [Interjection.] No, I’ll tell you. [Interjections.] I know. There is a gentleman here from London, he is sitting in the corner, who actually gave me the full story. Do you know what’s happened to the family of Anton Fransch? He and that family had to be satisfied with a R10 000 pay-out; they are forgotten. Do you know who the people are that benefitted? The people who were not near the lines of struggle. People who were 9-years-old in 1994 are today the richest people from the ANC. They are the richest and most sorted out people in the ANC. [Interjections.] You know what? The people of Anton Fransch are starving of hunger. They are struggling to survive. [Interjections.] And I want to make this point ...

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members!

†The MINISTER: I want to respectfully say ...

†The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, order! [Interjections.] Order, hon Minister! Please address the Chair.

†The MINISTER: I want to respectfully make this point because they like to generalise on that side of the House, and they like to say you, you, you! They have taken over the role of the oppressors, and they have taken over the role of the rich. And if they talk about the unemployed then they have the nerve ... [Interjections.] No, no, hon member. Then they have the nerve to talk about the unemployed. [Interjections.] I am serious when I say that all I ask them to do is to tell me where the family of Anton Fransch is, or what is their state. [Interjections.] Then we can talk about legitimacy. Thank you.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Hon Magwaza, order! Hon Skwatsha, order!

Debate concluded.

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL[B 3—2012]

(Debate on Vote 10 – Transport and Public Works)

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I am going to say my greetings as my guests come in. We are a little bit ahead of time, so I’ll wait till then.

The Department of Transport and Public Works looks back over a year of solid achievement and sound progress towards all of its objectives and I will be specifically talking to the progress against those objectives in numerical and time terms.

The platform for accelerated delivery has now been established and our departmental goals will soon have to be upwardly and outwardly revised. Mr Speaker, my department is not an easy one to manage. It has the highest discretionary spend in the administration, its undertakings are fraught with risks and require the most intimate and sensitive relations with its internal and external clients.
To meet its objectives it must partner with, and persuade, entities over which it has no control. It has a very high public and media exposure and must often conduct its business in the eye of the storm. It carries primary responsibility for economic development and economic growth in the province.

Therefore, even though they are not here, I am delighted that my staff, both ministerial and departmental, have confronted these challenges with enthusiasm, attention to detail and very hard work, but I will go back and tell them later.

†Mr P UYS: Oh shame.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Are they in the pub?

†The MINISTER: They are in the pub; that’s correct and that is actually, Mr Speaker, not a bad place to be at 5 o’clock on a Friday afternoon. So I will leave that and come back to it.

I want to talk a little about strategy because on that everything else depends. Sound strategy defines directions, informs programmes, drives implementation and in the end it determines success. The current journey of my department commenced at a strategic conference of our top management, assisted by the Department of the Premier, held at Fernwood in July 2009. There we established the mission of developing and maintaining appropriate infrastructure, which sustains economic development, generates growth in jobs and facilitates empowerment and opportunity.

I think that is a very important mission and I stress it says “develops and maintains appropriate infrastructure”, because infrastructure which is not maintained is a waste of time in the first place. To achieve this we set ourselves five ministerial imperatives:

- The creation of a highly effective department and the freeing up of resources through instituting efficiency measure and programmes;
- Reducing the maintenance backlogs in both public works and transport infrastructure – roads are no longer roads, Mr Speaker, they are transport infrastructure – by 16% by 2014;
- Leveraging the provincial immovable assets to yield fit-for-purpose provincial accommodation as well as additional revenue streams;
- Influencing parties to affect an improvement of integrated public transport so as to bring about a modal shift of 13% from private to public transport; and, finally,
- Improving road safety, resulting in a 15% reduction in road fatalities by December 2014.

So those were the goals that we set ourselves nearly three years ago.

Let me then just go back and say that when I talked about this not being an easy department to manage, I want to say again to my staff, over there in the gallery, that I am delighted that they have confronted the challenges that the department imposes with enthusiasm, attention to detail and very hard work. They have every reason to be proud of themselves and I consider it a privilege to lead them.
Let me make this observation, Mr Speaker. I've held executive office in public companies in the private sector, but I have never seen longer hours worked than by most of my senior managers and, indeed, on my own. Seldom have I encountered the range of skills, experience and knowledge that are demonstrated by most of our senior people.

Those five imperatives reach into every activity in the department and to many outside of it. When the mission, vision, values and strategic objectives were established for the administration later that year our mission, that is our departmental mission and imperatives, fitted snugly and gave us a head start over other departments. My department is involved in all twelve strategic objectives, in particular it leads Strategic Objective 3, it co hosts Strategic Objective 1 and it vigorously underpins Strategic Objective 12.

In addition to her many other tasks Jackie Gooch has marshalled the departmental strategy, and, as it were, sent it into battle with every chance of success. Her strategic insight and her articulation of strategy are of the highest order.

Budget

The budget under review, which you will be asked to consider, amounts to R4,609 billion and represents an increase of 10% over 2011/2012. Together with the additional funding of R1,570 billion that we then actually implement on behalf of health and education, the total amount that we are responsible for is R6,179 billion.

Programme 1: Integrated Strategy, Planning and Co-Ordination, R140,046,000

Office of the Minister

My ministerial budget, I am pleased to tell you, is the smallest in the administration and R1,1 million, or 20%, less than it was the year before I took office. I am wonderfully supported by my Head of Ministry, Hector Eliot, my PA, Debesse Smit, my Media Liaison Officer, Steven Otter, and a small but very effective staff. Together we sweat out the crises and celebrate the successes. Thanks also to my protectors Errol and Bongi, who make sure I arrive safely and timeously.

Management of the department

I am pleased to announce that Mr Johan Fourie has successfully navigated his probation period and is now in all respects the Head of Department and the skipper aboard this craft.

An HON MEMBER: Perfect.

The MINISTER: Mr Fourie represents all that is best in high public office. He has steadied a floundering ship and given it direction, discipline and rationality and navigates it calmly towards peak performance. I have a bit of a marine theme to my budget speech this year!
Corporate Support

Ministerial Imperative – SO12 – the creation of a highly effective department and the freeing up of resources through instituting efficiency measures and programmes

Our Ministerial Imperative 1 ties in with Strategic Objective 12 – the creation of a highly effective department and the freeing up of resources through instituting efficiency measures and programmes.

It is in this area, Mr Speaker, of finance and supply chain that the department has made its most important progress. Until these areas become effective, I have come to realise little progress can be made in any bureaucracy. The department’s Financial Management Improvement Plan is the finest document of its type I have ever seen. Basing itself on external and internal audit reports, it defines any area requiring improvement and establishes plans, programmes, timelines and responsibilities for achieving them.

Our CFO Cedric Ismay is breaking new ground in establishing new standards in this field and I am confident that a rating of four is now within the department’s grasp. Mr Ismay has presided over the elimination of the Roads Capital Fund and the migration of GMT to Gaap and has produced scores of policies and procedures carefully thought through and efficiently implemented.

Legislation

Two new and long overdue draft Bills will serve before the Legislature in 2012/2013. The draft Western Cape Transport Infrastructure Bill provides for the planning, design, declaration, construction, maintenance, control, management, regulation, upgrading and rehabilitation of roads, railway lines and other transport infrastructure in the Western Cape.

It replaces the old Roads Ordinance, 19 of 1976, and the Advertising of Roads and Ribbon Development Act, Act 21 of 1940, and shifts the emphasis from roads infrastructure to public transport infrastructure.

The second Bill that we will bring before the Legislature is the Western Cape Provincial Road Traffic Administration Bill, which will empower the Minister to make regulations consistent with the Act and the National Road Traffic Act.

The first regulations we will deal with will be the control of blue lights and sirens and the safety of cyclists. It is planned that this will be completed and enacted by August 2012.

Programme 2: Public Works Infrastructure – R1,424 billion

The budget for this programme increases by 36 % and is almost double what it was in 2008/2009.

Construction and upgrading – this will include 20 new and replacement schools
When hon Minister Grant spoke I did hear some mutters from that side like “where,” so let me tell you where: Stellenbosch, Cloetesville; Nyanga, Boys Town; Plettenberg, Formosa – and for hon Tingwe, the two classes would have helped but we are actually putting in a whole new school – Pacaltsdorp; Grabouw, the Kathleen Murray Primary School; Mfoleni; Kuils River; Strand, A C J Pokadi Primary School; Parklands, Sunningdale; Wynberg, Fairview; Wynberg, Plantation; Philippi, Ntshona; Strand, Rusthof; Franschoek, Westend; Malmesbury, St Thomas; Maitland, Garden Village; Bluedowns, Silversands; Philippi, Vuyeseka; and George, Touwsranden and Concordia. Therefore that is 20 schools that we will be building this year, up from 14 in the previous year and up from very few in the years before.

54 Grade R classrooms

We move to the completion of the Mitchells Plains Hospital and like the Khayelitsha Hospital it will be one of the two finest hospitals in the country. We have commenced with the R1 billion upgrading of the Valkenberg Psychiatric Hospital, which will also become an absolute model hospital, not only in South African terms but in international terms given the actual campus of the hospital, which is unusual and very beautiful and which lends itself to a return to health. And there are many other facilities.

The value to the broader built industry for work undertaken by the department is R938 million in Public Works funding plus the additional funds we handle on behalf of our clients. That means we have to spend in this area R2,5 billion from 1 April 2012 and the 12 months that follow.

Ministerial imperative: S01 and 7 – reducing the maintenance backlogs in Public Works by 16% by 2014

I cannot overstress the importance of these maintenance objectives. The maintenance backlogs in Public Works amount to R2,45 billion and have been decreasing since 2010. In 2011/2012 they decreased by 10%, and are planned to decrease by 16%, 18% and 22%, respectively, over the Medium-Term Economic Framework (MTEF) in the next three years.

The maintenance budget has been increased by R80 million to R121 million, funding in excess of 350 maintenance projects. We are thus on course to achieve and exceed and, in fact, we almost have exceeded our 2014 target by now of reducing the backlog by 16%.

I am not going to entertain you with the Giama and the Custodian Asset Management Plan (C-AMP).

Thirty-two properties are being acquired for social infrastructure and three properties are being reclaimed from alleged buyers on the basis that they have not yet paid for them. Those are the two properties purchased by Enhance in Strand and Heideveld as well as the Conradie property that was allegedly sold for R80 million. It has not been paid for so we’re taking it back.

During this period Public Works will create approximately 19 000 jobs and I want to make the point that those are Bargaining Council jobs.
Those are wage determination jobs and they have everything that goes with them; those are not EPWP jobs. For the first time estate managers have been appointed at Oude Molen, Porter Estate, De Nova and Faure.

Ministerial Imperative: S01, 7 and 12 – leveraging the provincial immovable assets to yield fit-for-purpose provincial accommodation

First of all, as regards accommodation, the Leeuwen/Loop Street site has been registered as a Public-Private Partnership (PPP). It will be developed and will accommodate the Department of Education, which is currently further downtown in rented accommodation. Negotiations are underway to acquire a further building in the CBD and close to here for head office accommodation.

A building will also be acquired as a regional provincial office in George, in which most provincial functions will be housed. These developments flow from the policy of the department to own rather than to rent its accommodation, thereby saving significant rental costs. In addition to the future cost savings, the development of own provincial precincts will facilitate the rehabilitation of all provincial buildings, as is already happening with the Tower Block.

The benefits will include greater productivity, efficient space utilisation, reduced energy costs, a lowered carbon footprint, lower maintenance costs and interactive street frontages. All of these things will happen in part already in the Tower Block and from there we will decant from building to building until we have worked our way through the whole lot.

Management Imperative: SO 1 – Leveraging the assets to yield additional revenue streams

Six inner-city regeneration projects have been undertaken and four are at an advanced stage. I can already see that Ms Magwaza is thinking inner-city, why only the inner city? I will come back to that in due course.

The Artscape/Founders Garden project is now moving from the planning to the implementation stage. The built value of the current project will exceed R4,5 billion and will include the doubling of the Convention Centre, the new Christian Barnard Memorial Hospital, additions to Artscape itself, office and retail spaces as well as parking.

The Founders Garden section of that precinct will be financed to the tune of R149 million over the next four years and will create the nexus between the expanded Convention Centre and Artscape itself. That particular precinct, as we described it in the planning stage two and a half years ago, will be a precinct where people gather together for the arts and commerce, and so it will be.

The National Health Laboratory Services and the Pavement Technology Testing Laboratory, or the Soils Lab, will be relocated at a cost of R113 million from their present positions at the Somerset and Prestwich precincts. The Prestwich precinct is over the road from the Prestwich Memorial, and that will unlock the development potential of those two very important sites.
In the same sense Government Motor Transport will be relocated from where it presently is to a more appropriate site and that will unlock that vast area that we have between, as it were, Roeland St and Buitenkant St and up to the top. Prestwich and Founders Garden have also been registered as public-private partnerships with the National Treasury.

I’d like to express my gratitude to hon Minister Winde and Treasury head Dr Stegmann for their confidence and wise counsel and for making available significant funding from the Asset Finance Reserve.

**Land Claims**

I can find no record of land claims being met in respect of provincial land before 2009. That was not only a shock for me, but also a matter of major concern as several of the certified claimants have died without their claims being met. I set myself the goal of finalising all land claims in respect of provincial land before 2014, and of availing provincial land to the Land Claims Commissioner, where appropriate, and we have made considerable progress.

The two major Constantia direct claims have been settled and the Solomons and Keriker families will be returning to the land on which they once lived. The indirect claims in respect of the Southgate and Flandorp families in Retreat and Milnerton have likewise been settled. Close to 2 000 claimants in respect of Constantia, Ndabeni and the Langa Hostels will be settled by availing land at Constantia on erf 3035, Spaanschemat Road, and Coniston Park, next door to where I live, on an indirect basis. This entails a cash settlement arising from an agreed development of the land for the benefit of the claimants and is based on the successful Greenpoint Tramways project.

The La Rochelle claim in Paarl is finalised, but we still have to find suitable alternative land for the school fields. Thus our responsibility in respect of land claims, as a province, will be met during this term.

Mr Speaker, the range and scale of our public works is vast and is not matched anywhere else in the public sector. Unlike in earlier years when this branch regularly featured in Scopa meetings and enquiries, all of our projects are on budget and schedule – or nearly all of our projects – one is not. Therefore I would like to pay tribute to Gary Fisher, Thando Nguli and all of the managers and the teams that work in Public Works for their achievements and wish them well for their future challenges, which are awesome.

**Programme 3: R1,920 billion**

In financial terms this is roads basically. This is our biggest branch and R1,799 billion will be spent on planning, design, construction and maintenance during 2012/2013, and a further R4,271 billion in the two outer years of the medium-term expenditure framework. That’s a lot of money.

Compensation of employees in this department makes up just 10% of the total budget. In the Western Cape the decline of rail compels us to ensure that our network of roads can take up the full burden. This is not an ideal option, neither is it one I would have chosen if I had had short-term alternatives.
This gives us two imperatives in this area. Our first and most important priority, our highest-order priority, is to preserve the roads we already have – maintenance again. Secondly, we have to extend transport corridors in areas of key economic opportunity. I’ll talk about those in a moment.

As funds begin to flow from our asset leveraging projects, they will be held in the Asset Finance Reserve, available only for infrastructure and maintenance. At present Roads is completing, implementing, planning or commencing contracts to the value of R8.9 billion. Many of these contracts span over a number of years.

Ministerial imperative on road maintenance backlogs

They are to be reduced by 16% by 2014. The maintenance backlog in road infrastructure amounts to over R7 billion in 2011 terms. Nine hundred and forty million rand has been set aside this year for maintenance.

In 2011/2012 the number of kilometres of surfaced roads in a poor or very poor condition was reduced from 12% to 10% of the total surface network. Gravel roads in a poor and very poor condition were reduced from 51% to 48% in the total road network.

Given the limited resources and the effect of flood and rockfall, this is a very gratifying reversal of the declining condition that characterised our roads in the past and means that the goals that we have set ourselves to reduce the roads maintenance backlog will be met.

Economic opportunity roads

Economic opportunity roads are financed by R300 million over the MTEF period and made available from the Asset Reserve Fund, and again I express my gratitude to Treasury. These roads will include the divisional road between Gansbaai and Elim to benefit tourism along the scenic route between Gordons Bay and Cape Aghulas, and will cost R250 million.

Secondly, planning will commence on the refurbishment of the Wingfield Interchange pre-stressed bridges, which have exceeded their design life. At the same time we will investigate realigning the junction between the N7 and the N1, a node of intense congestion. We have set aside R28.9 million for the initial planning phases of this project.

Lastly we will investigate improvements to the road network that will support the Saldanha IDZ and port expansion. We have set aside R23.3 million over the medium term for planning to complete the feasibility study for this project, and that does not exclude rail by the way.

Other road projects

Just to give you some of the idea of some projects that are happening, a number of major projects are under way. These include the upgrading and surfacing of the Hemel-en-Aarde road at a total cost of R153 million, thus providing a safe all-weather corridor between Caledon and Hermanus, which will benefit the important wheat and wine hinterland.
There has been an explosion of traffic in what I would call the near-winelands area so R66 million will be invested in upgrading the Stellenbosch arterial, R232 million on the Wolseley to Nuwekloof road, R72 million on the Paarl to Franschhoek road, R100 million on the Spier road and R69 million on the Paarl/Klapmuts road.

The R44 between Somerset West and Stellenbosch requires urgent attention, mainly in respect of dangerous median crossings and illegal entrances, many of which will be eliminated. Work commences this year at a cost of R14 million rand.

Planning will commence on improving the controversial Louis Fourie road in Mossel Bay and the road with the worst surface in the province, namely the road from Piketberg to Velddrif, is finally scheduled for rehabilitation at a cost of R170 million.

Over R300 million of work will be done in the Eden area and I think it is about R88 million to R90 million of work that will be done in the Karoo area, mainly on the C899 and the C807. So the province is well covered. All areas are well covered.

In the city additional lanes are being built and they are coming to completion quite soon. On the M5, between the N1 Koeberg Interchange and the N2, this work will unleash the full potential of the transformed Koeberg Interchange, which was once the most congested junction in the Western Cape.

With other work on our major city arterials that needs to be done, the total costs will amount to R150 million. This includes R22 million for the further upgrading of the freeway management system, that is, the cameras that cover about 150 km of the N1, N2, N7 and R300, which will run in partnership with Sanral and the city.

This is an excellent example of how intelligent systems enable us to manage roads carrying over 500 000 vehicles a day. These camera systems also enable us to capture footage of all crashes and provide essential evidence in killer crashes, and I think that because of this they are going to change the charge against a young man from Somerset West from culpable homicide to murder. The system is now being upgraded to a level where it will be used for law enforcement and road safety.

Road construction will create 6 000 work opportunities so the team of “pad makers” face stiff challenges in disposing of this year’s very big budget, as well as some R40 million of work carried over as a result of the ongoing bitumen shortage, and I’m sure they will be equal to the challenge.

**Chapman’s Peak**

Work has commenced on the tollbooths and the control building as envisaged in the 2005/2008 records of decision and is expected to be completed by May 2013. The toll road will then operate at maximum efficiency and safety and by 2023 100% of all the serviceable revenues generated from the tolling operation will accrue to the province until all the province’s financial support has been discharged. I think it is a very good contract. The entire asset will ultimately revert to the province.
Notwithstanding some public concern, the department is and must be governed by due process and contracts entered into in good faith. In what has been a difficult passage and may continue to be, I am grateful to the Premier, the HOD and the head of Ministry for their unflinching support.

Programme 4: Transport operations: R793 million

The strategic objective of transport operation is to provide and improve land transport services to regulatory frameworks, effective subsidy regimes and safety interventions. The year under review will see many important processes coming to a head.

The provincial land transport framework 2011-2016 and the metropolitan public transport

That framework has now been approved by the national Minister of Transport and it will inform the integrated transport plans of all provincial municipalities. The public transport strategy is to achieve viable and competitive multi model public transport systems with rail as a backbone, which is, where applicable, managed by the equipped municipal authorities. The first one of those will be Cape Town itself.

Within this strategy there are two key objectives necessary to establish the City of Cape Town as the transport authority for the functional commuter reach. One is a public transport integration plan illustrating integration routes, timetables, costs, operating models and the accommodation of all modalities. Agreement must be obtained and formalised in a memorandum of understanding or agreement, or whatever, between the road-based operators and with the road-based operators, on the shape and roll-out of such public transport integration.

There is no need, Mr Speaker, for divisive and destructive competition or modality support. We do not have enough transport in Cape Town; we need everything there is, and more on top of that.

The other key objective is the migration of the National Land Transport Act (NLTA) functions to the City, including operating licence functions, land transport law enforcement and contracting authority functions and form. Very simply, the PER will have a large chunk split off from it and that will fall under the City as an MRE and the management of the Gabs contract will move in due course to the City. It is envisaged that this migration will commence in 2013.

In all of these matters, the City is making solid progress.

A due diligence review of Metrorail is being implemented, and a detailed business plan will be drawn up.

Planning for the development of “one timetable and one ticket” is underway and that ticket is almost surely going to be the My Citi ticket.

Some degree of consensus around road-based contracting is beginning to emerge – an important consensus.
The public transport objectives cannot be achieved without an urgent reversal in the calamitous decline of Metrorail. Metrorail, which I believe is unlikely to be broken up in the short term, has been engaged by both the City and the province on several fronts.

The most urgent priority is to restore impervious access control to the whole network, without which the systems and rolling stock will continue to be trashed. That is the first part before anything else. We have to in a sense segregate the Metrorail system from the people who are actively sabotaging it to the tune of nine coaches in the last three weeks. The trains are just getting shorter and shorter, and there are already 30 or 40 too few.

The City is leading a joint undertaking to address access and control, which includes the pooling of security resources. Metrorail Western Cape is quite clearly not getting its equitable share of resources. When I see the trains in Gauteng and Ethekwini and I compare them with what I have here, it’s like chalk and cheese and that is not acceptable.

I am engaging with Metrorail to redress this situation in the short term. Both the City and my department agree that the transport authority should be based on alliances and collaborative undertakings of the various operators as the best possible management of integrated public transport.

We don’t have the benefit of transport for nothing. We are going to have to follow the model of other cities and regions which have had to embrace, as it were, services and assets from many levels of government.

We are also agreed that the characteristics of that public transport system will be –

- one network;
- one timetable;
- one ticket;
- one platform of commuter communications;
- one corporate design;
- one marketing platform; and
- one public transport policing entity.

I have canvassed all of those with Metrorail and they have no problem with it in principle. There is broad agreement in the transport community at all levels with these approaches. I have set myself the goal of ensuring that the plans and implementations for public transport are irreversible by 2014.

*Ministerial Imperative SO3: Influencing parties to affect an improvement of integrated public transport so as to bring about a modal shift of 13% from private to public transport*

Now such is the appetite for public transport in Cape Town – to our great future benefit, I must say – that despite the continuing disaster of Metrorail, the implementation of the IRT and the increasing sales of tickets by Metrorail and GABS indicate that a 19% shift from private to public transport has occurred, reducing private transport from 67% of all commuters to 54%.
In the face of all obstacles one can see the appetite there and Cape Town and the region have to seize the opportunity. This clearly demonstrates the potential of future modal shifts as the goals outlined above are achieved.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I have no doubt that if we can get Cape Town’s rail service sorted out we can extend some of the IRTs and sort out all the problems that we have at the moment. I have no doubt that we can then achieve a 70:30 public-private transport split in this region.

**Provincial Public Transport**

As the City assumes greater responsibility for metropolitan transport, so the province must increasingly extend its role in developing public transport across the province. This task is made more difficult by the total collapse of passenger rail outside of the Metro.

**The George Integrated Public Transport Network (GIPTN)**

Subject to negotiations and the availability of national funding – and I must stress that if national funding is not available, we are going to have problems here – GIPTN will commence operations during 2012/2013, and R40m has been budgeted for this purpose.

These are some of the high-level steps to be undertaken in the 2012/2013 financial year:

- Conclude operator contract negotiations;
- Purchase vehicles, brand vehicles and establish the fare collection system;
- Establish the operator company as a working entity, with staff and systems;
- Marketing, public communication, awareness and education on the GIPTN; and
- Commencement of core services, according to predefined phases. I stress again that that is subject to national funding.

Jacqui Gooch and Deirdre Ribbonaar have weathered many storms in keeping this project on track, and Hannes Mouton has now brought to it his usual meticulous and philosophical approach. I salute them all, and wish the GIPTN “Bon voyage!”

**Safely Home**

The road safety campaign has set itself the task of halving road fatalities by 2014. In facing the weaknesses of the criminal justice system, the campaign has of necessity been robust, and has used the media to carry its message.

These weaknesses are of great concern. Five of the six major accidents – accidents in which more than 10 people have died – since I came to office, including the De Doorns and Rheenendal bus crashes, have not yet been brought to conclusion in the courts.
Major contributors to road carnage have been identified and tackled. In this regard we are fortunate to have the only reliable mortality statistics in the country, which are furnished to us by the provincial Department of Health’s Forensic Pathology Services.

Drunken driving, despite the setbacks we have had in the campaign such as the Dräger breath alcohol testing and the backlog of 14 000 blood samples that have not yet been tested, has been significantly reduced, and behavioural changes in drinking and driving are evident. The Ministry’s ongoing Name and Shame project, in conjunction with Lead SA, has had a powerful hand to play in this shift.

High-quality roadblocks will continue and their frequency will be increased. Speeding will be systematically reduced by the continuing roll-out of Average Speed Over Distance (ASOD) monitoring. Our first trial on the Aberdeen road has reduced the incidence of speeding by 50% and has cut fatalities dramatically. In fact, since we introduced ASOD on that killer road, there has only been one fatality.

Particular attention will continue to be given to passenger carrying vehicles. Measures to counter road fatigue proved very successful during the late Christmas period, and will continue particularly over the Easter period.

The failure to use seatbelts, and particularly to restrain children, is widespread in the province. Of the 300 to 400 seriously injured children brought to the Red Cross Hospital each year, more than 80% had not been restrained in any way.

We are now taking advice from the NPA on the issue of the drivers in such cases being charged with culpable homicide or even murder. Pedestrian deaths make up over 40% of all fatalities. The CSIR has identified the major hazardous locations (Haz Locs), and these areas will be systematically ameliorated.

Young men between the ages of 18 and 45 constitute 91% of drivers killed in fatal crashes, and heavy jail sentences will be sought in a number of cases being brought before the courts in 2012/2013.

Two further pounds will be opened bringing the provincial total to five compared to two in 2009.

Ministerial Imperative: SO3 – Improving road safety, resulting in a 50% reduction in road fatalities by December 2014

In terms of the ministerial imperative of reducing the death rate by 50% by December 2014, the 12-month fatality figures have fallen from 1 772 as of January 2009, to 1 289 as of February 2012. This is a decline of 25.9% and means that the halfway mark towards our goal has been passed. I would like to congratulate Yasir Ahmed and his team, as well as Hector Eliott for their outstanding achievements in making the Cape safer for all. I also want to thank the increasing numbers of the road-using public who are taking back their roads. Better arrive alive and better together.
Programme 5: Transport Regulation – R279,270 million

Vehicle licensing will realise R943 million in 2012/2013, an increase of 3% on the previous year. This is the biggest inflow of self-generated income at this time and in due course it will obviously be overtaken by the leveraging of our assets.

A number of things will be happening, such as the new number plate management system that will be implemented during this year.

- It will provide for best practice security features;
- It will provide for electronic vehicle identification; and
- It will enable law enforcement officers to pick up if a vehicle is a public transport vehicle and check the validity of the operating licence from the number plate. It is a nano-type licence plate.

Wide-scale fraud is still being encountered at vehicle testing stations (VTS) and driver’s licence testing centres (DLTC). Two VTSs have been closed, and convictions obtained at two DLTCs, and there are a number of big cases that will be coming up soon.

The branch inspectorate is steadily rooting out corruption, and a new approach to the licensing of VTSs is being considered. Michael Gallant runs a most efficient operation, which is a model for other provinces and a source of information for the national department.

Minibus taxi industry

The Provincial Regulating Entity was the first to be established in the country, and has regular visits from other provinces seeking to implement their own. The taxi industry and its undertakings are a very high priority for the department.

The Ntsebeza Commission indicated that route invasions were the main source of taxi violence, and were promoted by shadowy figures and warlords on the fringes of the industry. It has been my policy that route invasions will not be tolerated under any circumstances and that no concessions whatsoever will be made.

This policy has brought the first two peaceful years in decades of taxi violence. It has also strengthened the hand of a new, purposeful and pragmatic industry leadership.

Despite some disagreements, I have a useful and cordial relationship with Pastor Vernon Billet and his Santaco leadership. We work together on a host of mutually beneficial matters, none more important than Hlokomela, the Santaco road safety campaign.

Recently I attended a peace rally at the Nyanga taxi rank and later another one in Philippi. At the one there were 3 000 and at the other 4 000 Santaco members and their families. We celebrated peace in the industry and Codeta and Cata reached out to one another. Many religious leaders were present and it was an uplifting experience.
The PRE has radically transformed the whole area of passenger operations and licensing. Over 80% of taxi associations are now compliant, compared to when there were almost none, as hon members can remember.

Capacity-building programmes to equip taxi associations to better understand and comply with the NLTA are now held regularly and this will continue in 2012/2013.

Computerised systems will be introduced to allow for more efficient dispensing of operating licences, registration of associations and members and general administration. Dormant licences will continue to be identified and cancelled, thus allowing for new licences to be issued.

The Mediation and Dispute Resolution Unit is fully functional, and is seen by the industry to be fair and impartial. When I assumed office in 2009, complaints about its predecessor, the then POLB, constituted about 50% of all my incoming mail. Today complaints are a rarity.

Mark Skriker has made a profound impact on the taxi industry. He is an acknowledged expert in this field and is widely respected in the taxi community. Mark is a man who can give a good account of himself. He is ably supported by Miss Service Excellence, Bernie McMahon, and her staff.

As the years of peace mount up, it is easy to forget the horrors of taxi wars in the past. It is thus vital that the city, province, PRE and Santaco continue working to sustain that peace so that all taxi operators grow prosperous as they grow older and that they die in their beds, as we all should. Better together!

**Provincial Motor Transport Entity**

The entity has completed the difficult transition to the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP), will budget R540,754m for operations and the purchase of new vehicles, and will recover that full amount from its clients.

The training of transport officers will be intensified, driver ID tags will be introduced, repair and maintenance management will be optimised and electronic systems will be fully integrated into the business solution.

The entity is managed efficiently and effectively by Johan Koegelenberg, and as we all know, it is a case of “steady as she goes”.

**Provincial Traffic Police**

We are currently doing the various difficult negotiations that will in due course transfer Provincial Traffic Police from Community Safety to my department. This will materially assist in the achievement of Strategic Objective 3 and sensibly joins law enforcement to regulation and compliance.

I am grateful to my colleague, Minister Plato, for his support and generosity. I wish him well in his difficult and vital task of bringing greater safety to this province.
Programme 6: Community-based Programmes (EPWP) – R50,805 million

In the first nine months of 2011/2012 we created 67 260 work opportunities against an annual target of 53 461. We are thus 26% ahead of the annual target with three months to go. We will only have those results some time in May. Next year we have a target of 72 000 work opportunities and we will do much better than that. We expect to create over 100 000 jobs, of which 25 000 will be Bargaining Council jobs. I think that is an outstanding achievement. In addition, 250 unemployed young people will be trained in the construction trade as part of the National Youth Service programme. A further construction-related apprenticeship programme will be initiated in addition to the 20 diesel mechanic apprentices currently in training.

One of those apprentices is here today, El-Nico Louw. El-Nico matriculated at Bernadino Heights High School in 2008. He registered at Cape Peninsula University of Technology as an ND: Engineering – Mechanical Engineering student. In 2010 he started his career with us at the Bellville workshop as an apprentice diesel mechanic. El-Nico is a leader by example and pushes through obstacles to attain results, without offending the ones alongside him.

In 2010 he received a special award for an exceptional pass in NTC3 at Northlink College. He also passed NTC4 in 2012 and will start with NTC5 in 2012, in the third trimester. He will be one of a continual stream of diesel mechanics who will be graduating from the workshop.

Included in the budget is an amount of R8 Million for our Masakh’iSizwe (MS) bursary programme. There are currently 220 students for the academic year 2012, jointly financed by us, BCV Partners and local municipalities.

Masakh’iSizwe is much more than a bursary. It is a certain path for those who could not otherwise have afforded a tertiary education to a confident and professional future.

All of our bursary holders are now housed in university hostels. Mentors are there to assist them with the difficult adjustments they face and to ensure that their appropriate needs, including specialised coaching, are met. They are strongly encouraged to give back in a variety of outreach programmes.

Here I want to tell you about two graduates. Clive Truter grew up in Paarl and Bishop Lavis. He demonstrated early leadership qualities at school. He was gripped by the notion of the African Renaissance, which led to his interest in architecture. Clive registered at UCT in 2002 with no procured funding.

Today he holds a Master’s Degree in Architecture, funded both by Masakh’iSizwe and the Royal Institute of British Architecture.

Clive joined the department in 2010. Today he is the lead architect on two capital works projects for Education, in addition to his duties as a support manager for Auxiliary Services. In May 2012 he will have completed the requirements for the upgrade as a Registered Professional Architect. Clive represents the new wave of professionals without whom this department and province have no future.
Michael Tladi grew up on the streets after his mother abandoned him. He is not going to be upset with me for telling you this because he’s not ashamed of it. He beat all the odds, obtained a matric and then, with a Masakh’iSizwe bursary he took eight years to get his degree. Today he has a degree in Electromechanical Engineering from UCT. He joined the department in 2008 and works as a mechanical engineer.

In the spirit of Masakh’iSizwe, Michael devotes his life to giving back, particularly to kids, who, like him, have no home or parents. He has raised over R70 000 for the Emasithandane orphanage for abandoned children in Nyanga. He has converted it from a shack to a two-storey building that is productive to a degree that would put our accommodation experts to shame.

Emasi is an orphanage with an extraordinary difference. It is powered by solar panels and an intricate exchange mechanism, which must be among the most advanced in South Africa. The hon Minister Bredell must go and see the set-up there. The roof is invisible as it is lost among the solar panels. It frankly took my breath away, more so when he told me that he had done it himself with the help of a few friends from UCT.

It is a great privilege to have people like El-Nico, Clive and Michael on the staff of the Department of Transport and Public Works. It is a comfort for old greying managers like the HOD and I to know that the new generation of value-driven leaders is already in place.

**Conclusion**

I look back with satisfaction on the progress over the last three years. More importantly, I face the coming years with growing confidence. To every one of my 1 596 staff, I say well done. Be proud of your department, but know there are great challenges ahead.

To the members of the broader construction industry, great and small, have faith. We are committed to finding the funds to grow infrastructure in the province. In this year alone we will make available a total of R4,884 billion to the private sector for planning, infrastructure, construction and maintenance in the road and built construction industries.

To the members of the transport family, the City and my colleague Bret Heron, My Citi, Gabs, Metrorail and Santaco, together we are creating the alliances that will bring about integrated public transport, and within that there will be space for all of you.

To Margaret, Erin, and Frith, who is not here, all yours. And to all in the province and in South Africa, better together!

*Mr E J VON BRANDIS: Mr Deputy Speaker, the total budget of R4,609 billion for the Department of Transport and Public Works is welcomed. After all, it is true that the most powerful economic instrument a provincial government has at its disposal is the ability to build infrastructure that promotes growth. Investment in infrastructure is widely regarded as one of the most important drivers of economic growth and job creation a government can use.*
Because of this, it was no surprise when the budget for 2012 focused on reinforcing the productive base of the economy by investing in infrastructure and strategic partnerships with the private sector in order to support economic growth and job creation.

The action by the Department of Transport and Public Works to bring about access to safe and effective transport with the focus on provincial infrastructure and the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) is effected by looking at strategic partnerships, good management structures, adequate skills as well as relevant and reliable information.

The department’s efforts to produce and maintain transport infrastructure that is sustainable, integrated and environmentally sensitive on an ongoing basis are laudable.

In the medium term, the allocation to Public Works and Transport is split by 39,1% to 60,9%, respectively. The transport allocation, which includes road infrastructure, amounts to R1,9 billion in 2012/2013, and the Public Works allocation for the same period is R1,424 billion.

In 2011/2012, six road rehabilitation and road upgrading tenders amounting to R700 million were awarded and many road construction projects were finalised, including the Koeberg interchange and the rehabilitation of the main road, the R310 North, from Prince Alfred Hamlet. Progress on the Hemel-en-Aarde road is also appreciated.

The 2012 MTEF also makes provision for upgrading of the road between Gans Bay and Bredasdorp, the DR 1205, from a gravel road to a tarred road. The planning, design and feasibility of the road network in support of the Saldanha IDZ is another project we are looking forward to.

It is clear that the road infrastructure that is provided and maintained is aimed at making our province more accessible. Speaking of the road infrastructure, could the hon Minister give us more information on the Hout Bay court case?

Motor vehicle licences are the biggest contributor to the province’s own accounts, and the estimated R943 million contribution is welcomed. Confirming the decision not to increase licence fees in the 2012/2013 financial year reflects the integrity of the Minister and his department not to be greedy at the cost of the public. An avaricious economic decision could easily have been an even heavier tax burden on John Citizen.

Mr Deputy Speaker, one of the most interesting developments is the good progress with the George Mobility Project. The agreement of cooperation that was signed in September 2011 was the first step in ensuring that the Greater George area can use a service consisting of integrated and scheduled routes at a subsidised tariff, so that everybody can enjoy access to safe, affordable and effective public transport.

It is encouraging to see that the George Mobility Project will be further rolled out in the coming financial year. This will link the informal settlements with the town, the airport and the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU).
The same diligence and dedication are also expected from the mobility concepts for the West Coast, Overberg and the Eden District Municipality that were ratified last year.

The success of the Shadow centres that were erected in Athlone in 2009 as well as the one in George in 2010, is essential to make the Safely Home project a success. The Safely Home campaign that was launched in 2009 with the aim to halve the death rate on the roads in our province by 2014 is a departmental success story.

The death rate has already been lowered by 24% over the past two years. The DA government is halfway and firmly on course to reach its objectives. The third Shadow centre in the Breede Valley Municipality will further support the project.

It is encouraging to see that safe and effective public transport as a strategic objective for this department is more than a mere slogan. We welcome the prioritisation of an information technology system for the effective and efficient regulation of public transport operating licences. It will also be monitored carefully and investigated to ensure an infallible system as far as possible.

The extension of integrated and non-motorised transport helps making the Western Cape a world class destination. The pilot projects at municipal level, especially the new bicycle project in Stellenbosch, will help building the vision.

The most important threat to public transport remains the safety and quality of the service rendered. The MyCiti bus project can be described as a bastion for the type of service every resident of the Western Cape deserves. The standard should be maintained in every alternate mode of transport, irrespective of what level of government is responsible.

The failure of Metrorail to provide a sustained quality service may be linked to several reasons. I thank the Minister for his ongoing commitment to improve the standards every resident deserves. However, it is outrageous of Metrorail to expect that a proposed 27% increase in ticket prices will be accepted without opposition.

A price increase can be justified only if it is accompanied by at least a directly proportional improvement in the quality of the service rendered. Even then an annual increase should not exceed the inflation rate. Commuters using Metrorail as primary transport deserve better and I thank the hon Minister for his commitment to better cooperation to find the necessary solutions in this regard.

The same commitment is welcomed with reference to the taxi industry. A month ago there was an incident in Imizamo Yethu, Hout Bay. Although I do not approve of the incident, the reaction, defusing and cooperation of the taxi industry are encouraging. The way in which the hon Minister and his department have managed to shift ways of thinking and to effect such a change in behaviour is unprecedented and unparalleled in this country.

The total allocation for infrastructure in 2012/2013 amounts to R4,049 billion. As has already been indicated, this will be used, among other things, to complete 20 schools and 160 maintenance projects. New assets and replacement of assets amount to 23%, upgradings and extensions 13%, rehabilitation and renovations 35% and maintenance and repairs 22%.
The more than half being spent on renovation and maintenance is important for the continued existence of the assets, but it also creates an opportunity to take a fresh look at sustainable, cost-saving and environmentally sensitive projects and partnerships to address the maintenance obligations without hampering the creation of new infrastructure.

The R21,620 million budgeted for training in 2012-13, including 420 bursaries, is welcomed. Together with the 250 training opportunities in the construction industry under the National Youth Service Programme as well as the proposed 19 000 jobs to be created by the construction and maintenance of provincial government buildings and facilities, this will contribute to achieving the 72 142 Expanded Public Works Programme jobs set as objective for the province.

Mr Deputy Speaker, by building strategic partnerships, implementing effective management structures, hiring competent staff and enhancing staff skills, managing effective systems and requiring effective and reliable information, it is possible to achieve the vision and mission of the department. I thank the hon Minister Carlisle and his department for their sustained dedication, hard work and striving for excellence, and I support the budget as submitted.

Ms T N BEVU: Speaker, let me first welcome the speech of the hon Minister Carlisle on the budget of the department of Transport and Public Works. I also want to thank the hon Mr Von Brandes, the chairperson of the Standing Committee for the co-operation.

†When I look at the department’s budget I get a feeling that financial resources for administration, public works, infrastructure, transport operations and corporate support increased, but for community-based programmes it has decreased from what it was in 2008.

The department’s ATP says the purpose of Public Works infrastructure is to provide balance to provincial government, building infrastructure that promotes integration, accessibility, sustainability, equity, environmental sensitivity, economic growth and social empowerment. Is that so? Let us take you by your words and intentions.

What is balanced about developing only the CBD of Cape Town, the Foreshore in particular, at the expense of the areas on the CBD fringes and rural areas, where most of the people live? How do you promote integration by making sure the divide between these two areas increases instead of closing?

How are the people on these fringes expected to access the so-called broadband internet when they have no computers to do so or they have to go and work in the city using half their wages to get there? Where is the equity, economic and social empowerment on the fringes of the CBD and the rural areas?
Lastly, are developments like the Chapman’s Peak development environmentally sensitive? What is the DA trying to hide in this development? As we read in the third addendum to the concession agreement adjusted contract between the PGWC department and Entilini Concession, the R13 million offset as construction costs is money that was due to the PGWC anyway, and the R11,6 million comes from unspent money on the initial construction, presumably the safety and protection installation. It would seem to us that the amount PGWC of the Western Cape is really paying is R38 million and not R25 million.

Is it right, or in fact, clever that the PGWC is paying for the toll plaza and offices when the Toll Roads Act says that the concessionaire must do so at their own cost? The hon Minister is refusing to tell the people of this province exactly which pension fund loan is invested in the toll road project as mentioned on Cape Talk radio by Mr Enzo Menegaldo, director of Entelini on 24 February 2012 at 16:15.

Who will pay back the pension funds from whom Entilini has apparently borrowed R150 million, and how will they pay it back? Most importantly, who is standing surety for any default on that loan? I ask that because looking at the projected bloated traffic figures by Entilini the actual figures will never meet the required profit.

What happens when Entilini goes bust, which seems likely considering the very low traffic volumes and the fact that there has been no dividend for the past eight years of operation? How will PGWC get all the taxpayer’s money that the MEC says will come back over time and what do you think of Entilini’s questionable tolling expertise, considering that their primary business is making furniture?

There is clearly a serious case of incestuous dealings in the case of Concor, which is owned by Murray and Roberts, the contractor for Entilini, because Murray and Roberts Ltd is listed as the director type of Entilini and at least two of Entilini’s directors are also Murray and Roberts directors.

Ohloniphekileyo uMphathiswa makasixelele inyaniso yokuba kwenzenka ntoni ngale Chapman’s Peak. Ngenene makasixelele inyaniso, makangayibleleki le nto kwaye makade ayiphendule namhlane ukwenzena ukuba sicacelwe ukuba ingaba olu phuhliso luza kukwazi ukuyibyisa ngenene na imali yabantu abahlawula irhafu. Siyacela kakhulu ke thina singulo mbutho weCongress of the People ukuba ohloniphilekeyo uMphathiswa asicacisele ukuba kanye kanye na le iqhubekayo kolu phuhliso, angayibleleki kwaye asicacisele inyaniso. [Time expired.]

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[The hon Minister must tell us the truth about what is happening with this Chapman’s Peak. He must really tell us the truth, he must not run away from this and he must answer it today so that we become clear that this development will really pay back the taxpayer’s money. We appeal to the hon Minister as the Congress of the People that he explains to us what is really happening in this development, and he must tell us the truth.[Time expired.]

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Mr Deputy Speaker, through you to MEC Carlisle. The fairy godmother waved her wand last night and just did a transformation of hon Stali.
The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: You’re prettier than him.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker, let me first of all welcome these three students here and congratulate them as well; Clive, with whose mom I worked for many years, Michael, unfortunately I do not know, but El-Nico, I think you said your name was, yes El-Nico, comes from a school in my area and also a school that has one of the best principals in that area, so I am very proud of seeing you here, thank you.

The underlying narrative of every budget vote is what beneficial effect it would have on the lives of citizens, the positive impact it would have on the economy and the tangible manner in which it would reduce joblessness, inequality, poverty and deprivation in our society. A budget vote is never about yesterday; it’s really about today and tomorrow.

The department is supposed to assist us in creating a province that is liveable, equitable, accessible, sustainable and prosperous for all of its inhabitants. It can do so by creating a reliable, affordable, safe and accessible public transport system and a well-developed road and rail network for the efficient, effective and seamless movement of people from all corners of the province.

With regards to the Integrated Transport Master Plan; ask any dreamer to create a vision and you will get one. However, it must be matched against the concrete realities of our time. In this context the success of any government lies in its ability to prudently use public, financial and other resources to transform today’s realities for the better, guided by a coherent vision of the future.

So, what are some of the realities on our – I believe I am now supposed to say public transport infrastructure – public transport systems? MEC, you can’t tell a ventriloquist at the last minute what he is supposed to say, so you must bear with me if I still use the word roads. Yes, even in DA-supporting areas of Bellville there is still traffic congestion, lack of safety on taxis and trains, inadequate and unreliable public transport, taxi violence and, shortly, an e-tolling system on some of the freeways that will constitute an additional transportation cost to motorists.

It’s no wonder that newspapers have carried daily stories of our people’s often harrowing experiences on public transport.

Mr H P GEYER: It is better than any other province.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: It should be evident to all of us that out public transport system impacts in a very real way on the lives of our citizens, especially the poorest, and those who were chased away from the city to townships; no less than the provision of education or the rendering of health services.

Public transport has become an issue of intense public interest and concern. It is precisely for this reason that we as the ANC in this provincial Legislature demand an affordable, safe and reliable public transport infrastructure and public transport network, based on an overall transport master plan, as essentials for a vibrant global city and region.
Therefore, this should be prioritised and the design of an integrated transport master plan be presented to us soon. This we believe this is essential for a vibrant global city and region.

Mr Deputy Speaker, without a plan indicating immediate steps to change the public transport landscape in our province, we will not see any benefits for the citizens. Unfortunately, this is missing from this department; all we see is just a leader who wants to be everything to everybody.

An HON MEMBER: That’s you.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Concerning the budget allocation ... [Interjections.] ... the department has allocated just over R1,9 billion of its R4,6 billion budget for its roads infrastructure and maintenance programme. This represents the most important of our challenges as we all know the bad state of our public transport infrastructure, especially those in the township and rural areas. We hope that this year there will be some kind of focus in the areas that need this injection the most. It is commonly known that our public transport infrastructure network has deteriorated over the past few years and roads in the rural areas are even worse than those in the city.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to propose that there should be an annual paved road network assessment conducted. This should be conducted by the department and will indicate, on a yearly basis, which areas to focus on so that we put the money where it is needed.

The international benchmark is that a country’s public transport infrastructure network should not have more than 10% in a poor and very poor condition. I am informed provincially we are now at 29%. The shocking fact is that only two years ago this figure stood at 12%. This shows how the Western Cape is regressing under the DA. [Interjections.] The asset value associated with the current condition of the network is approximately R39 billion. If we had maintained our public transport infrastructure network at a 'very good' condition level, its asset value would have been R51 billion, so we have witnessed a net asset loss of 23,5% in less than five years.

About reparations, Mr Deputy Speaker, in recent times potholes have become a matter of public concern and social and legal activism. A pothole is a daily irritant to motorists. It is ugly and it is an eyesore on our public transport infrastructure and on our landscape. It damages vehicles and poses a danger to both pedestrians and motorists alike. As the ANC we feel that there is very little attention being given to our local public transport infrastructure and that addressing potholes is not a high priority. Municipalities cannot be left alone to address these issues if we are serious about addressing the needs of the people.

The department must also assist in creating job opportunities through its public transport infrastructure plan and repair and maintenance programme. This hon MEC, and his department, must be able to indicate to the House how many of those jobs can be created so that we can monitor their progress. In addition this programme must help to capacitate and empower small, medium and micro-enterprises. The entrepreneurial thrust of these programmes would in itself create employment opportunities and contribute to expand the business base in our province.
Mr Deputy Speaker, I must emphasise though, that as much as we support the department doing business with and empowering credible, small-scale road contractors, we will no longer tolerate shoddy work from any of them. We and the public at large demand fair value for money. It is not acceptable that a pothole repaired today is a pothole again two days later.

As our economy expands continuously, so does the population and so do our transport demands. As the ANC we would like to know: What is the department’s plan in responding to the constant pressure to provide and upgrade road infrastructure, especially in areas like Parklands and the N7, besides the BRT?

Regarding public transport and road logistics: Public transport infrastructure maintenance and construction is one of the focal points of the department; the other is public transport and transport logistics. There is an accepted view among transport planners internationally that we cannot build ourselves out of traffic gridlocks on our roads and freeways. Therefore our built environment must be complemented by effective transport regulation, planning and management. Municipalities cannot approve building plans without providing the transport infrastructure needed to support such development. “Integrated” is the key word here.

If we are to realise the Provincial Strategic Objective, we must develop and integrate our public transport system comprising rail, bus, taxi and other non-motorised modes of transport to a point where commuters, both the working and the middle class, would consider public transport rather than private transport as a matter of choice. MEC, again, we from the northern suburbs also need it. This is what the ANC means by a socially inclusive public transport system.

The central questions are: Does the department have the vision and plans for this in place? Do they have the financial and fiscal resources to undertake this large-scale transport infrastructure development? Are all the stakeholders ready to buy into the process and do they have the political will? These are difficult questions to answer. What is clear is that the MEC is focusing more on the illegal Dräger breathalyser and Chapman’s Peak or on suing people who challenge his actions.

An HON MEMBER: Tell her about Dräger.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Mr Deputy Speaker, the ANC is interested to know whether the department has any plans in place to establish the Public Transport Regulatory Entity as required by the National Land Transport Act. It is a plan that would assist our officials and would be better capacitated to deal with the issuing of taxi and bus operating licenses, converting permits to operating licenses and regulating public transport operators. We all know that this is one area where we are still lagging as a province and as the ANC we believe that in order to minimise challenges in our industry, we will have to capacitate our machinery.

One of the major provisions to emerge from the National Land Transport Act is the requirement that transport subsidies be transformed to subsidise lower-income commuters through the inclusion of all modes of public transport, not only buses as it is the case where only Golden Arrow is benefitting.

The bus subsidy in its present form is still a relic of the apartheid era. The taxi industry has long lamented that it carries more than 50% of commuters without being supported by government. It, therefore, would not be inappropriate for government as a whole to begin the process of engagement with the taxi industry on this question.
I wish to express my gratitude to the provincial leadership of taxi organisations for the cordial manner in which they have engaged amongst themselves on various matters of mutual interest and come up united without any help, except from the religious sector in the province, although, Mr Deputy Speaker, sporadically you hear some individuals claiming this as their own initiative. If this constructive approach and partnership can be strengthened, it will have a lasting and positive impact on public transport in the province.

This brings me to the effectiveness, or otherwise, of the driver's licence testing centres. The department acknowledges that there are several challenges confronting these centres. These relate to the service level agreements and their effective implementation by respective municipalities, the numerous allegations of corruption against various driving schools and selected officials, backlogs in processing learner and driver licenses, the absence of proper internal controls in respect of revenue collection, and the quality of customer services being rendered at the centres.

We are told that the department is awaiting a report on the above, but as the ANC we say it's about time that this exercise is completed. We cannot tolerate this poor service any longer. There needs to be a plan to address this issue, which is affecting our people.

The UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-20 was launched worldwide on 11 May 2011 and the South African campaign was launched by the Minister of Transport in Gauteng in June 2011. The singular purpose of the campaign is to decrease the carnage on our roads. The decade of Action for Road Safety could not have come at a better time as our country has been besieged by road and rail accidents.

I don't see this campaign implemented to its fullest or supported by all in the province. The department must serve as a beacon of hope for road users and to those responsible for road safety management and mobility in the province. It is this department that is supposed to mobilise municipalities to act on issues affecting us. Leaving cameras to stand there on their own will not reduce road accidents.

It is very strange that the MEC yesterday claimed he had reduced road fatalities in the province as if he drives every vehicle on his own. It is as dishonest as the claim that this government has raised the matric pass rate, as if the DA wrote exam papers on behalf of learners. Interjection.

I am a firm believer in the principle of co-operative governance. There is no need for competitive behaviour among the various spheres of government. On the contrary, government departments, entities and agencies should co-operate in the broader public interest.

An HON MEMBER: There is no competition.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: In this regard we have been noticing the department and its MEC are shifting the blame to national or ex-political leaders whenever their failures are pointed out to them. [Interjections.] The department would rather compare itself with the world than with national government.
In conclusion, transforming the department of roads and transport is not an easy road. It is a road less travelled but it must be done. It is the MEC’s destiny to make tough decisions and implement them, even in the midst of criticism and challenges from his own party. In fact, you would certainly be failing all of us, MEC, if you waver to take the road less travelled.

An HON MEMBER: Perfect.

†Mr M C WALTERS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I’d like to compliment the hon Minister on the very comprehensive speech he gave on his budget. I think we all found it very enlightening and I’d like to thank his department as well for the wonderful support they give him.

As a person who spent many years in the public service the trend to regard the old Departments of Public Works and Transport as inefficient, was very entrenched. The only joy I had was when I was 22-years-old and had to travel to Oudtshoorn and the only vehicle available was a black Cadillac, formerly a ministerial vehicle. My grand arrival and the ridicule I was greeted with remain with me to this day.

This prejudice of long standing has been dissipated through a close association with the department whose budget is the subject of the discussion today. This Department of Transport and Public Works of the best-run regional government has impressed members of the standing committee with its professionalism and drive to achieve the goals it has set for itself.

All of us have been impressed by the wide-ranging goals it has set for itself in the creation and improvement of public facilities; the promotion of public transport in terms of the pressure put on road infrastructure like private transport; road safety; the maintenance and improvement of infrastructure and roads; and the professionalism of the service that the department provides.

On the visits that the standing committee made to the facilities of the department, the meticulous maintenance and cleanliness of the facilities and the focus and knowledgeable attention with which we were received all impressed. Clear, well-articulated programmes and clear functional task allocations, well-integrated into the programmes of the entity, contributed to the impression of an effective, smooth-running delivery machine.

That it is busy with the paving of the Hemel-en-Aarde and the Baardskeerdersbos-Elim roads in my constituency is especially gratifying. The delivery by this department is a major reason for visitors from other provinces and tourists coming from overseas, after visiting other centres in South Africa, remarking upon the world-class road systems that allow easy access to all parts of our beautiful province.

Nowhere was the efficiency more evident than at the Government Motor Transport division. The entity’s five-year strategic plan from 2010-14 has been systematically deployed under the leadership of the head of the entity, Mr Johan Koegelenberg and, of course, the vigilant eye of the Minister and HOD.

The institution of the new GRAP-compliant financial system, Go-Fin, has also insured that GMT is fully compliant with legislative requirements. The mission of GMT reflects the same dedication to the over coupling vision of the Western Cape government and the creation of an open opportunity society for all in the Western Cape so that people can live lives that they value.
Cascading this down through the department’s mission, we arrive at the mission which GMT lives to the full – to be the leader in government motor transport services by providing quality integrated and cost-effective motor transport to provincial and national client departments, inclusive of a pleasant safe and attractive environment where staff are offered the opportunity of development and self-improvement.

This entity keeps the wheels of government in this province turning by delivering services to all citizens at all localities and in all communities. The briefing received when the standing committee visited GMT was comprehensive. It was clear that the service had effectively deployed the processes necessary to ensure the effective functioning of the vehicle fleet such as preventive maintenance. This approach minimises vehicle breakdowns which disrupt client functioning and extends the effective life of the vehicles.

Official vehicles have for decades been the target of misuse for private or even political uses, but GMT has instituted control systems aimed at eliminating this as a cost factor. The institution of a revised business process using odometer readings, which are captured and verified by officials, have also allowed GMT to bill all kilometres travelled by the end of the financial year.

This allows the fast-tracking of payments, although further pressure is required to ensure that government debtors pay their debts within 30 days as required by the Public Finance Management Act. This seems to be a problem for the GMT. Outstanding debts owed by national and provincial departments will amount to about R70 million at the end of March and will be addressed by further tightening controls. It cannot be countenanced that delays in what should be routine transfers should impact negatively on this essential service to government.

The Government Motor Transport service has been innovative in the employment of IT technology to enhance the quality of services and the controls which this entails. Systems in which vehicles are tracked and departures from routes can be monitored have been implemented and are integrated with the fleet management system employed as well as with the GRAP-compliant management system.

With a fleet of 4 492 vehicles, efficient systems are absolutely essential for the maintenance of efficient service. With replacement levels below 10%, efficiency of outsourced services must be constantly monitored. The GMT operates from centrally situated old facilities in the city, and I think the Minister has referred to that. There are plans to eventually transfer to other facilities in line with redevelopment plans. However, the old facilities are well-maintained and well-equipped and clearly reflect the get-with-it culture of management and personnel.

This entity is financed through daily and kilometre charges against client departments with a budget of R540 million for 2012/2013, increasing to an estimated R601 million in 2014/2015. The income from daily and kilometre charges were also augmented by claims against clients, insurance and auctions of used vehicles.

Personnel costs amount to slightly over 5% of total costs. This is unique. The remaining 95% is directed at vehicle replacement and operational costs.
The impression we gain is one of an efficient entity which also reflects the favourable image we have of the Department of Transport and Public Works itself.

While GMT is such an essential support to Western Cape departments it best illustrates the principle of better together through its efficiency. The tenet of excellence we observed in GMT permeates throughout the department as also can be inferred from the Minister’s speech. He and his officials deserve our thanks and our congratulations. The department delivers an effective service across the board of its responsibilities. Its budget is supported. I thank you.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister Carlisle to reply.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Mr Deputy Speaker, first of all, thank you very much to hon Von Brandis for supporting the budget. Thank you very much for your service as chairman of the committee, your interest in what goes on in the department and your comprehensive knowledge of it.

Yes, we will be opening the third Shadow centre at Worcester and we will continue to open Shadows at appropriate places. I think the next one we will be looking at will be somewhere in the Northern Suburbs.

The Metro Rail increase of 27% is a reflection on the way in which the entity is managed. If I give you a history of increases – 2003, 10%, the next one was 2010, 33%, and the next one was 2012, 27% – you can see that that is not the way you handle a passenger-carrying business.

Regarding licence increases, yes, we’ve held the licences and have achieved what we sought to achieve over a number of years, and that is that we now probably have, certainly for one of the bigger provinces, the lowest licence fees in the country. That’s what we wanted to achieve so that we could attract back particularly our big-truck trade, a lot of which is registered in the Eastern Cape and elsewhere.

I’m going to jump straight from there to hon Walters and thank him for that comprehensive analysis of Government Motor Transport. When I first arrived here in 2001 I had been associated with one of the big rental companies for some years and I suggested that, in fact, we should privatise this business to one of the rental companies. The ANC, which was in power then, were very angry with me. They said it was a very well-run operation and better run than any of the rental agencies. I think this is probably correct, so thank you for that.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: When did you start the job?


†Mr M SKWATSHA: The ANC wasn’t in power.

†The MINISTER: The ANC was in power, ruling with the National Party.[Interjections.] Hon Skwatsha, I actually didn’t want to get into a discussion about this province versus the other provinces, or the DA versus the ANC, so I am going to try and keep away from that. Unfortunately, when I get to hon Carol Beerwinkel I am a going to have to go there a bit.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: I hope you aren’t going to do that.
†The MINISTER: Well, I can tell you that if I remember correctly, Mr Rasool sat there and Mr van Schalkwyk sat over there and we few, we band of brothers, sat up there. Hon Bevu, you said EPWP has decreased and the others have increased. It is not so, actually. Just looking at it here, in 2009/2010 the EPWP, or community-based programmes as we call it, was R31 million, in 2010/2011 it was R41 million, this year it will end on R49 million and next year it is R51 million. So, it is going up.

You stated that most people live in rural areas, but that’s not true. It’s incorrect; 85% of the population live in the two big metropolitan areas. The one is here, obviously, the Cape region and the other one is George. That is 85% of the total population of the province. Hon Minister Winde can correct me if I’m wrong, but I think that something like 80% ...

†The MINISTER OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: It’s 87%.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: ... 87% of the gross domestic product comes out of this area, so it is not a case that we neglect those areas. I’ve made it very clear that the development is not only moving into the central city area, but it is already in George, and very soon it will have impacts elsewhere. If you want to have impacts on poverty and if you want to know where ...

[Interjections.]

Let me say to first of all to hon Tingwe, Mr Deputy Speaker, the poorest town in the province is George. That’s a fact and it is because of the influx of very poor people. The second poorest is probably Cape Town, or certainly the south-east of Cape Town. That’s where you’ve got to make an impact and where you’ve got to create your jobs.

This does not necessarily have to be in Khayelitsha, and my colleague made that point, but we have to create jobs where you are going to have the greatest possibility of creating jobs and create the public transport systems that will get people in the south-east to wherever the jobs are. That we are certainly trying to do.

Now is Chapman’s Peak environmentally nice, or whatever? No, it is awful, terrible. I mean the road should never have been built. In today’s terms that road would never have been built. What it did was it took one of the greatest and the most magnificent rock faces in the world and put a road across it. Now that road is accompanied by nets and half-tunnels and all sorts of things, so environmentally it’s a disaster. No question!

What difference this little control building is going to make, is peanuts. The damage is already done and we can’t change it. I inherited the damage. The damage was done in 1929 when the road was built – in 1929 or 1922, I can’t remember – and then, obviously, when they started with the safety precautions, the nets and so on, the damage became irreversible. Quite frankly, that little control building is really not going to make much of a difference.

All we have to do is two things; one is to make it as safe as possible and the second thing is to make sure that the people who pay for that safety are the people who use the road and not other people.
It is wrong to tell the people in Bitterwater to pay for Chapman’s Peak; the people who drive across Chapman’s Peak must pay for Chapman’s Peak. That’s how it will be.

The hon member has certainly done a lot of work on Chapman’s Peak, not all of which I was able to note down, but I think I got the general drift of it. We are not trying to hide anything, hon Bevu, because there is nothing to hide. I have said all along that most of the documents you want to see you can see on the Cape Gateway site and some of the very big contracts are on the Mail & Guardian site. The assessment that was made by Premier Lynne Brown’s ANC government at the time is on one of the sites, I’m not sure which one, so there is nothing to hide. The third amending agreement is out there for everyone to see. There is no need to hide anything.

As for paying for the toll plaza, yes, we share the costs for the toll plaza. It will come to about R24 million each, of which R3 million on each side is for VAT. Hopefully we’ll get most of it back, if not all of it. Let me tell you what the provinces paid out in terms of a truly terrible contract that was entered into in 2002, I think it was.

We just paid out as the province. They closed the pass, we paid more. We paid R60 million, okay. We are going to get that R60 million back in terms of the third amending agreement which is the one that was entered into between 2009 and 2011; in other words, under my Ministry. We are going to get that R60 million back. We are probably going to get most of the R24 million back, but just bear in mind at the end of the contract the whole toll plaza and all its equipment come to us and it belongs to the province. So we actually get it in a sense quite cheaply.

You asked about the pension fund. I don’t know what the pension fund is. That’s their business. That’s their funders. I don’t have to know about that. If they don’t want to tell me about that, that’s fine. I don’t tell them who I bank with either.

Let me, however, tell you basically what happens with a toll road and what happened with this one. A toll road basically has huge debt upfront and it pays that debt off over a period of years and usually this is a 30-year contract, somewhere between 15 and 20 years into the contract they have paid off their debt and then they start to make money. In their case they started off by spending R160 million. Those nets and the half-tunnels are very expensive, so they spent a huge amount of money to set that all up and they borrowed money from a pension fund. It doesn’t really matter to me from which pension fund they borrowed the money.

Then, of course, there are very high maintenance costs. You don’t put it all in and leave it for 30 years. Whenever rocks come down in those nets, they sometimes have to be replaced or reset. A 24-ton or 26-ton rock came down on the roof of the half-tunnel the other day and they had to check if it had been damaged and repair it if necessary.

The pension fund told to them that not one cent was to be paid out in dividends until the debt had been paid off. The investor has the right to make that kind of a decision and that is why they have not paid anything out, either to themselves or to the little black empowerment thing that was tagged on to it, except that they gave them R120 000 or R150 000 as a kind of once-off.
About the actual figures: There was a business plan, a projection, made right at the beginning of 2002, or something like that, and as the hon member quite correctly says, Mr Deputy Speaker, we’ve never actually met those projections in the past. I think that the number of vehicles is at about 85% of the projections, and the income is at about 90% of the projections. So they never met it but they are not that far off it.

Is it viable? Yes, otherwise we wouldn’t have gone into it. The people in our department have looked at it very closely. Mr Pillay did an amazing job here, and we are satisfied it’s viable and that we will get our money back and that they will earn enough out of it to maintain the pass and also make a little money for themselves, which is the reason why they went into it.

Concor was bought out by Murray and Roberts which has enormous experience. It is the country’s leading experts on tolling. They have an associated company called Tolcon that is the main tolling company in South Africa and has enormous experience. Let me say that I have been very impressed with Murray and Roberts. They took over from Concor, otherwise I do not think we could have got this third amending agreement, and in everything I had to do with Murray and Roberts I was impressed with their ethics, their integrity and their desire to do the right thing. There is nothing secret about it. Yes, there are two Murray & Roberts directors and you said the other company made furniture. Well there is nobody that I know of in this outfit. [Interjections.] No, I don’t know of anybody in this outfit. There’s the construction company Haw & Inglis and there’s Murray & Roberts, that’s it.

So, there’s nothing to hide, but let me make these two provisos. If we can’t toll that road and toll it efficiently, we must close it. That’s it; there’s no if or buts. It’s just like taxi route invasions – there’s no compromise or nice simple solution. If we cannot toll it efficiently, we must close it.

The second thing that everybody needs to understand is that there is no guarantee that the road will survive the period of the contract. The road could at any time fall straight into the sea and that will be the end of it.

If I can turn to the hon Beerwinkel, let me say that I think it is a very stout effort of hers to come in on behalf of Mr Stali, but I think Mr Stali wrote her speech. It sounds like a Mr Stali speech, because I tell hon Stali I have reduced the death rate and hon Stali asks “When are you going to reduce the death rate?” This speech, I’m afraid, was somewhat like that.

The hon member spoke about a number of things, like integrated transport. Of course integrated transport is not right in the Western Cape. Of course! There’s no question and you are absolutely right, and our job is to get it right. One of the difficulties is that the big carrier are not the taxis, the big carrier is Metrorail. We don’t own Metrorail and we don’t give it instructions. Metrorail and its predecessors, the SAR & H commuter division, have been underfunded since about 1978, and here we see the results.

It’s saveable, no question, and let me say to hon Beerwinkel that I and Councillor Heron, Darryl Jacobs, Hannes Mouton and Hector know exactly what we have to do in public transport. There’s no rocket science about it. It’s all clear and we know exactly what has to be done, but it’s the doing that is difficult.
The doing of it is first of all fixing Metrorail. Without Metrorail we cannot have a good integrated public transport system.

As the hon member correctly points out, the bulk of our poorest commuters live farthest from the city, because of apartheid. In fact, the commutes in the city of Cape Town are the longest in the world, because of apartheid. That is a reality and we have to deal with that. Is it fixable? Yes, it’s fixable.

There’s about 65 tons of plans in Transport House. For about 10 years successive governments, ANC and others, got people to write plans for them. I tried to read them all, but I found that a lot of them seemed just the same as the one I’d just read or the one before that. I’m sure that the city has ones that go back further.

For years we asked: How are we going to fix transport? We must have a plan. However, we know what we have to do. All of those things you said about it being safe, affordable and punctual are the things we have to do. With the assistance of the national Department of Transport we have to bully Treasury and Metrorail. We need funds from the Treasury, a fair deal from Metrorail, better management from Metrorail and steady upgrading of the stock until the new trains start coming in. They’ll only come in any numbers in about 10 to 12 years from now anyway. So we know what we have to do.

There was a reference to taxi violence. I’ve just told the hon member in the speech that we’ve had no taxi violence for two years. We are having a little tension at the moment at the Bellville taxi rank.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: The whole taxi industry?

†The MINISTER: We had a rumble there, but that’s settling. Let me say to the hon Skwatsha now that we are not going to give operating licences to those people for two reasons. Firstly, it’s already overtraded and secondly, it’s a BRT area and we are not giving any new licences. The City and I are agreed on that.

Mr M SKWATSHA: [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER: Well, I’m saying to you there were rumbles there and I discussed it with you at the time, but I think we have it reasonably in hand and I hope it will stay that way. I’ve spoken to the Cata leadership on several occasions and I’ve said I don’t want any hassles in Hout Bay and neither do the people of Imizamo Yethu want hassles.

In Bellville, hon member, there is a little tension at the moment. It is one of the old, dark figures on the fringes of the taxi world – hon Skwatsha knows who I’m talking about – trying to make a comeback. He is one of those who made his money out of route invasions and is trying to make a comeback. We are trying to deal with these things as we can, but for two years there has been no taxi violence that has led to death. That’s the important thing.

Let me say about the roads, firstly, that our surfaced roads meet the international standards as per the figures I gave in my speech. We are at 10% poor to very poor, 90% very good to medium, but our gravel roads do not meet the international standards. I don’t know if there’s anywhere in the world where the gravel roads are 10% poor to very poor.
We are at 48% poor to very poor, but that is coming down. Therefore I’m not sure where all the figures came from that there’s a net asset loss of R23,5 billion, because in fact it’s going the other way. There’s a net asset improvement over the last three or four years.

There is an annual review and an ongoing review and there’s a marvellous programme. This programme has so many facets and you can come to my office, or Mr Fourie’s department, and take a trip on a computer programme of every road in the province, because we have a camera attached to one of the vehicles that travels up and down the road. I can’t remember the name of the programme, it’s a specific term, but it’s basically a site assessment of all the roads which is ongoing and it feeds information into the system. It’s a very good system. The Roads department is pretty sharp.

Therefore the international benchmarks in respect of surfaced roads are met and will be exceeded by next year. Gravel roads are going to take a bit longer, but once the funds start to come in from the leveraging of the assets, then you are going to see a very swift turnaround in gravel roads. I would hope that my successor, because it won’t be in my time, will more and more surface the gravel roads, because those are the cheapest and easiest to maintain.

There are no potholes on our roads. You must be talking about Gauteng or the Free State or Eastern Cape, but not on our roads. Show me where there’s a pothole on a provincial road.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Between Veld... [Inaudible.] ...and Elandsbaai.

†The MINISTER: How many?

An HON MEMBER: Many, many.

The MINISTER: Thousands?

An HON MEMBER: Hundreds.

The MINISTER: All right, that’s one of the roads we are rehabilitating. All the visitors who come here, whom I hear, say its a pleasure to be on roads like this. That’s what I hear all the time. I can’t fix all the municipalities, hon Beerwinkel, as much as I would like to ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER: Let them have their conversation, sir.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Please continue, Minister.

†The MINISTER: I can’t fix all the municipalities, that’s out of the question.

The hon member said that the department must assist with creating jobs. We’re creating 100 000 and 25 000 full value jobs. You can travel the length and breadth of Southern Africa and you will not find that equal anywhere else. Nowhere else. I think it’s an absolutely outstanding achievement. I think that is one of things that we can really be proud of. It’s very good indeed.
Then there was mention of shoddy repair work. It happens from time to time, but the system picks it up. We had a bit of shoddy work when we were redoing the road from Paarl to Franschhoek but the system picked it up straight away. The contractor had to redo it and it has set back the date by three months, but it doesn’t cost us any extra. So yes, it happens from time to time but the system picks it up. [Interjections.]

†Mr M OZINSKY: What about the Langkloof road?

†The MINISTER: The Langkloof road? I haven’t been there recently so I’ll believe what you say. [Interjections.]

The hon member was talking about the importance of spatial policy. With regard to densification, like all South African cities this one is a city of very low density, except in the poorer areas. Even there the density is quite low. We have to push up those density levels.

It’s politically incorrect to talk about six- or seven-storey buildings. It’s considered to be prejudiced to suggest that. However, we have to do that. We have to increase our densities. The cost of moving people, sewerage, water, electricity and roads over huge distances is just unbelievable. Therefore we have to push up our density levels and I absolutely agree with the hon member on that.

Do we have a plan and do we have the stakeholders on board? Yes, I think so. Do we have the political will? By God, we do. Do we have the funds? No. The funds sit in Treasury and we have to leverage those funds out of it.

As for the PRE, it is there in all its glory. It is the first one in South Africa and is operating beautifully. If you talk to anyone in the tourist trade, the taxi guys, Santaco, Cornish Manglamata Menti and you will see they are glowing about the PRE. It’s all there and it’s all done and it’s going like an express train.

On the question of taxis not being subsidised, there is effectively about R1,4 billion paid out in subsidies, which is pretty evenly split between the buses and the taxis. The taxis – yes, that is an interesting question and it’s one of the unresolved issues. Do we go the way of national policy or do we start to think differently?

The aim of national policy is basically to make the taxis disappear in due course. I want to tell you that for my whole life I’ve been watching governments of all sorts trying to make taxis disappear, but the taxis never disappear. Therefore I’m opposed to any policy that tries to make taxis disappear and be replaced by something else. I think there is always going to be room for the taxi industry in the greater Cape Town area and elsewhere in the province, so that’s not a part of national transport policy that I share.

As far as subsidies are concerned, the HOD, Hannes and Mark and I – all of us – spend a lot of time with taxi drivers and we have lots of interesting conversations, yet the one thing they never ask us about is a subsidy. They’ve never asked us for a subsidy because subsidies would mean a complete change in how they operate their business.

Currently the taxis operate like fishermen who go where the fish are on the run. They are not interested in a 10 o’clock service at night. Forget it!
There is no money in that for them. A subsidy regime has to be a scheduled regime and I’m not interested in that. I’m not saying they shouldn’t be in on the subsidies, but to what degree there is an appetite for coming into the subsidy regime with everything that goes with it I’m not so sure about.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: But you don’t seem to be keen to encourage them to go that route.

†The MINISTER: It’s not a case of encouraging them. The key thing in terms of public transport is for people to be where they can be viable and they can play their role in a viable fashion. So it’s not that I’m encouraging them or discouraging them; I’m just saying I don’t think there is a great appetite for the subsidy regime. There’s an appetite for the money, yes, but not for the regime that goes with it.

I agree with the hon members that driving schools are a major problem. Driving licences, testing centres and vehicle testing centres are a major problem. We have the answer for vehicle testing centres and we hope to roll that out during this financial year. With the others it’s a case of hunting down the crooks, and there are a lot of them.

There are a lot of people on the roads who shouldn’t have driving licences. I don’t know whether we are worse or better than other provinces. I suspect in some areas it may be worse because we have people coming across our borders to buy licences here.

It’s a huge problem and I want you to know we are aware of it and we are dealing with it. The criminal justice moves quite slowly and it’s quite a process to get the conventions to be unique.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Across which borders?

†The MINISTER: Across provincial borders.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Refugees.

†The MINISTER: Migrants. [Laughter.] The hon member told us about the UN road safety campaign and she said it kicked off in 2011. Yes, it did, and my understanding is that in the first six months the international estimate for road deaths went up by 3%.

The South African campaign kicked off in 2011, but we have no accurate statistics on it. However, we all agree that nationally our statistics went up quite sharply. That’s the RTMC and the Minister himself, etc. The Western Cape campaign kicked off two years before in 2009, and maybe it’s not visible to the hon member, but it has reduced the death toll by 26%.

Now that is substantial. That means there are 1 600 people alive in this province who otherwise would have been dead were it not for this safety campaign, and that mounts up each year. I therefore think we’ve done quite well.

You say I’m being dishonest about the fatalities. Now I don’t want to introduce a morbid note, hon member, but the fatalities are counted at the morgue and so I don’t think there can be any mistake, you know. I kind of think that that’s where the evidence is.
Tough decisions and the road less travelled – that’s where I live. Thank you very much, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Debate concluded.

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL[B 3—2012]

(Debate on Vote 4 – Community Safety)

†The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Mr Deputy Speaker, the Premier in her absence, Cabinet colleagues, members of the Standing Committee on Community Safety, members of the Provincial Parliament, Provincial Police Commissioner in his absence – he did submit an apology – provincial heads of the Justice Cluster departments, members of the law enforcement agencies, leaders of local government, Mayco members, the Director-General, the Head of Department of the Department of Community Safety, my Ministry staff, the SO5 steering committee and workgroup partners, members of the Provincial CPF Board, CPFs and Neighbourhood Watch members, nongovernmental organisations, our partners in safety, special guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the Department of Community Safety is the custodian of Provincial Strategic Objective 5: Increasing Safety in the Western Cape (SO 5). At the very core of this philosophy is the recognition that safety affects each of us, from the newborn baby at the clinic to the child learning her times tables at school, to the person clocking out of work in the afternoon and to the grandpa sitting on the stoop in the afternoon dusk.

By making safety everyone’s responsibility we can increase safety in our homes, at our schools, where we work and play and on our roads. Safer together, better together. Safety, however, cannot be achieved in isolation – safety is everyone’s responsibility. This is why, when I was sworn into office some 9 months ago, I committed myself to building partnerships because together we can make our province a safer place to be.

Speaker, I am very pleased to say that the Department of Community Safety has during the 2011/2012 financial year achieved the highest accolade in terms of its financial management.

During this year the department received not only an unqualified audit, but a clean audit. For this I wish to thank the Head of Department, Dr Gilbert Lawrence, and his management team and wish to also acknowledge the important oversight role fulfilled by the chairpersons and members of the Standing Committee on Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport and Scopa, who have continued to interrogate the actions and performance of the department, adding considerable value to the work done.

The time lines according to which the Department of Community Safety plans to implement SO5 has now entered a very critical but exciting phase – the pilot phase. We are moving from planning to working and getting things done.

It is for this reason that the department is set to receive a total budget allocation of R358 million for the new financial year, which represents a 16,6% increase on last year’s allocation.
This increase is above inflationary indicators and, Mr Speaker, this is a vote of confidence in the department, a vote of confidence in its good governance, and a vote of confidence in where the Department of Community Safety is headed. Our budgets have largely been aligned to our SO5 objectives, paving the way for some exciting new initiatives.

As Premier Helen Zille said in her State of the Province Address recently in this House:

Our strategy is set, our plans and budgets are aligned and the capacity of our organisation to deliver is constantly improving. What is required now is consistent implementation of our plans in partnership with other spheres of government, the private sector, civil society and every citizen of the Western Cape. Because however effective the provincial government may be by itself, there is no doubt that the Western Cape works better, together.

The budget allocation across the five programmes of the Department is as follows:

Programme 1: Administration receives R38.6m; Programmes 2 and 3, responsible for oversight, crime prevention and community police relations, receive R21.9 million and R49.3 million, respectively; Traffic Management in Programme 4 receives R192 million; and Security Risk Management in Programme 5 receives R56.4 million.

Securing the people and assets of the Western Cape government

The Security Risk Management Programme, supported by the relevant SO5 workgroup, is shaping a strategy and action plan to improve the safeguarding of assets of the Western Cape government and the safety of its employees and people utilising its services.

*Mr Speaker, a preliminary analysis of our public infrastructure was done to determine the extent of its safety and security. Special emphasis was put on our schools and hospitals. The idea was to identify and highlight opportunities for improvement so as to enhance safety by more smartly applying existing resources and also by identifying workable procedures on which to build. The department is now conducting a broader and more comprehensive safety diagnosis.

In addition, an Occupational Health and Safety audit was conducted during the past year and a unit was established to coordinate emergencies and occupational health and safety issues at the Western Cape government’s facilities in the city centre.

†Ms V HANI: Mr Deputy Speaker, there is no isiXhosa translation.

†The MINISTER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I am now switching over to English.

The Department of Community Safety has revisited its processes and systems relating to the procurement of private security and guarding services. We have developed and piloted a management tool which not only ensures appropriate bid specifications and transparent and fair bid evaluations, but also assists in the management of norms and standards that are now being incorporated into service level agreements.
Importantly, we are now carefully monitoring the services that we outsource. For example, if a security company is bound by agreement to provide two fully trained full-time guards of a particular category to protect the entrance of, say, a clinic, we are checking regularly and randomly that in fact there are two fully trained guards at that clinic. Mr Deputy Speaker, we are ensuring that we get maximum value for our safety spend.

In the year ahead we will be piloting a new software programme to map and analyse security risk management processes, based on business improvement methodology. This will improve efficiency, be a big step towards a paperless environment, and radically redesign the way in which security risk management conducts its business and interacts with client departments.

*Increasing safety through police oversight*

Crime in South Africa remains a serious concern that affects each of us. Despite the massive increases in resources allocated to the SAPS over the past 15 years, there has not been a comparative reduction in overall crime levels. Over the last decade the police budget has ballooned from R8.7 billion to an estimated total spend of in excess of R65 billion for the financial year ahead and the number of police officers has increased over the same period by just over 70%, yet resources at operational level remain a problem.

The sustainability of this approach by the national government, namely to increase the rate of spending on the police as a strategy for reducing crime, is questionable, especially when considering other competing and compelling needs. We cannot continue to simply throw money at the police.

It is for this reason that the essential role of oversight over the police and other law enforcement agencies must be recognised and supported. Provinces have a legal responsibility to use oversight as a catalyst for improved policing in the province. The Constitution states that we are entitled to independently check whether the police service conducts itself appropriately, that the SAPS is accountable for how resources are used and that we monitor whether police are complying with standing orders and procedures. We are determined do this to assist in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the police.

Speaker, with this in mind the Department of Community Safety, after a diligent process, recently published pioneering legislation on police oversight. The Bill will be tabled in this House in coming months once we have received feedback from the public and our stakeholders.

The Western Cape Community Safety Bill seeks to give effect to our constitutional oversight responsibility, so that policing can be improved to the benefit of all the people of the Western Cape in support of our strategic objective of increasing safety.

The Bill is focused on detecting patterns and practices of police conduct, identifying systemic problems and making recommendations on how best to improve policing in the province. Speaker, I wish to emphasise that this Bill is also about setting out the responsibilities of the Department of Community Safety and how we fulfil our constitutional obligations to the people of the Western Cape.
We are now in the process of engaging with our stakeholders and we are using all available platforms to inform the public about the Bill. Workshops with CPFs and communities are being hosted from Claremont to Beaufort West and from Oudtshoorn to Vredenburg. In these sessions we afford all people the opportunity to participate and I wish to give every person the assurance that their views matter to us.

Because safety concerns differ from province to province and from town to town, there exists no one-size-fits-all approach to crime. Our Constitution therefore specifically allows for differing policing policies for different provinces. This is because each province has differing needs and priorities when it comes to safety. A uniform police policy decided by Pretoria will only serve to alienate communities from the police, as the police will become increasingly removed from the actual needs on the ground. Many communities are rightfully feeling that the police are not responding to their often unique needs.

*Every year the department facilitates a process according to which we, in consultation with communities, identify the Western Cape policing needs and priorities as part of our constitutional mandate. Section 206 of our Constitution, read with section 18 of the Police Act, provides that this task, namely the determination of the provincial policing needs and priorities, must be performed by the provincial executive.

The policing report is an important process since it aims to define the particular needs of the province in order to influence the deployment of national police policy and resources. During 2011, the department conducted a survey among 13 347 households in all 149 police districts in the province.

All CPFs and the Western Cape Community Policing Board were consulted. Interviews were conducted with religious leaders, non-governmental organisations and representatives of Business against Crime. Information gathered during our inspections of police stations and during our dealing with complaints from communities concerning the police was considered. The outcome of this is an end product covering several areas in order to determine the Western Cape policing needs in a holistic way.

This comprehensive annual report is currently being finalised and will be submitted to Cabinet shortly. It includes feedback to all community policing forums and police stations concerning the findings of the report, with an opportunity to give final inputs, voice criticism and make suggestions on how the process can and should be improved in future.

†The Community Safety Bill seeks to further improve the way in which we identify the policing needs and priorities of our communities by expanding the scope of the report beyond research and perception surveys to include facts and figures about the current performance of the police – be that good or bad. It is only when we measure performance against clearly determined standards that we will be able to identify the systemic problems faced by the police with the view to assisting them to making this process more holistic and more transparent.

This we aim to do by means of a structured programme of inspections and consultation. The reports will be forwarded to the multi-party forum in the Provincial Parliament for debate and to collectively seek sustainable solutions.
Within the philosophy of Better Together we don’t see policing as a competition with any roleplayer, including national government, but rather as a partnership with every person and every community aimed at increasing safety while adhering to the rules as defined in our Constitution.

Our oversight findings will be supported by quality research. With this in mind the department is refining the way in which we conduct our research in general and it will, in consultation with strategic role players, develop a transversal provincial safety research agenda in support of Provincial Strategic Objective 5: Increasing Safety.

The research agenda will identify key research areas in line with the Community Safety Bill and all the strategic objectives across all departments in order to direct our limited research resources to where they are most needed. We will facilitate a review of previous research studies done by the department and consult with all provincial departments and other stakeholders such as the SAPS, CPFs and municipalities.

This process should lead us to a holistic analysis and review of the research agenda in line with SO5. We have already had encouraging results this year with our CPFs on co-produced fieldwork research and first level oversight visits to local police stations.

*Increasing road safety*

Speaker, our traffic officers continue to work day and night to increase safety on our roads and to do their part in reducing road fatalities by 50% come 2014. Our Safely Home campaign which is run in conjunction with the Department of Transport and Public Works has seen some excellent results. We have already passed our targeted halfway mark as fatality statistics in the province show a reduction of 26% in this past financial year.

The fight against drinking and driving and ensuring the roadworthiness of all vehicles remain a priority. In the last financial year and up until the end of February, 211 159 motorists were screened for driving under the influence of alcohol and almost 2 000 drivers were arrested, while over the same period 673 870 vehicles were checked at roadblocks.

The Fatigue Management project was part of the 2011/2012 Festive Season Campaign and we will continue with it into 2012. The project sees all public transport vehicles, including minibus taxis, being stopped and checked in the late evenings for vehicle compliance and an assessment of their physical fitness. This project has been conducted in Beaufort West and Laingsburg, and from the end of December until this week a total of 6 616 vehicles were stopped, of which 1 110 were parked to rest as their drivers were fatigued.

Since the inception of the project no public transport vehicles were involved in serious or fatal crashes on this stretch of road. The project, which started out as a pilot project, remains in operation and will continue to include the coming Easter weekend period.

Our successful colour-coded sticker project will be rolled out again over the Easter weekend. It is aimed at heightening road safety awareness among the public transport fraternity and marks all public transport vehicles leaving the city.
We are conducting six-monthly vehicle inspections at test centres on all vehicles transporting learners to ensure that such vehicles are roadworthy. Staff at schools also do visual inspections of buses on school premises to ensure that approved vehicles are used and that roadworthy documentation is properly displayed in the vehicles. In terms of an agreement with the Western Cape Education Department (WCED), only Provincial Traffic will perform roadworthy testing of learner transport buses. Over the period October 2010 to date 7,207 buses were stopped, 18 drivers were arrested for various offences and 1,846 summonses were issued to the value of R1,432,800.

For the period of March 2011 to date, over R49 million worth of drugs were confiscated by our provincial traffic officers.

Gene Louw Traffic College has trained the first 34 traffic officers on the first year-long FET certificate. Upgrading of the college started during 2011, and during 2012 the College will facilitate one formal traffic officer, five examiner of vehicles and four examiner of driving licence courses, as well as refresher courses for traffic officers, firearm training, Aarto training, other specialised courses and driver training to provincial traffic officers.

I wish to congratulate the Western Capes Provincial Traffic Services for receiving the Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC) Quarterly Award for Most Impactful and Effective Road Safety Initiatives. The nomination and selection was made by members of the National Law Enforcement Technical Committee (LeTcom), who were impressed by the innovative ideas in respect of planning, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the projects rolled out by the Western Cape Provincial Traffic Services.

The RTMC indicated that 36 of the 38 initiatives of the Provincial Traffic Services of the Western Cape will now be incorporated – and this is important, Mr Deputy Speaker – into the National Rolling Enforcement Plan as part of the best practices obtained from the Western Cape, now being rolled out in all provinces country-wide.

Let me use this opportunity to say a big thank you to our men and women in blue for a job well done.

*Our provincial traffic staff serve a very large area. They have to face the vagaries of the weather and the dangers of darkness every day in order to render a 24-hour service, seven days a week, with pride. The funds allocated in this budget are still insufficient to deliver the full service we so dearly want to deliver.

Better Together – safety partnerships

Deputy Speaker, in this next part of my speech I will focus on safety partnerships that the department is currently fostering or will be forging in the coming year. These are some prime examples of how safety can be Better Together.

We have now hosted two safety summits, one in Khayelitsha and the other in various municipalities on the West Coast which a total of close to 500 people attended. Representatives from the criminal justice system were present, as well as representatives from various community organisations and local, provincial and national government departments.
The safety summits have provided an important opportunity for the residents of these areas to raise concerns regarding the criminal justice system and to workshop ways in which to make their communities safer.

In November I hosted a large gathering of faith-based leaders from areas affected by drug-related crimes and violence across the province. More than 250 delegates attended with the aim of finding ways in which the valuable inputs made within the religious sector on preventing crime could be strengthened.

Through building partnerships we can prevent violence and increase safety. Importantly, the Community Safety Bill provides for a legal framework not only to solicit the help from our partners but very importantly also to design funding models supporting these partnerships to ensure their viability and sustainability.

We will be developing a unique safety partnership to develop and enhance safety models and strategies that support the roll-out and expression of PSO5. These models and strategies will be based on partnerships between the government, the private sector, the NGO sector, communities and citizens.

This innovative project will be outsourced to utilise broad-based expertise in the field of partnerships and will be started up in April 2012.

Neighbourhood watches (NHW) and community police forums (CPF) have an important participatory role in the whole-of-society approach, and remain critical safety partners. Mr Deputy Speaker, having said this we now have a reported 472 NHW structures with more than 38 000 volunteers.

This year we shall focus on the development of models rather than providing NHW with equipment only. Our models aim to increase the efficiency of these volunteer structures where people give their time, and often money, and in return their only request is that the police will respond to the safety initiatives which they drive.

The Community Safety Bill provides for the accreditation and support of neighbourhood watches in order to improve the functioning and accountability of these structures. The Bill also provides for the strengthening of the directives regarding the establishment and election of CPF members and the Provincial Police Board, with a view to depoliticise such structures and to strengthen their local oversight capacity.

I am pleased to announce here today that we are engaging with the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) to oversee CPF executive elections so that this trusted organisation can independently verify that the election of CPFs and CPF boards is free from influence, according to procedure and fair.

We believe that this will go a long way towards strengthening the leadership of the CPFs and will thereby improve the safety contribution of these entities in our towns and cities.

All CPFs in the province are supported with training. In the oversight model we are developing, we believe that the role of CPFs needs to be strengthened so that these bodies are capacitated to perform their legal mandate in respect of the police. This model has CPFs visiting police stations regularly and providing much-needed localised oversight.
They are used to mediate complaints of the community at station level while checking to see that officers are on duty, that vehicles are, in fact, in service and that stations are in a decent condition. This information is being fed back to the department via the internet, providing for real-time information in support of our oversight role.

The Premier, in her State of the Province Address, mentioned the CPF pilot study we are conducting with 31 CPFs in both rural and urban areas. I am glad to report that despite some delays the pilot study is well underway and producing very good results. This allows us to move away from merely funding programmes to instead funding activities which we can verify by means of audits, while at the same time ensuring that much-needed funding is channelled not only to some CPFs, but to all 149 CPFs in the province.

One of the important Constitutional mandates of my department is the monitoring of police conduct in accordance with the Constitution. To this end we have established a dedicated 24/7 line (021 483 4332) to receive complaints and compliments about poor or excellent police service. These police service delivery complaints received by the department, the SAPS and the Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID) are analysed on a quarterly basis, which allows us to identify systemic problems and trends of poor service delivery in the province.

However, while we do receive complaints about service delivery, there is room for improvement in increasing the awareness of the public on how to report good and bad service delivery. To achieve this, my department has entered into a partnership with the Institute of Security Studies to promote professional policing with a campaign called "Reward a Cop, Report a Cop".

The aim of this campaign is to combat police misconduct, including corruption, and to support honest, hardworking police officers in South Africa. It further aims to mobilise civilians to become more active in reporting good and bad police behaviour to help shape a culture of police excellence. We saw this as an opportunity to use this campaign to promote our systems for reporting good and bad police conduct. Promotional material for this campaign will be adapted to promote the Western Cape reporting channels and we will conduct information sessions in each of the police cluster areas to empower members of the public.

This campaign will also be linked to the Expanded Partnership Programme where the community police fora of the province are expected to play a much more prominent role in the monitoring of police service delivery at police station level. Through the campaign members of the public who report police service delivery, whether good or bad, will be asked to provide a copy of their complaint to the CPF of that specific station so that the forum can keep track of the complaint until it is finalised.

A prime example of how safety can be improved by making safety everyone's responsibility through effective partnerships, is the City Improvement Districts or CIDs as we call them. These entities have made massive contributions in safety improvements in our City. There are now 23 CIDs in the metropolitan areawhich focus on “crime and grime”. In recognition of their good work and contribution to safety, the Department of Community Safety will be entering into partnerships with at least 10 CIDs.
Through this partnership the department will be providing crime prevention mobile units to CIDs in Woodstock, Wynberg, Muizenberg, Epping, Airport Industria, Maitland, Observatory, Parow, Paarden Island and Triangle Farm. Within these partnerships we are in discussions for future youth graduating from the Chrysalis Academy to be placed with the CIDs to gain valuable work experience in various fields.

The Chrysalis Academy will be taking in 600 youth at risk in the next financial year. We have now incorporated learner license training into the programme as it is clear that a driving license is a valuable asset when looking for work. We have arranged that Government Garage vehicles not in use are loaned to the Academy so that students can practise their driving lessons. We furthermore plan to incorporate these youngsters in the Expanded Public Works programme allowing them to, on completion of their training, share in the dignity that comes with earning money and gaining valuable work experience.

Speaker, gangs remain a particular scourge in the Western Cape and a root cause of the many safety concerns that exist within our communities. Furthermore, there is a well-established link between gangs and drugs. This province has the highest number of drug-related crimes in South Africa and 70 588 drug-related crimes were reported in 2010/2011, which means this province accounts for more than half of the total number of these crimes nationally.

The 2010/2011 statistics also show that the Western Cape had more than double the amount of reported drug crimes compared to the second highest province. The Western Cape population totals 10% of South Africa’s total population, yet accounts for 60% of all of the country’s drug crimes.

At the same time gang violence is rife in the Western Cape and has recently spread to areas not traditionally associated with gang activity, and gang members are becoming increasingly young. We are finding that even young girls are now becoming involved in gangsterism. There is no doubt that serious interventions are needed to drastically reduce drug- and gang-related crime.

Specialised policing units have proven to be an effective strategy as they offer dedicated teams working solely on specific crime categories; specialist skills and expertise needed to investigate, detect, arrest and ensure successful convictions; and detectives who have full knowledge of often complex legislation and what is often sophisticated organised crime. Specialised units are adaptable to changing environments and modus operandi and have the capacity to build up intelligence. These units do not replace ordinary policemen and women, who are still vital in our fight against crime, but specialist units provide a focused and dedicated function that ordinary policemen and women cannot.

Many of the communities I have visited that are affected by gang violence and drug-fuelled crimes have all cried out for the re-establishment of specialised units. The Western Cape Cabinet identified the re-establishment of the units as a policing need and priority for the Western Cape.

However, it is regrettable that the national government is refusing to bring these units back and is refusing to tackle gangs and drugs head-on in a dedicated, specialised way. I tell this House today that I will continue to call for these units until such time as the people of the Western Cape are safe and no longer prey to drugs and gangs.
Mr Deputy Speaker, I have been criticised by my opposition counterparts for having talked with gangs.

†Mr P UYS: Rightly so.

†The MINISTER: I wish to say to House today that I do so for one reason and one reason only. I engage with gangs in an attempt to stop the bloodshed, to stop the violence and to stop the killings that these gangs perpetrate. I have engaged with community gangs to stop the killings and shootings and encourage them to seek a positive life instead a life of crime. I have supported community initiatives that have resulted in peace in gang-ridden neighbourhoods. The success of this can be seen in the relative calm in places such as Hanover Park and Lavender Hill.

†Mr P UYS: And that was you?

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Fransman!

†The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Many residents of these communities have thanked me for the best Christmas present they received last year and that present was peace. [Interjections.] However, I wish to point out the hypocrisy of the ANC in the House. They have shouted from the rooftops about my talks with gangs and my efforts to make peace, but they do not say a word about their own leadership’s meeting with gang bosses. [Interjections.]

I have reliable information that very senior ANC leaders have met with numerous top gang bosses here in the Western Cape. [Interjections.]

†Mr P UYS: On a point of order: Can I ask the hon MEC a question? Where did you get your reliable information? Where did you get your information? It’s nonsense, man.

An HON MEMBER: Sit down.

†The MINISTER: Some of the hon member’s colleagues got the information and they confirmed exactly that to me. I got the information. It is reliable information that very senior ANC leaders have met with numerous top gang bosses here in the Western Cape, and they have even brought criminals from other provinces to meet here. [Interjections.] The aim is not to create a climate of peace but to destabilise this province. And that is a fact. [Interjections.] It is true.

The ANC is not looking to stop the violence and the bloodshed. And they do not care about the safety of the people of this province. They only care about power and nothing but power. [Interjections.] The violence we are currently experiencing in the Western Cape is nothing other than politically motivated.

Listen to this, Mr Deputy Speaker. The people who attended those meetings reported to me that one of the topics discussed was how to make the Western Cape ungovernable with the assistance of the gangsters. [Interjections.] It is part of the ANC’s strategy.
In conclusion, Mr Deputy Speaker, safety can only be achieved through collective effort and determination. The Western Cape government is working towards a whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach to safety. On a partnership basis we are finding ways to create safer environments and communities in which crime is less likely to happen in the first place. We believe that we have the right philosophy in place, we have direction through our strategic objective and we are now testing our projects. Community Safety is becoming more and more innovative in how we approach safety, within our limited mandate and resources. We do this because safety is so important to everything that we do.

Mr Deputy Speaker, recent newspaper articles this week have it that drugs were found during a raid on the house of my PA.

†Mr P UYS: Tell us.

†The MINISTER: I have asked Gen Lamoer for a full report, Mr Deputy Speaker. I have also asked for a departmental investigation into the matter. No stone will be left unturned in getting to the bottom of this and getting to the truth. [Interjections.] Finally, Mr Deputy Speaker, I wish to say thank you to Premier Helen Zille for the tremendous work she does for this province. I thank her for her continued support and guidance. I also thank my Cabinet colleagues for their inputs and for the important collaborations and partnerships that we have forged on some of these projects.

I extend my gratitude to the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Community Safety, Mark Wiley, and the Committee members, as well as my colleagues in this House.

I wish to thank the Head of Department, Dr Lawrence, and I use this opportunity to wish him a happy birthday as I understand that it is his birthday on Sunday. I thank the Chief Directors Mr Morris, Mr George, Mr Kenny Africa and his team, and Mr Steyn for their strategic leadership and the important work that they do in rolling out projects successfully.

I thank the staff at the department and our Provincial Traffic Officers for their dedication and efforts to make this province safer. I also thank my staff in the Ministry for their commitment and support and the running of my office.

I wish to thank Gen Lamoer and each and every police officer in the Western Cape for their efforts in fighting crime. I equally wish to thank the municipal police and municipal traffic services. These fine men and women work tirelessly to ensure our safety and put their own lives at risk for the sake of ours. I remember those officers who have tragically lost their lives in the line of duty over the last year.

Finally, I wish to thank my wife and my daughter, as well as my family for their continued love, support and understanding of the serious challenges and long hours that this position demands of me.

I thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker and members.

BUSINESS SUSPENDED AT 19:52 AND RESUMED AT 20:23.
Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, this reminds me of the late-night sitting that Winston Churchill apparently attended. At the House of Commons they normally have a bar open at a time like this and he came in and a lady member said, “The hon member is drunk”, to which he replied: “The hon member is ugly, but in the morning I will be sober.”

Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to thank the hon Minister for his speech and I want to congratulate him on the manner in which he has gone about his task. He has, in some peoples’ minds, done some controversial things, but in other peoples’ minds very brave and courageous things. He alluded at the end of his speech to the fact that he had had some discussions with some of the warring factions in the province.

Not everyone has the mettle to be able to do that and he has done it very well. The fact that lives have been saved is consistent with what is happening in other departments, like Transport, where they save lives on the roads, and we must continue with that.

As far as the department’s HOD is concerned, I want to thank him and his top management for steering the department so capably. I say this because in many respects this department is in a watershed year. It is busy reinventing and reasserting itself. The Western Cape Community Safety Bill is a landmark step in the constitutional role of policing oversight in the country, and Mr Morris and his team must be congratulated on putting together a very comprehensive and thorough document.

With regard to the outstanding results of the traffic police in contributing to the reduction in road deaths, we also thank Mr Africa and his officers, and I am sorry that they have left to get back to Beaufort West. It is this kind of dedication and loyalty that they have and the pride they take in their job that brought them here this evening.

The pending national laws will have a significant impact on the department and I speak specifically now with regard to the measure which will be coming into effect very shortly, the Police Amendment Bill, which is under discussion at the moment. Even more threatening is the consolidation of the police forces and including municipal police into the national police force, which is a threat.

Furthermore, other significant challenges await this department and the future South African police management, specifically with regard to resourcing, and that is the resistance to oversight that we have seen now repeatedly in this province – and I understand it is similar in other provinces – the corruption levels in the police, and the fact that in our particular province we have increasing crime levels.

Mr Speaker, I could just mention those crime statistics to you so that you will know that we are the only province with increasing crime in certain categories. Murder is up, as is attempted murder and common robbery, drug-related crime is increasing – here we already have 60% of that market in the whole of South Africa – and there is a 5.4% increase in assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm (GBH). These are worrying trends when in other provinces apparently the statistics are going down, but in this province they apparently are going up.
The will of the Provincial Police Commissioner is a challenge. This standing committee is yet to be invited to a single event or to be kept informed with regard to routine things like promotions at the senior staff levels. Often when they come here at the invitation of the standing committee there are new general staff here about whom we know nothing. Similarly, with regard to the attitude of the Provincial Police Commissioner to the standing committee, he is prepared to tolerate Members of Parliament coming to inspect his stations, but he treats the departmental officials just like members of the public, when they in fact have a legislative role to play.

The last particular challenge that I believe that the department and the province, in fact, are going to face is the status of Project Reclaim, the fruits of which we are seeing on our streets ... [Interjections.] ... on a regular basis and the political will of the police to tackle this particular matter. Members who were here yesterday will know that I issued a statement relating to sedition and it will be very interesting to see how both the courts and the law enforcement authorities treat this matter in future.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to speak to you a little bit about the reason why there is a need for the Community Safety Bill. The Minister has already stressed at some length what it is going to do and I’ll touch on some more of that in a minute.

The fact of the matter is that according to the Independent Complaints Directorate – and this is a national figure because we can’t get the provincial figure – there are 768 criminal cases against police officers currently: 516 for assault, 50 for murder, 94 for rape and 71 for sexual assault and so on and so forth since January 2009. South Africa has one of the highest rates of recorded police homicides, with 566 civilians killed last year.

This is having a demonstrable effect on police morale. Suicide and family murders signal the severe stress from which police personnel suffer. On average, 100 to 130 police officers kill themselves every year. More than a 100 officers a year have been gunned down themselves, with 29 officers being attacked and killed for their firearms this year alone.

Police officers face corruption within their ranks. They fear for their lives as they come under ambush, are driven to suicide by stress and endure disrespect and disdain from the public. All these factors combine to exacerbate a sense of frustration and isolation and it is no wonder that the tacit attitude seems to be every man or woman for themselves.

The ICD has called for a reskilling of police officers as well as commanders. The Institute for Strategic Studies’ monograph dealing with police corruption said that firstly police managers need to be trained to the highest levels of professionalism, with integrity and honesty as the underlying value code that is taught and upheld. Secondly, civil society should take an active role in holding the police accountable, which includes relaying positive feedback when merited, to promoting a police culture that supports honesty, hard work and dedication.

The Community Safety Bill, in particular, is going to regulate civilian oversight responsibilities in the province.
It will align the mandate, duties and functions of the Provincial Secretariat, which will fall within the Civilian Secretariat for Police Service Act, which was passed last year. It will also, and I’m just highlighting certain aspects, regulate and control the inspections of the affairs of the private security service providers.

Some of you will know that in one of our committees we summoned the Private Security Regulatory Authority to the committee to come and address us as to what their role and function is. This was as a direct result of the front-page news stories, and ongoing news stories, about the private security industry, with the bouncers taking over the nightclubs of Cape Town and being managed by organised crime.

That organisation has some six inspecting officers and they don’t have any managers in Cape Town as such. They only have six officers in the inspectorate in Cape Town to cover some 25 000 or 30 000 private security officers. Therefore it is no wonder that they informed our committee in an open forum that the way that they knew about the organised gangsters taking over the nightclubs was through the newspapers.

They will provide for the directors and the appointment of the community police forums. As we know, the new Provincial Police Commissioner insisted on taking over the management and administration of the community police forums, where previously the Department of Community Safety had done a very competent job. The department gave a stipend to the community police forums and did a lot of the administrative work for them to assist them in their job.

Then they were taken over by the police and we now have many dysfunctional community police forums because, understandably, police officers don’t have that much time to provide secretarial services to them. Also, I’m afraid to say, several police officers and station commissioners don’t particularly want to have a functioning police forum.

This Community Safety Bill will ensure a minimum standard and the monitoring thereof and it will provide for the establishment and partnership with the community organisations. We have already heard from the Minister there are tens of thousands of people who are willingly taking part in neighbourhood watch activities at the moment. Many are putting their hands in their own pockets and providing CCTV cameras and other electronic support mechanisms as far as their eyes-and-ears function is concerned.

Unfortunately the relationship between many of these organisations and the police is souring. In fact, in my area alone earlier this week one of the lady members was dragged before a court on the spurious grounds that she was harassing people because she had asked what they were doing in her area. They then took umbrage to this and the person was charged. The police were very quick to corroborate that this neighbourhood watch person was in fact a problem, which is a pity because she has a reputation for being very supportive of her community and of the local police.

It is also there to establish the office of the Western Cape police ombudsman and that is critically important. I heard across the floor just now some members saying it is a good thing that the Metro police will be incorporated into the SAPS. Well, it will be interesting for them to know that the Metro police have affected an oversight body which makes the ICD look tame in its reports.
Any person can go and report to this independent body and have a full investigation done. They keep full statistics and it is fully transparent, as opposed to the ICD’s reports which are poor at the very least, and very bad, in fact. Also the Metro police have created specialised units to deal with specialised crimes with great success and to such an extent that the SAPS relies on them for information for many of their operations.

The Bill will also regulate the reporting and the state of policing in the Western Cape, which will include the municipal policing, so there will be an additional ability to monitor policing.

It just briefly want to deal, if I may, Mr Deputy Speaker, with a document that has been brought out by the Institute for Strategic Studies, relating to police corruption at the moment. It is another reason why there has to be some better mechanism of oversight.

In 1996 the National Crime Prevention Strategy identified corruption within the criminal justice system as one of the crime categories of particular concern. This comes from the 2011 monograph by the ISS, Protector or predator, Tackling police corruption in South Africa – and I quote:

The closure of the anticorruption unit in 2002 was a step backwards for the SAPS in terms of combating corruption; it resulted in a reduction in the numbers of arrests and convictions of police officials involved in corruption.

It goes on to say that there was a repackaged version of the corruption unit, the anticorruption strategy formed back in 2010, but—

The current ACS does not include the establishment of a dedicated anticorruption investigation capacity in the SAPS. There is in fact no independent unit serving this role and consolidated statistics for police corruption are no longer publicly available (although within the SAPS the Crime Intelligence division should have this data).

I'll get back to the Crime Intelligence division in a second. I quote further:

At the time of writing, the SAPS did not have a dedicated, centralised corruption reporting system. Instead, complainants and victims are expected to report police corruption at stations, to the 10111 emergency number or to the Public Service Commissioner’s hotline.

Now everybody knows the 10111 number.

You will also know about the fact that Yusuf Abramjee, who is a well-known crime fighter and an executive of Lead SA, last week spotted what he thought was a crime in Laudium, Pretoria, so he called 10111. The operator thanked him and then put the phone down.

Abramjee then called another few times and the phone was again put down. On the fourth call he asked that a vehicle be sent out to check on the situation. The operator told him to f... off and put the phone down. Now this follows hard on the heels, as I mentioned to the House recently, where the 10111 in George was out of order for two weeks.
Now I want to get back to police crime intelligence. I’m sure that most of you saw the 18 March 2012 edition of City Press. They devoted three pages to a story, including the front page, starting with the headline “Zuma Spy’s Dirty Files” and then on pages four and five they had another two full pages.

The long and the short of it was that Lt Gen Mdluli was suspended because of a host of crimes. The cases were all with the Hawks, but Lt Gen Anwar Dramat, formerly head of Crime Intelligence here in the Western Cape, who was promoted to the same post at national level and is head of the Hawks, has now been instructed to withdraw all these cases. What are these cases that Lt Gen Mdluli ...

†Mr R B LENTIT: Mr Deputy Speaker, the Department of Community Safety must be one of the province’s state departments with the biggest challenges. The statistics of violent crimes and antisocial behaviour are still on the increase, with a 5.4% increase in assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm. Included in this is domestic violence.

Mr Deputy Speaker, although I support the crime fighting strategies envisioned by the department, I am concerned that the budgeted amount may not be sufficient for the implementation thereof. Although a whole-of-society approach to fighting crime is desirable, it may be more challenging when targeting communities where criminal activities and gangsterism outweigh the pros of making safety everybody’s responsibility.

Crime Prevention and Community Policing Relations have been allocated R9.2 million, more than the R6 million of last year. This increase, together with the increased oversight and monitoring drives of the SAPS and other policing and safety forums, creates the chance to diminish opportunities to commit crime and may even be a turning point in removing the longer-term root causes of crime in the province.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I appeal to the hon Minister never to stop in his efforts to try to strengthen relations between his department and the South African Police Service. Their joint efforts would alleviate many of the key problem areas which have been seen in the publishing of the Community Safety Bill on 16 February 2012.

Despite the limitations of the department to fight criminal trends such as human trafficking, the objective of the Bill is to maximise the department’s oversight capacity over the conduct and efficiency of the SAPS. It will, amongst other things, enable us to evaluate the extent of the threat and influence the allocation of police resources to the needs and priorities that exist within the Western Cape.

The department has made significant strides in successfully promoting road safety. In the short time that hon Minister Dan Plato has headed up the department, noteworthy provincial initiatives have been incorporated into national road safety plans.

I’d like to take this opportunity to commend the Minister, his department and our traffic authorities for their efforts to make these changes possible and in doing so decreasing road fatalities in the Western Cape.
Mr Deputy Speaker, allow me to salute every traffic official in our province for their commitment to keeping road users safe. The ID supports the vote.

†Ms J L HARTNICK: Mr Deputy Speaker, the DA welcomes and supports the 2012/2013 budget of R358 million allocated to the provincial Department of Community Safety. The DA is even more pleased that the biggest share of the budget, which is R192 million, is dedicated to Programme 4: Traffic Management, as this programme addresses so many issues.

Traffic management also requires the lion’s share of the budget as its programme is transversal in nature and it involves different departments in its projects to achieve its strategic objectives. It involves the Department of Education as it aims to decrease the number of road fatalities with regard to transporting school children. It deals with the Department of Transport and Public Works as it focuses on road safety management in order to provide a safer road environment for all road users.

The Western Cape government adopts a preventative as opposed to a reactive approach. For this reason the R163,66 million for traffic law enforcement, R9,8 million for road safety management and R16,4 million for traffic training and development will ensure that traffic-related incidents will be kept to a minimum by preventing them and not having to plan strategies to resolve them once they have already occurred.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the Department of Community Safety, together with the Department of Transport and Public Works, characterises this preventative approach by tackling the high accident rates of long-distance public transport services. This is evident in the initiative to pull over buses to check that they are roadworthy and have valid permits to be on the road, and also to check that drivers with the duty of being responsible for the safety of their passengers are capable of driving the long distances and hours.

This initiative has proven successful as no serious bus accidents occurred thereafter, aside from the tragic case of the Rhenendal accident. Initiatives such as these forced bus companies to comply with the road rules and in so doing optimised road safety in the Western Cape.

Traffic management also addresses the safety of regular road users by having an increased traffic law enforcement presence on provincial roads. The Department of Community Safety and the Department of Transport and Public Works have been involved in numerous roadblocks where vehicles are checked for drugs and weapons and the legitimacy of drivers to be on the roads and also the validity of vehicles are checked.

These constant preventative measures maintain law and order for all modes of transport by providing consolidated and integrated traffic policing operations. It also reduces the occurrence of smuggling illegal substances which have become a prominent issue recently. The decrease in road fatalities in the province is the result of the provincial initiative Safely Home.

This campaign continues to promote road safety in the province by facilitating road safety education, communication and awareness.
Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to compliment hon Minister Dan Plato and Mr Kenny Africa, as well as the department, on their outstanding work in keeping the provincial roads safe for all road users. I would also like to reiterate the fact that safety should always come first. There is no excuse. I support the budget.

Mnu M NCEDANA: Somlomo, andiyazi ukuba le nto yezithethi zakho ihamba njani namhlanje, kodwa ke ndiyabulela.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[Mr M NCEDANA: Speaker, I do not know the programme of your speakers today, but thank you.]

The point I would like to raise is this: If the ANC is part of perpetrating a crime or is involved in the killing of people, there should be a case opened against it and/or those that are involved in those activities. Secondly, the hon Minister has alluded to many important programmes and I want to stress that the problem of crime or safety has to do with not working together.

†Whether better together or working together we can do more, it must find its way into the implementation, the action part of it.

An HON MEMBER: That was yesterday’s speech.

Mr M NCEDANA: I continue because all the departments talk about together, working together. [Interjections.] The quality of policing must come with preventive measures.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Does it?

Mnu M NCEDANA: Ukhuselekolwabantu lunokuze lube luggibelele xa singaphenduli emva kokuba kwenzekile.] .][Mr M NCEDANA: The safety of the people will be only guaranteed when we do not only respond after something has happened.] It is important to make sure that crime does not occur. Now how do we do that? [Kungaba siza kwenza oku ngabantu abaxelayo kodwa ke ohloniphekileyo uMphathiswa akathethanga kakhulu ngabo. Bendiba xa sitetha ngokusebenza sonke bendinomdla wokuva into siqinisekisa njani na into yokukuba na ulwaphulumlthetho luyathintelwa kwiindawo esihlala kuzo ngokuba uxa sinokusebenzisana kakhulu nabantu basekuhlaleni, amaqoqo esipolisa oluntu kunye nabangade ekuhlaleni bengalali ndiqinisekile ukuba eli qondo lolwaphulumlthetho lingehla apha eNtshona Koloni kuba kwiminyaka engaphambili belikhe leha apha eNtshona Koloni. Ngelo xesha bekukho intsebenziswano ibiluqilima phakathi koluntu ngokusebenzisa abagada ekuhlaleni bengalali namaqoqo esipolisa asekuhlaleni. Ndiyavuya ke xa ndisiva esinye sezithethi kweli cala le –DA sisitsho into yokuba amaqoqo esipolisa oko sikhona thina apha ukususela ngo-2009 umgangatho wazo uhlle kakhulu. Kwaye eKhayelitsha ndiphantse ndiqiniseke ukuba iqoqo lesi-polisa loluntu elisebenzayo aliwo.Ngeli lixa amaqoqo esipolisa oluntu engekho ekuhlaleni asiakazi kuliphumelela idabi lokulwa ulwaphulumlthetho kwiindawo esihlala kuzo.
Umba wento yokuba kubekho ukusebenzisana phakathi kwabagweva ngeziyobisi kwakunye namaqela emigewu awukwazi ukuwohulula ngoba uya kufika amaxesha amaninzi abantu abagweva ngeziyobisi ngabo abaseka amaqela emigewu.


[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[I am not sure what are going to do about those reporting, but the hon minister did not say much about them. I thought when we talk of working together we were saying that we were going to ensure that crime is fought in the areas where we live and work together with people living in those areas, the community policing forums and neighbourhood watches whereby the crime rate can be reduced here in the Western Cape as it happened during the previous years in the Western Cape. In those years the co-operation with the neighbourhood watches was very strong. I am glad when I hear the speakers from the side of the DA that ever since they came into power the co-operation with the community policing forums has dropped from 2009.

In Khayelitsha I am almost sure that there is no functional community policing forum. If the community policing forums do exist we will not win the battle against crime in our areas.

The issue of co-operation between the drug dealers and the gangsters cannot be separated because most of the time the drug dealers are the ones who are forming the gangsters. That is why it is important for the Minister and his department to work together with residents in order to ensure that we win the battle against crime. But we cannot ensure the safety of the people if we continue to politicise it. That is my request. We must not politicise the safety of the people because crime does not see DA, it does not see ANC and does not see Cope. It affects everyone. That is why we should be working together.

The children are the most affected victims during our time, being kidnapped, raped, or killed and this has increased here in the Western Cape. These children have no way to protect themselves.
I did not hear the hon Minister mentioning ways to curb this because people who victimize abuse or hurt our children are known to these children. Most of the time children are not kidnapped by people they do not know. This is worst crime or violence ever seen and I think by working together we can ensure that every citizen of this province is safe. We must work together irrespective of political affiliation.]

An HON MEMBER: Perfect.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I do trust I will get the same respect that I have given to all the others who have spoken here today. [Interjections.] Community safety is one of the important portfolios because it is about the protection of people from criminal elements and crime. It is about the protection of some of the most vulnerable in our community and the creation of a harmonious society that is free from all fear.

It is critical that the leadership entrusted with this role be exemplary in their actions and associations. This brings me to the crux of my speech: I wonder how Premier Helen Zille can place her trust in MEC Plato.

*Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: Oh shame.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: He has gone from bad to worse ...

An HON MEMBER: Sis.

Mr P C MCKENZIE: ... after being parachuted into political life. The MEC has also spent more time in trying to douse fires and being micromanaged than actually taking the problems in any kind of direction.

*Mr H P GEYER: On a point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker: I just want to bring Rule 36 to the attention of the hon member. You already reminded him of this rule this morning. But, of course, an old dog never learns new tricks.

*Ms E PRINS: What tricks would this be?

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall watch it. The hon member properly obeyed Rule 36 after I had spoken to him.

*Ms J WITBOOI: Of course.

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: I want to give that hon member a political smack like he has never had.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! This is not necessary.

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: What he has now done is wrong. He wasted my time and you know it, Mr Deputy Speaker.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon member, just take your seat for a moment. Hon Ozinsky.
†Mr M OZINSKY: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Hon Geyer referred to hon McKenzie as a dog who doesn’t learn new tricks and it has previously been found unparliamentary to refer to a member as an animal.

*Mr H P GEYER: Mr Deputy Speaker, may I address you on this?

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may briefly.

*Mr H P GEYER: Are you now saying in the House we may never again use proverbs like referring to animals such as “dit vat ‘n man op ‘n perd” or “hy dink hy is die kat se snor”? May we never use proverbs at all? I never referred to him as a dog.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr Ozinsky, I think I must agree with the hon member. He wasn’t referring to him as a dog. That was by way of saying, if I may put it like that.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: The first blunder he made as MEC ...

*Mr H P GEYER: A point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker: The rules are clear that the member has to stand in his bench. He is not even talking at his own microphone.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Geyer, I shall watch it.

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: From making a blunder ...[Interjections.] Shame, Mr Deputy Speaker, there has to be dumb people as well.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Continue, hon member.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: From making the blunder of giving children from the Cape Flats guns for Christmas gifts to recently being in the spotlight because of his PA, this MEC is definitely a walking disaster, but we’ll come to that later.

An HON MEMBER: The same goes for you.

Mr P C MCKENZIE: We have constantly asked whether the Premier is satisfied that her Cabinet appointment is fit for purpose.

An HON MEMBER: Yes, it is.

Mr P C MCKENZIE: We have especially been concerned about MEC Plato as he seems out of his depth in this position. The poor MEC is digging his own grave as he dances from one blunder to the next. I repeat, Mr Deputy Speaker, can the MEC continue to trust MEC Plato ...

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Which MEC?

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: ... because the people no longer do.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Ah, they spoke to you, did they?
†Mr P C MCKENZIE: If you’re struggling to answer this let me give you the reasons why you should spare yourself further embarrassment and release him.

†Mr M G E WILEY: The people to the rescue.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: MEC Plato has failed the community. His meetings with drug lords and gangsters has left us shocked in townships. [Interjections.] To try to broker a peace deal between two gangs needs consultations, but appearing to befriend gangsters and lending them an ear is a completely different story. [Interjections.]

This is immensely insensitive to the communities that live under constant fear of gang activities and has shattered the credibility of the MEC amongst the citizens and the communities. [Interjections.] When the MEC is attending gang meetings at all hours of the day – and we have some of the records when he had meetings with gangsters – does he ever stop to wonder about the victims? Where is the toughness that he said he would exercise when he took office, or has he already thrown in the towel?

Since we cannot trust the MEC, I call upon the police commissioner – and I will ensure that he gets this – to be careful what he says in any meeting about crime operations because he doesn’t know how deeply the druglords have infiltrated even the department. Knowing that the MEC wines and dines with druglords he cannot be drawn into any secret discussions with the police any longer. [Interjections.] The MEC’s own PA’s house has been raided more than once. That he fails to say here after police found tik, dagga and heroin.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: All together.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: How is this possible? He has elected to protect Ms Liezel Jonathan and claims this is a plot against him, denying that drugs were found and now demands a report from the SAPS. Not so long ago another DA community Safety MEC, Lennit Max, was answering allegations of sexual assault following a cosy relationship with a fellow police clerk, which he, Lennit Max, later denied. It seems as if relationships are held in very high regard in this department under the DA and that there is obviously a blurring of lines between superiors and their juniors.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: The mind is at work.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Another case: Dave McNamara, the antidrug fighter, was arrested and only suspended after pressure from the ANC, and he was protected by MEC Fritz. These are just a few indicators that this administration has no idea how to deal with the drug abuse issue.

More worrying is the fact that Western Cape Police Commissioner Lamoer said that they confiscated more than R12 billion rands’ worth of drugs in less than two years. These drugs were meant for our streets, our children, our mothers and our fathers. This is bad news. Can we trust this MEC to fight and lead the fight against drugs and gangsterism?

†Mr M G E WILEY: What did you do?
†Mr P C MCKENZIE: You should release the MEC from his duties because the Community Safety head, Dr Gilbert Lawrence, has worked very hard to build the department into a credible organisation. It must be a shame to him to see it being infiltrated by drug peddlers.

All the work that has been achieved is being watered down by this MEC who obviously is not fit for purpose. What credibility can we attribute to this department with this disastrous MEC? [Interjections.] I also want to add that the provincial commissioner should rethink whether MEC Plato should have police protection because the lives of his body guards are now in danger as they have to accompany him to meetings with gangsters.

*Mr H P GEYER: But you know a lot.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: We also call for the police commissioner's intervention because even this section I believe can be infiltrated. [Interjections.] Additionally, in the light of the MEC being a member of the DA and whose job as MEC is to bring in funds for the DA, we wonder how much of the funds he brought to the party did he get from gangsters and ganglords. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! [Interjections.]

Mr P C MCKENZIE: We have seen that the MEC is busy with a different dubious campaign. In fact, all of us got copies of his speech, and I thank him for giving me a copy of his speech earlier, but what was very interesting is that a whole page wasn’t given to us or anyone here. [Interjections.] You see, that’s how much he trusts you. The copy of the speech that he put on the table is not worth the paper it is printed on.

†The MINISTER OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Yours isn’t either.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: He has spoken and he is busy with a different, dubious campaign to defame an executive member of the state, which is tantamount to sedition, as Mark Wiley said yesterday, and undermines the democratically elected government of our country. [Interjections.]

This MEC is slandering third parties as he is making all sorts of unsubstantiated allegations from a little file he claims to keep.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Mr Deputy Speaker, can one hon member refer to another as “slandering”?

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr McKenzie, did you refer directly to the hon member and say that? [Interjections.]

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: I’m just reading my speech. [Interjections.] You see, Mr Deputy Speaker ...

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Can I just get clarity, Minister Carlisle?
†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Mr Deputy Speaker, he definitely said it. We all heard it and he knows he said it. All I want to know is whether saying the hon member slanders is parliamentary or not. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! If he said that, it is not parliamentary, but I didn’t hear that directly. I will check Hansard and if he said that I will ask him to withdraw it at a later stage. Please continue.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: You know you said it.

†Mr P UYS: Mr Deputy Speaker, on a point of order: That hon member is saying to that hon member he is telling lies. He must apologise and withdraw please.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: I apologise and withdraw.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. [Interjections.] Order! Order! Please continue.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: I want to ask, Mr Deputy Speaker, is this MEC using his position and state resources to compile information against a political opponent, and which is used to discredit a fellow politician? This cannot be tolerated. This MEC is on record and has been seen meeting gangsters. This MEC has today said in the House that there are top ANC people who are involved and meeting with them.

Now we agree with what that hon member said; if any one of them has done anything illegal, they need to be brought to book. So I ask the MEC and I challenge him to go and mention the names of those high-profile people, because I know of various meetings that were held and I want to challenge him further to show us and the media that the agenda of that meeting was to destabilise the Western Cape. [Interjections.] He must show it, otherwise we will not believe anything he says because he can’t be trusted. I have a gut feeling ...

*The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Mr Deputy Speaker, I think the speaker should move just a little bit closer to his bench. He is going on too much in the passage. [Interjections.]

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! May I just give the rule? There is no rule stating that one has to speak in a bench only, so the member may continue.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I would predict that in about two weeks MEC Plato will be no more ... [Interjections.] ... because if you play with fire and you play with gangsterism and gangsters, your hands and your fingers are going to get burnt.

I know of the meetings that he is speaking about, but what is even more important, I know about the meetings he has held with gangsterism and gangsters. That is going to bite him and it’s a pity that now that people’s houses have been raided with these things, that it is part of this government and part of his office. [Interjections.]
†Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: Mr Deputy Speaker, the mission of the Department of Community Safety is to increase safety for all the people of the province by improving the performance of policing through effective oversight and enhancing active citizenship in the field of community safety.

It is challenging to improve the performance of policing if there is a public perception that many SAPS members and leaders are corrupt. In some communities there is a belief that some SAPS ... [Interjections.] Mr Deputy Speaker, could you protect me against my own members, please?

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I was hoping the Whips would protect you, but now I will have to protect you.

†Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: Thank you. In some communities there is a belief that some SAPS officers are involved in illegal activities and are corrupt because they were given reason to believe that on more than one occasion. Police spokesperson Vish Naidoo said that the SAPS was getting on top of corruption. He also added that 1 000 police officers were incarcerated for corruption and other serious crimes, like murder and rape.

In Gauteng alone, 150 police officers were arrested over a six-month period. That is 25 officers a month and almost one officer a day. This is alarming considering these are the very people who are supposed to protect our communities. The elite corrupt nature of the SAPS is the very reason why crime goes unreported and, even worse, why communities take the law into their own hands.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the integrity of the SAPS should be built up and maintained and it has to start from the top ranks. It is cause for concern to know that a national police commissioner, Bheki Cele, is currently under investigation for fraud and a former national police commissioner, Jackie Selebi, was found guilty of corruption – and then there is Mdluli. [Interjections.]

According to the City Press a classified police document reveals that Mdluli’s family members were appointed to the Crime Intelligence Agency Programme without performing any undercover operations. Mdluli allegedly abused covert state vehicles to which he was not entitled and a Crime Intelligence whistle-blower was abducted by other Crime Intelligence operators. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: It’s a pity hon McKenzie is not listening because this is the real truth. [Interjections.]

A prominent person from KwaZulu-Natal was illegally placed in Crime Intelligence to influence suspended police boss Bheki Cele. Mdlulu abused a travel agent in Durban, with him and his family travelling more than 50 times at the state’s cost. [Interjections.] Various safe houses were rented by the police for the sole use of Mdluli and his family.

Mdluli had a constant need for cash. Two journalists were illegally paid R100 000 to write a positive story about the police and another R50 000 not to publish a story about a senior cop.
Evidence was uncovered from which it appears that Crime Intelligence sought to influence political processes in KwaZulu-Natal through the deployment of a select few covert intelligence field workers in the province. This included buying influence and access.

Ms N P MAGWAZA: [Inaudible.] [Laughter.]

†Mr M G E WILEY: You laugh about it. It's terrible.

†Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: In The News now of 29 March 2012 it is reported that it seems that Mdluli “has several people by the balls”, an intelligence official told the Mail & Guardian on condition of anonymity. It gets murkier by the day. Not only does the public not trust the SAPS because of their alleged corruption but also because of their brutal behaviour in carrying out their daily duties. Since early last year the SAPS received much media coverage regarding police brutality and police suicide.

I can stand here and criticise the SAPS for days on end, but it is only a few who bring the whole force into disrepute and I want to repeat this: It is only a few who bring the whole force into disrepute.

With all this said, the DA is pleased to see that the Department of Community Safety has allocated R49,280 million towards Programme 3: Crime Prevention and Community Police Relations. Following Programme 4: Transport Management, Programme 3 has the second highest budget allocation in the department, which aims to meet the strategic objective of increasing safety for all the people of the Western Cape by improving the performance of policing through effective oversight.

National government has the best laws on paper, but implementation and follow-up is problematic, such as the Domestic Violence Act. In 2009 almost half of all South African women murdered were killed by their intimate partners, which at the time was the highest number internationally. Even though this is a serious problem, there’s unresponsiveness from law enforcement officials and judicial staff, and inadequate resources and funding for the implementation of the Act. This is prevalent in the inadequate record-keeping at some police stations and the failure of the SAPS to submit reports to Parliament every six months as required by the Act.

Mr Deputy Speaker, more should be done to address the failure of implementing the Domestic Violence Act. To be addressed is the under resourcing, lack of prioritisation, undertraining and noncompliance. The SAPS needs training in dealing with victims and often there is a language barrier which proves to be problematic for taking down statements. They also require more community relations training as they are not adequately trained to deal with crime scenes and the processing of evidence.

These issues have to be more vigorously addressed as domestic violence not only has fatal outcomes, but also long-term psychological outcomes, such as mental health issues, which include attempted suicide, alcohol and drug abuse, depression, anxiety and eating disorders. These social ills increase the burden of disease in our Western Cape communities as well as increasing and elevating poverty.
The DA supports and welcomes the allocated budget for the Department of Community Safety and I will uphold my oversight role to ensure that the Western Cape becomes an open opportunity society for all, free from the fear of crime.

†Mr M G E WILEY: Well done.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let me just say before I allow the hon Minister to reply that I did not interfere in the debate when hon Wiley spoke, and now also hon Marais, taking the debate rather widely from the Western Cape police perspective. The debate should be limited to what the hon Minister Plato’s department is responsible for. Although the police is a national function and it also relates to and touches on national issues, one should try to limit it to the executive responsibility of the relevant Minister.

†The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Mr Deputy Speaker, let me reply to some of the issues mentioned. Let me start, specifically, by thanking hon Anroux Marais for her input.

During the hon McKenzie’s tirade he could not once look me in the eye. He looked away from me because he knew he was talking a lot of rubbish. [Interjections.] Mr Deputy Speaker, let me advise the hon member. He was in this position more than one, but up to today he can’t show any legacy he left in this position ... [Interjections] ... because he did not do any work in this position.

If he is so smart why didn’t he stop the violence, the raping and the drug abuse? He didn’t lift one finger to do anything like that. [Interjections.] In this position I am at the forefront of fighting the drug battle and the gangster battle.

Go and tell the people of Hanover Park and Lavender Hill what you have said; they will chase you out of the area. [Interjections.] Go and fight the election with ... [Inaudible.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER: Mr McKenzie, I will tell you now: Dan Plato will walk over you. What happened in the last by-election? What happened in the last by-election is that the ANC did not even pick up 5% or 6% of the vote. That is what the people of Lavender Hill thought about you guys; they had no trust in you. The DA, for all our efforts in fighting the drug problem and the gangster problem, picked up over 90% of the vote in that by-election.

An HON MEMBER: Get to the point.

The MINISTER: So the point is, Mr Deputy Speaker, it is the gangsters of Lavender Hill and Hanover Park telling me about the meetings senior ANC people had with the gangster community – a horrendous strategy of the ANC to take over the Western Cape through bloodshed. That is why you fight what I am doing because I am standing in the way of your intentions and you know that. Some of your members admit that to me openly.

Marius Fransman said in the newspapers “I don’t know Jeff Franciscus”. I sat with Jeff Franciscus in a restaurant and Marius Fransman phoned him twice.
An HON MEMBER: Wow!

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Yes. Twice.

†The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Yes. He said in the papers “I don’t know the man” but he phoned him twice in my presence. [Interjections.] That man had given me a document to state all the horrendous strategies of the ANC to take over Cape Town and the Western Cape. That is a fact.

Let me say further ...

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Are you a gangster? Are you a gangster? You can’t reply.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, Mr McKenzie! You’ve had your 20 minutes, now give the Minister a chance to reply.

†The MINISTER: Let me further say, for us to change the mindset of people we need to come up with a strategy to change the mindset of the gangsters and the drug lords. Looking at... [Inaudible.] ... and looking at the underworld fight of the last couple of weeks and months, when you open the new papers, Dan Plato and the team in his office and the department appear so often to show the people of the Western Cape that we are serious about bringing the underworld to its knees. [Interjections.] We have done that and that security company has closed down. Patrick McKenzie can’t show us anything like that. All the hon member can do is laugh and make his jokes. That is all he is good for, good for nothing. A big smile and white teeth is all he can show. [Interjections.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, with regards to the issue of the R12,5 billion rands of drugs that has been confiscated, the provincial commissioner has said very clearly that it is the tip of the iceberg of drugs confiscated. That is why we are pushing for the reinstatement of the drug unit and gang unit. At the end of the day, if we are not going to do that we will never be able to fight the fight and take the fight to the drug lords. Currently the SAPS is not in a position to do that and you know they can’t do that. [Interjections.] You know they can’t do that and let me further say to you ...

†Mr M OZINSKY: You failed.

†The MINISTER: ... to look at the Western Cape and South Africa at large and at the bigger picture, but you’re too stupid and too dumb to look at the bigger picture. The bigger picture is there is no control around the coastal area and your government is unable to protect the coast area and that is where the drugs are coming in.

There is no control in protecting the airports and protecting the roads. You guys know you can’t even protect the borders of the country because every Dick, Tom and Harry can enter across the borders with their drugs and come into the cities and into our communities, and you know that. [Interjections.]

I acted when drugs came into my office, not like the ANC protecting criminals and wrongdoers and corrupt activities. I have said there must be immediate action, a full investigation by the provincial commissioner and I am awaiting his report. [Interjections.]

At the end of the day ...
†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Mr McKenzie, I have warned you. Please calm down now. You have your opportunity.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: They’re talking to me. [Interjections.]

†The MINISTER: With regard to leadership entrusted in the hands of Dan Plato, let me state openly; if you want to play politics let me give it to you – and we’ve known each other for a lengthy period.

The fact of the matter is I am not aware of even you entering any community to take the drug and the gangster fight right back to the gangsters.

I can say today I have done that and that is what the people of Cape Town want; they want a fighter. They want someone in the forefront and I am that person, and that is exactly what we are doing. [Interjections.] You tried to stop that because you can’t outplay that. [Interjections.] I will continue to do that because that is what the people of this province want. All of a sudden they have an MEC who can take the fight to the guys and an MEC who is not scared to do that.

Let me say with regard to the whole issue of not knowing what Helen Zille is doing with me in this position, I think I have shown my mettle and I will continue to do that and you will notice that in the weeks and months to come.

With regards to the image of the department, there is nothing wrong with the image of the directorate or the department, and Dr Lawrence will testify to that. There are no blunders and there are no problems. The relationship between the staff and me is very good because they are dealing with a hands-on MEC. [Interjections.]

With regard to my colleague here on my right, I agree with most of the issues he has raised of the quality of policing and of working together, and he is actually criticising a bit but in a couple of words he is saying we need to work together and that is what we are saying: Working together, better together. My friend, I agree with most of the issues you raised and we talked about it this morning.

At the end of the day my colleagues have made a number of statements and I note their statement. At the end of the day I don’t think I want to waste any more time by continuing. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Debate concluded.

The House adjourned at 21:27.
ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS—see p. 5574

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL[B 3—2012]

(Debate on Vote 13 – Cultural Affairs and Sport)

†The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Mr Speaker, Mr Deputy Speaker, Premier, the Leader of Government Business, Minister Botha, Cabinet colleagues, Leader of the Official Opposition, hon members and those councillors present here today, presidents of the various sport federations, managers of cultural and sport organisations, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon, and welcome to Vote 13: Cultural Affairs and Sport.

Mr Speaker, the strategic mandate of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport is to build and promote a socially inclusive Western Cape. Our endeavours to do so, however, are currently under severe attack from the national government. The proposed Use of Official Languages Bill, as well as the proposed Protection of State Information Bill, pose a serious threat to the strides that we have made towards building an open, transparent, inclusive society in which diversity and multilingualism are nurtured and valued as national assets.

The Western Cape government and I, as the responsible Minister, have responded to these threats by informing the relevant authorities that we will act decisively to ensure that the rights of all the citizens of the Western Cape will be protected as enshrined in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The key mandates of the department, which include, amongst others, language and archives, are captured in Schedules 4 and 5 of the Constitution, and we will not allow the competencies that have been allocated to our province to be eroded away by the national government, and in the process diminish the rights of citizens.

Today’s budget is therefore also aimed at mitigating attempts to undermine provincial competencies accorded to provinces by the Constitution, and to enhance our resolve to build a socially inclusive Western Cape.

During her State of the Province Address, Premier Helen Zille outlined the plans of the Western Cape government to reduce poverty and under development. On 1 March 2012 Minister Winde tabled the provincial budget and indicated how this government, through its budget of R40 billion, would reduce poverty and promote conditions for social inclusion.

During the 2011/2012 financial year the Western Cape Cabinet approved the comprehensive after-school programme. This programme is based on our Social Policy Framework and our Strategic Objective: Promoting Social Inclusion.
Social problems are multi-faceted and complex, requiring a comprehensive and holistic approach. Our analysis indicates that social dysfunction and disintegration are primary drivers of antisocial behaviour.

The Western Cape government is targeting the youth, especially primary and high school learners, through the comprehensive after-school programme. Our research also indicates that school going children are most vulnerable for antisocial behaviour between the hours of 2 o’clock and 4 o’clock. This is expected, since in poorer communities children are often without supervision and are primary targets for antisocial behaviour such as crime, drug abuse and teenage pregnancies. It is for this reason that the Western Cape government has through a transversal public management model brought all the key rolep layers together in designing the comprehensive after-school programme, also known as MOD centres.

The after-school programme is firstly placed in poor communities with high levels of social dysfunction to give learners an opportunity, and an alternative, to break the cycle of social disintegration. The Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport, together with our partners, the Departments of Education, Social Development and Community Safety, offer an after-school sport and cultural programme between 2 o’clock and 6 o’clock. With the assistance of coaches and co-ordinators learners are engaged in constructive activities after school, thereby reducing the risk of exposure to antisocial behaviour.

These MOD centres have four primary objectives:

- Firstly, to give children an opportunity to have fun. The architecture of a child is to have fun;
- Secondly, the facilitators and coaches must identify talent;
- Thirdly, to reduce the risks of antisocial behaviour; and
- Fourthly, to improve discipline and learning outcomes of learners.

What became evident in a short space of time is that MOD centres work extremely well when we –

- have competent and energetic co-ordinators and coaches;
- create an atmosphere of fun and excitement;
- have a sustainable every-day programme;
- have dedicated and committed principals and supporting teachers;
- have volunteers offering help under supervision of the co-ordinators;
- set weekly targets and monitor the progress systematically; and
- Link nutrition to the programme.

In this regard I would like to express my thanks to Minister Fritz for adding the nutrition programme to the MOD centres.

Since many of our MOD centres are in the infant phase, we are modifying and adapting during our experiences as no one has the full knowledge and understanding of how best things work. It is our intention to achieve the following outcomes, over time:
– Improved school discipline;
– improved learning outcomes;
– increased school attendance;
– reduced crime and youth at risk;
– reduced teenage pregnancy;
– increased mass participation;
– improved healthy lifestyles; and
– reduced substance abuse

By using a multidisciplinary approach the Western Cape government is now slowly changing the social discourse by offering practical solutions to real social problems using evidence-based practice, creativity and innovation. This is fascinating stuff and by no means complete; it is just the beginning en route to a new trajectory. Over time we will see the difference in more places in the Western Cape as a result of our comprehensive after-school programme.

We have in the House today the principals of Lavender Hill High School, Mr Manie, as well as Mrs Claasen from Hillwood Primary School. I want to thank Mrs Claasen and Mr Manie for being here today, because it is through your leadership that we see a great impact in schooling. These principals are actively encouraging the learners to participate in the activities at the MOD centres, and therefore act as positive catalysts and as motivators for social change.

Mr Speaker, I also had the privilege to visit isiKhokela Primary School in Makaza in Khayelitsha. There I saw not only the principal, Ms Qomoyi, actively engaging with the learners, but also some of the teachers, volunteers and members of the governing body. When you see that combination of leadership, followed by action and team work, the results are clear.

I want to express my deep thanks to Mr Manie, Mrs Claasen from Hillwood Primary School, Mrs Qomoyi from the isiKhokela Primary School, as well as to Mr Tim, the Acting Principal of De Tuynen Primary School in Worcester. We are proud of you and your staff because we firmly believe that we are better together.

During our recent visit to Lavender Hill both principals informed the Premier of the success of the MOD centres. Her immediate response was: How do we sustain this project and how do we monitor the success? My department is now in the process of developing a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system which will be launched in the near future.

Our next phase is to get the parents more involved in the educational and sporting activities of their children. Minister Grant recently made proposals at the Human Development Sector Committee of Cabinet (HDSC) on how to achieve this, and we will collaborate with Education to create and optimise opportunities at the MOD centres for increased parent involvement.

Mr Speaker, 14-year-old Chevonne Mentor of Lavender Hill lives with her parents and five siblings in Montague Village. She started with the sport skills development programme at the Hillwood Primary School MOD Centre as a Grade 7 learner in 2011. Her potential was quickly recognised, and she was invited to attend the Sharp Centre for Softball in 2011. During September 2011 she was identified to join the Battswood Softball Club, which is linked to the Hillwood Primary School and Lavender Hill High School MOD centres.
As a Grade 8 learner and U/15 player for the Lavender Hill High School MOD Centre, she was identified and promoted to play in the Battswood Softball Club’s Super League team, which is the highest league in the Western Province Softball Federation. She is currently in the process of being registered as a learner at the Western Cape Sport School.

Likewise, Siyasanga Zenani of Khayelitsha lives in Site B, Khayelitsha with his mother, Babalwa Zenani, and little sister. He started with the sport skills development programme at the Sakumlandela Primary School MOD centre in 2011. Through the talent identification process he was invited to attend the District East Sharp Centre for Football 2011. His talent and potential has resulted in him being selected for, and registered at, the Western Cape Sport School as from 1 January 2012.

Mr Speaker, I recently had the honour of having dinner with Garry Kasparov, the grand chess master who shot to international fame on becoming the youngest ever undisputed world chess champion at the age 22 in 1985. When recently asked about the impact that chess has on education and youth development he stated – and I quote:

It’s about the sense of responsibility; they know that it’s entirely up to them to make all the difference and learn how to operate within a legal framework, because the rules are there and you cannot play the game unless you follow the rules.

The above quotation highlights the government’s view that progress is only sustainable if one takes personal responsibility to make the next move. Progress comes from embracing the opportunity. This budget is the opportunity; now let’s join hands and make the next move.

Mr Speaker, we also have in the House today, as my special guest, Daniel Barrish, the 11-year-old boy who played against the grandmaster, Garry Kasparov, in Khayelitsha. This young boy played very well and the match ended in a draw. We are truly inspired by this boy and Western Province Chess. His parents are in the House; we salute you. [Applause.] We are truly inspired by this young boy and Western Province Chess.

I am grateful to both his parents and the President of Western Province Chess, Mr Eldo Smart. A chess revolution has just started in the Western Cape. I have had discussions, and shared initial ideas with the Western Province Chess President. I wish to thank Daniel for that.

I am pleased to note that the Western Cape Sport School continues to do well in sport. At the recent Western Province Athletics Championships the school won eight gold, six silver and 10 bronze medals. One of the gold medal winners includes a top ten world-ranked 100 metres athlete, Bradley Britz. Six learners have also been taken up in the U/19 netball team which will be competing in the national championships in April, while four learners will be representing Western Province at baseball next week.

Mr Speaker, the school is, however, also steadily improving as an academic institution, as demonstrated by the pass rate of 94.7% in the 2011 Senior Certificate Exams, with 36 out of the 38 learner’s doing well enough to proceed to further their studies at a tertiary institution of their choice.
Ten of these learners qualified to read towards a bachelor’s degree. As a result of the increase in the number and quality of passes at the Western Cape Sport School, the Western Cape Education Department recently presented the school with an academic award to the value of R35 000. The principal, Mr Sean Friedenthal, is present here in the House today. I want to congratulate him and his staff for their dedication and commitment.

As a further incentive an amount of R5.2 million is allocated to the Western Cape Sport School for the 2012/2013 financial year. I want to inform hon members that Premier Zille has committed this government to actively drive the agenda for social change through a project R²D². This project entails that we –

- continue to facilitate redress;
- promote the principles of reconciliation;
- promote and celebrate our diversity; and
- carry out the electoral mandate and continue with delivery.

Let me outline how the department is giving effect to project R²D².

Firstly, let me deal with redress. Hon members will know that we have a history of migrant labour in South Africa. Through community involvement, the Lwandle Migrant Museum was established and over the years has positioned itself as a hub for cultural exchange. I visited the Lwandle Migrant Labour Museum last year, and was impressed to see the extent to which the local people preserve their history in the museum.

I approached the Western Cape Cabinet in February 2012 to proclaim this museum as a provincially aided museum to allow for institutionalised support by my department. It is my pleasure to announce today that the Lwandle Museum was finally proclaimed as such in the Government Gazette on 18 February 2012. I want to thank the Western Cape Cabinet for supporting Project Redress in Lwandle.

Mr Speaker, Ratelgat along the West Coast is of special and historical significance to the Griqua people. It is my honour to announce in the House today that we have also declared Ratelgat Provincial Heritage Site. I will officiate and launch Ratelgat as a Provincial Heritage Site on Saturday, 12 May 2012. This redress project will also restore the dignity of the Griqua people.

We are equally proud of another redress project undertaken by Alliance Francaise, the Western Cape government and Artscape with the publication of the book, *Mitchells Plain: A Place in the Sun*. Now, for the first time the people of Mitchells Plain have access to the history of Mitchells Plain. Although not the final chapter in the life of people from Mitchells Plain, it certainly provides a substantial moment in the process of redress.

Another great redress project, driven by the City of Cape Town, is the launching of the UDF Memorial. The UDF played a significant role in the history of our country and I want to congratulate the City of Cape Town, and the Mayor, for facilitating redress with the unveiling of the UDF Memorial in Mitchells Plain.

Mr Speaker, the second item on the agenda for social change is reconciliation. Our reconciliation project is not limited to singular events, but it is a process to heal the divisions of the past.
Through arts and culture we also take our programmes to the rural areas. In this way we facilitate reconciliation between urban and rural, between men and women and between black and white.

Mr M SKWATSHA: [Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Skwatsha!

†The MINISTER: Many of our clients and productions reflect our rainbow nation. [Interjections.] Mr Skwatsha is welcome in this rainbow nation. Drama productions from the West Coast and Eden, respectively, were showcased on the professional stage at Artscape as part of the Suidoosterfees. The networks we have forged and expanded on have borne fruit, with the best actor, William Michaels, and actress, Melloney Marais, both from the KairosDrama Group in Helderberg, being afforded the opportunity to audition for 7de Laan — a programme we are all familiar with.

The department was successful in its application to the National Heritage Council to further implement Project Reconciliation in the Cape Winelands District. I am happy to see that the Deputy Mayor of Cape Winelands is in the House today.

We have received an amount of R250 000 to mount a permanent exhibition in the Togryers Museum in Ceres of the history of Nduli and Rooikampie townships for coloured and African people. The exhibition was opened to the public on 20 October 2011. This reconciliation project led to the inclusion of the life stories of local people in the museum. This project also employed three youths from the local community and made use of local service providers in the processes of designing and printing for the exhibition.

Mr Speaker, we are proud to have the four Nobel Peace Laureates exhibition displayed at the Waterfront. These four Nobel Peace Laureates are not only symbols, but also the architects of reconciliation. To give our reconciliation icons a greater geographical footprint, the department embarked on a travelling exhibition, with more and more people now being exposed to the lessons of reconciliation.

Mr Speaker, reconciliation is not only what government does, it is also about what society and local communities are doing. I am pleased to see the reconciliation efforts of different communities. Two such cases are the work being done in the Worcester area and in the Franschhoek communities. In Worcester Prof Jonathan Jansen congratulated communities for bringing about peace in areas previously tarnished with violence. The different groups worked hard at reaching out to one another. In this regard I am pleased to see Councillor Elsa Jordaan also present in the House.

In Franschhoek a Transformation Charter between rich and poor was signed on 16 February 2012. As Archbishop Tutu said — and I quote: “We share a common environment and a common destiny”. Better Together also proved to be successful in reconciliation in the Western Cape.

A third agenda of social change in the province is our commitment to diversity. The pretext for our commitment is found in the Preamble of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa — and I quote: “united in our diversity.” We have all witnessed the contribution of the Fifa World Cup 2010.
Mega events have the potential to unite people with diverse backgrounds. The Cape Times/Discovery Big Walk attracts 35 000 people from diverse cultures, and it is instructive to see how people from different cultures walk together. In the same way we see how more than 35 000 cyclists from different cultural backgrounds come together to take on the journey.

Many years ago a local community was angry that the cyclists rode through their area. Today they are part of the excitement and joy when the Cape Argus/Pick ‘n Pay cycling event takes place.

They have seen the diversity of this event and have now embraced it. The Western Cape government supports these events because they have a huge return on promoting diversity and social inclusion.

I want to thank Mr Dave Bellairs (CEO), who is on the balcony, and Mr Steve Haywood, the Chairperson of the Cape Argus/Pick ‘n Pay Cycle Trust, for touching people and changing lives. Your work, together with Claremont Rotary, is noted. Better together. Thank you, Mr Dave Bellairs.

Mr Speaker, throughout the last financial year the department also consulted with initiation forums with the intention to improve initiation practices. It is my vision, and my dream, that not a single initiate must be harmed or, worse, die during the initiation process. To give practical effect to our diversity project, we have finalised an Initiation Protocol, which is the product of consultation.

*Mr Speaker, the department also supported the Diaz Festival in Mossel Bay as a diversity project. Diversity was built into the architecture of the festival by the Mossel Bay Municipality from the start. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Skwatsha! [Interjections.] Order, hon members!

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Mr Speaker, on a point of order: Is it right for the Minister to speak on things that he is not qualified to speak about?

†The SPEAKER: That is not a point of order, hon Skwatsha. [Interjections.] That is not a point of order. Take your seat please.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Are you qualified to speak?

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order! [Interjections.] Order, hon members! Please continue, hon Minister.

*The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: On a humorous note to hon Skwatsha: My father and my mother, and my wife, are able to answer your question! [Laughter.] The festival with the theme “Where cultures meet” succeeded in realising diversity in a positive way. The festival involved everybody and it took place in the streets and in the community of Mossel Bay. Admission to the festival was free of charge and mostly local artists were used. The diversity and excellence was evident and we appreciate that. The audiences also showed their appreciation. In the Western Cape, as in Mossel Bay, we build on diversity and excellence.
I am also delighted to see how the Gugulethu Festival succeeded in drawing diverse audiences. In May of this year there is going to be a wine festival that promises to draw experts and lovers of the wine culture over a wide spectrum. In collaboration with the ATKV the previous Snoek and Sweet Potato Festival in Goedverwacht, where different cultures took part, showed a profit of almost R100 000. So we see that diversity in festivals also makes economic sense. I therefore want to encourage municipalities and local communities to make community festivals sustainable and diverse and to position them as elements of the local economic development strategies.

I have already had some discussions with Minister Alan Winde about cultural tourism. We will make further recommendations about this to Cabinet after we have talked about it. At 10:30 tomorrow morning I will sign an agreement of cooperation with the ATKV in the field of arts and culture. I also welcome Mr Japie Gouws, the Chief Executive Officer of the ATKV, in the House today. In this way the Western Cape government also supports the Southeaster Festival. We support the festival for the following reasons:

– We invest in the development of talent;
– it promotes contemporary art and culture;
– it spotlights our production skills; and
– it gives the local people access to world-class theatre.

The fourth leg of the social agenda is service delivery.

†Mr Speaker, I cannot overemphasise enough that libraries play an important role in contributing to a literate society. To support the literacy drive and to contribute towards improving education outcomes, the Library Service will continue to supply library material to 340 library centres throughout the Western Cape.

*In her opening address in the Provincial Parliament Premier Zille referred to broadband and the role it could play in promoting opportunities and access. Because the Premier singled out the youth as the primary target for opportunities, it was also decided to roll out internet access in the rural areas in the Western Cape. We’re not only talking about technology – we are creating opportunities through the Rural ICT Project.

The purpose of the project is to give the communities of all rural libraries free internet access. Our target is to give 101 rural libraries free internet access by the end of the new financial year. Towns such as Merweville, Zwelithemba, Pacaltsdorp, Melkhoutfontein, Zwelihle, Klaarstroom, Khayamandi and Woësley are already benefiting from this in the current financial year.

Mr Speaker, in the new financial year places such as McGregor, Bergrivier, Railton in Swellendam, Herbertsdale, Bongolethu, Eendekuil, Botrivier, Drakenstein and New Horizon in Bitou will be targeted. For this purpose we have set aside R3,5 million for the coming financial year to take free internet access to rural areas. Free internet access is part of our Anti-Poverty Programme in rural areas. We are serious about using technology to create opportunities for the youth in rural areas.

†An amount of R56,1 million has been allocated in respect of public libraries for the 2012/2013 financial year.
Of this amount R47.8 million will be transferred to municipalities. The funding will be used to pay 331 public library staff, to build two library facilities and to provide for furniture and minor upgrading projects.

Mr Speaker, in line with our agenda to deliver, I am pleased to announce in the House today that we will build two new library facilities. An amount of R6 million towards the building of a new library will be transferred to Mossel Bay Municipality. An amount of R2 million will be paid towards the construction of a library in Langeberg Municipality as an initial contribution towards the Nkqubela library facility in Robertson.

Two weeks ago I also opened the new Paarl Library in Drakenstein. A new public library is also currently under construction in Louwville, Vredenburg.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Minister! Hon members must please make sure that their cell phones are switched off.

†The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, to deal with the issue of unfunded mandates in terms of the provision of public library services in the province, I am pleased to announce that Cabinet has made available funding to B3, or vulnerable, municipalities. This project commenced in 2011 and an amount of R45 million is made available for the 2012/2013 financial year. The aim of the funding is to supplement municipal investment in library services and to sustain the future professional delivery and development of such services in the most vulnerable municipalities.

*Library Implementation Protocol

To affirm service delivery in the area of public library services we engaged the City and negotiated a Library Implementation Protocol. On 19 March 2012, last Monday, I concluded a Library Implementation Protocol with the Cape Town Municipality to ensure the continued rendering of public library services to the community in the metro.

*Mr Speaker, my department’s service delivery has also been extended to support club development. Through club development we also focus on –

- good sports administration and training;
- sports equipment; and
- sports development.

A further amount of R9.5 million has been budgeted for club development this year. A total of 315 clubs, most of them in the rural areas, will benefit from this this year. I would also like to thank Mr Tobie Titus, the President of the Western Province Rugby Union, and Mr Herman Abrahams of the Western Province Rugby Union, for their cooperation in connection with rugby and club development.

We are especially impressed by the u/20 league in the townships, where clubs like Blue Jet, Busy Bees, Imiqhayi, Young Brothers, Khayelitsha, Young Ideas, Khaya Rose and United Brothers have an exceptionally competitive league. We support this league and we are confident that some of these young players will make and strengthen the WP and even the Stormers teams in the not too distant future.
Mr Speaker, I held a municipal sports conference earlier this month. It was decided that local authorities should make very sure of all existing facilities under their jurisdiction by means of audits. This information must be included in a long-term sports development plan and existing facilities must be supported by operational and maintenance plans.

I made a commitment last year during our Heritage Summit that we would give the public broader access to information online. I am now reporting back to the House that information on matters before Heritage Western Cape is now readily available on our website. I am equally encouraged that delegations to staff have been reviewed by the Council of Heritage Western Cape to ensure greater accountability, and to improve the speed and quality of the application process.

Mr Speaker, it is also my pleasure to announce that last Friday, on 23 March, two new provincial heritage sites were proclaimed in the Government Gazette. One is the extension of the West Coast Fossil Park, increasing its footprint 14 times, and also De Hel in Constantia.

*Museums*

On 16 February 2012 the draft Museum Policy was released in the three official languages of the Western Cape for public comment. An amount of R24.6 million has been allocated for museums, will support 28 affiliated museums and give impetus to the transformation project with museums in the Western Cape.

*Geographical names*

Mr Speaker, I now come to geographical names. The Western Cape Geographical Names Committee under the guidance of the chairperson, Mr Elsworth McPherson, is a statutory body authorised to advise when local authorities are reviewing the names of streets and places under their jurisdiction. In our province this process was not always attended to in an acceptable way, and I am pleased to learn of the efforts by the Geographical Names Committee and that they are engaging local authorities to follow correct procedures. The committee’s work includes –

- assistance with maps to provide accurate detail;
- clearing up contradictions in official documents about the naming of mountains;
- research into hospital names;
- providing assistance with signage on public roads; and
- verifying our database of registered and unregistered geographical names in the province.

*Mr Speaker, I want to appeal to municipalities to show the necessary sensitivity for our history and diverse backgrounds when we consider geographical and street names.*

*Language services*
Sadly, I deliver my budget address against the background of the South African Languages Bill, now known as the Use of Official Languages Bill. A recent amendment to the Bill requires in clause 4(2)(b) that the language policy to be adopted by national departments or public entities must identify at least three official languages for government purposes, of which at least two must be indigenous languages of historically diminished use.

It follows that most national government departments would choose to use English and two African languages. Representatives of the governing party in the portfolio committee have stated in so many terms that Afrikaans should not enjoy protection. Even now national government departments hardly recognise any of the 11 official languages, except English.

The impact of the above is best summarised in the words of celebrated author Jan Rabie when he says – and I quote:

Afrikaans is die grootste nie-rassige prestasie in ons Suiderland sover, gesamentlik geskep deur mense van drie vastelande – Afrika, Asië en Europa. Daarom is dit nie die besit van eensydige politieke partye nie; dit behoort aan almal wat dit praat, skryf en liefhet. Daarom is my taal ook my beste wapen teen rassisme. Ek wil ook nog bysê, sonder Afrikaans is ek niks.

It is already a well-established practice by national government departments to ignore the provisions of equal status of the 11 official languages. The proposed Bill will now legitimise the further marginalisation of the majority of the 11 official languages. The current proposals will mean that national government departments operating in the Western Cape will structurally marginalise the use of Afrikaans. Afrikaans is the majority language, followed by isiXhosa and English, in the Western Cape. The Constitution in section 6(4) is clear that regional circumstances, practicality, usage and expense must be taken into consideration when drafting a language Act. I have been advised that the proposed Bill adopted violates section 6(4) of the Constitution, and as such would be constitutionally impermissible. A future Languages Act should expand the use of official languages and not contribute to the disuse of any language.

It is in the spirit of multilingualism that I now also allocate R3,8 million towards the equal promotion of the three official languages of the Western Cape, South African sign language and marginalised languages such as Nama.

An earlier survey indicated that there were 14 605 individuals with a hearing disability in the province. This placed a further obligation on the department to ensure that such individuals have access to services through sign language. In response to the outcome of the survey, the department implemented a number of programmes.

Mr Speaker, I also recently attended a sign language class at the School for Deaf Children in Khayelitsha. The previous research identified a need for sign language classes to hearing parents, guardians, caregivers and teachers to enable them to communicate more effectively with the deaf children and learners. The Language Committee, under the leadership of Dr Michael le Cordeur, should be commended for their support for this project.
Archives

The Western Cape Archives and Records Service has the oldest records in the country, dating back from 1651.

Due to regular use over time and the ageing of the materials, many of these records require repair and conservation care to ensure their continued survival. A strategy to ensure the long-term preservation of the records will require their digitalisation so that digital surrogates can be consulted instead of the fragile original documentation.

The national Protection of State Information Bill

Mr Speaker, I now turn to the Protection of State Information Bill. This Bill deals in various respects with “archives”, inter alia, in clause 33, which provides that all public records marked “classified” that are transferred to the National Archives or other archives must be de-classified. This would pave the way for a new classification system to be introduced by the Bill.

The Bill then proposes a new framework for the protection and destruction of public records on the basis of what is perceived to be “valuable information”. These matters are currently regulated in the Western Cape by the Provincial Archives and Records Services of Western Cape Act of 2005, which allows for the preservation and eventual destruction of public records according to well-established and internationally accepted guidelines. Schedule 5 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, lists the functional areas of exclusive provincial legislative competence.

One of them is “Archives other than National Archives”. This overrides section 44(2) of the Constitution, “to maintain national security, economic unity or essential national standards” and does not find application in this instance. The Bill does not even purport to establish the framework for any of the conditions in section 44(2) that would permit national legislation to take preference over existing provincial legislation.

If the Bill is enacted in its present form, the relevant provisions will be invalid – and let there be no doubt about the resolve of this government to protect the legitimate, and constitutionally enshrined, powers accorded to provinces. I have already submitted my concerns in writing to Minister Cwele, the Minister of State Security, and I am awaiting his reply.

Mr Speaker, complex plural societies need to recognise and appreciate the power of celebrations in a multicultural society. During this year we will partner with municipalities and cultural organisations to recreate the rainbow nation, celebrate our cultural diversity and create platforms where cultures meet. Through sport and culture we want to put back the spark in our people.

Talking about spark, in Bonteheuwel we have Genevieve Lentz who represents the Western Province in table tennis. She is currently the only active female Blue Badge umpire on the African continent. Blue Badge umpires are regarded as elite umpires, and the only umpires eligible to umpire at the Olympic Games. I am proud to announce that Genevieve Lentz from the Western Cape has been selected to umpire at the 2012 London Olympic Games. She is present in the House today.
We have another remarkable woman present in the House today. At the age of 72 Ms Petronella Kleinsmidt from Goodwood is the first black woman to qualify as a national and international karate referee. I am proud to announce in the House that she obtained her Eighth Dan in 2011 at the age of 72. Ma’am, could you please stand? [Applause.]

*Mr Speaker, I close with these two ladies because they are an inspiration to the people of the Western Cape. It is this kind of inspiration and dedication that we need in many areas to create a better community.

Our task has not yet been completed; the building blocks and the foundations have been laid. We now build brick by brick, together with people, for a better life in the Western Cape.

For a better life, my department is budgeting as follows: Programme 1 – Administration, R43,358 million; for Programme 2 – Cultural Affairs, R82,93 million; and for Programme 3 – Libraries and Archives, R179,638 million.

I may just add that the major part of the department’s budget goes to archives and libraries. For Programme 4 – Sport, an amount of R84,835 million has been budgeted.

Mr Speaker, I wish to table my department’s 2012/2013 budget in the amount of R390,761 million.

I thank the Premier and my colleagues in the Cabinet, as well as the Leader of Government Affairs, Minister Botha, for their support regarding the budget.

I also wish to express my sincere thanks to Mr Mark Wiley, Chairman of the Standing Committee for Community Safety and Cultural Affairs and Sport, for his oversight and critical questions. I also thank all members of all parties of the standing committee for their roles regarding parliamentary oversight.

My department is being led by an extremely competent Head of Department, Mr Brent Walters, and his SMS members. My thanks also go to my ministerial personnel, the Head of my Ministry, Adv Estienne Pretorius, my media officer, Daniel Johnson, my private secretary, Charmaine de Vos, Linda Jacobs, Chandre Petersen, Zodwa Mdingi and Nicki van Reenen. I also want to thank my family and wife, because without their support I would not have been able to do this work. Also a special word of thanks to my father for his advice.

†Mr Speaker, I also want to thank all the members of Heritage Western Cape and the Chairperson of Heritage Western Cape. I also want to thank the outgoing chairperson and members of the Western Cape Language Committee for their work in promoting multilingualism.

I would also like to thank the outgoing members of the Western Cape Cultural Commission, all the members of sport and recreation and all the staff members of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport.

I thank you, Mr Speaker. [Applause.]

†Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Speaker, I wish to thank the Minister with the delivery of his budget speech. We certainly support the budget Vote in this regard.
One does not like to start a speech on a sombre note, but it is fitting that we express our sympathy and deep sorrow today following the tragedy that befell the Motherwell Rugby club in the Eastern Cape yesterday. Following a final practice before an Easter tournament to be held in Cape Town next week, the players went down to the beach at Bluewater Bay for a cool-off swim. A vicious rip current swept 21 people out to sea. One player, Zola Mbambani, has been confirmed drowned and five others are still missing. I am sure all the sports people here share with us in expressing our sympathy and deep sorrow to their families.

We should also pay tribute to those lifesavers at Bluewater Bay Club and the NSRI who struggled courageously, in difficult conditions, to save those in trouble. During national lifesaving championships a few years ago I personally experienced the severe conditions that occur at that beach. Even the most experienced lifeguards get into difficulties in the huge deep ocean swell, double wave breaks, sandbanks and the constantly changing channels. A single step forward by an unsuspecting person would see them drop from calm waist-height waters to depths over their heads in speeding lateral currents. Only trained and fit people would have a reasonable chance of not drowning.

This tragedy puts into sharp focus the need to encourage our youth to take up, and government’s responsibility to support, those so-called minor sports that ensure that the population become water-safe and to encourage community service.

The City of Cape Town has done an excellent job of providing funding for professional lifeguards over the festive season at most beaches and all municipal pools. But too many people die unnecessarily in farm dams and uncontrolled beaches, more often because of alcohol being a factor. In most rescue attempts that I have been involved in over many years, the presence of alcohol in the patient has always played a role in their decision-making to go swimming and their inability to cope in the water.

Water safety training for the youth should be a major priority of government and seen as an essential life skill. At some stage of every person’s life, be it recreational or for work purposes, they will come into contact with water where the ability to swim or float in a water-safe way, will be a life-changing necessity. Twenty percent of child deaths in the Western Cape are attributed to drowning, and its prevention is a provincial priority.

Yesterday I went down to the Fish Hoek Lifesaving Club to congratulate them on winning the national championships, at both senior and junior levels, at Amanzimtoti this last weekend. What was particularly noteworthy yesterday was that, despite an unpleasant southeaster, a severe choppy swell and banks of floating kelp that often resembles sharks – which are fairly prevalent in that area – there were several squads of Nippers, Micro-nippers and Starfish children, of all persuasions, training hard for the national championships to be held in the Eastern Cape over Easter. The children ranged in age from 5 to 14 years’ old.

What was more remarkable was the number of parents in the water acting as safety officers. A more wholesome family and service-centred activity would be hard to find anywhere. As with any sport or human activity, the exposure to competition is a vital ingredient. It generates the will to excel, creates role models and ensures that funds get ploughed into the activity to ensure that standards are maintained.
However, in water sports activity the Cape Town Metropole has a glaring omission in its facilities makeup, namely, the absence of a world-class aquatic centre. This omission immediately excludes the city, and the province, from bidding to host any of the major sports events involving swimming, or any regulated water body – from formal galas to underwater sports, freshwater lifesaving to extravaganzas.

Given the expense and the co-ordination required, as well as the objective of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport (DCAS) to foster sport tourism, I would urge the Minister to engage the various role players and to explore the possibility of developing a much-needed facility.

This then brings me to another objective of the department that needs urgent attention, namely, the support for sport codes. But this is more than just the support for sport administration and sport politics; what I specifically want to touch on is not so much the simple handing over of a cheque once a year. Just this last week two major sport codes in the Western Cape were accused in the media of having administrators that wield unilateral and unfettered power to the potential detriment of the sportspersons trying to enjoy that sport.

One must immediately admit that in this era of professional sport there is a vital need for professional administration as the volumes of money involved are huge.

In the major sport codes sport is big business. But it is the annually elected committees, and the transparency of their workings, that are cause for concern in many codes. Virtually every sport code gets some form of public funding, be it an annual grant, a subsidy of a facility or an event or even Lotto funds.

The question is: How transparent are they, and how do they ensure that the money they receive get used for the purpose originally intended? What role, and right, does the department, and ultimately parliament, have to demand transparency? After all, it is a stated political objective of national government to involve itself in sports for the purpose of redress. How does this apply to the provinces?

I am frequently approached by, especially, minor codes about some alleged administrative abuses. These normally revolve around an individual, or individuals, who regard a particular code as their personal fiefdom. They are always looked after first, be it at the attendance of national or international conferences and competitions; their creature comforts/benefits get priority; they ensure that their children enjoy preference in selection; and friends or acolytes get elected to key positions and posts.

Invariably they remain in office way too long to be healthy for any organisation. The true test of the effectiveness of an administrator, over and above transparency, is whether the sport grows both developmentally or numerically. A stark reminder of a code – and this is no aspersion on that particular code – that has not embraced this truism, is the number of empty bowls clubs lying idle or abandoned around the peninsula.

My impression of the role of department in the recent past has been that because they are dealing with primarily volunteers, they have been hesitant to get involved. This also applies to sport tours where the cost to the athlete is simply prohibitive, and too many officials accompany those sport tours. I believe that the department should get more involved in the scrutiny of this type of tour.
But now we have seen, following the Nicholson Inquiry into cricket and our exposure to overarching organisations like Fifa and the Olympic International Committee (IOC), just what is at stake when administrators lose sight of the overall objective of promoting the sport at grass-roots level and with sustainable administration to support it.

Mr Speaker, it is here that I want to touch on one of the flagships of the department, namely the MOD and Sharp centres. I will be brief here, as one of my colleagues also wants to address this topic. The success of this project – and here I have no reason to believe that it will not be a success – is going to rely on the ability of the department, or its agent, to monitor and evaluate the service being delivered as well as the impact on the children.

An early concern is that the project is clustered, thereby forcing some scholars to travel to get to the MOD sites. Numbers will therefore automatically be affected and may create another cost centre in transport.

The selection and qualification of trainers will be another critical success factor. I have mentioned before in the House about a very successful project in the Fish Hoek valley where seven schools are benefiting.

I would urge the department to constantly be on the lookout for such success stories. I am particularly pleased that the revitalised Chrysalis Academy is now delivering motivated youngsters, many of whom will be qualified to assist in projects of this nature as they have done in the past.

I briefly want to mention something to the Minister because he alluded to chess and the visit by Dr Kasparov. We introduced chess at the Chrysalis Academy. It was amazing, despite the fact that we would have thought that such young, tough men wouldn’t be interested, they took to it like a duck to water; they really enjoyed chess. So I think it has a broad-based appeal.

In particular the Sports Academy needs to be congratulated on both its academic and sporting successes. Excellence breeds excellence.

Mr Speaker, I now wish to speak on another matter that is an integral part of the fabric that makes up the Western Cape, namely, heritage and culture and the preservation of both. But it is in the living form, and in the preserved form of museums and archives, that it is so critically important. Relatively speaking, we spend very little money on these critical matters, and we put an enormous amount of responsibility on the shoulders of groups of volunteers, namely the Heritage Council, the Language Committee and the Cultural Commission. In the main, they do an outstanding job as does the volunteer corps in our museums. Without their contributions I dare say that we would have little to preserve, and we thank them for this.

Mr Speaker, I want to give the Minister a word of warning. Two recent incidents show just how vigilant we have to be to ensure that the broader public, and in particular the laws of the Constitution, are not attacked by stealth. The Minister has already alluded to some of the laws that are coming down the track that are going to be a problem.

One case was that of a supplement to a newspaper that was translated into the different languages. The one language that did not appear, was Afrikaans.
I immediately wrote to the chairperson of Pansalb. I said to him that he was breaching the law instead of upholding the law.

He wrote back and said it was a technical omission. They immediately spent a lot more money to rectify it by taking out the advert and including the Afrikaans. The point is: It is the constitutional function of PanSalb to uphold all 11 of the constitutionally provided for languages.

The other incident was in regard to particularly offensive language which offended the 80% Christians that live in this country. I wrote to the Broadcasting Complaints Commission of South Africa and the Advertising Standards Authority. The Broadcasting Complaints Commission said that because it was an advert it therefore had no jurisdiction over the content of what went on in those adverts and the Advertising Standards Authority refused to accept my letter because they said it would prevent a quick finding on the matter.

The fact of the matter is that we spend an enormous amount of time and emphasis on these watchdog bodies to do a job of work, and they don’t always do it. We therefore need to be vigilant to ensure that they do it, and they will be answerable, if necessary, to this Parliament as a result.

Mr Speaker, the secret lies in willing volunteers who have both the knowledge and the passion to want to see things get done, and also to ensure that rights are preserved.

I see a key role for the department as a facilitator between the various levels and spheres of government, civil society and any person or organisation who can contribute further to the objectives of that act of preservation.

The department must be seen as the grease of the wheel, not the brake. Recent examples of where the department can facilitate a critical role is Hout Bay’s East and West Forts; the coastal batteries around the Peninsula; Robben Island; the aerial cableway restoration project in Simon’s Town; the old Standard Bank building in Adderley street; and many others.

Lastly, Mr Speaker, I want to congratulate the department and the Western Cape government on achieving what no other previous administrations or provinces have achieved, and that is to take ownership of its libraries. For whatever reason, this constitutional mandate has been a bridge too far, placing an unfunded mandate on the municipalities.

As one of my colleagues will address this matter further, I will simply say: Well done. Together with the broadband initiative that the province is embarking on, this project will ensure that future generations in the province are better informed, better connected and included.

In every respect we will be living in a Better Together environment.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[Mr M NCEDANA: Speaker, let me also first say thank you to the hon Minister for his speech. It has touched so many important things. I am not going to say much about them. As far as I am concerned here at the Western Cape there is a Provincial Language Act which was passed in 1998 and this province, especially this department was tasked mandated to start a language policy.]

The area of concern is whether we have improved in the implementation of that language policy. We know that Ernst & Young have been doing an audit regarding that matter, but we have not yet received any reports. I would appreciate a progress report in that regard.

Kodwa okubaleke kakhulu, Somlomo, le meko ijongene neelwimi zalapha eNtshona Koloni njengokuba ohloniphekileyo umphathiswa esisitsho kwaye ndiyavumelana naye into yokuba xa kuphuhliswa le migaqo-nkqubo mayingaphikisani nomgaqo-siseko.


Okokunye uza kufika into yokokuba ngoku kusithiwa iilwimi zifanele ukuba ziyalingana ukutsho oko isisiXhosa, isiBhulu nesiNgesikodwa isisiXhosa sibekwa ekugqibeleni.

Bekufanele ukuba sibekwe kwisibini ukuba abantu abaninzi ngokwesibini ubuninzi sisixhosa. Ndiyayicinga ukuba isebe lifanele ukuba lizikhawulezise ezi zinto ukuqinisekisa ukuba ziyaphunyezwwa ngaphandle kwento yokuba sibe sijongela phantsi ezinye iilwimi zabanye abantu.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

But what is most important, Speaker, this issue is about the languages of the Western Cape as the hon Minister has said and I agree with him when he says that when developing these policies they should not be against the constitution. All the languages are important to all the people but there is one thing I understand here at the Western Cape there is one language which I feel the same as he feels with Afrikaans and to me that isisiXhosa. The isiXhosalanguage in this House is neglected and it is not given the respect it deserves. We have spoken about that for so many times. Whe isisiXhosa is interpreted here it is not interpreted in the standard it deserves.

On the other hand we are told that languages are supposed to be equal, i.e. isixhosa, Afrikaans and English but isisiXhosa placed last. It is supposed to be number two because isisiXhosa is the second most spoken language in this province. I thank that the department has to speed up to ensure that these policies are implemented because failing to do so would mean that other people’s languages are undermined.] In fact, including English should not be looked down on because fewer people speak English. It is important to them.
I want to encourage cohesion in the department, particularly when it comes to sport. Sport is an activity that brings everybody together, because irrespective of what language you speak in sport you understand one another. The focus on schools and the revival of sport at schools is most important for us. I think the budget in that direction could have been increased. Of course, we appreciate the fact that more funds have been allocated in the budget, but it could have been increased. Even at a national level revival of sport at schools is being promoted.

However, the concern is: How do we make sure that there is integration between sport played at school and sport being played in the townships? The conditions in the townships are poor, and I am sure the Minister is aware of that. Most of the poor schools do not have facilities for sport, particularly rugby and soccer. The playgrounds there are very poor. I think the department has a major challenge in terms of making sure that there is an improvement in that area, not only in schools but also the local sports grounds. This needs urgent attention if we want to improve and get the Western Cape to compete, not only at a national level, but at an international level, so that we see growth in the province.

Mr Speaker, lastly, the issue relating to archives and culture needs to be treated with the sensitivity it deserves. I am not too sure if the Western Cape is the only province that has a rich history in respect of archives. But as this is the province that we reside in, it becomes very important that we research and get to know about the Khoisan. I am very passionate …

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr M NCEDANA: Can I just finish, Mr Speaker?

Mr M NCEDANA: I am very passionate about the Khoisan issue. If the Minister had raised this in the standing committee, I would have loved to have heard more about it in his speech and his plans going forward.

Ms J L HARTNICK: Mr Speaker, the DA welcomes the 2012/2013 budget of R390,7 million allocated to the provincial department of Cultural Affairs and Sport, whose main mission is to encourage excellence and inclusiveness in sport and culture through the sustainable use of their resources.

The mandate of the Western Cape government in connection with culture is very wide in that it covers art, language, culture, museums, heritage and archives. I therefore also want to thank the department for their regular information sessions with the standing committee.

Several delivery outcomes were achieved by the department, which includes their involvement during the annual Arts and Culture Week in the Greater Karoo, during which time rural communities and arts practitioners were able to interact and acquire skills in various art forms. This, once again, is an indication that Better Together breeds success.

The department also embarked on a review of its genre development strategy of which recommendations will be considered and, where possible, factored into departmental operations and programmes.
*Existing cultural forums are used to coordinate activities at local as well as district levels. I want to thank the department for the financial contributions they make to various bodies and organisations. Here I would like to emphasise the rural Christmas choirs who have a problem with transport and in this regard the department must be congratulated with its bigger financial contribution.

†Mr Speaker, during our oversight visit to Beaufort West last year we visited the museum where we saw the impressive exhibition on the life of the late Prof Chris Barnard and his contribution to medical science.

*Lastly I want to mention that the department has produced a Nama calendar for 2011-2012 in an effort to promote previously disadvantaged indigenous languages. The inclusion of a person with a knowledge of indigenous languages in the Western Cape Language Board and the presence of deaf-mute interpreters in the House today is proof that the department takes inclusivity seriously.

Mr Speaker, I support the budget.

*Ms WITBOOI: Mr Speaker, when I was preparing for this debate I could not help but think about my childhood – the days of concerts, singsongs, sports meetings, family get-togethers, bazaars, story-telling and so on. The realisation of how communities had the power to unite us all through such gatherings left me with a warm heart.

On Saturday afternoons young and old were at the sports field to support our little town’s only rugby team. After athletics meetings everybody was talking about the top long-distance athlete or the top high-jump athlete. After concerts we laughed for days about the hilarious way in which Tant Griet and Oompie Dawie Ruiters amused the audience.

Time has marched on and things have changed. Community chats and stories around the fire have made way for blogs. Most socials and plain socialising have been replaced by social networks and little has remained of concerts and bazaars, which were the usual thing then. The hastiness which characterises modern society we rather make out a cheque or make a financial contribution to the bazaar, and that’s it.

One of the biggest challenges with which the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport is wrestling, is the following – and I quote from the Core Functions and Responsibilities:

The challenge for the government is to build a cohesive Western Cape community by creating opportunities for all to unite and fully participate in society at large.

Mr Speaker, I come back to the issue of challenge.

The challenge is to bring about solidarity in the community. If the department does not achieve this goal, no other department will succeed in uniting our fragmented communities. This must be the aim of every programme of the department.
We must admit today that all is not all right in our communities. Our communities are fighting, while we say that we are pouring so much money into programmes in these communities. We must admit that everything is not all right if our young people destroy themselves with tik, liquor and reckless living. It can also not be all right if our school children attack one another on the school grounds with the purpose of causing serious injuries.

Mr Speaker, the truth is that it has become all right in many communities for things to be like this. We fight, we quarrel, we destroy each other, we break down, we steal and we murder each other. We see it but don’t talk about it, we don’t want to become involved and don’t want to be the snitch; it’s simply all right.

There must be a way for the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport to turn round this evil, and if the department succeeds in this, and if it wants to succeed, it will have to get to the Western Cape communities, listen to the communities, help the communities and monitor that such communities get the help they need to make them all right again.

The success of the MOD centre concept will depend on community involvement in such a project. The communities do not want to be left out; they want form part of and have a say in the programmes that are going to be run in their MOD centres. We realise the uniqueness of each community and to bring about a win-win situation, interaction with the whole community can only benefit the department’s well-meant efforts.

Mr Speaker, Programme 3: Library and Archive Services gets the biggest cut of the budget and this will remain the case over the MTEF period. I did some homework regarding the situation on the ground. It left me with a few questions for the department. For example, to what extent are research opportunities being created? It is a wonderful programme. I’ll talk about it in a moment.

There are remote places where students come home with assignments to complete and take back with them. Then they have to spend money to travel to the neighbouring town by bus or taxi because the library in the village cannot help them. This is the kind of thing that we come across. The librarians are not trained well enough to be of assistance to learners and/or students. In remote towns Abet classes are offered and in many cases students need study guidance. To what extent can the library services be of assistance?

I also want to mention that we can find the answer in the department’s new programme, but I want to tell you that many of the Abet people are not even computer literate; we will have to look at that. What efforts have been made by the department to popularise this programme, which is an excellent way of serving communities?

Mr Speaker, I do not want to generalise, but I have heard of librarians who tell the community that they may not take out such-and-such a book now because Mrs so-and-so must read it first and that they must not touch it because their hands are dirty. We must also look at these little “foxes”; they upset communities. In our communities things are not always as they should be.

The Rural Library Connectivity Programme that is going to be rolled out is a wonderful programme, but I think we should look at the libraries in the villages.
As far as sport and recreation are concerned, we can keep each other busy for hours. I am very grateful for the chairperson’s input here. We, as committee, have agreed that the department must come and enlighten us on sport and recreation. I think this is something that we should look at once and for all.

We can also say a lot about school sports and the department and the Department of Education in the Western Cape are still dragging their feet on this. Clearly there is uncertainty as to which of these two departments wants to accept responsibility for this important component of child development. The ANC will not sit with crossed arms and allow the situation to be drawn out. The Soccer World Cup tournament – and somebody has already spoken about it – has come and gone. There was an unrivalled spirit here. We could only stand in wonder and become one with the good spirit of the time. What legacy did this great event leave behind? Shouldn’t we perhaps do some stock-taking and see to what extent the minds of young people who benefited from the World Cup were simply left to their own devices, and nothing further?

Together with Programme 3: Cultural Affairs – that is to say, that thought, plus Cultural Affairs – we can create a multitude of opportunities in this province alone through which the spirit of nation-building and solidarity we experienced during the World Cup can be brought back and expanded.

The MEC mentioned that the MOD centres can function excellently if, inter alia, dedicated coaches are available. I agree. I want to say to the Minister that dedicated, reliable people in communities will be obtained only through programmes where the communities are fully involved. People, especially parents, want to know with whom their children are involved and want to know that their children are safe.

The benefits of chess for a developing brain are incredible. I also add our congratulations to those of the MEC to that young man and his parents. The MOD centres and the programmes in the different MOD centres will depend on the needs of those communities. I can immediately think about things that the communities want to do, but I do think that we should see to it that chess is offered at these MOD centres. Perhaps it’s an unachievable target for now, but I think it can be done. We will see to it that the possibility is investigated.

Mr Speaker, we welcome the cultural forums and we will fulfill our oversight role by making sure that the cultural programmes are carried out with the emphasis on those programmes that promote nation building and solidarity.

Language has always been a very sensitive matter. I want to warn the MEC today. He must not imply here today that the ANC wants to harm the Afrikaans language. He knows it is not true. The MEC is on record as saying that he will go to court to protect Afrikaans. He’s free to do so. I don’t know why he’s trying this tactic of scaring the people in the province with unfounded allegations.

I want to tell the MEC that I am a very proud member of the ANC. I have never been restrained from speaking my beloved language. Indeed, I was hoping that the other member of the DA would deliver her speech in Afrikaans today because neither the Minister nor the chairperson of the standing committee did it. When Ms Hartnick began talking, I almost began to shiver. Why does she also start in English? Speak Afrikaans!
This is the beloved language that the Minister …[Interjections.] I hope the DA …[Interjections.] Okay, you may speak it, but I just want to make the point so that the Minister understands it.

Mr Speaker, perhaps I shouldn’t worry, but I hope that this budget will touch the hearts and minds of the people as never before. Communities don’t ask much. They ask that they be recognised, they ask to be included when their future is contemplated and, as the chairperson said, they plead for transparency. Our communities fight because people make decisions on their own and then pretend that the community said so; let’s make it open and transparent.

I want to thank the department for their hard work and wish them luck for a big and difficult task. I want to thank the Minister for his speech and I also want to thank the chairperson of the standing committee for the work he does in the committee.

I want to close by saying that it is a source of concern to me. Perhaps it’s very common of me to raise this issue here. If I look at the programme of Cultural Affairs and the other committee that is with us, Community Safety, I want us to see if there is a place …

An HON MEMBER: Space.

Ms J WITBOOI: … – a space, thank you – for this committee every 14 days. I think we should look at this. We cannot achieve what we want to achieve in the little time at the committee’s disposal.

*The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Witbooi. I think I’d better also speak Afrikaans today! [Laughter.]

*Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: Mr Speaker, after the hon Witbooi’s description of how we were years ago, it is a privilege for me to speak after her. One can almost smell the barbeque and you can hear the people singing around the fires or in the concerts.

This department plays a very important supporting role in the marketing of social inclusion, creativity and activity in the province. The department is close to my heart and I believe that they will slowly but surely begin to take their rightful place in the province under the political will of Minister Meyer.

Further to the previous speakers, I want to say that the MOD centres were established to give our youth the right platform to use their opportunities correctly and not to get involved in antisocial behaviour. Mr Mandela said: “Sport can reach out to people in a way which politicians can’t”. There are already 50 schools in the province that have these MOD centres.

Earlier this year there were gang activities in Khayelitsha in an area that is not normally harassed by gangs. What is worrying is that this gang violence was orchestrated by school children.

Every day six MOD centres operate in Khayelitsha from 14:00 to 16:00. During school holidays these centres are closed, something that should be looked at in depth. As the honWitbooi mentioned, communities want to become involved.
I believe that there are volunteer sports coaches that will spend time during school holidays to prepare our children for sports activities.

Minister Meyer mentioned that it would take about three years to evaluate all these centres’ successes. The department will evaluate whether the pass rate has improved, whether crime has decreased or has been totally eradicated, and whether school attendance has improved.

The Department of the Premier and the Departments of Health and Social Development are involved with the MOD centres, mainly to prevent the high teenage pregnancy rate, to develop a healthy lifestyle and to establish feeding schemes. The MOD centres must be monitored and evaluated to ensure that they have an effect on the high output centres where our youth can build a healthy and balanced future across diverse borders.

Mr Speaker, libraries build and assure and let nations grow. An amount of R179,638 million have been allocated to Programme 3. The department facilitated in the building, maintenance and opening of various libraries in the province. The opening of the most recent library in Paarl was a historical occasion as the previous library was opened 45 years ago. This library was funded jointly by the Drakenstein Municipality and the department, which proves that we are better together. This initiative across different spheres of government contributes to social inclusivity.

I want to appeal to the department to give special attention to more librarians or library personnel. During Library Week these shortcomings – actually I don’t want to call them shortcomings – but rather a shortage of librarians was mentioned repeatedly in conversations on the radio.

It is exciting to know that school libraries can be used as community libraries after school hours, as for example at the Klapmuts Primary School. It became the heartbeat of the community where parents, grown-up students and children can learn, send emails and empower themselves with knowledge.

The library of the Klapmuts Primary School gives access to 1 300 primary-school children and 500 high-school learners and they use this facility every day. The Klapmuts Primary School hopes to become a learning community that can provide a living nation for the future.

†The DA is proud to note that the budget allocated to the department will fulfil their vision as they have proven in the past years, which is a socially inclusive, creative and active Western Cape. The MOD centres promote the mission to encourage excellence and inclusiveness through sport and culture, and the maintenance and establishment of libraries will create the condition for access, mass participation and skills development.

†The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Mr Speaker, I would firstly like to express my thanks to all the members who took part in the debate on this budget Vote.

Firstly, I want to say to the chairperson of the standing committee, hon member Mark Wiley, that it is the policy of the department to work closely with Minister Winde in promoting sport tourism. I will later in my reply give extensive content as to how we promote sport tourism.
I fully agree that we must improve governance of sport federations, but also governance within the Western Cape. I fully agree that the department is doing the right thing in the context of financial oversight over many of these federations.

The department, for example, conducts a compliance audit in terms of section 38(1)(j) of the Public Finance Management Act in respect of funds that the department allocates to sport federations. We also analyse the audited annual financial statements of these sporting federations. We also conduct performance reporting of money allocated to various sporting federations and clubs. In addition the department also conducts monitoring visits to many of these activities that we are funding. All of this is in writing and agreed in terms of the various memorandums of understanding (MOAs) that we sign with the various sport federations. Mr Speaker, but the heart of any sport, the foundation of any sport, is clubs. And so we are investing in club development at the following four levels:

Firstly, at the level of improving the administration and governance we can no longer afford to use taxpayers’ money to manage a club from the boot of a car. The second leg of club development is equipment, the third leg is the attire and the fourth leg is athlete development.

Hon member Wiley also made reference to culture and heritage. I will also liaise with him with specifics in terms of the content of his input. I want to say to him that I met with the Language Committee this morning. I have also had informal discussions with the chairperson of Western Cape PanSalb, who is also present in the House today and with whom the department has a good working relationship. I also had a meeting with the Western Cape Language Committee this morning.

In terms of oversight and in terms of the transfers to the federations, we have developed an extensive application process. We do six-monthly annual reporting and, as I mentioned, we analyse audited annual financial statements. We also scrutinise the minutes of these federations. We must understand that sport federations are self-regulating bodies and they are also regulated by the Western Cape Sports Council. We also attend the annual general meetings of the Western Cape Sports Council.

Hon member Ncedana referred to the Western Cape Provincial Language Act. We have made significant improvements over a number of years, but further progress needs to be made in terms of especially the isiXhosa language.

The department and the Western Cape Language Committee completed a report recently on the implementation of the language policy in the Western Cape Provincial Parliament. I will soon table that report in the House. I also had a meeting with the Language Committee this morning.

The hon member referred to school sport and the budget for school sport. I am happy to announce that school sport constitutes 50% of the conditional grant for sport allocated to school sport. In addition, the hon member also referred to the state of facilities. In this budget I am also allocating R2 million, via municipalities, to improve sport facilities in local communities.

I want to inform the hon member that I made a discovery last year. Many municipalities approached me for funding for sport facilities. Two municipalities came to me and asked me for funding last year.
I put my hands on the annual reports of those two municipalities. I saw that they had not spent a single cent of the money that was allocated to them. So in many cases it is not an issue of …

†Mr M NCEDANA: Which one?

†The MINISTER: You ask which one. Cederberg Municipality …

An HON MEMBER: ANC.

The MINISTER: … has not spent a single cent. It does not matter which party it is. Whether it is DA municipality or an ANC municipality, I will cut them in the same spirit when it comes to non-compliance with spending money. There are DA municipalities and ANC municipalities, but that is irrelevant. What is relevant is that we must see that the municipalities spend the money.

†Mr M OZINSKY: What about the second one?

†The MINISTER: I will also give you the list because the House is transparent. We have no problem in naming these municipalities. This is a municipality …

An HON MEMBER: Beaufort West.

The MINISTER: It is not Beaufort West; it is Witzenberg. I have confronted these two municipalities. When they approached me I told them that they must forget about getting money from this government until they have spent their money appropriately.

Mr Speaker, during my recent municipal sport summit I also mentioned to these municipalities that they must not ask us for money unless they can prove to me that they have a 15- to 20-year maintenance plan, because many municipalities that received money from this Parliament can show us nothing now, 10 years later. Municipalities that come to this government for money must demonstrate that they have a maintenance plan, that they have norms and standards for maintenance, that they have a maintenance officer on their budget, that they have a job description for that officer and that there is monitoring and evaluation of the facilities. It is a disgrace to see the state of some of these facilities that were funded by various municipalities. My oversight role will therefore now extend to look at the quality of the maintenance of various municipalities.

But there is good news, hon member. I am happy that you raised this particular point. There are now developments at national government level – and I support these developments – that at least 15% of the municipal infrastructure grant (MIG) funding to municipalities must now be reserved for sports facilities. I fully support it.

*I agree with the hon member Witbooi that the cultural landscape has made way for other media as far as the narratives are concerned. She referred to the social problems in our communities. We agree that we should chat more, talk more. That is why my department had social-cohesion talks throughout the Western Cape last year. It was our aim to promote library services to all the remote corners of the Western Cape.
The hon member also mentioned those who do Abet and don’t have computers. We are therefore convinced that the 101 computers that we are going to place in rural libraries will help to give the people who do Abet access to computers.

I also recently visited the Abet Community Learning Centre in Worcester. As you know, one of the Abet learners in Worcester, Bernadette Bailey, received the national Abet award.

As far as school sports is concerned, I want to say to the members of the standing committee that Minister Grant and I are already talking about this. Because we apply transverse management in the Western Cape, I will also discuss the other aspects you raised with me with my other colleagues in that committee context.

The hon Witbooi is also right when she says that the unique needs of the local communities must determine the contents of the programmes of the MOD centres. We have seen that not all learners are interested in sports. Some are interested in dancing, in music and in singing. That is why we have also expanded the MOD centres to provide for choices because we believe in choice architecture.

I am very fond of the hon member Witbooi, but we will see each other in the constitutional court if our language rights are treated with contempt. Like the hon member, I also come from the West Coast; we don’t allow people to mess with the language. I am looking for one person in the ANC in the national Parliament who stands up for Afrikaans. There is not one single ANC national member of Parliament who stands up for Afrikaans. Where is Johan Gelderbloem? Where is Kortbroek van Schalkwyk? [Interjections.] They are scared to open their mouths because Mangaung is just around the corner. [Interjections.]

Mr Speaker, this government …

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

*The MINISTER: This government, under the leadership of Helen Zille, has already set money aside; we will see the ANC in the Constitutional Court, and then there must be no doubt about it.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

The MINISTER: We have time until the end of September to empty the debate of emotions over a cup of tea. I am therefore also going to write another letter to Minister Masithile shortly so that we can keep this matter out of court and rather create a language dispensation that can settle the language rights of people, which are entrenched in the Constitution. We have time until September to sort out the language emotions soberly and calmly over a cup of rooibos tea. I am inviting the hon Witbooi to have a cup of rooibos tea from Clanwilliam with me in my office. [Interjections.]

†The hon member also asked about the legacy of the World Cup. The legacy of the World Cup is that we now have improved facilities, more soccer is being played, we have street soccer across the Western Cape and we also have more participants in sport. As a legacy we also demonstrated that we have the ability to host big events.
Mr Speaker, I fully agree that chess is an easy and simple sport in terms of infrastructure, and we will certainly see a revolution in chess in the Western Cape.

*Hon Witbooi, thank you for your thoughts on nation building and inclusivity. The department already has a number of projects built up by the legacy of the 2010 Fifa World Cup. For instance, the handicraft that has been developed is on display in the George Museum, where visitors can view it. There is also a travelling exhibition of our national symbols.

Hon member Marais, thank you for your inputs on the role of volunteers. At the Isikhokelo Primary School at Site C, Khayelitsha, I have seen the tremendous impact made by volunteers. “Isikhokelo”, according to the school principle, means “leaders in education”. I have seen leadership in that school making an impact at that particular MOD Centre.

†Mr Speaker, I wish to conclude. Many members have now indicated that we must promote sport tourism and the impact of mega-events to build a social inclusive society. In the year to come we will again see the Cape Argus Pick ‘n Pay Cycle Tour. The planning has already started to have 35 000 people taking part in the next cycle tour. The Cape Argus Pick ‘n Pay Cycle Tour attracts 35 000 people, which generates a half billion rand to our GDP in the Western Cape.

Mr Speaker, we will also again see in the new year 30 000 people taking part in the Cape Times Discovery Big Walk. We will also soon, over the Easter weekend, see the Two Oceans Marathon, showcasing the Western Cape for sport tourism. I will personally take part in the Safari Marathon in Wellington in May this year. [Interjections.] The Safari Marathon is 25 years old this year. The Fish Factory Tournament is a big sport event on the West Coast. This year it will be 25 years old. We want to thank Dougie Dyers for this huge investment in the West Coast. This coming weekend we will see the KKNK Festival promoting local economic development stimulating in the region of R450 million to the growth of this economy.

*Mr Speaker, I am also glad that the local municipality in Laingsburg launched the Karoo Marathon there on their own initiative. I’m very glad to see Dr Adams, councillor of the Drakenstein Municipality, in the House here today. The vision of that municipality is to make the Berg River Canoe Marathon a world-class event.

†Mr Speaker, we also support the Southeaster Festival. I am pleased to announce that Boland Tennis will also this year host the International Wheelchair Tennis Championship in 2012. We will also have in this coming year the Elite Boxing Championship to be used as a qualifier for the SA Olympics.

Mr Speaker, Western Province Netball will also host in the Western Cape the South African Junior Netball Championship U/19 and U/22 in June this year. The International Rugby Board U/20 World Championship will take place in the Western Cape in July/August 2012. The South African Chess Championship will take place in Cape Town later this year, hosted by Western Province Chess. Lastly, in July we will see the Inaugural World University Netball Championship to be hosted by Boland Netball.

Mr Speaker, why are these things happening in the Western Cape? There is a simple reason – good governance, good practice ... [Interjections.] ... attracts foreign investment and so we promote sport tourism in the Western Cape.
They can laugh about this because where they govern, people don’t want to invest. Where we govern, people are willing to invest. [Applause.]

Debate concluded.

†The SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Meyer. All the guests of Minister Meyer are invited to Tafelberg for refreshments. The proceedings will be suspended for five minutes. Thank you very much.

BUSINESS SUSPENDED AT 16:00 AND RESUMED AT 16:08.

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL [B 3—2012]

(Debate on Vote 6 – Health)

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you very much for the opportunity. Premier Helen Zille, Cabinet members, Leader of the Official Opposition, leaders of other opposition parties, hon members, colleagues, friends, citizens of the Western Cape and hon member Ozinsky, ... [Laughter.] ... thank you very much for the opportunity for this important Budget Vote.

Introduction

The compilation of both the Health Budget and indeed the Budget speech itself, which I will deliver today, is the end result of dedicated work by a team of officials in the Department of Health, together with the Provincial Treasury and the support of my colleagues in the provincial Cabinet.

I would especially like to thank my colleague, the Minister of Finance, Economic Development and Tourism, Alan Winde, for his support, without which this Budget would not have been possible. I thank the Head of Health, Prof Craig Househam, and his management team for the significant contribution he and his staff have made to health care delivery in the Western Cape, not only for this budget, but in general. I also thank my office staff – those who are present and all those watching on television – for their support during this process. My gratitude also goes towards the standing committee and the Chair, hon Anroux Marais, for the work that they have done.

It would, however, be remiss of me not to mention my wife Sarie and my family for their support.

An HON MEMBER: Why isn’t she in the box?

The MINISTER: Because I don’t put my wife in a box. [Laughter.][Interjections.] It’s difficult to contain her.

Western Cape’s health economy

I’d like to share some statistics with you, only recently acquired ... [Interjections.] Mr Deputy Speaker, I’ll try again. I’d like to share some statistics with you, only recently acquired, about the contribution of the Western Cape health care sector to the national gross domestic product:
The total output of the Western Cape public and private health care sector is estimated to be R29,7 billion per annum;

The public and private health sector employs about 75 800 people, but if you take the multiplier effects into account, the sector sustains more than 157 000 jobs in this province;

The employees in the sector earned R10,1 billion in salary and wages, at an average of R133 400 annual salary per person;

In terms of percentage, the provincial contribution amounts to 14,5% of the national GDP;

The sector generated tax revenues to the tune of R1,2 billion from this province; and

In the period 2004 to 2010 the sector’s growth was 3,1% per annum on average.

The noteworthy fact, however, is the sustained 3% growth – even during the 2008/2009 recession, which reflects the defensive nature of the sector not being affected by economic cycles.

In fact, the growth pattern is consistent with evidence that health spend tends to increase in times of economic recession.

In order to put the current size of the Western Cape health sector in perspective, it is interesting that 14% of the country’s hospitals are located in this province – 89 of the 626.

The province ranks second in terms of the number of private hospitals and third in terms of the number of public hospitals in the country.

The Western Cape hosts more than 13% of the hospital beds in South Africa – roughly 3,2 hospital beds per 1 000 of the population. The national bed ratio is 2,5 per 1 000 population. The Western Cape bed ratio compares well with that of Australia, which is 3,7 beds per 1 000 population.

Seen from this perspective, Mr Deputy Speaker, the concept of the Western Cape becoming an international health destination is not far-fetched, and should be a driver for the approval of hospital licensing to stimulate economic growth and job creation in our province.

Creating wellness

The department is now engaged in planning for 2020 to determine the service requirements going forward to 2020 and beyond. It will enable human resources, infrastructure and other requirements to be identified that will shape the future services in our province. At the heart of the vision for 2020 there is a renewed commitment to a quality, caring and patient-centred health service and improved health outcomes where the care pathways will be designed to respond to patient needs.
The shift in focus from illness to one of promoting and seeking wellness that gained significant ground during the 2011/2012 financial year, culminating with the Wellness Summit and the ensuing Cape Town Declaration, will be further strengthened in the coming year. In particular I am committed to developing wellness centres that will increase the access in communities to health services and activities promoting a healthier lifestyle.

These wellness clinics will deal with lifestyle health issues that should be monitored on a regular basis, but which too often remain undetected until someone goes to hospital for treatment eventually. Wellness clinics will offer testing services that allow citizens to monitor their health, detecting emerging issues before they become a major problem.

Funded by the private sector, the clinics will provide the opportunity to every state patient to have an annual health check-up. We envisage these clinics to operate where the people are – at schools, libraries, shopping centres, etc. The priority is to give every citizen of this province an opportunity to access health services. Among the priorities are learners, offering every learner access to a mobile wellness centre at least once a year.

The wellness centres, fixed or mobile, will aim to enhance wellness through education on healthy lifestyles, early detection, prevention and referral for treatment. This will be a first in public health care worldwide. But more than this, we will promote the responsibility that people must take to protect and enhance their own good health.

The PREMIER: Hear, hear!

The MINISTER: Health and wellness require responsible decisions about lifestyle, eating and exercising habits. This government undertakes to care for people who take responsibility for their own health. This supports the Better Together concept. If you take care of your health, we will take care of the health service.

Public-private partnerships

Partnerships with a range of stakeholders have increased year-on-year during the term of this government. In the past two years the province has been able to secure successful partnerships with the private sector that have led to significant contributions to our health care system. These public-private partnerships leverage the talents of the private sector for the benefit of public sector patients. It is based on a win-win philosophy that improves the physical health of patients and the financial health of the economy.

A few examples of these successful partnerships are:

*Clicks Helping Hand Trust*

The project offers free immunisation, baby feeding and nutritional advice, baby weighing and family planning at selected Clicks stores on Thursday afternoons. Five per cent of the proceeds of Clicks-branded baby products marked with the Helping Hand logo are donated to the Trust. This is a model for strategic partnerships and co-operation in which the state taps into existing private facilities for the sake of providing services to public patients.
Mobile diagnostics laboratory

This partnership is supported by the German Consulate in Cape Town, the University of Stellenbosch, the National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS) and the Fraunhofer Institute for Biomedical Engineering (IBMT) in Saarland, Germany, and enables the province to offer accelerated laboratory results to patients in rural areas.

Surgical Skills Training Centre

Located at the Red Cross War Memorial Children’s Hospital, this centre is a partnership with the Children’s Hospital Trust and Karl Storz Endoscopy SA, the latter having donated R10 million in equipment and technical assistance. It is the only training centre on this continent for surgeons-in-training from across Africa.

GVI Oncology partnership in George/Hessequa, Southern Cape

This partnership agreement with GVI Oncology in George saves our patients the trip to Groote Schuur in Cape Town where they used to have to go for treatment. This has resulted in such a financial and emotional benefit for our patients that we are in the process of looking at similar partnerships in renal care and other niche medical areas.

Western Cape Health Foundation

Some of its members are here today. Supporting our efforts to increase departmental income to address the R800 million maintenance backlog, we have appointed Ernst and Young Consultants – and I thank them for their presence also here today – which resulted in the establishment of the independent Western Cape Health Foundation.

The Foundation will take responsibility for the Commercial Rights project and independently spearheads new and innovative initiatives to generate resources for health. This is a significant step in strengthening this key relationship between the department and the private sector. I am encouraged that a number of prominent people, including Dr Paul Cluver, who will chair the board of directors of the Health Foundation, have been willing to give of their time and energy to promote better health in the Western Cape. This is clearly an example of people who also feel that it is better together! The Foundation will be publicly introduced in the coming months.

These examples certainly demonstrate that the Western Cape has succeeded in responding with solutions which have proved to bring about better health outcomes. At the heart of the provincial system is a commitment to accountability, affordability and efficiency – all necessary elements for high-quality health outcomes.

Key focus areas

Today I am tabling a budget of R14,632 billion that funds the provision of public health services largely to the estimated 4,6 million uninsured people, of the estimated total population of 5,9 million, in the Western Cape.
In addition to providing health services, the department will focus on strengthening its advocacy role to ensure that the upstream factors, which contribute to the burden of disease, are addressed by the appropriate departments and stakeholders. As indicated earlier on 8 November 2011, the Premier hosted a summit aimed at reducing the burden of disease. The delegates to the summit adopted the Cape Town Declaration on Wellness and defined an agenda to advance the collective effort of stakeholders in the reduction of the burden of disease. The summit and the declaration emphasise the philosophy of this government that the burden of disease can be addressed better together.

The department has established the following working groups to address the quadruple burden of disease which is co-ordinated through the Provincial Transversal Management System in support of the Strategic Objective: Increasing Wellness as outlined in the Provincial Strategic Plan:

1. Violence and road injury prevention;
2. Healthy lifestyles;
3. Women’s health;
4. Maternal and child health;
5. Infectious diseases, such as HIV and TB; and

Improving quality of care remains central to the business and functioning of the department. These initiatives include:

- Building on the baseline assessment of compliance with the national core standards undertaken at all facilities during 2011-12;
- Building the capacity and systems at the level of district management; and
- Primary health care re-engineering.

*Foreign nationals and people from other provinces*

Although the department does not keep track or statistics of the number of patients moving to our province for health services, education and economic opportunities, I believe the latest census will tell the story – once the numbers are released.

The fact is that the more we improve our services and the more we initiate new ideas and new plans to decrease the queues at our facilities, the longer the queues will get, because people will wait for good service. To date we have not yet taken up this matter with national government, but at some point there will have to be a discussion with national government about additional resources to deal with additional patients.

*Patient communication projects*

In an effort to address complaints about health services effectively and efficiently, we have now established the Independent Complaints Advisory Committee (ICC) where the Minister and Head of Department can refer complaints when existing structures have not resolved such complaints to the satisfaction of the complainant. This advisory committee is a temporary body, whilst legislation is in the draft process for an independent complaints authority.
The ICC was the very first initiative of this kind in the favour of patients, and the process provided for an assessment after the first year. Upon legal advice obtained, and to provide more efficient and effective outcomes, we are now preparing draft provincial legislation to establish a formal structure which will operate within a legislative framework.

I remain committed to create more communication channels for the users of our services, and have become very aware that current complaints channels do not always satisfy our patients. We are exploring the set-up, also, of an SMS communication line whereby complaints can be directed via a cell phone, with a commitment from the department to respond to that rapidly. At the same time I have to say that the department currently receives more compliments than complaints, but the latter always seem to make the headlines in the media.

We believe that the key to improving the patient experience and quality of care is caring for the department’s staff. The department aims to become a value-based organisation. Through the Barrett survey undertaken during the last two years, the department adopted the values of Care, Competence, Accountability, Integrity, Respect and Responsiveness (C2AIR2). The leadership within the department is committed to leading by example through living the values in their daily work. The department will engage external expertise to widen the change management process throughout the organisation.

The commissioning of the Khayelitsha Hospital at the beginning of this year was one of the most significant achievements of the department in the last several decades and, more importantly, a milestone in health care delivery for the people of the Western Cape. This hospital is the result of years of careful planning as set out in the Healthcare 2010 strategy, which will see, in addition, the completion and commissioning also of the Mitchells Plain Hospital later in the year.

The focus areas of the department in the coming 2012/2013 financial year include:

1. Developing action plans to improve overall patient experience and quality of clinical care;

2. The full commissioning of the Khayelitsha Hospital;

3. Commissioning of the Mitchells Plain Hospital;

4. Finalising the 2020 strategy and plan for health services in the Western Cape;

5. Finalising the priority projects related to the Cape Town Declaration on Wellness including the –
   - High Five area approach to reduce alcohol-related injuries;
   - Healthy lifestyle campaign to decrease the incidence of chronic disease; and
   - Programme to reduce intimate partner violence;

6. Improving maternal and child health outcomes; and

7. Achieving an unqualified audit for finance, human resources and predetermined objectives.
At the heart of the success of the Department of Health is a commitment to accountability, affordability and efficiency, which are all necessary elements for high-quality health outcomes. We will continue to do all that is necessary to maintain our status of clean audits. In 2011 the department received discounts from the National Health Laboratory Services for early settlement of accounts to the value of R4,3 million. We will continue with this policy of paying our creditors on time.

*The PREMIER: Good.
†The MINISTER: I continue:

Challenges

The allocation to the department in 2012/2013, although increasing in nominal terms, is marginally less in real terms than the 2011/2012 Adjusted Budget. The gap between the need for health services and the available resources remains the challenge and increases the need to increase efficiency, work smarter and reprioritise services within the existing baseline allocation.

Budget details

The Department of Health is allocated R14,632 billion in 2012/2013, R15,740 billion in 2013/2014 and R16,751 billion in 2014/2015, which amounts to R47,134 billion over the three-year 2012 MTEF. This represents a nominal increase of R1,2 billion, or almost 9 % in comparison to the revised estimate of 2011/2012.

National conditional grants contribute almost R4 billion to the provincial health allocation while the projected departmental revenue in 2012/2013 is R536 million.

The 2012/2013 allocations for health represent 36,7 % of the total provincial budget, for which I acknowledge the support of the Premier and my provincial Cabinet colleagues.

Provincial equitable share

The Western Cape receives a proportional share of the national adjustments to the provincial equitable share and conditional grants. Over the 2012 MTEF the provincial equitable share grows annually by an average 6,8 %. The inflation adjustments cater for the impact of the higher-than-anticipated adjustments to salaries following the Public Service Bargaining Council (PSBC) Resolution signed during 2011.

The Western Cape’s portion of the provincial equitable share formula, which since 2011 includes a health component, increases from 10,5 % in the 2011 MTEF to 10,6 % in the 2012 MTEF.

Conditional grants

The department receives a major portion of its allocation through the following conditional grants, which have to be allocated and utilised in terms of the conditions as outlined in the Division of Revenue Act:

- R2,182 billion for the National Tertiary Services Grant;
- R738 million for the Comprehensive HIV and AIDS Grant;
- R496 million for the Hospital Revitalisation Grant;
- R428 million for the Health Professions Training and Development Grant;
• R131 million for the Health Infrastructure Grant;
• R11,5 million for the National Health Insurance Grant;
• R10 million for the Nursing Colleges and Schools Grant; and
• R1 million for the Expanded Public Works Programme Integrated Grant for Provinces.

Revenue

The department remains committed to maximising revenue generation and collection from current sources of revenue whilst exploring alternative revenue streams to counter ongoing budget constraints.

The tariffs that are applicable to funded patients, for example, medical scheme patients, will be increased by 5,4 % with effect from 1 April 2012. However, I am very pleased to announce that the tariffs for unfunded patients without medical insurance will remain at the current levels. This tangibly illustrates the manner in which this department cares for those in need.

The tariffs for licence registration and inspection of private health establishments are under review and will be adjusted upward to allow for cost recovery in the coming year.

Distribution of the budget

The budget of the department is divided between the eight budget programmes with R12,722 billion or 87 % of the vote being allocated to Programmes 2, 3, 4 and 5 which funded the direct operational costs of providing health services. Compensation of employees accounts for R8,478 billion or 58 % of the total budget. The department has allocated approximately 31 % of the R4,456 billion to the procurement of goods and services, which amounts to approximately 55 % of the goods and services procured by the Western Cape Provincial Government.

Programme 1: Administration

Programme 1, which is responsible for the strategic management and overall administration of the department, receives R489 million, which amounts to 3,3 % of the Vote.

Funding is specifically allocated to the following projects:

• An additional R19 million is allocated to fund the additional cost of a new service provider to operate the chronic dispensing unit, which will process an increased number of prescriptions and service delivery points. While there may be teething problems during the transition between the current and new service providers, the expansion of this important service is an exciting initiative which demonstrates our commitment to being patient-centred. The dispensing of medicine parcels for chronic patients to different geographic areas of the province will significantly reduce the waiting times at facilities – currently one of the key complaint areas for our patients.

After a lengthy legal battle, the R5 million tender contract was finally allocated to the company that originally won the tender, UTI.
Their contract will officially commence on 1 April 2012, but they have been working in tandem with the former contractor for the past two months already. The home delivery service is part of a roll-out plan that will be expanded incrementally, starting with the hotspots where waiting times are the longest. At present home delivery services are also provided by contracted home-based care non-profit organisations.

In addition, Mr Deputy Speaker, we are looking at the piloting of automated dispensing pharmacies for central hospitals, which will allow patients to collect their medicine parcels at the machine, or at the counter of the facility, rather than waiting in queues at the pharmacy.

- R12 million is allocated to provide for an increased number of medico-legal claims being lodged against the department.

- R11 million is allocated for posts that are required to improve the reporting on financial, human resources and performance management data.

Programme 2: District Health Services

Programme 2 is responsible for the provision of district health services within the district health system and is allocated R5,498 billion in 2012/2013, which is 37.6% of the Vote. This amounts to a nominal increase of R559,348 million, or 11.3%.

These funds are divided amongst the 10 component sub programmes with 80%, or R4,372 billion, allocated to community health clinics, health centres and district hospitals. These facilities will provide approximately 16 million primary health care headcounts, in excess of 250,000 admissions and 1.1 million patient day equivalents in district hospitals.

District health councils have also been established in terms of the Western Cape District Health Councils Act, Act 5 of 2010, in each of the six districts of the province and will be further strengthened during 2012/2013.

As I mentioned previously, a watershed event is the phased commissioning of the Khayelitsha Hospital that began in January 2012, and will be completed during the year. This will be followed by the completion of the Mitchells Plain Hospital during the course of the year.

The focus of primary health care will be on the prevention of disease and the promotion of health or wellness, in particular maternal and child health, chronic diseases of lifestyle, including the impact of substance abuse, mental well-being and infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis.

In our efforts to reduce the mortality of children under the age of five years, the department is running a “saving mothers and children” plan with a Road to Health Booklet to monitor the newborn baby’s health and development right from birth and in the process detect and treat disease as early as possible.

On this road towards child health, we can be proud that 17 of our hospitals have been awarded Baby-Friendly Status. It is an international accreditation promoting breastfeeding as the only form of feeding after birth.
The accreditation is re-evaluated every three years, and requires dedication and hard work from those staff in the maternity units.

Community-based services, which are provided by home-based carers who are appointed through non profit organisations, are allocated R157,842 million. It is anticipated that this will enable the department to increase the number of home-based carers from approximately 2 900 to 3 050. Community-based services contribute significantly to improving access to health care, providing employment opportunities and fostering a sense of community involvement in the provision of health services.

The HIV and Aids programme receives R738 million, which is further supplemented by R203 million from the Global Fund. The department appreciates the ongoing support of the Global Fund whose contribution over the MTEF amounts to R643 million.

Reducing the burden of HIV and Aids and tuberculosis is an objective that is common to all of the overarching health policies, such as the Millennium Development Goals and the Negotiated Service Delivery Agreement, between the national Minister, the President of South Africa and the provincial Strategic Objective: Increasing Wellness.

Some of the measures that the Western Cape Government will implement to address HIV and Aids and tuberculosis include –

- the provision of antiretroviral therapy to 135 018 children and adults during 2012/2013;
- an HIV counselling and testing rate of 98 %;
- reducing the number of babies on the Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) programme who test positive to HIV at six weeks to 1,8 %; and
- improving the new smear-positive TB cure rate of cases cured at the first attempt to 82%, which is close to the international WHO benchmark of 85%.

During 2012/2013, the department aims to reduce –

- facility infant mortality to 10,2 per 1 000 live births or less;
- facility child mortality to 12,2 per 1 000 live births or less; and
- facility maternal mortality to 65 per 100 000 or less.

Focus areas for improving women’s health include increasing the cervical cancer screening coverage to 67,3 %, increasing the number of women who seek antenatal care before the twentieth week of their pregnancy to almost 60 % and reducing the delivery rate of women under the age of 18 years to 6,4 %.

The department also plans to perform approximately 6 900 cataract operations, which will dramatically improve, and in some cases, return sight and quality of life to the recipients.
Programme 3: Emergency Medical Services

Emergency Medical Services (EMS), which are responsible for the provision of emergency medical transport, including interhospital transfers and planned patient transport, are allocated R701 million or 4.8% of the Vote.

An amount of R15 million has been allocated provisionally for the information communication technology system. This new computer-aided dispatch system, required to replace the existing system, will provide for both the communication centre solution and the vehicle-based solution. It is anticipated that the system, once implemented, will improve the efficiency of the ambulance dispatch process and will also provide real-time information.

EMS deliver ambulance, rescue and patient transport services from 52 stations in five rural district EMS services and four divisions in the Cape Town Metro, with a fleet of 248 ambulances, 1 424 operational staff and 98 supervisors.

We have 248 ambulances in our fleet, which are upgraded every 200 000 km to 300 000 km. In the past year four state-of-the-art paediatric ambulances were added to our EMS fleet. Babies require specific equipment for intensive care transfers between facilities. These ambulances provide a comprehensive suite of everything required to safely transfer a sick baby or child to health facilities. This is part of an initiative to meet strategic objectives in line with the millennium development goals and to enrich and strengthen mother and child emergency medical care in the province.

In 2012/2013, 70% of priority one calls in urban areas will be responded to within 15 minutes, while 89% of priority calls in rural areas will be responded to within 40 minutes. It is anticipated that the service will transport approximately 487 000 patients during 2012/2013.

Volunteers make up a big component of our EMS personnel, especially in rural areas. They are required to have some medical training, a code 10 driver’s licence and be registered with the Health Professions Council of SA. We pay for their registration and annual membership.

Using both fixed- and rotor-wing aircraft the Air Mercy Service (AMS) provides for the transfer of acutely ill or injured patients to referral hospitals. This rapid evacuation of patients to specialised care benefitted approximately 1 400 patients during 2011/2012, and in doing so freed ambulances from long road trips and enabled them to remain in their designated service areas.

HealthNet is a transport service for our patients and the only one of its kind in the country. We have a fleet of 78 HealthNet vehicles adapted for ill patients, which transport approximately 4 000 patients from rural areas across the province to central hospitals per month. The service employs 95 staff members and performs outpatient transfers between levels of care. This transport infrastructure also transfers patients from primary health care facilities to regional and district hospitals. Although the service is often under unfair scrutiny, the new electronic supply and demand system will certainly improve the booking system and address the problems of misuse.
The emergency medicine component of the service works with staff in emergency centres to improve the quality of service provided through training, advising on relevant issues such as the design and layout of emergency centres and improving the quality of care in emergency services in facilities.

Programme 4: Provincial Hospital Services

This programme is responsible for the provision of general specialists and specialised hospital services that include tuberculosis, psychiatric, rehabilitation and dental training hospitals. Central hospitals, which are large, functional service delivery structures, are integral to a coherent health care delivery system at provincial level. These hospitals are the health facilities where the majority of health sciences trainees are trained to become health professionals and where much of the health professional service skills, health research and knowledge capital resides.

The Western Cape is the only province that over a number of years attempted to define and manage general and highly specialised services separately within the central hospitals. The funding of these services was distributed accordingly to separate budgetary programmes. However, after concluding that with the current information and management systems this was not possible, the department has reverted to funding the hospitals as functional entities. This reinforces the argument that to attempt to manage and fund these hospitals, divorced from the health system within which they function, is not viable.

National government’s plan to remove central hospitals from the responsibility of provincial departments of health infringes on the powers and functions of provinces, as the infrastructure is a provincial fixed asset and cannot be summarily transferred to the national Department of Health without due process.

The funding of these hospitals does not necessarily originate solely from the National Tertiary Services and Health Professions Training and Development Conditional Grants, and requires additional funding from the provincial equitable share.

It is noteworthy that the national grants fund only 57% of the total costs of all three current central hospitals.

Programme 4 is allocated R2,310 billion or 15.8% of the vote. This amounts to a nominal increase of R146,860 million, or 6.8%. Funding is allocated from the provincial equitable share with the exception of R81 million from the Health Professions Training and Development Grant, which addresses the cost to the service for training health professionals, and R5.5 million from the National Health Insurance Grant for general specialist posts in the National Health Insurance (NHI) pilot district.

The general specialist or regional hospitals receive R1,214 billion or 52.5% of the Programme 4 budget, which is a nominal increase of R56,216 million, or 4.86%. Regional hospitals will treat approximately 110,778 patient day admissions in 1,375 beds and manage 565,286 patient day equivalents (PDE) at an estimated cost of R1,842 per patient day equivalent during this financial year.

The six tuberculosis hospitals in the province are allocated R214 million, or 9.3%. This is a nominal increase of R17,598 million, or 8.95%, of the Programme 4 budget.
Approximately 4 235 admissions and 306 830 patient day equivalents will be managed in 1 040 beds, at a cost of R611 per patient day equivalent. A pilot infectious diseases palliative centre was opened in December 2011 at Nelspoort Hospital in the Central Karoo District to manage patients with extreme drug resistant TB treatment failure.

The four psychiatric hospitals are allocated R631 million, or 27,3%, of the Programme 4 budget. This is a nominal increase of R60,181 million, or 10,6%. These hospitals will treat approximately 5 860 admissions and 557 370 patient day equivalents in 1 698 beds, at a cost of R1 037 per patient day equivalent during this period. In addition to this, the psychiatric hospitals will also manage 145 step-down beds for the treatment of less acute psychiatric patients.

The revitalisation of the Valkenberg Hospital is now a priority project for the department on the grounds of the need to provide a facility capable of providing a forensic psychiatric assessment service to the Department of Justice. For some years now normal judicial processes have been seriously delayed because the current Valkenberg Hospital does not have the capacity to assess awaiting-trial persons, who have committed crimes as serious as murder. The R978 million rebuilding project is the largest capital project undertaken by this government. Construction will begin in January 2013 and will increase the bed capacity from 340 to 432 beds. Final construction is aimed to be completed by 2016.

The Western Cape Rehabilitation Centre (WCRC) is allocated R143 million, or 6,2%, of the Programme 4 budget. This amounts to a nominal increase of R5,763 million, or 4,21%.

The WCRC will manage approximately 885 admissions in 156 beds, and 45 789 patient day equivalents at a cost of R2 163 per patient day equivalent.

The dental training hospitals are allocated R110 million to fund an oral health service that will provide approximately 120 000 oral health visits and manufacture 6 000 oral health prostheses.

Programme 5: Central Hospital Services

The central hospitals, Groote Schuur Hospital, Tygerberg Hospital and Red Cross Children’s Hospital, provide highly specialised health care services and a platform for research and training of health workers by the universities. All three hospitals provide highly specialised services as national referral centres.

The central hospitals are allocated R4,212 billion, or 28,8%, of the Vote, which amounts to a nominal increase of R240,029 million, or 6%.

The total National Tertiary Services Grant of R2,182 billion, R270 million of the Health Professions Training and Development Grant and R3 million of the National Health Insurance Grant constitute approximately 58 % of the funding allocated to this programme. The central hospitals will manage approximately 140 395 patient admissions in 2 545 beds and 1 123 389 patient day equivalents at a cost of R3 244 per patient day equivalent.

The Picture Archiving Communication System (Pacs), which supports digital imaging equipment, will be implemented in each central hospital and the pilot of the
Radiological Imaging System (RIS) at Tygerberg Hospital will be completed and rolled out to the other central hospitals.

Programme 6: Health Sciences And Training

The programme funds training and development opportunities for employees and intending employees of the Department of Health and is allocated R255 million, or 1.7%, of the vote. Included in this amount is an earmarked allocation of R8.8 million for the purpose of the Social Sector Expanded Public Works Programme.

Counting 11 731 nurses out of 28 658 employees in the Western Cape Department of Health, our nurses constitute almost half of our workforce. The maintenance of their skills and competency levels in an ever-changing environment remains our challenge.

The Integrated Nursing Education and Training Framework as part of the Provincial Nursing Strategy endorses the incorporation our six nursing schools at provincial hospitals into satellite campuses of the Western Cape College of Nursing. This means that the Worcester Hospital will become the Boland-Overberg satellite campus and George Hospital will become the Southern Cape-Karoo satellite campus, and the same with the nursing schools at Beaufort West Hospital, Western Cape Rehab Centre, Groote Schuur Hospital and Tygerberg Hospital.

We are also in negotiation with the private sector to terminate the importation of nurses and to assist the private sector with the training of nurses. This will improve job creation and economic growth.

An amount of R58 million is allocated to the Western Cape College of Nursing and R74 million provides for bursaries, which are largely allocated to nurses at the Western Cape College of Nursing and the University of the Western Cape. It is anticipated that there will be an intake of 270 first-year students for this year and that 220 students will graduate from the nursing college during this period.

The Department will train 2 000 home community-based carers to strengthen home-based care services, 140 data capturer interns, 110 pharmacy assistants, 120 assistant-to-artisan interns and 120 human resource and finance management interns.

Programme 7: Health Care Support Services

This programme consists of laundry services, engineering services, forensic pathology services and the medicine trading account and is allocated R290 million, or 2%, of the vote.

Engineering Services are allocated R95 million in 2012/2013, while the Forensic Pathology Services are allocated R106 million. The conditional grant previously allocated to Forensic Pathology Services was phased out at the end of 2011/2012. Forensic Pathology Services will strive to respond to 80% of cases within 40 minutes and to achieve a turnaround time of three days for forensic examinations. The Beaufort West Forensic Pathology Laboratory will reach the construction and handover phase during 2012/2013.
Programme 8: Health Facilities Management

At this point we are project-managing the most capital projects ever in the history of this province. The total cost of capital projects exceeds R5 billion. A number of projects are in the feasibility, design and tender phase.

Projects in the construction and handover phase include:

- Community day centres in Knysna, Grabouw and Malmesbury;
- Ambulance stations in Malmesbury, Tulbagh and LeeuGamka;
- Emergency centres at the Swartland Hospital in Malmesbury and Ceres;
- Hospital extensions and upgrading at the Hermanus and George Hospitals; and
- The new district hospital in Mitchell’s Plain.

In addition, we are looking into a district hospital for Du Noon, and regional hospitals for the Helderberg Basin and for Mossel Bay. Another key project that is in the planning stage is the building of a new replacement hospital on the site of the current G F Jooste Hospital.

The new Tygerberg Hospital public-private partnership project, which will be funded through the Hospital Revitalisation Grant, is a megaproject that is in the identification and feasibility phase.

Programme 8 is allocated 6% of the vote in 2012/2013, which translates into a nominal increase of R62,251 million, or 7.6%.

Seventy-three per cent of the programme’s funding is from national conditional grants consisting of mainly –

- R496 million from the Hospital Revitalisation Grant; and
- R131 million from the Health Infrastructure Grant.

The provincial equitable share funding has been allocated as follows:

- R47 million for the purpose of maintaining current infrastructure;
- R11 million for preventative maintenance;
- R180 million for the purpose of maintenance and capital expenditure; and
- R12 million for the Red Cross War Memorial Children’s Hospital.

Other projects in planning are the redevelopment of the Brooklyn Chest TB Hospital in Rugby, a new Emergency Centre at Karl Bremer Hospital, ambulance stations at Knysna and Piketberg, and forensic pathology laboratories for Beaufort West and Riversdale.

Green efficiency, green energy and carbon trading

In her State of the Province Address the Premier spoke about our government’s commitment to a 10% energy and water savings, also in hospitals. I am proud that our new hospitals, both the Khayelitsha Hospital and the Mitchells Plain Hospital, and all current and future health facilities are built in line with the latest international design trends for health facilities, featuring environment-friendly and power-saving devices.
In line with this, a pilot study was undertaken at the Groote Schuur Hospital by Schneider International to monitor electricity usage. A tender process will now be undertaken to obtain green efficiency interventions. This will include the administrative process to register for carbon credit trading. The department will also undertake research during this financial year to determine the options available to invest in green efficiency, as well as investing in green energy supply.

*National Health Insurance*

Health care in South Africa faces many challenges. In the private sector health care is becoming progressively more unaffordable for the average citizen. In the public sector health care delivery in many provinces is near collapse with critical services not being delivered due to a lack of critical skills, managerial incompetence, political interference, fraud and corruption. In response to these problems the national government, in addition to a raft of initiatives, many apparently uncoordinated, has released a Green Paper policy document proposing various initiatives under the umbrella of National Health Insurance (NHI).

Although the Western Cape does not support the National Health Insurance Green Paper in its current format, it does not mean that the province will not participate in the NHI pilot projects.

As an alternative solution, the Western Cape government proposes universal health care for all, built on a primary health care basis. This is similar to the structures implemented in the Western Cape at present, where patients are referred to regional and specialised facilities according to their medical needs with government providing the transport infrastructure. The rest is governance-based on good business principles such as financial discipline, efficiency, equality, modernisation, monitoring and evaluation.

The lesson we have learned in the Western Cape is that we can improve health care for everyone by strengthening the positive elements of the public sector and removing its deficiencies on a planned and sustained basis.

In the Western Cape there is a significant private health sector presence that is, on the whole, well-managed in the public sector, despite challenges in some areas, as confirmed by outside evaluations and indeed the national Minister of Health himself, and is currently functioning well.

The Western Cape government is of the view that the key to any public sector health care reform in South Africa is a “well-functioning” health system, as currently exemplified by the Western Cape and as is set out in the discussion document released by the department on the proposed 2020 strategy for the future of health care in the province and the broader health reform, as proposed by the Western Cape government in the document titled *Universal Health for All*.

It is the view of this government that rather than coercion there should be a cooperative partnership between the public and private sector to increase wellness and improve the health of the people. We encourage all South Africans to work with us to be better together!
In closing, there is still much to be done to achieve the goal of the Western Cape government of increasing wellness and significantly improving the quality of both the health services and the patient experience of the services that we provide. To promote openness and transparency a pamphlet highlighting key aspects of the Annual Performance Plan for 2012/2013 has been published in a more reader-friendly format that will be widely distributed to communicate the service priorities for the coming year.

The Western Cape government continues to strive to provide the best possible health services within the available resources and I renew my undertaking with the Head of Department, Professor Craig Househam, and the management team in this regard. In the efforts to increase wellness by working together we can all be better together. If all those who work in the department work effectively and efficiently and make the best use of the available funds to provide the best service, we can be better together. If government departments and other stakeholders all consider the impact of their activities on the health status of the people when evaluating their core business, we can be better together.

An initiative that certainly demonstrates this is the draft legislation that my colleague, Minister Robin Carlisle, is preparing to introduce, namely, the Safety of Children in Transport. This will significantly reduce the number of children that we lose in motor vehicle accidents, and we support the Safely Home project.

If the various spheres of government can work together to address health issues we can be better together. There is no better example of this than the manner in which the recent challenges related to health service delivery in Du Noon have been handled jointly by the Western Cape Department of Health and the City of Cape Town.

If the people who use our facilities take responsibility for their own health and health services, and make use of the opportunities to work with the department through the various structures available, such as facility boards, clinic committees, health forums and district health councils, we can be better together.

If our partnership with the universities of the Western Cape is strong and promotes the production of caring and competent health professionals and supports the delivery of world-class, highly specialised health care, we can only be better together. On this topic I am happy to announce that in May this year the Premier will sign a multilateral agreement with our four partner universities. The agreement follows decades of legal processes to come to a mutual agreement ...

*The PREMIER: Good!!

†The MINISTER: ... about the status and compensation of employees working for the department and the universities. It certainly is a highlight in my portfolio, and a historic event for this province.

Improving the health status and well-being of the people of the Western Cape can only be achieved through partnerships. Put differently, by working better together we can all live a better life. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

*Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: Mr Deputy Speaker, thanks again to hon Minister Botha for his detailed exposition of the budget.
I welcome the budget allocation for the Western Cape Department of Health announced by hon Minister Alan Winde in his provincial budget speech on 1 March 2012.

The increase of 8.96% in the department’s budget will most definitely assist the health department in its quest to reduce the burden of disease and increase wellness in the Western Cape. The R14.6 billion budget will allow various initiatives to be launched in the province. This will include our High 5 project, which will reduce alcohol-related violence in five high-risk areas, such as Khayelitsha, Nyanga, Elsies River, Hout Bay and Kayamandi.

It will also afford us continued success in our exciting initiatives, such as our ARV treatment roll-out, which we will now be able to provide to 135 000 HIV-positive patients in 2012/2013. In this way we will reduce the burden of disease, especially by decreasing the amount of mother to child transmissions.

We are aware that with more facilities and infrastructure in place, the burden of disease can be drastically reduced and therefore we are pleased that R2,793 billion will be dedicated to improve the experience of patients in the Western Cape. This allocation will improve access to health care in the Khayelitsha area through the Khayelitsha Hospital, which has already opened its doors to its first patients earlier this year.

Of the R2,793 billion, R169.3 million will be used to complete the Mitchells Plain Hospital early next year. Approximately R900 million is set out to improve mental health outcomes in the province, as it will finance the overhauling project at the Valkenburg Psychiatric Hospital. As Minister Winde mentioned in his budget speech, this upgrade will significantly reduce the forensic psychiatric backlog for prisoners awaiting trial, which will lead to quicker convictions and a reduced burden on our courts.

Considering that 36.7% of the provincial government’s budget is appropriated to health –more than that of education and all the successful initiatives driven by the department – it is clear that the Western Cape Department of Health is a functioning department which is genuinely concerned about its people. Unfortunately the same cannot be said about other provincial health departments, such as in Gauteng and the Eastern Cape.

*Mr Deputy Speaker, the improvement of health is the most important strategic objective. Health is being undermined by the increasing pressure exerted on the health system by disease. An all-inclusive approach by the provincial government and community is necessary to improve and maintain good health. Quality health services have a tremendous impact on bringing down morbidity and mortality.

Infant mortality in rural areas rises to as many as 71 per 1 000, among illiterate mothers 84 out of every 1 000 babies born alive, and in our poorest areas up to 87 deaths out of every 1000 babies born alive. The department’s approach to health, where the focus is on healthy outcomes, will address infant deaths. This is coupled with the programmes of the Departments of the Premier and Social Development and access to a good professional school system to prevent illiteracy and ignorance.
The Department provides access to service delivery, allocation of resources and outcomes through the application and maintenance of the equality principle in the province. In December 2011 the province had 29 729 new diagnosed patients with HIV/AIDS. There are 158 ARC points that are caring for more than 95% of the patients and that – and I’m going to say it in English – showed a “viral load suppression” with treatment.

The intention is to focus on the promotion of a healthy lifestyle, healthy diet and physical activities at school. A school health programme is in the pipeline, which, among other things, will include guidelines for tuck shops and school meals. The school feeding programme will also be revised and a strategic plan to be implemented at the MOD centres will be drawn up together with the Department of Cultural Affairs.

The department says that female health is one of the many challenges. In 2011 they underperformed against the target they set for female health, although tests for cervical cancer stood at 75% in September 2011. Pregnancy, children’s, female health and feeding services are rendered at all facilities in the province, including the secondary, tertiary and specialised hospitals, and in communities as well as community outreach programmes. Minister Botha addressed female health as a priority in his speech.

The mental health seminar that was held, focused on the prevention of mental illness. One of the needs and objectives that are going to be addressed this year, is that health services for mental health are of a good quality and facilitate recovery.

†Mr Deputy Speaker, we can allocate huge amounts of money to the Western Cape Department of Health, launch various initiatives and come up with well-designed strategies, but without the co-operation of our people we will not be a successful health department.

*With Project Reclaim, which is run by the ANC, the impact that it has on service delivery and on our people, especially in the rural areas, is not taken into consideration at all. Facilities are damaged and injuries and trauma sustained and experienced by the residents increase the load on health workers. This type of anarchy shows that the ANC does not really care for our people. [Interjections.]

*Ms J WITBOOI: Hey!

†Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: Our people should look after themselves and their families by preventing lifestyle diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and heart disease caused by smoking, lack of exercise and poor eating habits.

An HON MEMBER: Smoking?

Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: Essentially we are better together!

*Thank you very much to the members of the standing committee for the proactive oversight, as well as to coordinators Dustin and Mary-Anne, and especially to the department for their dedication in delivering health services of the highest quality.

An HON MEMBER: Well done!
†Mr M NCEDANA: Mr Deputy Speaker, I hope that the *Universal Health for All* document is not a controversial document that seeks to fight with the National Health Insurance programme. [Interjections.] I have not read the document, so I am not able to argue much, but I hope that that is not the case, because if it is it will delay the improvement of the lives of the people of the Western Cape.

I would like to take up one issue. The hon Minister says that the proposal seeks to improve on what we have in terms of the health policies and systems. However, the Ntabeni family who took their baby to the Hout Bay clinic for an inoculation were told that the clinic was out of stock.

That happened some three months ago and that clinic is still understaffed and does not have a pharmacist. Now how can we provide better health under those conditions? I think it is an issue that, Minister, perhaps you should attend to. I am not sure if you are aware of it but those are the facts ... [Interjections.] ... that have been communicated to us.

Living conditions that lead to health must be provided, especially to those people, who, unlike you and I, cannot afford medical aid. Those are the people who are suffering in communities. You would know, as we have raised the issue, of people who, on a continual basis, continue to be forced by the conditions they experience in the clinics to wake up and go to the clinic as early as 4:00. I think we should improve the conditions for those old women and men, particularly pensioners, who cannot afford to go to private hospitals. Something must be done to address that particular challenge; it has been a challenge for a long time and it remains a challenge.

I do not say it is you who must resolve it, but I think the department must work towards resolving the challenge. You would know that most of the hospitals in poor communities are confronted by this.

You cannot go to the hospital at 9:00 or 8:00, because the queue would be long and you would be told that the hospital can only take care of 150 patients a day. Even those patients might leave the hospital without receiving the expected medication prescribed to them by the doctors.

It is true that the Western Cape is faced with challenges, but it is correct to say that these challenges you are working on here are also being experienced in the other provinces. In the Eastern Cape conditions in hospitals are terrible. It may be that the Western Cape has done much better than the Eastern Cape, but it is important to note that even though we have done better, we still have many challenges. Therefore, we cannot focus on all that we have done and relax; there is more work to be done in order to improve the conditions under which we are living. I was in the Eastern Cape a couple of weeks ago and what I saw there was horrible. People are left to lie outside without the necessary assistance, and of course the staff members tell you that they are understaffed. I think that that will become a national crisis if we do not address it. I wanted to highlight those issues to say, in the main, something must be done for people who wake up at 4:00 so that they do not have to wait. Winter is coming and we can’t afford to have sick people waiting in the rain and cold to be assisted. Thank you.
†Mr M SKWATSHA: Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to begin by joining hon Wiley in wishing all the families of the Motherwell rugby players who perished yesterday much strength.

I then want to agree with hon Ncedana that the challenges experienced here are not only being experienced here. They are also experienced in Gauteng, the Eastern Cape and everywhere else. Perhaps one must make this point because there is always this noise from the DA provincial government that people leave the Eastern Cape to come and be a burden here. The MEC has indicated that at some point he would like to speak to national government to see whether he cannot be provided with extra resources.

†The PREMIER: What is wrong with that?

†Mr M SKWATSHA: I am not saying there is anything wrong with that. Hon Premier, if you listen you might get some help. [Interjections.] You see, if I may give you a free historical lecture, ...

†The PREMIER: Historical facts.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: The infrastructure of the Western Cape ... [Interjections.] ... and Gauteng in particular, is informed by the history of this country.

†The PREMIER: What ... [Inaudible.] ... history?

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Let me remind you that the Western Cape ... [Interjections.] It is not only because of the DA government that the Western Cape is seen to be performing better than other provinces; it is because the Western Cape was regarded during the time of apartheid as the Cape Province.

The necessary infrastructure in terms of Groote Schuur Hospital, Red Cross and many other facilities ... [Interjections.] ... was placed here and people got transferred to these facilities here. All that the DA is doing is to be the beneficiaries of an apartheid past.

†Mr M OZINSKY: And ignorance.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: I think one has to make that point ... [Interjections.] ... because so often we are told that the DA is performing better and performing better and performing better.

†Mr H P GLEYER: Who lived here? [Interjections.]

†Mr M SKWATSHA: In fact, it would be an injustice for you to not be performing better than provinces that were homelands. And in some instances there was more than just the one homeland; there was an amalgamation of homelands. [Interjections.]

I want to start by quoting Madiba, the hon Nelson Mandela, just before we got freedom and when he was about to take over as President:
The very right to be human is denied every day to hundreds of millions of people as a result of poverty, the unavailability of basic necessities such as food, jobs, water and shelter, education, health care and a healthy environment.

It is therefore encouraging, Mr Deputy Speaker, that one of the key focus areas of the administration of the DA is health. I say it is imperative because a healthy citizenry is a productive citizenry.

I am equally happy to be standing here as a servant of the ANC which has made possible, through various grant allocations, the provision of better health care facilities to the citizens of our province. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: I think it’s probably ...

Mr M SKWATSHA: Tula! A healthy citizenry is a productive citizenry, but I am not saying it is not the responsibility of a government to look after those with diabetes, etc. In fact, I hope that the DA one day will stand in front of its constituency and tell them not to vote for the DA if they have high blood pressure because they are not going to look after them. [Interjections.]

†The PREMIER: What about the people with renal failure?

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Mr Deputy Speaker, MEC Botha in his delivery outlined the budget allocations. While he achieved this, his speech failed to present something new. [Interjections.] It makes one wonder then about the progress of the health department from what it had initially proposed and promised.

Former President Mandela introduced free health care for pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under the age of six years. This was a big help in the beginning of the biggest investment in health in South Africa. This initiative was coupled with an extensive clinic building programme to ensure greater physical availability of health care services to people in South Africa, especially those who live in poverty.

Therefore, the introduction of the National Health Insurance (NHI), which is another commitment by the ANC to alleviate the problems in the lives of our people, does not deviate from the dream of extending health care to the poor. It builds on this and we should all be proud of it.

The DA’s election manifesto was ...

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Yes, and then?

†Mr M SKWATSHA: It was filled with wonderful promises of how the health system would be revolutionised.

†The PREMIER: It is then.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Over the years since the DA assumed leadership, the utterances of the MEC and the Premier have somewhat deviated from the original promises. For example, MEC Botha’s address in 2010 articulated that the Western Cape Department of Health would be offering routine HIV testing at all public health facilities in the Western Cape. We supported this move as it demonstrated a sustainable commitment to HIV testing.
However, the Premier, his boss, in her excitement to appear in the media ... [Laughter.] ... shot her own MEC in the foot. The Premier took us backwards when she introduced the ill-fated Aids lottery that deeply divided everybody. [Interjections.] One wonders what qualifies the Premier to speak about health-related issues, bypassing the fit-for-purpose appointee that she herself had picked. Was this a matter of having no confidence in the MEC?

Going back to conditional grants, we are equally pleased that amidst the chaos in the Department of Health we have a national government that is very clear about its role and objectives where HIV and Aids are concerned. In this financial year R661 million in conditional grants have been allocated by national government to raise the threshold for treatment and to enable the health sector to develop an effective response to HIV and Aids.

Surely, if there was any kind of strategy, whether short, mid- or long-term, there would be no need for financial incentives for people to test? The poor are not a yo-yo for media snapshots and the Premier has no right to use them in her quest to undermine her own Cabinet members.

Besides Vision 20/20 the DA has no plan for health care in this province. Had the ANC not identified and set funds aside for the Mitchells Plain and Khayelitsha Hospitals that you are always gloating about ... [Interjections.] ... one wonders what would have happened.

†The MINISTER OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: It’s not true.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Stand up and say this was not initiated by the ANC.

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Okay.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: I want to hear your response, MEC.

†Mr P UYS: Just the idea. [Interjections.] 

†Mr M SKWATSHA: The 24th of March was world TB day. Tuberculosis mostly affects the young and the poor, resulting in an unhealthy workforce which has a direct impact on the economy.

The DA promised that the implementation of the directly observed treatment strategy would be strengthened in high TB-burdened districts, while HIV-positive TB patients and those with multidrug and extreme drug resistance will receive special attention.

Again, in true DA style, proper plans with dates are missing, this despite the fact that the MEC eloquently said:

Tuberculosis together with Aids poses a major threat to this province.

The MEC continued:

The department would strengthen the TB programmes aiming to improve cure rates, which are the best in the country, still further and improve the management of people, in particular those with drug-resistant TB.
Again, where is this happening? How can the MEC say these are the best in the
country when so many people are senselessly dying?

The much-publicised and untimely death of Mrs Joyce Zunzu from Khayelitsha
points to the sad reality that honNcedana was also referring to, namely the chal-
lenges of the poor in accessing proper health care. Mrs Zunzu died senselessly as
she was misdiagnosed several times after visits to the Michael Mapongwana
Community Health Centre. It was only after her employer took her to a private
clinic that she learnt that she had TB, but it was too late.

Her son had this to say: “My mother should not have died”, and continued that “in-
stead of apologising to us the department is feeding us with lies”. Why is the de-
partment doing this to the poor?

In the MEC’s opening speech in 2009 he said:

I have directed the department to urgently address staff attitudes and all is-
suess relating to the delivery of quality health care.

The following year the MEC was even more upbeat when he introduced the ap-
pointment of an independent complaints commission in which he would address
the complaints that we come across on a daily basis. These related to patient
safety, infection, prevention and control, cleanliness, waiting times, staff attitudes,
etc.

We thought the ball was rolling when a 13-member committee was appointed, but
three years after it was first announced nothing has come of that important inter-
vention.

Instead the MEC has dissolved it, re-established it and renamed it, perhaps in the
hope that we would forget that the department has lost R1 million that should have
gone towards the health needs of the poorest in the province.

We are now back to square one. We are grateful to the Cape Argus for revealing
that only three cases – yes, only three –had been heard since it had started oper-
ating. What a waste of money! Where were the legal advisors of the MEC when he
continued with this body, which was outside the framework of the law, for three
years?

Mr Deputy Speaker, we are grateful that in spite of the fact that the MEC had
made these bold statements in 2009, in 2011 the Public Protector investigated the
Gugulethu community site. The report highlighted issues such as excessively long
waiting queues, drunken staff and uncleanness. This is not an isolated case.

However, there are many, many health facilities that are operating because of
dedicated staff who work day in and day out to help our people with their basic
medical needs. The MEC himself said the fact that people are poor and entitled to
free health care can never justify poor treatment and service. Is the MEC moni-
tering whether his words are being implemented?

Mr Deputy Speaker, I started off by saying a healthy citizenry is a productive citi-
zenry, but how can we ensure that as unemployment and poverty alienate our
people from taking part in the economy, their health is not compromised? The NHI
will offer relief to those for whom health care services are far too expensive.
The NHI pilot, which the Western Cape will thankfully be part of in spite of its reservations, will help our rural communities which are often left out of activities that benefit others.

We are grateful that areas such as George, Knysna and many others will get the opportunity to take part in this initiative. We are equally proud that since our President’s special mention of interventions for rural areas in the Western Cape, other departments have also shifted focus and energy to assist the poor, who have been sidelined by this administration.

Mr Deputy Speaker, it is strange to listen to the DA’s ongoing bragging about Mitchells Plain and Khayelitsha. The fact is that only three years ago the hon Minister had this to say:

Mitchells Plain poses a major challenge for the province. This is due to the fact that national allocation through the hospital revitalisation programme is not available as initially indicated.

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Correct.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: I want to find out from the MEC where did the money come from? It was the ANC that sought to break away from the normal course of only building world-class facilities in the suburbs.

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: The taxpayer.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Our people, the poor – listen, sir – especially Africans and coloureds, also have needs just like everybody else. The Department of Health is missing its own targets ... [Interjections.] Thousands of Western Cape patients are still not having their life-saving drugs delivered to their doorsteps despite assurances more than a year ago that this service would be launched. This was also reported in a city newspaper. All we have been told today is that there are plans, plans, plans.

The department expected the new service to reduce the workload of clinic pharmacists by 60%, translating into 47 000 fewer patients attending clinics every month. Despite having awarded the tender for the service last year, the department said it still did not know when it would start delivering prepacked chronic medication to thousands of state patients who depend on its centralised chronic dispensing unit.

We agree that this system has the potential of having an unprecedented affect on health care. However, it is not being properly managed. This is illustrated in the MEC’s 2011/2012 budget speech where he said a new tender would be awarded. This points to yet another missed opportunity. The court appearances and dodgy tendering processes have reduced the service to a failure, while people suffer.

The news report was clear in saying that the lack of detail on the latest tenders angered the Cape Metropolitan Health Forum, which accused the department of taking public sector patients for granted. They have to walk through dangerous neighbourhoods in cold weather conditions to sit the whole day in long queues expecting to be catered for.
The MEC could have avoided the courts if he had listened and acted as advised. Meanwhile the MEC has the audacity to call this a national benchmark when it is an embarrassment because of him not managing the basics.

Two of Cape Town’s busiest state trauma units are short of beds and are buckling under the strain. This is creating a bottleneck which is affecting the treatment of patients. The MEC could do a lot by putting energy into this instead of waiting for 2020.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to end by saying if the MEC spent time doing his actual work instead of cooking up stories, one of which is Operation Reclaim, he would have a better understanding of the needs of the province. It is interesting that the MEC seems more interested and in tune with his work as DA leader than in one of the most important portfolios of making sure that our people are healthy.

†The PREMIER: He’s doing a very good job.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: The MEC and the Premier continue concentrating on issues that are irrelevant. As I sit down ... [Interjections.] ... today there was a march to the Legislature and the people only had one message: Madam Helen Zille is calling us refugees in our land. [Interjections.]

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Who organised that?

†Mr M SKWATSHA: You know what was interesting about the march was that there were also such people in the march as we see in this picture. Madam Helen Zille is calling us refugees. [Interjections.]

†Mr H P GEYER: Where did you get that T-shirt?

Mr M OZINSKY: Hear, hear!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

†Ms J L HARTNICK: Mr Deputy Speaker, the DA welcomes and supports the largest allocation of the budget for the Department of Health being allocated to Programme 2: District Health Services. R5,5 billion rand is appropriated to the District Health Services of the Western Cape. I can assure you that this amount will positively impact the purpose of the programme.

The purpose of district health services is to render facility-based district health services at clinics, community health centres and district hospitals, and also community-based district health services to the population of the Western Cape. This programme aims to render a nurse-driven primary health care service at clinic level; to render forensic and medico-legal services in order to establish the circumstances and causes surrounding unnatural deaths, which has become a prevalent problem in the Western Cape; and to strengthen and expand the HIV and Aids prevention, care and treatment programmes.

Mr Deputy Speaker, living in a rural area I personally welcome the Programme 2 goal with regards to maternal, child and women’s health. The Western Cape Department of Health plans to improve the coverage of effective immunisations to 95% in children under the age of five years by 2014/2015. They also plan to reduce the maternal mortality ratio to 53,4 per 100 000 live births by 2014/2015.
Therefore, the bulk of the budget is needed most in Programme 2: District Health Services.

As mentioned by the hon Minister, Programme 5: Central Hospital Services receives the second largest bulk of the Western Cape Department of Health’s budget. The R4,211 billion will help to address the burden of disease; optimise financial management to maximise health outcomes; ensure organisational strategic management capacity and synergy; and improve the quality of health services and patient experience.

Provincial Hospital Services is allocated the third highest portion of the allocated budget for the Western Cape Department of Health with R2,3 billion. The DA supports this allocation as it will address general, or regional, hospitals; TB hospitals; psychiatric hospitals; rehabilitation services; and dental training hospitals.

Mr Deputy Speaker, it is encouraging to see that the largest portions of the budget are dedicated to the very programmes which offer quality health care for all, which will increase wellness and reduce the burden of disease in the province.

The department’s continuous actions to support and strengthen home-based care services deserves special acknowledgement. Minister Botha, to you and your department, as well as your Ministry for their support, well done. I support the budget.

An HON MEMBER: Well done.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. Minister Botha will reply to the debate.

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: The hon Lentit?

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No.

†The MINISTER: Sorry.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Hon Lentit doesn’t exist.

†The MINISTER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I thank every member who contributed to this debate, I really appreciate it. It was not all of the same value though, but I will deal with that.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Speak for yourself.

†The MINISTER: I wonder why they didn't give you an opportunity.

†Mr M OZINSKY: It’s not very healthy, Minister.

†The MINISTER: Hon Marais, thank you very much. I’m personally very excited about the project in the High Five areas. We need to do this and we need to establish whether our interventions can make a difference. We need to learn from this because I really think that alcohol is becoming the single biggest enemy in this province and we need to fix that. So, yes, that is very important.
Like you, I am absolutely excited by the Valkenberg Hospital project. It is not only a beautiful and historic building, but it also an extremely important facility. This is exactly one of those services which will also have a significant impact on other departments, such as Community Safety. You also mentioned the MOD Centres and women’s health.

*With regard to mental health and psychiatry you made the remark about the personnel and I want to agree with you wholeheatedly.

†We can build the best facilities, we can buy the most expensive equipment and we can undertake the most significant programmes, but if we do not have dedicated and well-trained staff you cannot do well and the one thing that the Department of Health has is an exceptional cadre of staff, a staff component of almost 29 000 people. Thank you very much for that.

Hon Ncedana, you mentioned the NHI. He has left, but I would strongly recommend that he reads the response from the department to the National Health Insurance. I mentioned it earlier to the media that I want to stress the point that our reply to the NHI is an extremely responsible one. I want to say that that reply has already had a positive effect on the national Department of Health. It was not a Mickey Mouse document or dealt with just on a political level. It was dealt with on a scientific level and it is a serious alternative to what is currently in the Green Paper.

I want to qualify this, Mr Deputy Speaker: It is not whether this government is for or against National Health Insurance.

Whether its National Health Insurance or universal health care, we have a huge public sector dependent on state health care. We are not for or against it, but there are certain very important issues and components in the current format which we simply cannot accept. Quite frankly, I think it is unconstitutional as it is currently drafted. So, we have made a very responsible approach and I would urge the members of the House to read the document so that we can have a proper debate on the topic.

Hon Ncedana also mentioned the Hout Bay Clinic. Countrywide, not only at that specific facility, there was problem with vaccine shortages. The backlog in the supply of certain vaccines was three to four months, but this has been resolved in the meantime. The Department of Health cannot take responsibility for absolutely everything and we cannot take responsibility when the private sector is out of stock.

That was a problem, but it has now been sorted out and will hopefully not occur again. I am not going to say that your information is wrong, but my information is that there is a pharmacist at the clinic currently. I will, however, follow it up and inform you. Thank you very much for bringing that to my attention.

Waiting times, honNcedana, through you, Mr Deputy Speaker, is actually a very comprehensive topic. It has to do with the system, the equipment, e-filing, staff attitudes and it has to do with the number of people per facility. There are so many issues that there actually is no single solution to this. It is a very serious matter and I would say it is the most significant complaint from the general public.
I had a discussion with my HOD recently about whether people understood the systems that we follow, such as the triage system with different colour-coding, the referral system, etc. We will look into measures to inform them so that they are properly informed about this. It is a significant problem that we are constantly trying to resolve.

Hon Ncedana, you mentioned a lot of challenges and I also want to hinge this on to what honSkwatsha said. Although I want to deal with him separately, I will say this: We are not playing games when we say the Western Cape is so much better than the other provinces or that the other provinces are so bad.

†Mr HP GEYER: It's a fact.

†The MINISTER: The fact of the matter is that it is possible in this country, within the current system, to have a well-functioning public health sector, but it is not happening. Our benchmark in this department, in this province, is certainly not the other provinces. Our benchmark is to become the best-run department of health in the world – not the best department of health but the best-run department of health. We don't benchmark ourselves on the other provinces and we do not find pleasure in the problems that other provinces have.

I am going to conclude by going over to my friend, hon Chief Skwatsha, who has the audacity ... [Interjections.] ... to question the quality of service in the province.

*Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: Oh dear.

†The MINISTER: Hon Skwatsha, I want to know what the difference is between Gauteng and the Western Cape, through you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I want to know what the difference is. I will tell you what the difference is. The difference is cadre deployment and fit-for-purpose. The difference, Mr Deputy Speaker, is that there is no tender corruption here. The difference, Mr Deputy Speaker, is that we don't, like the the ANC, buy a cake for R12 million with state funds.

An HON MEMBER: Shame!

The MINISTER: That is the difference. The difference is the province is run on management and leadership principals ...

†Mr M OZINSKY: Are you sure?

†The MINISTER: ... which are honesty ... [Interjections.]

†The MINISTER OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM:

Just listen now.

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: You see, they never accept the responsibility, Mr Deputy Speaker, through you, like that ...

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Address the Chair, please.
†The MINISTER: Yes, Mr Deputy Speaker. They never accept the responsibility of bad management, corruption, maladministration, stealing, tenderpreneurship and whatever goes with it. That is never an issue. [Interjections.] The Western Cape is performing well in spite of the history of this country. There is no difference.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Can I ...

†The MINISTER: No, you cannot. There is no difference! [Laughter.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member, do you want to ask a question?

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Can the hon MEC take a question?

†The MINISTER: No, I will never take a question. I kept quiet while he was talking.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, he is not prepared to. [Interjections.]

†The MINISTER: I will not take your question.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Because you can't answer.

†The MINISTER: In fact, Mr Deputy Speaker, many of the issues that my very good friend, hon Chief Skwatsha, has mentioned today actually concern me because many of those issues were matters of recent questions asked in the House and which I dealt with and answered in detail. I wonder if he deliberately misled the House today by ignoring the information which I provided ... [Interjections.] ...in the House and again when he said things which were not true. I am not going to go into detail now.

Let me talk about the Mitchells Plain and Khayelitsha Hospitals. Mr Deputy Speaker, I have mentioned on every platform where I've talked about this topic that the significant thing about Khayelitsha Hospital is that it is the first hospital in the country, or in the province at least, in a very, very poor area which is state of the art, which was done at all government levels in South Africa, local government, provincial government and national government and also during two different regimes, the ANC and the DA. It is a significant achievement and we should not politicise it. [Interjections.] No. We should not politicise it, Mr Deputy Speaker. We should accept it for what it is. Khayelitsha Hospital is a monument to that place.

An HON MEMBER: Yebo.

The MINISTER: It is much more than a place of healing. [Interjections.] It is a place which must change the content and the mindset and the spirit of the people of Khayelitsha. [Interjections.] If you want to play politics with it I am going to give you a hard hiding on this issue, because it is not a political matter. The truth of the matter, Mr Deputy Speaker – and let's get this out of the way – the ANC planned the Mitchells Plain Hospital.

However, as soon as we got to the election and they saw which way the province was going to go, they cancelled everything. [Interjections.] They cancelled everything and when we took over the government we had to reverse ... [Interjections.] ...
The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

The MINISTER ... land deals which were rapidly signed in the last days ... [Interjections.] ... and we had to revive and find new money ... [Interjections.] ... and create a new project for the Mitchells Plain Hospital. That is why that hospital is in existence. Do you know, it was so risky at some point, Mr Deputy Speaker, that my Cabinet colleagues turned me down at first.

The first time I took the Mitchells Plain Hospital project to Cabinet my colleagues said: “It is too risky, we’re turning it down”. [Interjections.] So, I went back to the drawing board ... [Interjections.] ... and my department and I made a new plan and we got the Mitchells Plain Hospital. You cannot take the credit for that hospital and you will not get the credit for that hospital.

†Ms M TINGWE: Really? Watch this space. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: I think it’s a bit late.

†The MINISTER: Anyway, I think it is very ambitious, or what shall I say, it is audacious to compare my being in office, hon Skwatsha, with Marius the Monster, Marius Fransman, from whom I took over. You want to compare me with what he did in this department!

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

An HON MEMBER: No.

The MINISTER: No. You have to admit that that is not possible. The NHI in its current format is a problem, but I have dealt with that. Let me tell you, hon Skwatsha, about HIV-testing and the matter on which you attacked the Premier.

An HON MEMBER: The lottery.

The MINISTER: In the first two years in office, I think we have tripled the number of people on ARVs.

†Ms M TINGWE: Is it?

†The PREMIER: Yes.

†Ms M TINGWE: Show us the numbers. Show us the facts.

†The MINISTER: Welcome, my lady. Welcome, it’s 2012 already. [Laughter.]

An HON MEMBER: Read the book.

The MINISTER: We’ve tripled the number from 35 000 to 100 000 plus in two years; actually, in a shorter period than two years.

An HON MEMBER: Do you want to borrow my calculator? [Interjections.]

The MINISTER: We are now planning to increase it to 135 000.

An HON MEMBER: Have you got money?
An HON MEMBER: Yes.

The MINISTER: How can you say, hon Skwatsha, that the Premier’s project with the testing was a lottery?

An HON MEMBER: It was.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Because it was.

†The PREMIER: Why? [Interjections.]

†The MINISTER: Mr Deputy Speaker, let me tell you why it is extremely irresponsible to say that.

*Mr E J VON BRANDIS: You don’t understand a thing.

†The MINISTER: A number of people, more than 10 000 people, were tested during that rapid campaign of the Premier. [Interjections.] Somewhere between 10 000 and 15 000 people, if I remember correctly, were tested, and a certain percentage were put on ARVs after that.

†The PREMIER: Yes.

†The MINISTER: They did not know they were HIV-positive. You know what, that campaign saved their lives and you are prepared to say it’s a lottery when we’re saving people’s lives. [Interjections.] That is not acceptable – even coming from a friend that is not acceptable.

†Mr M OZINSKY: If you’d spent the money properly more people could have been saved. [Interjections.]

†The MINISTER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I have explained about the Independent Complaints Commission in the House. I was asked a question and I’ve given the information. It is deliberately misleading the House to portray it in a different manner. I was asked a question about the CDU contract in the House, I provided the information about the legal issue and I’ve explained everything.

I am not going to bring Operation Reclaim into this debate because I think we have a special debate due on that, which I can’t wait for. I am also not going to respond to the refugee matter. All I can say is, you tell me, what do you call people when they flee, when they run away from your government to get education and when they run away to get health services and when they run away to get housing? What do you call that? Give us the name and we will use that.

†The PREMIER: Internally displaced people. [Interjections.]

†The MINISTER: Hon Hartnick, thank you very much for your contribution and support. I really appreciate it.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

†Mr MSKWATSHA: Are you saying that it’s ... [Inaudible.]
†The MINISTER: I'm not saying that.

†Mr M OZINSKY: You keep on saying this every day ... [Inaudible.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, please, Mr Skwatsha!

†The MINISTER: All I want to say, Mr Deputy Speaker, is that people are currently fleeing for their lives from the corruption in the Eastern Cape.

†Mr M OZINSKY: It's not true.

†The MINISTER: Mr Deputy speaker, I will bring you people in this province that have nice big houses in the Eastern Cape and come here to live in a shack here ...

†Ms M TINGWE: Bring us.

†The MINISTER: ... just to get the opportunity to go to a hospital or to a school. [Interjections.] I will tell you something else. Mr Deputy Speaker, the hon member has in a few cases referred to Nelson Mandela.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Yes.

†The MINISTER: Can I tell you something? That government of yours in the Eastern Cape, do you know, and I never wanted to mention this, but you were looking for this ...

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Mention it.

†The MINISTER: Yes, I'll mention it. Do you know that that government does not have the ability to provide ex-president Nelson Mandela, the father of this nation, with an ambulance and paramedics? We give it to him in the Eastern Cape. [Interjections.]

†Mr M OZINSKY: What he said is true.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, honSkwatsha! May I just draw the Minister’s attention to an expression? Order, honOzinsky!

May I point out to the Minister that he asked honSkwatsha by way of a question: “I wonder if he deliberately misled the House?” The fact that you said it as part of a question does not soften its intention. If you would withdraw the word “deliberately” for me, it will be in order. You cannot say to somebody that he is misleading the House deliberately. So, I am requesting you to withdraw the word “deliberately”.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Give him a lesson ...

*The MINISTER: If it is necessary, Mr Deputy Speaker, I will do it.

Debate concluded.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: That ends the debate on Vote 6. Business will be suspended for dinner and the bells will ring to indicate the resumption of business.

BUSINESS SUSPENDED AT 18:03 AND RESUMED AT 18:44.
†The SPEAKER: Mr Deputy Speaker, it is my pleasure to present the 2012/2013 budget of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament. This budget is to enable members to perform their constitutional functions. Here I refer to section 114 that gives the powers to provincial legislatures to pass laws and to provide for mechanisms to ensure that all provincial executive organs of state in the province are accountable to it, and to maintain oversight over the executive authority and any provincial organ of state. Public access to and involvement in the provincial legislatures is also prescribed in section 118.

The WCPP has determined the following strategic goals to provide the necessary support to members so that they can effectively perform the above constitutional duties:

- Procedural and related support to the House and committees to conduct their business of making laws and performing oversight effectively;
- Sound administrative support to ensure organisational efficiency;
- Corporate support to members and staff to perform their duties effectively; and
- Optimal public participation in parliamentary processes.

Before I go into the details of the budget I would like to inform the House of our intention to enhance governance in the WCPP. Proposals in this regard have been submitted to the Rules Committee for consideration. I do not want to pre-empt the discussions in the Rules Committee in this regard, save to say that one of the main objectives of the proposed governance arrangements is to establish a representative governance board whose activities are to be overseen by an oversight mechanism established for that purpose.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I am well aware that members, committees and the House can only perform their constitutional duties with effective and appropriate support. The plans and the accompanying budget of the Administration seek to provide this support.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the budget for 2012/2013 is R93,603 million, which is a 6% increase on the 2011/2012 main budget. The R93,6 million is allocated to three programmes, namely:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programmes</th>
<th>Allocation 2012/2013 (000)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>39,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities for members and political parties</td>
<td>35,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliamentary services</td>
<td>18,694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>93,603</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Programme 1: Administration

The budget of R39,47 million is an increase of 2,13%.

Strong corporate governance will be maintained and enhanced during the coming year. The WCPP will with effect from 1 April 2012 obtain risk management services from the provincial administration. It will also enhance internal control in line with best practice, so that the WCPP is able to comply consistently with legal and financial requirements and demonstrate that resources are managed in an efficient and cost-effective way.

The WCPP internal audit function is currently being performed by a shared Audit Committee. The Audit Committee regularly reports to the Speaker as the executive authority. This arrangement will continue as this service is rendered in a highly professional and effective manner.

Mr Deputy Speaker, a security policy has been approved and a priority for the 2012/2013 financial year will be to ensure a security plan that gives effect to the security policy is approved and implemented.

Human resource services will continue to focus on training, career development and staff retention. The Remuneration Study has been implemented with effect from 1 April 2011. Due to budget constraints it could only be implemented at 37,5% of the market.

Mr Deputy Speaker, although this is slightly below the legislative sector level, it is better than the remuneration currently paid by the public service. Further consultation with the recognised trade unions is, however, ongoing.

Accommodation is also one of the priorities and it will be necessary to take a look at how limited space can be used optimally. The modernisation project is still a concern to members primarily due to the lack of consultation with the WCPP. I will be requesting a meeting with the Minister of Transportand Public Works on the modernisation of the building.

The upgrade of the website is long overdue and will be completed in the first half of the coming financial year.

In respect of ICT we will continue to maintain our network. In this regard we have set aside funding for the replacement of switches and hubs. We will also be reviewing our IT strategy to ensure that it is aligned to our strategic goals and that the needs of our users are addressed.

IT governance is a high priority and although major strides have been made in this regard more needs to be done. A comprehensive IT risk assessment will be performed early in the financial year to determine control weaknesses and remedy them without delay. The ICT capacity also increases in 2012/2013, as the WCPP will be able to fund two posts.

Programme 2: Facilities for Members and Political Parties

A budget of R35,439 million has been allocated to this programme, which is a 8,52% increase on the 2011/2012 main budget.
The Enabling Allowance will increase by 3.12%. The WCPP will review the Enabling Allowance during the financial year.

The Secretariat Allowance now also provides for members’ programmes in their respective constituencies. A 6.5% increase has been budgeted for this allowance.

The WCPP will try to maintain the same level of payment of constituency allowances as paid by the national Parliament. Here a 6.5% increase has been budgeted for.

*Programme 3: Parliamentary Services*

It has a budget of R18,694 million, a 10.32% increase. Effective committee support is high on our agenda. We are currently reviewing the capacity requirements of this important service. All the vacancies have been advertised and will be completed early in the new financial year.

*Research*

Research services are also currently under review and we are looking at bolstering the Secretariat Allowance so as to enable parties to appoint and procure research services.

The standing committees will receive a budget of R2,3 million, an increase of 8.18% on the main budget of 2011/2012.

After a long legal process the previous service provider has vacated the premises and a tender for Hansard services will go out early in the financial year. I also noted members’ concerns pertaining to interpreting services. We have implemented a full interpreting service and we are now assessing the quality thereof.

Mr Deputy Speaker, public involvement in the legislative and other processes of the provincial parliament and its committees is a constitutional imperative. Although good work is done by the Public Education Unit, I’m of the opinion that members are not sufficiently involved and too little is done to facilitate public involvement in committee activities in particular. [Interjections.] We will again look at our programmes to ensure effective and meaningful public participation. [Interjections.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, the main cost drivers of the budget are compensation of employees and goods and services:

*Compensation of employees: R37,573 million allocated*

Provision has been made for two new positions. Provision has also been made for the improvement of conditions of services (ICS).

*Goods and services*

- Audit costs (Auditor-General) R1 801 000
- Computer service system development and enhancement of network: internet and email services, software licences, development of new applications as per strategy R2 520 000
- Catering: includes House sittings, public relations activities, public outreach activities and departmental catering | R1 380 000
- Travel and subsistence: staff; official travel for members and public outreach activities and committee activities | R6 922 000
- Training and development in respect of members and staff | R276 000
- Printing and publications: includes information and communication activities | R750 000
- Consultant, business and advisory services in respect of Hansard and other translation and transcription services | R2 218 000
- Insurance | R222 000
- Enabling allowances and training for members | R4 625 000

**Transfers and subsidies**

Transfers to:

- Social benefits: continuation of members medical contribution | R1 245 000
- International organisation: (CPA subscription fees | R130 000
- Political parties: 6.5% increase on constituency and secretariat allowance and R22 500 per member for programmes in constituencies | R29 270 000

**Payments for capital assets**

Machinery and equipment

- Provision made for new computer equipment, hardware for e-filing and replacement of computer switches, routers and hub | R850 000
- Provision for software licenses for MS Office, backup software, antivirus software for library and server licences | R867 000

Mr Deputy Speaker, in conclusion I wish to convey my gratitude to the administration for the hard work they put into preparing plans and developing this budget. It is now time for us to give effect to those plans. I also wish to thank hon members for their continued support.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

*The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to take part in this debate again tonight. You and the Speaker are now the new team who lead the Parliament. As with every change, we can already see that the institution is going to be run with new discipline, efficiency and planning and we are all very grateful for that.*
Mr Deputy Speaker, allow me an opportunity to thank all our personnel who give of their time so selflessly so that we can execute our responsibilities to the best of our abilities. They are our service officers, the personnel on duty at our committees, library services, research, the procedure division and our secretary and senior members of staff in the Parliament who help to smooth things out, also during sessions. Each one of them has in some way or another made a contribution to make our tasks easier.

Over the years the budget has grown considerably. Since 2008/2009 we have received R50,885 million for this Parliament and by 2013, ie in next year’s budget, it will have almost doubled. This year’s adjustment by 8,64% was once more higher than the inflation rate, for which we are very grateful.

Mr Deputy Speaker, at our previous Rules Committee meeting we accepted in principle a decision that we as Rules Committee would shortly hold a workshop so that we could have a thorough and meaningful discussion of the Provincial Parliament’s governing model. Should we accept the proposal under discussion, it could lead to and ensure the political parties’ getting a fair say in the administrative management of the Parliament and we will have to reach a point where the politicising of our role of oversight over the parliament is stopped.

At the end of the day we are crucifying ourselves in public. We have reached a point, as members of the Rules Committee, where we sometimes want to cross a border in which we think we can become involved. Although we definitely have an oversight role to fulfil and sometimes it is a thin line on which we begin to move and we have sufficient opportunity in the Rules Committee meetings to get clarity on matters that worry us.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the dignity of the House at times deteriorates into a colossal embarrassment. What we want to or are going to do with it, is in our own hands. Continual disrespect for the Chair … [Interjections.]… and decisions that cannot be accepted without further ado are unacceptable and there are other structures within which we can sort out these differences, especially with the Speaker. Too many members are guilty of lowering the level of debate in the House in that speeches often become too personal.

Mention is also made in the budget of funds that the European Union is going to make available to us again. It is an amount of more than R5 million. It is expected that they, as donor, in collaboration with the Speakers forum, will lay down certain requirements in connection with what this money will have to be used for.

Last year we decided in principle to establish a branch of the Commonwealth Women’s Parliamentarian Association, which still has to finalise a formal programme of activities.

At the moment we don’t know if a budget is available for this, but we would like to appeal to you, Mr Deputy Speaker, that you, if at all possible within the framework of these funds, make available funds to us so that we as women can start a project in the province.

It was a big disappointment to us as women that a conference was not held in the Africa region last year and we trust that it will take place this year.
Mr Deputy Speaker, the Aesthetics Committee has requested that we start a project to portray the history of the Provincial Parliament in a balanced way. This is something that we look forward to very much and we hope that it will be realised as soon as possible. Although there is still a long road ahead – and it could happen that we will not even be able to complete it during our term – we would like some of these phases to be realised. We are waiting anxiously to see what the financial implications of this will be.

This was not really budgeted for in the current budget, but should it prove to be a feasible project, we will have to find finances for it. The submission by the Chief Director of Cultural Affairs recommended that we take the history of the Western Cape back to the time when trading first took place between the first inhabitants of the Western Cape and merchant ships that called at the Cape of Good Hope.

I believe that this project, if it is set about in the right way, could relate a piece of history where the Western Cape could possibly be the only province that can actually do what has possibly not been portrayed in full previously. I trust that the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport with their expert personnel will also walk the road with us to make a success of this.

In the past the secretarial report was a valuable source that recorded everything that happened in our Parliament and the more so it was also a source of information not reflected in our annual reports. In truth, the document was a piece of history that was recorded and chronicled on an annual basis.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like it if you could revive the initiative that you had in the past because I think it is something valuable that we actually allowed to become lost.

We are very excited that one of the other projects of the Aesthetics Committee has almost been completed. The Caabde Goede Hoop will therefore be available for the use of members again. There we can once more receive guests and give the room back the status it once had. It would be to the benefit of our members because we will be able to receive our guests in a very special way.

The asset register and catalogue of all the heritage assets are being updated, according to information provided.

We are, however, very worried that many valuable heritage assets could have been lost due to the poor management in the past and I therefore appeal to you that thorough research be done into especially the possibly valuable heritage assets that can be traced.

Mr Deputy Speaker, our building, which is known as the Provincial Parliament, is your responsibility and often a source of frustration, I’m sure. Surely, we are one of the few parliaments and, if we look at first-world countries, probably the first and only country where the parliament has to share a building with the executive authority. As a result it is very difficult to determine where the “Presence of Parliament” really is.
I want to make a serious appeal to you that there will indeed be a purposeful discussion – and you referred to it in your speech – about what exactly our needs as a parliament are and what proposals and requests we can take to the Department of Public Works so that they can understand exactly what we would like to achieve with the portion we regard as our part. It is a reality that we will no longer get another building. That water has long passed under the bridge.

Originally the entrance to Wale Street would have been closed today. This information was sent to government departments by email but, Mr Speaker, as far as I know you were not officially advised of this. I now hear that it will be closed from 2 April 2012 to October.

This is probably going to be a whole disruption to all of us, but I understand that they are apparently going to make provision for a ramp for the handicapped so that they can still get easy access to the building. To me this is once more proof of the poor communication between the Parliament and the Department of Public Works.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the overall neatness of our building also often leaves much to be desired. Let us start with the foyer of the building. Sometimes it looks like the foyer of a school hostel what with all the posters pasted up there.

I am sorry to say this, but some of our SAPS members on duty there do not always act professionally. They stand around eating or talking on their telephones and this is bad because the foyer is the face of the Parliament. [Interjections.]

I don’t know if they have received it in the meantime, but I want to thank the personnel for the nice directories that we are now getting with the photos of the staff members.

I am not aware that it’s down there with them. Some of us have come there and perhaps we forgot our permit at home – all of us get a little older and we forget easier – and then we have to sign in because they don’t have a clue who we are. It is not that we think we are important, but nevertheless we do come to the building everyday.

Some of the bathrooms are not up to standard either.

An HON MEMBER: That’s true.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Mr Speaker, we can go on like this. I want to tell you that this building must be our pride and if we want to be the province that is governed the best but we don’t maintain the neatness of our building, these small things will give the public who come here a poor impression of us.

Mr Deputy Speaker, quite a few of our members received certificates at the end of 2011 for having successfully completed the first phase of the Palamo training.

An HON MEMBER: What’s that?

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): The training will continue from May 2012 for members who want to make use of the opportunity.
The members are grateful for the opportunity created by the Speakers forum so that they can continue improving their qualifications. [Interjections.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, the sound in the Council chamber is now of an excellent quality, for which we are grateful, but the quality of our broadcasts on DSTV, however, leaves much to be desired. Although this is none of our doing, I want to appeal to you seriously – and if I remember correctly such an undertaking was given in the standing committee – to negotiate with M-Net to improve the quality of the broadcast.

The use of the auditorium for standing committees, especially during our budget period, becomes more and more essential. If this chamber had not been available, we would have been hard-pressed to finalise our committee work in time. Mr Speaker, I want to ask you that a serious look be taken at the suitability and the upgrading of that chamber. The lighting is poor, the sound is poor, papers slip from the tables, and so we can mention many things. One can also not follow the proceedings very well on television and it is very nice to be able to sit in your office and follow the standing committee.

We need a second chamber because we realise more and more that there will be more occasions at which we will want to accommodate larger groups of people. I therefore want to ask you for an investigation of how the chamber could be made more user-friendly for the committees.

There have been requests again that we should draw up guidelines regarding public participation in and oversight by the Legislature. However, the Constitution is clear on what should be done regarding public participation and oversight. I am, however, not always convinced that we need the comprehensive strategy that there should be a definite synergy between the oversight role in the committees and public participation.

It is my observation that we are beginning to move in separate silos. There must be meaningful public participation in order to take better decisions and to exercise better oversight over the government – and thus to fulfil the role of the executive authority. Outreach programmes must be member-driven and unfortunately this cannot be an official’s action alone, although officials are indispensable links to make it successful.

Mr Speaker, you refer to our committee researchers. You mentioned that we as parties will probably get better funding for this in future, but I want us to consider very carefully exactly how we want to handle this matter. However, we as party are very grateful for the funds that are available for researchers.

I also want to say thank you for the new role played by Hansard. I want to ask, however, that we make sure that we prevent the mistakes made in the previous tender procedures from being repeated in the new process.

Mr Speaker, thank you and thank you again for the role played by the Deputy Speaker to make our Parliament successful. We thank you and we gladly support the budget.

An HON MEMBER: Well done.

*Mr P UYS: That was quite a mouthful, hey?
The ANC and I are alarmed by the plan of the DA to rewrite the so-called governance history of the Western Cape and Cape Town. The plan to again research its prehistory from the year 1400 to the present, to record so-called major occurrences and to determine what contributed to a "very unique look, feel and experience of the Western Cape" was tabled at the Rules Committee in the Legislature.

This is typical of the DA and many of its supporters, who still long for the former years under a different rule of privilege for certain segments of society. It is also proof of the DA-led Western Cape’s secessionist obsession to treat the province as a separate fiefdom. I quote:

"The period under investigation will also include the time when colonists established dominant power in the South and South Western Cape regions."

A huge emphasis was placed on the so-called rich history of governance in various forms and the government achievements under the Dutch and British from the construction of the first colonial fort in 1652, to the establishment of the colony of Stellenbosch, the first colonial municipality of Beaufort West and the first legislative council in 1835, which gave the colonists a share in the government.

The purchase of the Premier’s residence in Leeuwenhof in 1936 and the establishment of the provincial legislature in 1994 are also mentioned. It is also not the place of the Legislature –

"... to seek to preserve the heritage of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament as an institution of governance in South Africa."

It should not be done under the guise of inclusivity. There are enough institutions to which the provincial Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport could give some direction as to how to deal with the artefacts, including heritage furniture and documents of the Legislature that have been removed.

The obsession with the photographs of predemocratic leaders that were removed from the corridors of the Legislature, because this was not in line with the present reality and dispensation, will see the entire pale male collection brought back into public display. [Interjections.]

The ANC is also suspicious of the DA’s other plan to scrap the present Standing Committee on Governance and replace it with two new committees, one for local government and another for human settlements. They are opening another space for cadre deployment and another member to be the chairperson. This proposal was introduced opportunistically and seems to be an excuse to create another remunerated chairperson’s position to reward another DA lackey at the expense of the taxpayer. [Interjections.] Why did you remove her? So much for the DA’s undermining of this vital pillar of our democracy.

Now let me tell you about a huge blunder. Mr Deputy Speaker, I received a very alarming letter from a community organisation in distress, due to the uncaring way the Legislature deals with its partners.
The Legislature started to negotiate from December 2011 with the community organisation Life Choices to assist with the public education and outreach camp for youths.

It was agreed to organise an event over three days from 23 to 25 March 2012 to introduce the Bill of Rights and the South African democratic system to young people from previously disadvantaged communities, and 60 young leaders were given parliamentary invitations. The youth and their parents were excited and started planning and saving to buy things for the camp as for many it was a first-time affair.

On 20 March, the afternoon before Human Rights Day, Life Choices was bluntly told that the camp had been cancelled without any further information or apology. This is endemic in the Legislature and it’s the same old story of no proper coordination and late planning. This unprofessional manner of dealing with the people we serve does not serve as an advertisement for the Legislature.

We need more than excuses; we need action to improve dealings with our own people. Can the Speaker deal with the deplorable matter and report back to the Legislature on the matter very soon? It leaves much to be desired as far as better together is concerned. It is a pity that the DA administration of the Legislature is not serious about public participation and outreach programmes, as seen in this case and as has also just been attested to by the Speaker. Much more needs to be done in this regard.

Only 1,18% of the budget goes into engaging citizens of the province to bring people to Parliament and to take Parliament to the people.

The DA shies away from the Petitions Bill by not speaking about it or giving effect to it. The DA pays lip service to this democratic mechanism, but doesn’t want to implement the further extension of the Legislature’s mandate of oversight over the executive. We even asked departments to give us a template of how to do our oversight over them.

Perhaps it will help to fill the vacancies in the Legislature. There are 16 vacancies, of which 14 are funded. I am not too sure why they have not been filled or how it affects service delivery. It is a perennial occurrence, together with the prolonged and undue extension of contracts. Training and development of staff are put on the backburner and workers suffer burn-out because there is no real commitment to filling the vacancies and spreading the load.

There is also evidence of purging processes and resignations. Low pay levels are also recurring complaints while the Legislature pays huge bonuses to top management and freely gives back money to Treasury every year. [Interjections.]

Unless contracts are for five years or more staff can’t afford to secure assets for their families, because contractual staff cannot go to banks to secure loans for homes and other assets for which every citizen has a need. I have raised the issue of the standard prayer and I am doing so again, Mr Deputy Speaker. When will we follow the moment of silent prayer and reflection as is the norm in our national Parliament? [Interjections.]
When the Western Cape Judge President came here with the election of the Speaker and to swear him in, he did not read the prayer, but allowed for a moment of silence and nobody complained or had any bad feelings about it. Why can it not be done and become practice here to accommodate the whole spectrum of our province and its diversity? [Interjections.]

This feeds the perception that the Speaker has been chosen as a ceremonial office-bearer with few powers, and soon his powers – what is this thing …

†Mr P UYS: Strengthened.

†Ms M TINGWE: No, not strengthened! [Laughter.]

It will be substituted – I was looking for the English word – by the proposed board. To illustrate that our committee trip was approved by the Deputy Speaker ... [Interjections.] ... and the Speaker was the witness that we could go for our trip. Who’s running the House in reality? We have also observed the bias of the Speaker on procedural matters and demand that he practices to be patient and impartial towards all of us and that he treats us as equals. [Interjections.]

†Mr M NCEDANA: Mr Deputy Speaker, it is clear that much more work needs to be done in the Legislature and I trust that the new regime is going to fast-track matters.

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: It’s the same regime.

†Mr M NCEDANA: No, it’s not the same.

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: It’s the same.

†Mr M NCEDANA: No, it’s not the same. ... [Interjections.] We can drink wine now ... [Interjections.] ... in the lounge whereas we were not allowed to before. I am not fighting with you, Mr Speaker; we acknowledge that you have a lot of work to do and I hope and trust that the DA-led parliament will enable you to do your work. My organisation, and also I personally, were very unhappy with how the previous Speaker conducted the business of Parliament and we would like to see an improvement. For instance, when a committee ...

†Mr M SKWATSHA: He was corrupt.

†Mr M NCEDANA: ... has taken a decision on a programme, that programme should be honoured. [Interjections.] We should not be told what we can and cannot be done. This is what the previous Speaker did and I believe that was undemocratic. [Interjections.]

It worried me when, specifically, the Petitions Committee ...

An HON MEMBER: Oh, come on!

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Please take you seat, hon member. Minister, is it a question or a point of order?
†The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Mr Deputy Speaker, is it parliamentary to say a former Speaker was corrupt?

†Mr M OZINSKY: Of course, it’s the truth.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I’m not sure if I heard that.

An HON MEMBER: Go to your Hansard.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Skwatsha said the former Speaker was corrupt. If he did say that it is a little too strong.

†Mr P UYS: He’s not a member.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: It doesn’t matter. Hon Skwatsha, did you say that? Please withdraw it.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Is it unparliamentary to speak the truth?

†Mr H P GEYER: Answer the last question.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You must please withdraw the remark.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Excuse me.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You must please withdraw the remark that the former Speaker was corrupt.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Deputy Speaker, on a point of order: Can you please explain to us which rule this contravenes because the former Speaker is not a member of the House?

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I accept that he is not a member of the House, but he was.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Other members today have insulted members of the National Assembly ...

†Mr P UYS: Absolutely.

†Mr M OZINSKY: ... and said they are corrupt. [Interjections.] Other members on that side of the House insulted members of the National Assembly and said they were corrupt and no action was taken against them. For instance the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs ...

†Mr H P GEYER: We know it.

†Mr M OZINSKY: ... was insulted by hon Minister Botha who is walking in now when he said he is corrupt. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky, I hear your point. I will reserve my view on this and come back to the House. [Interjections.]
†Mr M NCEDANA: The Petitions Committee is one of the most important committees and during the oversight visit to Gauteng we saw the work done by the committee there helps with delivery to communities. The same committee in this Legislature has not been functioning and that worries me because three years have now passed.

An HON MEMBER: Take note. [Interjections.]

Mr M NCEDANA: The other issue is public participation. Members had been allowed to come to debates and guests invited to Parliament were brought here, but that has been cancelled.

An HON MEMBER: No, no. Clearly.

Mr M NCEDANA: Clearly that is excluding the involvement of the public ...

*Mr P UYS: Yes, that is true.

†Mr M NCEDANA: ... in the affairs of the Legislature. Mr Speaker, these are the issues you should think about and work towards reviving because when you talk about the involvement of society people must be part of the discussions in the House. They can then witness all the humiliating things happening here with which I am very uncomfortable.

An HON MEMBER: You are right.

Mr M NCEDANA: Mr Speaker, my intention is to encourage you.

An HON MEMBER: Good!

An HON MEMBER: I like you.

Mr M NCEDANA: I have complained to the previous Speaker for almost two years about office space and office equipment and just the manner in which COPE has generally been treated by Parliament and himself. We raised a specific issue with you and within a day that particular issue was resolved. Of course, it was your duty but I must thank you for the quick response on the issue. Of course, there are still many issues that need to be resolved in the Legislature. Of course, you have just taken over but I hope you will do much more.

I could not justify it if I did not raise the issue of how the meetings are chaired and the behaviour of members in the House. Time and again our behaviour as members of the House leaves much to be desired. There is nothing wrong with heckling, but the manner in which we heckle sometimes goes beyond the limits.

Many times I feel that members are not heckling but attacking each other on a personal level. [Interjections.] We may heckle but as leaders we must remain within the perimeters. Mr Speaker, please be impartial and fair and treat us equally when you make rulings on particular issues. [Interjections.] The Deputy Speaker has raised the issue often and I think it is an issue that should be taken forward.
Mr P UYS: Mr Deputy Speaker, when we, as the ANC and also the House reflect on the provincial Legislature and all its workings, it seems important to again take a step back to look at the founding provisions of the Constitution. The Republic of South Africa is a sovereign democratic state founded on the values of human dignity and the achievement of equality.

There is a common South African citizenship where all citizens are equally entitled to the rights, privileges and benefits of citizenship. Under citizenship the Constitution is clear. Section 219(a) says everyone has the right to freedom of movement and paragraph (c) says that every citizen has the right to enter, to remain in and to reside anywhere in the Republic. The state must respect, protect, promote and fulfil these rights, also here in the Legislature. [Interjections.] The Bill of Rights applies to all laws and binds the Legislature, the executive, the judiciary and all organs of state.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the state may not unfairly discriminate directly or indirectly against anyone on one or more grounds, including race, gender, ethnic or social origin and on birth. [Interjections.] Discrimination on the above grounds is unfair.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the hon Premier took an oath in the House, right here in the Legislature in front of us, the media, the world and on television. She solemnly undertook to be faithful to the Republic of South Africa, to obey, respect and uphold the Constitution with its Bill of Rights and Human Rights and to hold her Office with honour and dignity.

†Ms E PRINS: Yes.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon Rossouw, is that a point of order?

*The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Mr Deputy Speaker, I have so far heard nothing that has anything to do with the Parliament and the budget. [Interjections.]

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am listening very carefully, honUys. I accept that you are getting to the point. You will have to get to the point quickly.

*Mr H P GEYER: His time is running out.

*Ms J WITBOOI: No, wait a minute.

†Mr P UYS: Mr Deputy Speaker, in terms of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament Code of Conduct that is relevant. Act No 3 of 2002: A member will uphold the provincial and national Constitutions and exercise his or her duties and conduct himself or herself with dignity and integrity appropriate to his or her Office. [Interjections.] Globally refugees are people who flee in fear of persecution from their countries of birth.

†Mr M G E WILEY: Anybody can seek refuge.

†Mr P UYS: These people the Premier recently referred to are not refugees but South Africans making choices under the Constitution.
An HON MEMBER: Yes.

Mr P UYS: They are not here temporarily.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Uys, there is a point of order by Minister Botha.

*The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Mr Deputy Speaker, it is a budget vote but I can’t find any relevance.

*Ms E PRINS: Yes, there is relevance.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I concede your point. I’m waiting for hon Uys to get to the Parliament. We have not yet come to the Parliament. [Interjections.]

†Mr P UYS: Mr dieAdjunkspeaker, I am still with Parliament and one of the very important mechanisms of this is the Act and I refer to the Legislation and I am still referring to that Act. [Interjections.]

†The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: What is the relevance?

†Mr P UYS: The Premier claims these so-called refugees run away from education in the Eastern Cape.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon Uys! Please sit down, hon member. [Interjections.] Hon Uys, I’ve waited long enough for you to get back to the Legislator, the institution for which the Speaker is responsible, according to the blue book. The Speaker is the executive head of the institution as Parliament, of Budget vote 2. So you must please confine yourself to Budget vote 2, and not Budget vote 1. You may continue. [Interjections.]

†Mr P UYS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I will then say the labelling is unacceptable and should be investigated and then we can move on. That probe will come at different levels just as I am referring to it now.

An HON MEMBER: Wet behind the ears.

Mr P UYS: However, let us now focus and and look at how the DA operates here in the Legislature. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: There you are.

Mr P UYS: At the first Rules Committee meeting after the election of the new Speaker and Deputy Speaker in February 2012, the Deputy Speaker proposed and motivated a limit on the executive authority of the Speaker by diluting his powers and functions in a so-called “governing board”. This proposed board is to take over the executive powers of the Speaker and the Speaker would only be part of the proceedings.

Further, Mr Deputy Speaker, the DA majority then went ahead and removed the Speaker from positions traditionally held by the person in that Office.
Now the Deputy Speaker will represent the institution as trustee of the pension fund and hon Geyer will be the representative at the parliamentary medical fund. [Interjections.]

*The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Yes!

†Mr P UYS: We still don’t have any answers to questions concerning the position of Deputy Secretary. [Interjections.] Will it be filled or stay vacant for the next two years? [Interjections.] Mr Deputy Speaker, do you expect the Secretary to be both Secretary and Deputy Secretary, or other staff members to stand in when they are already overburdened? This is totally wrong towards the Secretary, Mr Hindley, other staff and the Legislature as a whole. [Interjections.] Perhaps, Mr Deputy Speaker, the position is redundant and you can scrap it.

Mr Deputy Speaker, three years ago you and your Office committed yourself to strategically look at how space is used, to improve your relationship with Public Works and to protect the space and integrity of the Legislature’s precinct. You admitted that the only way to hold Public Works to joint agreements is by putting a service level agreement in place, but this has still not happened. There hasn’t been proper planning on maintenance issues either, which is very poor.

In the Rules Committee when discussing the Vote we heard that you are not in the loop with Public Works on reconstruction of the site. This space is a massive challenge to all of us but this evening you said you had yet to approach the MEC. Time has passed and has now caught up with you. You have seen the advertisements that are up already and you have had no say in that. At the same time, Mr Deputy Speaker, your only report indicates that we have a major occupational health and safety risk in the Legislature. Two of the three emergency exit routes are blocked off and the emergency staircases are not functional.

Another concern is the absence of guidelines on the proper way to report on donor funding received and utilised. In the budget there is no indication of the donor funding anticipated or received or how this Vote will benefit from the R5 million-plus that will be available. What is the plan of action here?

In terms of research we are getting mixed messages, Mr Deputy Speaker. On the one hand we hear research can only be made available to committees, but it clearly must also be for individual members. When will the long-standing vacant position of senior researcher be filled?

An HON MEMBER: Next week.

Mr P UYS: Mr Deputy Speaker, after three years there is still no progress on the following commitments that had been made in the Strategic Report: When we ask questions in the Rules Committee about the website update and maintenance, the officials look at each other and tell us they are still busy with the procurement policy, but three years later there is still no progress. There is no progress on the Oversight Report, still no discussions on the Quarterly Reports that are happening in all the other departments and there is no dashboard to be found.
We know the issues around Hansard interpretation and it was quite strange that on the day we had our Rules Committee to engage with the budget there was no interpretation taking place.

Often accommodation planning does not exist and money for members’ claims is nonexistent. A public participation and education strategy is absent and the Speaker promised in February that they would have a bosberaad to discuss it.

We hope that the Speaker will now tell us what progress has been made. Human capital security with a proper remuneration model implemented and kept up to date is not in place. The 3,12% enabling allowance increase that we heard about is unacceptable and I hope that it will be seriously reconsidered. It is well below the inflation rate and I can’t understand how you could ever have only 3,1% increase in the enabling allowance.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the Legislature under a so-called new management will have to work harder to shake off a bad image, which is that of an institution in major trouble.

*The CHIEF WHIP (DA): But we had a clean audit.

†Mr H P GEYER: Mr Deputy Speaker, honTingwe says she is surprised about the things taking place. May I say the ANC is going to be surprised many more times in the future? It’s a pity you cannot adapt to change and instead always refer to apartheid and colonialism. What did the ANC do when they were in control? [Interjections.] People who live in glass houses shouldn’t throw stones. [Interjections.] Be part of this government and not an enemy of it. [Interjections.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, in addressing the budget we acknowledge and are pleased that this Parliament is providing the necessary support to members so that they can effectively perform their constitutional duties. We also acknowledge the administrative support we are currently receiving with the corporate support given to members in order for them to perform their duties.

The proposed introduction of a governance board and a parliamentary oversight committee will enhance governance in the Western Cape.

†Mr M G E WILEY: You will like it.

†Mr H P GEYER: Hon Uys is extremely worried about the Speaker being so-called “sidelined”. Why is he so worried? This will be an improvement to prohibit a system from being the judge and jury over its own department. [Interjections.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, for the sake of the ANC this will then be an open opportunity democracy and with their participation the Opposition can help us to do things better together! [Interjections.]
There is also a need to take a closer look at our Rules to ensure that everything is updated. A rules workshop including all political parties must be put on the programme in the near future.

Despite the current major construction and upgrading of the legislative building that is presently taking place, we are pleased that a security policy has been approved and implemented.

An HON MEMBER: Implemented?

Mr H P GEYER: Mr Deputy Speaker, we accept that there will be hiccups from time to time, but we must bear with it. In the end, when construction is completed, we will be rewarded. We will then have a more functional building and a parliament to be proud of. [Interjections.] And you can also be proud of it.

Mr Deputy Speaker, as mentioned before, I need to stress that this Parliament is in dire need of additional space in order to fulfil its task effectively and thoroughly. We are thus eagerly looking forward to the completion of the modernisation of the building and the further negotiations with the Minister of Transport and Public Works on the present status, progress and expected milestones of this project.

The website of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament, which is incomplete and has been so for a long period, must urgently receive priority, please. In an established institution such as this Parliament we cannot be hampered by an electronic system that is not functioning as it should. The further IT developments that are envisaged are welcomed and we are looking forward to the revision of the IT strategy that the Speaker spoke about.

Risk management has become a common factor and is highlighted in all the departments of the province. We need to address this, not only in Vote 2, but in all the departments in the province. This is one aspect we apparently do not pay enough attention to, with the result that in every report addressed by Scopa the Auditor-General has found an apparent deficiency or gap. My colleagues in Scopa can confirm this tendency.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I am pleased to report that committee support has improved substantially. However, there are one or two committees that are still being hampered by ineffective staff members who are presumably not as committed as one would expect in an establishment such as this Parliament.

We have had substantial changes in the top structure of the department and all of us are excited and looking forward with expectation to the good leadership, experience and knowledge that you and the Speaker will bring to lead the department. Mr Deputy Speaker, I therefore support the budget.

†The SPEAKER: I start with the concern of honRossouw, the Chief Whip, about the donor funding. Yes, honUys, you are right about the R2,5 million that was received for this financial year.
We received it very late, in mid-November, and it was very difficult to spend the money within the time that was set.

*Mr H P GEYER: And he knows it.

†The SPEAKER: We raised that concern last week at the Speaker’s Forum that was held here in Cape Town and all the provinces have the same problem of the late allocation.

*Mr H P GEYER: But he knows it.

*The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Yes, he’s playing dumb.

The SPEAKER: The time has been extended for all provinces to utilise the money and we will come up with a plan on how to do so. I am not sure if it is possible as you requested, if I understood you correctly, Chief Whip, to use a portion of the money on the project for women. I am not sure about them, but there are specific guidelines on how to utilise the money. We will, however, look into it and come back to you.

We then come to the issue you raised, Chief Whip, of the heritage project. Hon Tingwe also serves on the Rules Committee and the issue was discussed thoroughly, so I am not going to repeat what was discussed. As the Chief Whip mentioned there is no budget for the project in this financial year, but we are looking forward to considering the project.

†Ms M TINGWE: But why did you say yes to ... [Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Chief Whip, your other concern was the closing of the entrance at 15 Wale Street. I received correspondence today that the entrance will be open until 2 April 2012.

†Mr P UYS: This is an interaction.

†The SPEAKER: Come again.

An HON MEMBER: Just you listen.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!Order!

†Mr P UYS: Can the Speaker please address the Chair and leave the sideshows?

†The SPEAKER: Thank you, honUys.

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Don’t tell him what to do.

†Mr P UYS: I will tell him what to do. You keep quiet.

An HON MEMBER: You can’t order the Speaker around.
An HON MEMBER: Separation of power.

*Mr H P GEYER: Talking about sideshows! Just look at the other side.

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: Hey, Bokkie, try to be nice …

†The SPEAKER: The Chief Whip also raised the issue of the upgrading of the Chamber. We are busy with it and will finalise the whole process of the upgrading. We are waiting for this coming week to finalise the upgrading of the Chamber. Mr Hindley, am I correct?

Ms E PRINS: [Inaudible.]

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Prins, please calm down over there in the corner.

†The SPEAKER: I will deal with honTingwe’s question of the heritage land project. Hon Tingwe, you also raised the question of the cancellation of the public education camp. I received an e-mail about it yesterday and followed it up with the secretary, Mr Hindley.

He informed me that the proposal was forwarded to him as the accounting officer, but he did not approve it. [Interjections.] It was just a proposal to Mr Hindley and no approval was given.

I don’t know who told the youth that a camp was arranged because without the approval of the accounting officer we can’t proceed with any arrangements for a camp.

†Ms M TINGWE: But why did you not write a letter to them?

†The SPEAKER: I have requested Mr Hindley to give me a full report on the issue and he agreed to do that. I think he is starting that today, so we are expecting a full report by tomorrow.

I have mentioned before, on the matter of the vacancies, that in terms of Rule 16(b) of the Powers and the Privileges of the Speaker, the Speaker has the right to make secondments and the Speaker has already seconded Mr Hindley to the position of Secretary.

†Mr H P GEYER: And you know that.

†The SPEAKER: The Speaker as the employer …

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Acting.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Acting.

†The SPEAKER: The Speaker as the employer of the Secretary … [Interjections.] He is the Secretary, not the Acting Secretary. He has been seconded to the position of the Secretary.
†Mr M OZINSKY: You can’t. The post has not been advertised and filled. You can’t make him the Secretary.

†The SPEAKER: Hon Uys was part of the whole process.

†Mr P UYS: No, no, no. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: He was part of the whole process. The post was advertised ...

†Mr P UYS: No interviews were held.

†The SPEAKER: Hon Uys was in the Rules Committee and maybe ... [Interjections.] ... He was supposed to brief you on the whole process. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Is it a question?

†Mr P UYS: Mr Deputy Speaker, he is misleading the House. It never came to the Rules Committee.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is not a point of order. [Interjections.]

†Mr P UYS: But he must speak the truth.

†The SPEAKER: We were ... [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Please continue, Speaker.

*Mr H P GEYER: You had a blonde moment.

†The SPEAKER: A comprehensive report was given to the Rules Committee regarding the issue and Mr Uys was part of that meeting, so I don’t know. [Interjections.]

*Mr H P GEYER: You had a blonde moment.

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: There you go, Bokkie.

†The SPEAKER: We will definitely deal with the issue of secondment of Mr Hindley to that vacancy. We definitely need to do something about it.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Mr Skwatsha, is it a question to the Deputy Speaker?

†Mr SKWATSHA: Yes.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr Speaker, are you prepared to take a question?

An HON MEMBER: No.
†The SPEAKER: No, I am not prepared to take a question. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The answer is no.

†Mr SKWATSHA: It is about something that he just said.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat, hon Skwatsha.

†The SPEAKER: Thank you for your honest opinion, hon Ncedana. I agree that the members’ behaviour in the House is a problem and we have spoken about it several times. As the Speaker’s Office the only thing we have to do is to implement the Rules we have and we will definitely do that.

On the question about the Remuneration Study, honUys, I think you were also part that. [Interjections.] I will refer all of these matters to you. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The SPEAKER: You raised the concern regarding the Remuneration Study.

An HON MEMBER: We demand.

An HON MEMBER: Don’t “demand” from us.

The SPEAKER: But I’ve already mentioned in my speech that because of financial constraints we can’t approve 50% and that is why we said we will start with 37,5%. We are, however, still in negotiations with the relevant unions and Mr Uys is aware of that.

Most of the issues raised here, hon members, have already been dealt with in my speech. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Members, it is late and there is too much talking. Hon Witbooi, the Speaker is busy on the floor. [Interjections.]

*Ms J WITBOOI: Oh, sorry.

†The SPEAKER: Hon Geyer, thank you very much. I really appreciate your comments. [Interjections.] Some of the other issues that have been raised I have already dealt with in my speech, so I am not going to deal with them any further. Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! That concludes the debate and brings us to end of the business of the day. The House is adjourned.

Debate concluded.

The House adjourned at 19:53.
ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

MONDAY, 26 MARCH 2012

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Speaker:

1. Report of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Development on the Western Cape Unauthorised Expenditure Bill [B 2–2012], dated 22 March 2012, as follows:

   The Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Development begs to report that it has concluded its deliberations on the Western Cape Unauthorised Expenditure Bill [B 2–2012].

2. Report of the Budget Committee on the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 3–2012], dated 22 March 2012, as follows:

   The Budget Committee, having considered the reports of the various Standing Committees on the respective Votes in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 3–2012], begs to report that it has concluded its deliberations on the said reports and that it has no recommendations thereon.
The House met at 14:15.

The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS—see p. 5638

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL[B 3—2012]

(Debate on Vote 8—Human Settlements)

†The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Mr Speaker, hon Premier, hon Leader of the Opposition, ...

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: She’s not here. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members!

†The MINISTER: ... hon members of the House, our partners and stakeholders, distinguished guests, my team of officials under the leadership of Mr Changana, ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to table before you the 2012/2013 Budget.

In her State of the Province Address last month the Premier stated that “creating the conditions needed for increased economic growth and job creation” is the primary focus of our government.

In Human Settlements, one of our core mandates is the transfer of land ownership, giving people an asset which they can use as leverage to access other financial sources, and through providing security of tenure, people are taking one giant step forward in their individual journeys of economic growth.

However, the Premier also said, and I quote:

    With a provincial housing backlog of some 500 000 units, it is absolutely pitiful that the regulatory environment makes it almost impossible to deliver low-cost housing on any site in less than six years.

I must emphasise, Mr Speaker, that our strategic approach to human settlements delivery is informed by the national department’s strategic approach, which is National Outcome 8. I’m emphasising this point because I want to make it absolutely clear that everything we do in the provincial Department of Human Settlements is exactly what is expected of us in terms of the national policy. Our strategic approach is in line with this outcome, especially with our focus to ensure that everyone living in informal settlements, backyards and overcrowded families in the Western Cape has access to basic services by March 2014. Through providing basic services, we will make sure that the people of those 500 000 households at least wait for their houses under more dignified conditions.
To ensure better human settlements delivery, we have taken important steps to work more effectively and better together with all stakeholders within the complex regulatory environment and long time frames, including the appointment of professional resource teams and the establishment of a portfolio management unit, which I will address later.

However, apart from the complex regulatory environment, our grant allocation structure has changed, and this has had significant implications on our delivery targets.

The actual amount available for top structures and serviced sites has effectively become less, resulting in a reduction of our housing targets.

Let me further elaborate, Mr Speaker. In 2009, when my term began, the new name of Human Settlements, rather than Housing, was more a statement of intent than a practical shift. We reported on the number of sites serviced and the number of houses built. There was only one conditional grant, the Human Settlement Development Grant, disbursed to the province to fund housing projects.

As I informed the House last March, the Urban Settlement Development Grant (USDG) was created at the beginning of the 2011/2012 financial year by top-slicing 20%, or R502.2 million, of the Human Settlement Development Grant (HSDG) and combining it with the Municipal Infrastructure Grant for Cities. This equates to approximately 5 000 fewer serviced sites and 5 000 fewer houses per year, which is roughly the difference between the 2008/2009 targets and the 2010/2011 targets. This grant is disbursed directly to the City of Cape Town. This is the main reason the Human Settlement Development Grant for this year is R1,638 billion, and not R2,141 billion, as was projected in previous MTEFs. Austerity measures which have impacted all portfolios to some effect have also played a role.

The servicing of sites in the City is now funded by the USDG. So, in addition to the 10 656 sites we will fund from the Human Settlement Development Grant, predominantly outside of the metro, the City will service a further approximately 6 000 sites under the USDG in the 2012/2013 financial year and over 9 000 sites in the 2013/2014 financial year. In addition, the City will also provide access to basic services on a shared basis to about 2 000 backywarder families and 4 000 informal settlement households under the USDG in the 2012/2013 financial year. Through working better together with the City we will accelerate the rate of delivery of basic services.

However, we could not simply transfer targets wholesale from the HSDG to the USDG, because the latter was created to ensure better alignment between bulk infrastructure and human settlement projects and to ensure the development of sustainable communities by funding other social amenities as well.

Even today we report to the national department and Treasury on the number of serviced sites, houses and various other programmes, like rectification of old stock, emergency and temporary housing opportunities, shared services, social and community facilities and the purchase of land.
Three years ago, lumping all of these items under “other” made sense, because they contributed relatively little to expenditure on the grant. However, with the shift from Housing to Human Settlements, the focus on ancillary items to create sustainable and integrated communities has increased and so has the proportion of the budget allocated to these programmes. For example, this budget year we have spent, amongst others, R181 million on upgrading community rental units in the City of Cape Town and R37 million on basic services provision.

Other departmental programmes within our mandate included:

- R58 million for individual subsidies;
- R34 million for the Extended Enhanced Discount Benefit Scheme, in which housing loans to individuals are discounted or written off;
- R11 million for land purchase outside the City of Cape Town; and
- R15 million to the National Home Builders Registration Council to assure the quality of homes delivered.

We set a target of 13 085 serviced sites and 12 640 top structures for the 2011/2012 financial year. The reduction in targets has been previously explained due to changes in the grant structure. As of 31 March 2012 we will have delivered 8 004 sites and 10 927 houses of our targets. There are currently another 2 875 houses under construction with progress payments having been made within the current financial year. These houses will be finished in the next few months and, when complete, will bring the total number of completed houses to 13 802.

Mr Speaker, an example of these projects where we experienced some delays is the Drommedaris project, which is now underway. We'll be handing over some of the houses in a few weeks from now. Other examples are Joe Slovo, Nuwe Begin and Boys Town. This is where most of the houses will come from that I'm talking about, and I'm happy to say that in the next few weeks we'll be handing over some of these houses.

Backyarders and people living in overcrowded houses are also recognised as important beneficiaries. In Delft Symphony and Delft 7 to 9, 2 422 backyarders were accommodated. Another 450 backyarders from Langa will be accommodated in the next Delft project. In the Drommedaris project near Paarl, which is currently under construction, approximately 600 out of 1 000 opportunities will be allocated to backyarders and people living in overcrowded houses. The Drommedaris project will integrate different communities, with a vision of living better together.

Municipalities are our primary developers and implementing agents, and their performance determines whether or not we reach our targets. The main reason for underperformance on serviced sites is that we made a strategic decision not to automatically approve funding for top structures once serviced sites were completed, as was historically done. Municipalities simply did not have pipelines in line with our strategic direction to meet the demand for serviced site delivery. As such it is important to detail the performance of each and every municipality, as well as their reasons for underperformance.
Winelands District:

- Breede Valley: 807 sites were planned and 300 delivered, 581 top structures were planned and 581 delivered, and 100% of the R43 million allocated was disbursed. The shortfall in sites was due to the halting of the De Doorns project, which is currently underway;
- Drakenstein: 858 sites were planned and 293 delivered, 899 top structures were planned and 169 delivered, and 88% of the budget, or R57 million of the R65 million, was disbursed, as R19 million was allocated for bulk services. The main challenges lay in procurement delays in appointing contractors;
- Langeberg: 16 sites were planned and 16 delivered, 188 top structures were planned and 161 delivered, and 100% of the budget of R13.6 million was disbursed. Challenges lie with land availability, staff capacity and housing allocation;
- Stellenbosch: 536 sites were planned and 250 delivered, 70 top structures were planned and 20 are being completed, and 84% of the budget, or R16.3 million of the R19.4 million, was disbursed. Challenges lay in the appointment of contractors and the provision of bulk services. An amount of R5 million was made available from departmental funds to address this problem; and
- Witzenberg: 569 sites were planned and 476 delivered, no top structures were planned, and 100% of the budget, or R20.6 million, was disbursed. The number of sites was reduced to 476 due to planning issues on the Tulbagh project.

Overberg District:

- Cape Agulhas: 541 sites were planned and 184 delivered, 125 top structures were planned and 251 delivered, and 159% of the budget, or R31.2 million, was disbursed. The municipality was paid in excess of its allocation in order to pay for work completed on site. Challenges lay in the relocation of families to allow the development of the Bredasdorp informal settlement;
- Overstrand: 108 sites were planned and 108 delivered, and 191 top structures were planned and 191 delivered;
- Swellendam: 105% of the budget, or R2.1 million of the R2 million, was disbursed. Work has commenced on site on the Swellendam Railton Project. Projects were delayed due to a lack of capacity in the sewerage treatment works. The upgrade has now been given environmental approval and appeals have been set aside; and
- Theewaterskloof: 138 sites were planned and 138 delivered, 234 top structures were planned and 200 delivered, and 100% of the budget of R38.9 million was disbursed. Challenges lay in the approval of land purchase in Villiersdorp, which has been dealt with.

Central Karoo District:

- Beaufort West: Work has commenced on a new project of 240 sites in Kwa- mandlelenkosi. The reduced budget of R120 000 for planning has been disbursed;
- Laingsburg: 39 sites were planned and are under construction, and 100% of the budget, or R700 000, was disbursed; and
Prince Albert: 60 sites were planned and 60 delivered, 60 top structures were delivered, and 86% of the budget, or R5,3 million of the R6,2 million, was disbursed.

**Eden District:**

- Bitou: Work has commenced on the Kranshoek Project with approximately 10% of the 401 sites serviced.

  A total of 252 top structures in Bitou were planned and 195 delivered, and 100% of the budget of R16,3 million was disbursed. The Kranshoek project had to be fast-tracked, which was made possible by the department’s commitment to assist with bulk infrastructure to the value of R3 million;

- George: 1 100 sites were planned on the Thembalethu Project, which will only commence in April 2012. A total of 1 234 top structures were planned and 1 046 delivered, and 100% of the budget, or R77 million, was disbursed. Challenges were due to delays in environmental approvals of Thembalethu UISP storm water design;

- Hessequa: 500 sites were planned and 500 delivered, 32 top structures were planned and 32 delivered, and 150% of the budget, or R26,4 million of the R17,6 million, was disbursed. Construction of houses on the Heidelberg Project has been fast-tracked;

- Kannaland: 125 sites were planned and 250 delivered; and 132% of the budget, or R6,9 million of the R5,2 million, was disbursed. The servicing of sites was fast-tracked with all 250 completed within one year. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Kannaland and our regional team in Eden for resolving the outstanding issues to allow this project to proceed. This is the first year I haven’t had to redirect money from Kannaland;

- Knysna: 500 sites were planned and 320 delivered, 439 top structures were planned and 364 delivered, and 100% of the budget, or R63 million, was disbursed. The challenge is to accelerate the delivery of serviced sites;

- Mossel Bay: 850 sites were planned and 100 delivered, 284 top structures were planned and 136 delivered, and 84% of the budget, or R40,6 million of the R48 million, was disbursed. Delays on the Asazani project were due to environmental approval delays, including a protracted search and rescue operation of endangered plants; and

- Oudtshoorn: 328 sites were planned and 178 delivered, 178 top structures were planned and 139 delivered, and 61% of the budget, or R8,4 million of the R13,7 million, was disbursed. The challenge is to fast-track the De Rust project, the application for which was submitted late to the department.

**West Coast District:**

- Berg River: 82 sites were planned and 82 delivered, 328 top structures were planned and 328 delivered, and 91% of the budget, or R13,8 million of the R15,1 million, was disbursed. The challenge is to have projects ready for implementation in the next financial year;
- Saldanha: 978 sites were planned and 384 delivered, 298 top structures were planned and 192 delivered, and 100% of the budget, or R41 million, was disbursed. The challenge is to accelerate the George Kerridge UISP project, which has begun;
- Matzikama: 388 sites were planned and 388 delivered, and 121% of the budget, or R10,7 million of the R8,9 million, was disbursed;
- Cederberg: 250 sites were planned and 100 are under construction, and 100% of the budget, or R7,5 million, was disbursed; and
- Swartland: 50 sites were planned on the Abbotsdale Project, which has not commenced. A total of 268 top structures were planned and 268 delivered, and 100% of the budget, or R14 million, was disbursed. The delays have been due to the widening of the N7 road reserve preventing approval for the Abbotsdale project.

When we realised that some municipalities were not going to perform, the Grant Allocations Advisory Committee recommended that the money be diverted to other municipalities where projects could be accelerated. The revised allocations were gazetted in November 2011 and February 2012, and are as follows:

- Breede Valley received an additional R6 million to provide basic services in its informal settlements;
- Stellenbosch has had its allocation reduced from R28 million to R19 million due to delays in the implementation of the Klapmuts project due to disputes over the awarding of contracts and bulk infrastructure challenges;
- Witzenberg has received an additional R2 million to accelerate the Tulbagh UISP project, comprising 476 sites;
- Cape Agulhas and Theewaterskloof have each received an additional R5 million to accelerate the Bredasdorp Project and the Grabouw UISP, of 1 169 sites, respectively;
- Due to planning delays on new projects in Overstrand, its allocation was reduced to R15 million;
- In Swellendam the Record of Decision has now been issued for the Railton 306 UISP, but work is only now commencing on site. For this reason its allocation was reduced by R4 million;
- In Prince Albert, an additional R3 million was allocated to accelerate the Klaarstroom project of 60 units;
- George has received an additional R30 million to complete the Pacaltsdorp and Touwsranten projects, as well as to provide basic services in Themba-lethu, and to accelerate the Themba-lethu Project, ultimately providing 4 300 sites;
- Knysna received an additional R19 million to accelerate the Vision UISP project of 1 393 sites, and to provide basic services in its informal settlements;
Mossel Bay received an additional R7 million to provide basic services in the informal settlements;

The allocation for Oudtshoorn has been reduced by R2 million due to delays in a submission of project applications to the department;

Berg River received an additional R3.4 million to accelerate the Piketberg project of 328 sites;

Saldanha Bay Municipality is receiving an additional R12.5 million for the George Kerridge UISP project of 978 sites; and

Swartland has had its allocation reduced by R7 million due to delays in the implementation of the Abbotsdale project of 350 sites.

Mr Speaker, I’m giving this detailed information, because I want the House and members to understand that as a department our responsibility is to ensure that the municipalities implement the business plans that they submitted to us. Our targets are informed by the business plans of those municipalities. I think it was important for us to give a detailed explanation as to why we have not met our targets. Some of the reasons that I’ve just mentioned are due to some capacity constraints from certain municipalities.

The department has a strategic objective to ensure that everyone in the Western Cape has access to the minimum standards of basic services by the end of 2014. We are making good progress, the informal settlements database has been verified and updated, and a needs and cost analysis has been completed. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members!

†The MINISTER: The plans for the municipalities have been created, housing pipelines reprioritised, agreements have been signed, and projects have been approved. In addition, R37 million was allocated for basic services in the following lead municipalities, which are ready to implement, and which face the greatest need: Breede Valley received R6 million, Stellenbosch R9 million, Overstrand R6 million, George R6 million, Knysna R7 million and Mossel Bay R6 million. We are working better together with all the municipalities to ensure service delivery.

To mitigate the major challenges of human settlements delivery of working with project delivery time frames of five to six years, a complex bureaucratic environment, and the reliance on effective, actionable planning from the municipalities, we have several major business process and strategic interventions.

Allocations to municipalities are now based on the readiness of projects instead of predetermined amounts for which the municipalities create projects in order to spend the allocation.

Service Level Agreements are going to be signed with the mayors and municipal managers, in which commitments are made to deliver specified numbers of top structures and serviced sites. Committed delivery targets per municipality have also been tabled in the 2012 Annual Performance Plan.
Mr Speaker, this service level agreement is informed by the service level agreement that I signed with the national Minister in order to ensure that the targets that have been set for us in line with the Outcome 8 document, which is a national document, are met. I believe that the service level agreement is long overdue, because I signed mine with the national Minister two years ago already.

We have established the Project Management Unit, or PMU. This is an information technology system designed to track projects over their average five-year lifespan. This will enable us to get a snapshot of all projects in the pipeline, their projected milestones, as well as flagging them when they become blocked. As soon as any milestones are not met, an alarm will sound and mitigating action will be taken.

The lack of planning capacity at municipal level is also a major problem. If a project were to get irrevocably blocked three years into its development cycle, and there was nothing to take its place, a lot of time is lost in beginning of the planning phase to create another project to take its place. In response to this challenge we appointed five professional resource teams, or PRTs – one each for the PHP Unit, the City of Cape Town, the Eden District, the Cape Winelands and the West Coast. These PRTs are teams of professionals, including engineers and town planners, who will assist municipalities in creating housing project plans that meet departmental approval standards, as well as assisting them in developing a pipeline of plans which are ready to go in case the primary projects are blocked. This will mean that should a particular project fail to deliver, we will have other options to deliver on our housing and serviced sites targets. I am happy to announce that the PRTs have been appointed and have begun work. The PRTs will help us work better together with all our stakeholders to ensure effective human settlements delivery.

The first outcome of our provincial strategic objectives of developing integrated human settlements is the accelerated delivery of housing opportunities for all, which includes rental, social and gap market housing. Steenberg Phase 2, costing R42 million, will deliver 150 rental housing units, with construction beginning shortly. Construction has begun on the Bothasig project, costing R46 million, and this will deliver 120 social rental housing units. Under the Community Rental Unit (CRU) programme 1 050 units in the City of Cape Town were refurbished at a cost of R181 million. An amount of R1 billion over five years is budgeted for the CRU upgrades of 7 775 units.

President Zuma, in his 2012 State of the Nation Address, stated that a R1 billion guarantee fund will be available for people in the gap market, or earning in the monthly income band of just over R3 500 to R15 000, to obtain credit to buy houses. The President stated that this fund will become operational from 1 April 2012, and two of our projects, namely Our Pride and Nuwe Begin, already have units available for this particular market. The City of Cape Town will also deliver in Scottsden and Pelican Park. We have arranged an upcoming workshop in April 2012 on affordable housing, which will include invites to all the relevant stakeholders, to clarify the way forward in more effectively servicing the gap market.

The province, together with the National Housing Finance Corporation and major banks, will be rolling out the Finance Linked Subsidy Programme, or Flisp, to assist households who earn too much to qualify for government “free housing”. 

Some of the details, when it comes to this R1 billion guarantee fund, are as follows:

1. The maximum Flisp household income has been increased from R7 000 to R15 000 per month, with the minimum being R3 501 per month. The property price has been capped at R300 000;

2. Households in the income group R3 501 to R7 000 may opt to apply for Flisp or to be assisted through the allocation of free serviced stands as their once-off subsidy, as part of the Integrated Residential Development Programme (IRDP). If they choose to take a serviced site, they will then be responsible for financing and building their own house;

3. The maximum Flisp subsidy amount will be R87 000, and will be applied on a sliding scale, with those earning R3 501 per month eligible to receive the maximum subsidy;

4. The subsidy will be used as a deposit for a house, and the beneficiary will contribute through repaying a loan over 20 years, plus any legal fees;

5. Discussions are underway for Flisp to be implemented on a project-specific basis and/or on a walk-in basis;

6. The National Housing Finance Corporation is expected to enter into an agreement with the Provincial Department of Human Settlements to implement Flisp. A draft implementation protocol is currently being reviewed which will address items such as institutional funding and administrative arrangements; and

7. The R1 billion Mortgage Default Insurance Fund announced by the President will make it easier for people with poor credit ratings to get a bank loan. This guarantee fund will help us work better together with the banks, and is expected to be implemented in October this year.

We are in the process of accrediting municipalities and the metro to be Level 3 developers, which will mean that they will be able to access funding directly from national. Only the City of Cape Town is likely to reach Level 3 in the medium term.

In the City of Cape Town the implementation protocol, which will transfer delegations of functions and agree on processes, is being finalised. It is before the City Council for final approval before being signed by the province. The City will begin to package Level 3 applications once all its processes have reached Level 2 accreditation.

George, Bitou, Knysna, Drakenstein and Mossel Bay are also being considered for accreditation assessment, and the newly appointed professional resource teams will package business plans to assist them.

Our PHP unit has continued to be a major and successful contributor to the business. During 2010 and 2011 the Directorate developed a revised approach to the implementation of PHP policy in the Western Cape in order to counter corruption, poor quality and maladministration in PHP projects. This includes the registration of all contractors with the NHBRC to ensure quality standards are met.
In this financial year, 15 new PHPs have been approved along with 15 facilitation and establishment grants, approximately 3,795 units – 30% of the APP target of 12,640 units – have been constructed and an amount of R255 million spent. A total of 161 Housing Consumer Education workshops were held across the province, reaching more than 3,828 housing consumers participating in housing projects.

Six women contractors were trained, went on site on 11 February 2012, and by the end of March they will have successfully completed 60 houses, which are 10 units each.

Mr Speaker, in a partnership with the South African Women in Construction (Sawic), a priority PHP has been identified where women contractors will be contracted for the construction of 400 units over the next two financial years, helping us to work better together with the community to deliver the houses that our people need.

In partnership with various organisations we have provided housing and improved shelter for various communities and individuals, and I would like to thank any organisation that has worked with us to help those people in need. Through contributing to the Comprehensive Rural Development programme, local community members have been trained to fit and maintain solar-powered water heaters in an old-age home in Dysselsdorp. The Dysselsdorp initiative is in line with our mandate to provide improved living conditions for the poor and elderly.

We have developed a residential/incremental densification policy to provide more sustainable and dignified settlements, quality housing opportunities and choices by making effective use of limited resources.

It is envisaged that the positive spin-offs of the residential/incremental densification policy will reduce our carbon footprint and promote social cohesion and economic efficiency among the beneficiaries, enabling savings in land acquisition of approximately R10,000 per unit and a reduction in the cost of infrastructure per person.

In January 2012 the Western Cape Department of Human Settlements successfully established the Western Cape Housing Demand Database that is provincially synchronised. By 7 March 2012 the housing demand data of the following municipalities had been uploaded onto the database: Swartland, Matzikama, Berg River, Cederberg, Saldanha, Beaufort West, Prince Albert, Laingsburg, Witzenberg and Langeberg.

Over the next few months the new database and support strategy will be introduced at the remaining municipalities in the Western Cape. The database will ensure the integrity of housing demand data, make the data tamper-proof and reduce allegations of corruption and fraud stemming from any manipulation of the list.

To deal with the challenges of fair beneficiary selection, and achieve the outcome of municipal beneficiary selection that is fair, transparent and effective, the department has developed a new beneficiary Selection Policy Framework, which builds on municipalities’ desire to formulate their own local approaches to selection, but in a guided fashion.
The need for housing is greater than the government’s current resources to deliver, and this requires housing opportunities to be allocated in a fair and transparent manner across all municipalities, whilst prioritising those with special needs.

Such a provincial approach should also generate innovations in the field of beneficiary selection. Municipalities have been given the option to develop their own policies or use a model policy as a starting point to develop their policies, provided that they adhere to a provincially defined set of selection elements.

In January 2011 the Western Cape Premier gave the instruction that 1 000 matriculants be given the opportunity to work in the Western Cape government to obtain work experience and training, and in response the Department of the Premier set up the Premier’s Advancement of Youth, or PAY Project. We have just appointed 30 interns, who started work for a 12-month period on 15 March 2012.

We have also engaged the youth through hosting the Provincial Youth Summit held on 19 and 20 March at the Cape Town International Convention Centre. Over 140 youth organisations representing a wide range of interests were invited to the summit. Some of the resulting resolutions were the following:

- Integration must speak to the needs of the specific community, and include, amongst others, employment, shelter, health, clothing, entertainment and education;
- To engage with FET colleges to contribute to skills development of youth; and
- Internships and other similar programmes should be flexible to the specific needs of youth with disabilities.

Finally, Mr Speaker, I am optimistic about the upcoming 2012/2013 financial year. We have a budget of R1,725 billion, and a three-year MTEF budget of R5,265 billion. Our non-financial targets for the 2012/2013 financial year are:

- 10 615 serviced sites and 15 567 top structures. This includes 4 468 PHP units. Another 5 974 serviced sites will be added in the City of Cape Town through the USDG; and
- An increased focus on access to basic services which will result in another 7 731 households benefitting from these services.

I believe the new and innovative measures we have put in place as a department will enable us to deliver services better together with all stakeholders involved in human settlements. This will ensure that everyone who needs a housing opportunity is provided for, including backyards, informal settlement residents, people living in overcrowded houses, gap market members and those requiring rental units.

Finally, I would like to thank all my officials for a job well done under the guidance and leadership, as I’ve said, of Mr Tshangana. The department will host the Govan Mbeki Awards, which will formally acknowledge and reward excellence for the role our department has played amongst the multiple stakeholders in human settlements delivery. I would also like to extend a special mention of thanks to all the partners who have been involved in the success of the department. [Applause.]
Mr A M FIGLAN: Speaker, let me thank the explanation given by the hon Minister. This explanation is very clear.

†Mr Speaker, the Department of Human Settlements is one of the largest beneficiaries of the 2012/2013 budget allocation, with 4,8% of the budget. This amounts to an allocation of R1,921 billion.

Mr Speaker, this department is tasked with implementing national, provincial and municipal policies to accelerate service delivery and the provision of integrated sustainable human settlements in the province, as well as ensuring this takes place without favour or bias.

The department also manages its scarce resources to ensure just and equitable delivery of services and human settlements to the people of the province. In so doing it also has to co-ordinate the activities of the three spheres of government in order to maximise synergies and improve on service delivery.

The increase in the budget allocation to the department is welcomed, and this department has worked tirelessly to address some of the key issues regarding the delivery of human settlements. It is good to know that the department has done extensive work in the 2011/2012 financial year in order to address some of the key issues. This resulted in the study to determine the backlog of title deeds, and to identify methods to reduce the backlog. The department has approved the provincial policy to enhance a serviced site so that beneficiaries will have access to basic services. This is in line with the strategy to upscale and increase the provision of services, while downscaling on top structures. It will be a major improvement in service delivery if all municipalities can be encouraged to implement the policy of providing enhanced serviced sites.

Mr Speaker, the Department of Human Settlements is but one of the key roleplayers, with local governments being the key implementers. National government also influences what can be achieved through the funding it allocates to Human Settlements and bulk infrastructure in the Western Cape, as well as through the policies it prescribes in terms of which the funding can be spent.

Mr Speaker, this department also receives much criticism from the public, but the public is not always aware of the regulatory environment that makes it so difficult to deliver low-cost housing on any site in less than six years. Some of this has to change.

This is why the increase in the budget is good because it will help to ensure that the plans of the department for the 2012/2013 financial year will be realised. One of the important focus points for the department will be the five professional resource teams (PRTs) that have been appointed.

The task of the PRTs is to ensure that all the stakeholders can plan and manage the long and complex process of delivering housing opportunities for all. Everything must be done in order to ensure that the housing backlog is reduced.
These teams will play an important role in ensuring that municipalities manage their projects properly, ensuring that there is security of tenure and assisting with the unblocking of the PHP programmes.

However, Mr Speaker, it is not just the housing backlog that is the problem. Limited finances and a shortage of well-located land also impact on the delivery of this department. Planning is also crucial in that settlements must be located with easy access to amenities such as schools, clinics, libraries and sporting facilities, as well as economic opportunities.

Mr Speaker, it is a well-known fact that the demand for housing is greater than the supply, and we must explore possibilities to address this problem. The serviced site approach is one way of addressing this problem. Onsite upgrading of informal settlements, by way of increasing the provision of serviced sites, can help to enhance the living conditions of people in the Western Cape.

Given the constraints the department faces, it is important that relationships with the private sector are sought. In this way the private sector can assist with accelerating the provision of housing opportunities through financing and development of private rental stock and employee assistance schemes, giving more expansion and encouragement to the “Better Together” philosophy.

Mr Speaker, the department also has to ensure that a policy is put into place to address the selection of beneficiaries for houses. There are too many reports, on an almost monthly basis, about people who feel left out or have been on a waiting list for many years, just to then find that they will not be part of the beneficiaries of a specific housing project, or that people from other areas have benefitted. The provision of the standardised minimum criteria for the selection of beneficiaries, designed specifically for municipal use, is welcomed. This will address the serious allegations regarding the beneficiary lists within municipalities and will even address the conflict that sometimes exist within communities because of the distribution of resources and houses.

The Provincial Strategic Outcomes for this department is listed as: Accelerated delivery of housing opportunities; a sense of ownership, rights and responsibilities amongst beneficiaries, owners and tenants; and optimal and sustainable use of resources.

Mr Speaker, these strategic outcomes are also built on the “Better Together” policy. Housing beneficiaries cannot just be recipients of state assistance who then sell their houses again. They must become active in the design and building of their homes and neighbourhoods. They must also actively be involved to ensure that they know their rights as tenants and home owners.

The department is involved in the optimal and sustainable use of resources, and the most energy-efficient, water-wise and cost-effective developments must always be considered. However, this should not be at the expense of providing quality housing. There are currently too many developments around the country where poor workmanship has made the houses uninhabitable. Some of these houses have to be demolished and rebuilt. The department must ensure that municipalities and contractors are held accountable for the delivery of houses that do not meet the required standards.
The debacle of the N2 Gateway Project must never be forgotten. Billed as the flagship housing project of the then national Housing Minister, Lindiwe Sisulu, it has been dogged by controversy since its inception.

Apart from the relocation matters, the workmanship on the project was shoddy and the Auditor-General’s report concluded that there were widespread mismanagement and widespread deficiencies in the planning, accounting, design, construction and execution of the housing project.

Minister Madikizela has admitted to these defects, and even suggested that the only solution to these problems would be to demolish the buildings. Even the UN has criticised the project for its housing rights violations and lack of consultation with the poor.

This project serves as one of the reasons for the PRTs within the Department of Human Settlements. The taxpayers’ money must be wisely spent, and the proper planning, management and completion of all housing projects within municipalities will therefore be according to standard. Timeous delivery will be enhanced.

The DA supports this budget and the new initiatives that will be established within the department. All these initiatives will improve delivery and expand the “Better Together” philosophy.


Mandiqale ngale yomhlaba, kwezi veki zipheleleyo besithethile apha kusithiwa iSixeko saKapa senze ingxelo ethi ingxaki yomhlaba nook ayibonakali njengento-kuba ifanele ukuba yingxaki apha eNTshona Koloni ngoba imihlaba mininzi apho khona abantu banokuthi bakhelwe khona izindlu.

Nokuba ngumhlaba kaRhulumente weSizwe, ngokaMasipala okanye ngokaRhu-lumente wePhondo le nto kuthwa kukusebenzisana kwala manqwanqwa karhulume-mente kukusebenzisana korhulumele, ifanele ukuba ibe sisombokulu loo nto ngoba uRhulumente kwinqanana leSizwe jikelele, kwinqanaba lePhondo bafanele intokuba babe bonke banomdla wokuba abantu mabaphume kubugwayiiba? Asisiva ke isicwengciso esithi ukuhlangabezana nale ngxaki yokuba sikhuphe abantu bethu ethu ebugxwayibeni sakuqinisekisa intokuba le mihlaba engekho kuthi thina siliPhondo siyathetha namanqwanqwa angentla kuthwa kwakele ukuzele. Kubekwe amakesha ekufanele ukuba kuggitywa ngawo,ukuba kukho ingxaki sizokwazi ukuba ngubani kanye kanye le unengxaki.

Ezinye zeengxaki ezisixhalabisayo kukuva intokuba iSebe lisixelele ukuba sinex-hala kwintokuba ixabiso lokwakha yingxaki ekhoyo. Le nto kuthwa kukucwengcisa nokutelelelela amaxabiso zilungiselelwana intokuba kuhlanguqhe zane nesxaki kungazokwazi intokuba le nto ibe yingxaki kwiSebe, Akufanelanga kube njalo anizo anizomisa maxabiso, Amaxabiso ayakusolo ko enyuka qho unyaka Kodwa thina funeka siqinisekile uba siyacwangcisa ukuze xa sidibana naloo ngxaki ibe sihlangabezana nayo.

Omnye womcimbi ochaziweyo apha ngowokuba sinicwapalayo ekuthekileyo kwisicwangciso nelawulo lweprowujekthi kwinqanaba likamasipala, ndicingba uyi-chaphazele naye leyo. Kungaba lulutho intokuiba phakathi kweli sebe ne-sebe likaMphathiswa woRhulumente woMmandla kungabakho amanyathelo athathwayo acacileyo ukuqinisekisa intokuba le ngxaki kuyasukwa kuyo.


[Translation of isiXhosa paragraphs follows.]

[Mr M NCEDANA: Speaker, let me thank the hon Minister for his report. I mustsay that it is clear that we are still far from realizing this matter we are talking about an I wish that the department ensures that it speeds up the issue of giving houses to the people. Speaker, let me say when we first came here and the Minister started speaking he mentioned that they will focus on giving people sites, so that people could be able to build houses for themselves to encourage the PHP, but one of the reasons he put was that this plan would take people away from their misery.

Let me say that the I am disappointed that the Minister did not perform this job properly as he had said or promised. Kubuhlungu ke ukuba simane siphawula ngendlela abantu bakuthi abahlala ngayo. During the past weeks we have spoken about the living conditions of those in informal settlements.]
There is a place I would like to mention as an example, which is called Nyunyhwini because I am worried that when rainfalls come and these people have not yet got the sites they will suffer the worst as they will be living in floods and people are not fishes to stay in the water.

It is clear, Minister that department’s APP involves problems which it calls as stumbling blocks. These stumbling blocks are explained as the problem of capacity.

Maybe it is good to hear that there is a capacity problem in the department but what we do not hear is what is done to take the department away from the misery it finds itself in.

We cannot have a hope that houses will be built when the department tells us that it has a capacity problem. In those capacity problems land is included. Let me first start about the issue of land. During the past weeks we heard here that the City of Cape Town gave a report that the land problem cannot be seen as the problem here in the Western Cape because there is much land here which can be utilised to build houses for the people. Whether it is land from the National Government, Municipality or the Provincial Government, what is important is the co-operation between these spheres of the government. This can be a solution because the National Government and the Provincial Government should be both interested in rescuing people from misery.

We do not hear about the plan in order to take away the people from their misery by ensuring that we acquire the land which is not under us a province and we negotiate with the upper spheres so that we speed up this process. We are supposed to set times to complete these projects, so that if there is a problem we will be able to know who is really having a problem.

Some of the problems which concern us is to hear from the department that they are concerned about the rising price of building houses. Planning and estimation of prices should be done in advance in order solve this problem of the department. The department should not worry itself about the rising prices of building houses. Prices will always go up, but we must ensure that when we encounter such problems we are ready.

One of the problems mentioned was that of lack of capacity in the planning and management of projects in the municipal level and I think he has mentioned that. It would be helpful that there should be a co-operation between his department and that of the Minister of Local Government so that we move away from this problem.

I want to tell the Minister that we cannot clap hands this time because we have done so during the past years. We cannot clap hands this time because it is clear that this department has problems. Can I complete? It is clear that the department has problems and there is nothing done to solve these problems. I am worried that time is running out without the Minister building the houses he promised to build.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Speaker, I want to start off by dealing with the DA’s attitude, in particular the attitude of this DA government, led by the Premier, who’s also the head of the DA nationally, towards people who don’t come from this province, in other words, refugees.
I enter into this debate because I was once a refugee. I was forced by the apartheid army, which so many of you served in, to leave this country and I went ...

An HON MEMBER: Then you ran away.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr M OZINSKY: Yes, I ran away to come back and fight against your army. Now you sit in the Opposition without any apartheid left. [Interjections.] I hope you feel the defeat heavily. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Mr Speaker, I rise on a point of order, because I understood that the limits of this debate must be broadly around the housing field, ... [Interjections.] ... and whilst I am very interested in the hon Ozinsky’s refugee status, it belongs in a different debate, sir. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: No, no, no! Order, hon members! Hon members, take your seat. I’ve requested the members last week to please ... [Interjections.] Order, hon members! I’ve requested the members last week to please stick to the discussions, especially the Votes that we are dealing with. I also request you to please stick to the Vote that we are discussing today. [Interjections.] Over to you, hon Ozinsky.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Speaker, I’m sticking to the Vote. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Order!

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Speaker, I hope that sometime you’ll also call those members to order. I’m also sticking to the Vote, because this government calls people who come to the Western Cape, who require houses, refugees. The point about refugees is that they are forced to leave wherever they live. There is no refugee from the Eastern Cape, because there is no-one under our dispensation who is forced to leave the Eastern Cape in the way that the colonialists forced people to leave by force of arms. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

Mr M SKWATSHA: [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon Skwatsha! Order!

†Mr M OZINSKY: I want to encourage that side of the House to continue speaking about refugees because, as I said to the Premier yesterday, there is nothing that can so win support for the ANC and expose the DA’s lying to black people in this country than every time you mention the word “refugees”. [Interjections.] I want to encourage you to use that word, because it makes precisely the point we want to make about this matter.
Mr Speaker, let me also deal with issues that were raised by the MEC for Finance and the MEC for Social Services in the debate last week, because this is my first opportunity to respond to them, and I have a right to clear my name on those issues.

I want to say to the hon Winde that if he wants to be taken seriously when it comes to finance, he should not make blunders, like calling the People’s Republic of China a capitalist country. [Interjections.] Quite honestly, the hon member is not...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon member! Order!

†Mr M OZINSKY: ... suitable for that position ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon member!

†Mr M OZINSKY: ... when he calls China a capitalist country, because I know ...

†The SPEAKER: Hon member, order!

†Mr M OZINSKY: ... the ... [Inaudible.] ... of the economy ...

†The SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky, order!

†Mr M OZINSKY: ... are controlled by the State.

†The SPEAKER: This is totally irrelevant, hon member. [Interjections.]

†Mr M OZINSKY: It’s not. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: It is totally irrelevant. Over to you, hon Carlisle. [Interjections.] Order!

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Mr Speaker, the hon member Ozinsky is, in fact, conducting a Second Reading debate here, and that’s simply not acceptable. I’m sure he’s got all sorts of things that sit heavily on his heart, sir, but next year there will be another Second Reading debate, then he can deal with them then. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members!

†Mr P UYS: Mr Speaker, we are still busy with the Second Reading debate. He can reflect on what the MEC for Finance said, because that sets the framework of the budget within which we debate the different Votes. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: I think I have already made a ruling. Can we please stick to the Vote? That is what I requested members to do. Proceed, hon member.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Further, Mr Speaker, and I must say it really calls into question the competence of that member to preside over the budget of the Department of Housing, and ensure that the things are taken away ...

†The SPEAKER: Hon member, order!
†Mr M OZINSKY: I am talking about the budget of housing. I don’t know what your problem is, Speaker.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon member! Take your seat, hon member.

*The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Mr Speaker, now really, I think he is challenging you because of your ruling in the House ... [Interjections.] ... and it is disrespectful toward the Chair.[Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members!

*The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Hon member Ozinsky challenges you because of the ruling you made ... [Interjections.] ... and this is disrespectful towards the ruling of the Chair.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Speaker, I am talking about the ability of the MEC for Finance to have oversight over the housing budget. And I am calling into question his competence to do that because he doesn’t know the difference between a capitalist country and a socialist country.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon member! Take your seat, hon Ozinsky. [Interjections.] Order! Hon McKenzie, order please!

†Mr M OZINSKY: And, Speaker, I want to say here, I know that the DA in their caucus regularly discuss how to disrupt my participation in the House ... [Interjections.] ... and that’s precisely what’s happening today. [Interjections.] That MEC is terrified by the fact that I am participating in this debate, because he doesn’t know what he is doing, and he is scared he will be exposed here today. And I take what you are doing in the House as part of that caucus decision, to disrupt my participation. [Interjections.] That’s why they stand up every moment, like she is doing now.

The SPEAKER: Order!

*The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Mr Speaker, the way he addresses you – he addresses you just as “you”, and you are the “hon Speaker” – and his conduct towards you is unacceptable to the House.

†The SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky, will you please withdraw your statement that I am part of disturbing your statement?

†Mr M OZINSKY: Speaker, then you will allow me to continue with my speech, and not be ...

†The SPEAKER: Yes, I will allow you, definitely ...

†Mr M OZINSKY: ... interrupted ...

†The SPEAKER: I will allow – can you ...

†Mr M OZINSKY: If you do do that ...

The SPEAKER: Order!
Mr M OZINSKY: ... I withdraw my statement ...

†The SPEAKER: No, without any conditions, hon Ozinsky. Can you withdraw?

†Mr M OZINSKY: I withdraw my statement.

†The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. You may proceed with your statement.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Mr Speaker, on a point of order: How else do we read what is happening from the other side?

†The SPEAKER: Order! That is not a point of order. Take your seat, hon Skwatsha. It is not a point of order.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: May I address you on this point?

†The SPEAKER: That is not a point of order, hon Skwatsha. Take your seat. Proceed with the debate, hon Ozinsky.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Speaker, I hope you have taken all these interruptions into account and adding them to my time ... [Interjections.] ... because that is the tactic of that side of the House. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Hon members, that is what I am going to do in future if you don’t want to allow each other a chance to speak. That is what I am going to do. [Interjections.]

†Mr M OZINSKY: Because this is the reality ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Can we allow ... [Interjections.] Order, hon members! Proceed, hon member.

†Mr M OZINSKY: This is the reality of the open opportunity society where we don’t even get freedom of speech in the House.

One of the things which is not in the housing budget is housing for war veterans. The reason it’s not there is because of the dishonesty of the DA on this matter. Last week the hon Fritz raised the issue, and he said in the House that the ANC government has left behind those who fought in the struggle, that it doesn’t look after them.

I want to point out that last year, with the only one party opposing that Bill, the Military Veterans Bill was passed in the National Assembly. [Interjections.] Because the Military Veterans Bill ... [Interjections.] ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon ...

†Mr M OZINSKY: ... provides for housing for military veterans, which is not in this budget. That one party which voted against the Military Veterans Bill was the DA, the only party of all the parties represented in the National Assembly to oppose that Bill. [Interjections.] And then they have the audacity ... [Interjections.] ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Skwatsha!
Mr M OZINSKY: ... to come to the House and say that the ANC government has left those who fought in the struggle behind. Those who opposed the Bill are those who are trying to isolate the military veterans of this country.

Let me say, we see this in the Bill, because whilst there is money made available in other provinces for military veterans and their housing – and there are specific projects for them – there is no mention of this in this Bill. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Hon Geyer, order!

†Mr M OZINSKY: Let me say that what is actually happening here in this DA government is that year by year we see their failure to delivery on any of their promises when it comes to housing.

That’s why in her State of the Province Address the Premier only gave four paragraphs to the issue of housing, and those four paragraphs, I must say, are completely incoherent and have nothing to do with the main issues that face housing.

Basically the Premier said that the problem with the delivery of houses is red tape. It is very interesting that she uses the fact. She says it is impossible to deliver on low-cost housing on any site in less than six years. The reason she uses the word “six years” is because she became Mayor of Cape Town six years ago, and she is admitting when she uses the six years here that they had absolutely failed in Cape Town, and in the province under their rule, to deliver any significant number of houses to overcome the backlog which was caused by colonialism and has created the problem in this country.

For instance, if you look at the figures you will see that in 2007/2008 the ANC delivered 16 000 housing units. You will note that in this budget the MEC is only promising to deliver 15 567 housing units, four years after the ANC delivered more housing units then.

When you add up the number, in 2007/2008 the ANC government delivered 18 000 serviced sites. In 2009/2010 the DA delivered 11 000 serviced sites. They say they are not delivering houses because they are delivering more serviced sites but, in fact, they are even delivering fewer serviced sites year by year. In 2009/2010 it was 11 000 serviced sites and in 2010/2011 it was 12 000 serviced sites. Now the MEC says his government is going to deliver even fewer serviced sites than the previous years – 10 615, by his own estimate. And remember, those are estimates. There’s no chance, given their lack of project management ability, that they will even deliver those 10 000 sites. And then he tacks onto that another 5 900 ... [Interjections.] ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Skwatsha!

†Mr M OZINSKY: ... from the City of Cape Town. Even if you add those two figures up, you still don’t even get the number of serviced sites, in addition to houses that the ANC delivered in 2007/2008. And this has got nothing to do at all with the issue of red tape. What it has to do with, is the incompetence of that department, the poor policies of the DA and the criminal incompetence of the City of Cape Town.
Let’s start with the poor policies of the DA. The DA claimed that they were shifting, as I said, from delivering houses to serviced sites. They have been unable to implement that.

Let’s deal with what effect that has on service delivery. For instance, when the ANC left control of the City of Cape Town in 2006 and the hon Premier took over as mayor, the plans for the Pelican Park housing project were completed. They were at the point where the hon Premier, as I pointed out in the House last year, went to squatter communities in the Southern Peninsula and promised them houses in that housing project. That was 2006. We know the very good example of Zillerain Heights, which is named after the hon Premier, because of the promises she made there.

Then she was mayor until 2009. In those three years nothing happened in that project. Then last year there was an election, and the hon Plato was the mayor. On 12 April 2011, as part of the election campaign, the hon Plato and the hon Premier went and did a sod-turning ceremony in Pelican Park.

Mr A M FIGLAN: [Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon member! Is it a point ... [Interjections.] Order! Order! Is it a point of order, hon member?

[Mnu A M FIGLAN: Bendifuna kuqonda ukuba ndingawubuza na umbuzo?]

[Mr A M FIGLAN: I want to know whether I acan ask the question.]

†The SPEAKER: Will the hon member accept a question?

†Mr M OZINSKY: The hon member should learn how to make speeches in the House before he comes and asks others to make speeches for him by answering questions. When he has a chance to be at senior level in the House, then maybe he can answer questions. But until then he should keep his seat.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr M OZINSKY: Let’s talk about Pelican Park.

On 12 April, the hon Plato, without the MEC present – let’s note, without the MEC present – went and did a sod-turning ceremony in Pelican Park. They said that construction was expected to start by September, after the winter rains. Well, today no construction has taken place in Pelican Park. [Interjections.] Not only are the rains finished, but summer has come and gone, and the rains are starting again, and there is no construction in Pelican Park.

This is not a matter just from last year, let me remind you. We handed over this project fully planned and completed to the Mayor in 2006, and she already promised individuals houses there. This is the incompetence of the DA. It has nothing to do with red tape. It has nothing to do with project management teams and professionals or anything. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Skwatsha!
†Mr M OZINSKY: It has to do with the inability of the hon Plato, the hon Premier and this MEC, who they don’t even invite to housing projects. [Interjections.] It’s their inability to manage this process. What I hear has happened is that, in fact, the DA City awarded a tender for this project to a company, and that company that they awarded the tender to is incapable of fulfilling that tender. The question has therefore nothing to do with red tape. It has to do with oversight and the competency of this government. Now the question we are going to see is: Who are they going to give the tender to? What are they going to do with the process? Are they going to start again and delay another year, or are they going to give it to another one of the companies that tendered for that project? [Interjections.]

We’ll be watching this closely because, as you can see now simply by looking at the 2 000 to 3 500 houses that are meant to be built, that the inability of the DA to build these houses has nothing at all to do with red tape. [Interjections.] It has to do with their competency in this province. [Interjections.]

Let me also then say that by talking about refugees all the time, the DA tries to create the impression that the people who don’t get services in this provinces, somehow don’t deserve services because they’re not from here.

When we give it to them, it’s out of the goodness of our hearts, as the Premier tries to imply all the time. Well, let me tell you that there are many, many people who live in this province who have been born in this province, lived here their whole lives, have been on housing lists for years and years, and don’t even get assistance from the DA.

Let me refer the MEC to Mrs Kassiem, who wrote you a letter, to which your office replied on 2 February. Mrs Kassiem is a resident. She is a pensioner. She is in her late 60s. She has been living in one building for many, many years. That building was owned by supporters of the DA. They’ve now sold that building and now the new owners are trying to evict Mrs Kassiem in Woodstock. Mrs Kassiem’s two children are both beneficiaries of grants from the Department of Social Development because of their disabilities. Yet, in their hour of need when they were being evicted and they write to the MEC, the MEC is unable to respond to them. Mrs Kassiem became part of the waiting list in Cape Town in 1985 ... [Interjections.] ... and at the moment the year that is being dealt with is 1986, in other words a year after Mrs Kassiem’s name came on the list, and she still hasn’t been given a house. [Interjections.]

Worse than this, Mr Daniel Pienaar in the office of the Minister wrote to Mrs Kassiem on 2 February and said:

By direction of Mr B S Madikizela, Minister of Housing

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of your letter, the contents of which have been noted. Your request is receiving the necessary attention and a response will be forthcoming in due course.

[Interjections.] Of course, Mrs Kassiem had to leave the house on 29 February, and today is 27 March, more than a month and a half later, and she was already meant to have left the house and she has not heard from the office of the hon MEC yet. [Interjections.]
That is what they think about, not refugees but people who have lived their whole life here, who were born in Cape Town. They don’t even assist people who have social grants and require assistance.

Let me say, it’s worse. I personally spoke to the MEC about this matter. On 22 February, 20 days after he had promised her a response, I faxed the MEC these documents. I reminded the hon MEC last week about this matter, and still today Mrs Kassiem is being visited virtually every week by the landlord, who illegally wants to evict her. All we are saying is: Be strong. Don’t be intimidated. Of course, Mrs Kassiem is a lady in her late 60s, her one daughter has a hip deformity and she’s expected to leave there and go and live on the street. That’s the real failure of the DA policies.

An HON MEMBER: Shame on them!

Mr M OZINSKY: Let’s look at and bring together what has happened in Pelican Park, and let’s look at this pathetic speech that the hon MEC gives here. I say pathetic because half the speech consists of figures that were meant to be in the annual report. However, when the committee dealt with the Annual Report, the department was unable to give those figures.

Now, in order to look impressive, instead of giving his plans of how the money is going to be spent, how he’s going to solve Mrs Kassiem’s problem and how they are going to fix the disaster in Pelican Park which runs into hundreds of millions of rands, the hon MEC comes here and does what he was meant to do in September last year when he submitted his Annual Report to this Legislature.

Then you have the audacity, Mr Speaker, to allow members on that side of the House to say that I’m not sticking to the topic of this debate. The topic of this debate is not the Annual Report of the department. It is the budget of the department and what the MEC is meant to be delivering. [Interjections.] Of course, even the hon Premier doesn’t believe that the MEC will deliver. That’s why, in her state of the province speech, she doesn’t promise anything. She says here:

With a provincial housing backlog of some 500 000 units, it is absolutely pitiful that the regulatory environment makes it impossible to deliver low-cost housing on any site in less than six years. This simply has to change.

Well, this is giving up. This is saying: I’ve been in power for six years and I didn’t deliver anything, and now it’s going to take me another six years to try to deliver nothing. Honestly, this hon MEC’s hands are empty when it comes to this matter. [Interjections.]

When you look at what the MEC has told the House about the national policy, he makes it out as if in some way the policy of the national government is to do this nonsense of providing serviced sites and not providing houses. There’s no such national policy. The national policy allows the provision of serviced sites, but it doesn’t say that we will go and only give serviced sites. However, that is what the hon MEC is promising the people of the province. That’s what the hon Premier is offering the people of this province – serviced sites. They can’t even deliver on the number of serviced sites that the ANC delivered when it was in power. In addition to that, the ANC was delivering almost the same number of houses as serviced sites at that time.
The problem here is the mindset. It’s this idea of refugees. It’s the superior attitude that we are better than others, not because of what we deliver, but where we happen to be and who we happen to be. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr M OZINSKY: This hon MEC has been a praise singer of the hon Premier for years and years. [Interjections.] When he was first employed by the DA he was employed in her office as a spin doctor there, ... [Interjections.] ... but that was six years ago. Now he’s in a position to deliver, but the Premier doesn’t even put trust in him to deliver. What is happening is that the spin is falling off.

When we come to the annual report process, which is only six months away, we will see again that this hon MEC has not met the targets, because he’s too scared to even tell the House what the targets are.

For instance, when he talks about a municipality, he says that in the Breede Valley 870 sites were planned and 300 were delivered. That sounds like par for the course under his rule. Not even half were delivered – 800 were planned and 300 delivered. He doesn’t say here how many he’s going to deliver in this budget, because he’s too scared to put the figures on the table.

Even the Premier is too scared, in her speech, to say that the province this year will deliver so many houses.

Let me remind you that the outcome for the department in the provincial outcomes is accelerating the delivery of housing opportunities – with the emphasis on the word “accelerating”. In English – I don’t know about isiXhosa, the hon Premier is not here to tell us – “accelerating” means going faster and faster. But under the hon Premier and the hon Madikizela what we are doing is we are going slower and slower. Now in English that is called “braking”, putting your foot on the brake, or “decelerating”. But they talk about “accelerating”. That is what we are used to from the DA; there is a big gap between what they say in the House and what they deliver.

As I said to you, in Breede Valley they planned 807 sites and they delivered 300. Of course, this is in the year where the DA took over Breede Valley. In Drakenstein – where the Mayoral Committee member for Housing didn’t even have the guts to respond to the NCOP and this House when she was asked questions, and the white mayor had to step in and answer the questions for the Mayco member – 858 sites were planned, but 293 were delivered. Also not even half. I can go on and on.

There is one place where they succeeded. In Langeberg they promised 16 sites and they delivered 16 sites. And I am sure they are very proud of that. [Interjections.] I am sure they are dancing from the rooftops and saying: We’ve delivered 100% in Langeberg.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Ozinsky! Thank you very much. [Interjections.] [Applause.] Order, hon members!

†Mr J J VISSER: Mr Speaker, allow me to welcome our guests here today, especially those people from Drakenstein. I am glad you are here.
Mr M OZINSKY: [Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Ozinsky, order! [Interjections.] Hon Ozinsky, you had your chance, order! [Interjections.] Hon Ozinsky, I just want to warn you: If you carry on then I will ask you to leave the House. [Interjections.] You had your full 20 minutes. [Interjections.] You had your chance, your 20 minutes. [Interjections.] Proceed, hon Visser.

†Mr J J VISSER: Mr Speaker, when I hear the term “houses for all” it sets me thinking. Is it possible to provide houses to all the people? Is it appropriate for us to give people things, instead of rather generating a process which will allow people to provide houses for themselves?

*Prof Willie Esterhuizen already said in the early 90s that the ANC should be careful with this plan because it is not workable or possible. The hon Ozinsky has just neglected to tell you that between 1994 and 2011 only 10% of the backlog in housing was caught up on – only 10%. I don’t know why the hon Ozinsky is ranting and raving; in the rest of the country things are much worse than here in the Western Cape.

†We all know that South Africa already stands at the turning point where most of the budget goes to salaries for state employees, social grants, free water, free electricity, free housing, not to mention free schooling, health care and so on. How long will we be able to keep this up? We are creating a society which becomes totally dependent on someone else to care for them and look after them. These people already expect the government to look after them, and are developing an audacity to protest against this very same service they get for free, but which does not adhere to their own standards.

The concept is a boiling pot which is on the verge of boiling over – and it will, the very same day when the South African fiscus cannot provide a free meal to these people anymore. In the Western Cape we are already far behind with the provision of houses, approximately 500,000, and we are still falling behind – and in the rest of the country as well. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Magwaza! Order!

†Mr J J VISSER: A blind man can see and an imbecile can understand the simple fact that we cannot, and never will be able to, give a free house to all the people who qualify for one. My father always said “Daar is nie medisyne vir domheid nie.” Would it not be better to rather put this housing money into education, health care and job creation, rather making sure that people are educated, skilled, healthy, working and earning money? In other words, the simple equation is that we empower people to be able to look after themselves. It is absurd to think that five million people can proceed to provide the means to literally keep 15 million people alive and, in essence, also the rest of the 30 million people to arrive at the 50 million people threshold of all living souls in South Africa. These 15 million social welfare dependents are growing each year at an escalating rate, and the five million are subsequently shrinking.

Mr Speaker, the House must hear me correctly. I do not say that we should not assist people to better their living conditions.
What I am saying is people should not get it for free. It is simply monetarily unwise, and psychologically unwise, and we are heading for anarchy.

As far as I know we are the only country, or one of very few, who provide free housing to people. All our efforts and resources are aimed at providing free housing, and not assisting people to possess a house out of their own will. My father always told me as well ...

An HON MEMBER: Told you what?

Mr J J VISSER: Listen. “Boy, work hard, you don’t get anything for free in life, and these were wise words because it set my mind to expect ... [Interjections.] ...

Ms J WITBOOI: [Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Witbooi!

†Mr J J VISSER: ... nothing from anybody, and that I must earn my keep. That made me innovative and strong. Hon Ozinsky, the Bible also told us – and I know you don’t believe in the Bible – that we should earn our bread with sweat and effort, and these are also wise words.

†Mr M OZINSKY: That's the way you earn your bread.

†Mr J J VISSER: Yes, why not?

The strategy of the Minister to rather provide serviced sites to people, instead of building houses, is a step in the right direction and we could immediately double the number of opportunities to people to access the right to obtain and possess property. Rather give a quality service – not like I heard on the SABC news this morning, and I will read from the news clip:

    Another shameful chapter in sanitation as government had pledged to rid the country of the bucket system by 2007. Over 2 000 families in Sasolburg’s Garlin township still use the bucket system.

    A heavy stench lingers over the area that is home to thousands.

[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr J J VISSER: Mr Speaker, I continue.

    The situation at the local crèche is desperate. Makhotso Ramateletse looks after 35 toddlers and says she has to empty the buckets with her bare hands.

[Interjections.]

†Mr M OZINSKY: This has no relevance to the ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!
Mr M OZINSKY: No, you have said nothing relevant to the budget. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! That is what I have requested from all hon members – be relevant to the Vote, and all of you denied it. Proceed, hon Visser.

†Mr J J VISSER: Thank you, Mr Speaker. You will hear that I am still talking about housing.

I quote further:

The Human Rights Commission has called the situation a gross violation of the residents’ rights to dignity.

Senior municipal officials say the houses were built just before the 2004 local elections. They say they were under intense political pressure to deliver.

That is not something we want to do in the Western Cape – build houses because we want to buy votes, like the ANC does in the rest of the country. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon Tingwe! Order!

†Mr J J VISSER: One needs little effort and money to build a decent home to live in and the DA proved it before the 2011 elections. In Drakenstein – and the people from Drakenstein can vouch for this – we were able to build a house within one day. The house was put together with DA posters, rafters, zinc and wood. We had a watertight, decent house, within one day. [Interjections.] Politicians built this house, people who are not trained to build houses. This house is now one year old and it went through the winter season, it is watertight, it is still standing and the hon Helen Zille’s smile is still as bright as it was when the poster was made. [Interjections.]

People need water to be able to survive and to lead a decent life. We also need a clean, sanitary environment to live in, and that is what the hon Minister proposes: Let us give a site with water, sanitation, electricity and a storm-water system with a street and streetlights.

Let people work for their own houses. Let them be innovative in building it and obtaining the material they need. Let people work together and help each other. Any house is as good as it is built. [Interjections.] Even a brick house could be bad and dangerous, like we’ve seen with so many houses the ANC built, ... [Interjections.]

... 

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Tingwe!

†Mr J J VISSER: ... whereas a wooden house, or even any other material which is used, could make a perfect house if built correctly and properly.

The hon Minister can therefore also put money aside for research into development of cheap building material which could be constructed out of anything, such as hay, wood, plastic, steel, iron, etc. This could already be moulded into the different panels of a house, such as roofs, walls, floors, doors, windows, toilets, water basins, etc.
These panels could be made available at a subsidised price to people to construct their own houses. This method is cheaper, easier to use, more durable, creates work in the long term and does not take a genius to work with.

I applaud the efforts of the hon Minister to sort out the mess the former ANC government left us with in regard to the Gateway Project and the corruption which took place. My hon colleague, Mr Figlan, also referred to this. The hon Minister should stick to his plan and strategy ... [Interjections.] ... and not be deferred from creating an open opportunity society for all.

The hon Minister is doing fine in executing his task. He simply cannot do more with the budget he has. He can only do what he can.

Mr P C MCKENZIE: [Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon McKenzie!

†Mr J J VISSER: I also appeal to all here in the House to assist the hon Minister and his department in their quest to achieve these goals by supporting this Vote, because together we can do better. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Order! Thank you very much, hon Visser. Minister, over to you.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Oh, shame!

†The SPEAKER: Order! Hon McKenzie, I will ask you to leave the House.

†The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Mr Speaker, let me start by thanking the hon member Figlan. Seemingly, he’s one of the two people who heard the speech. [Interjections.] He heard clearly the challenges that we are faced with in the department and the measures that we are putting in place to deal with those challenges. I think that’s how most of the people heard the speech, but clearly there are some people who did not hear that. However, I’ll get to that in a minute.

Thank you, hon member Visser, my chairperson, for presiding over this department. I think your leadership has been phenomenal. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Hon Ozinsky, I’ve warned you. [Interjections.] Hon Ozinsky, I’ve warned you.

†The MINISTER: To borrow your words – and it is true ...
The SPEAKER: Order!

†The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: The irony here, Mr Speaker, is that ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Minister Carlisle!

†The MINISTER: The irony here, Mr Speaker, is that, despite all the failures that Mr Ozinsky is talking about, his government still managed to lose the power in this province. Isn’t that ironic? [Interjections.] Yes, we are talking about houses. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, Minister! Minister, ...

†The MINISTER: Let me also ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, Minister! Address the Chair, please.

†The MINISTER: Sorry, Mr Speaker. Let me also respond to member Ncedana. Let me also thank you for contributing to this Vote. Again I want to urge you to read the speech very carefully. [Interjections.] I think you must also listen. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER: You are making a point that ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Minister! Is it a point of order, hon Ncedana?

Mr M NCEDANA: Yes. [UMphathiswa uthi khange ndimamele kwaye khange ndiyifunde intetho yakhe.] [The Minister says that I did not listen and I did not read his speech.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon Ncedana! That's not a point of order. It's a question. Then you have to ... [Interjections.]

Mnu M NCEDANA: Somlomo, ... [Mr M NCEDANA: Mr Speaker, ...]

The SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.] Hon Magwaza, you will leave this House. That's your last chance, really!

[Mnu M NCEDANA: Uzasikhupha sonke namhlanje?] [Mr M NCEDANA: Are you going to chase all of us today?]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Ncedana.

†Mnu M NCEDANA: Hayi, Somlomo bendibuza kuwe into yokuba akandithuki xa esithi khange ndimamele xa ethetha futhi khange ndiyifunde intetho yakhe.Ayiso sithuko eso?

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraphs follows.]
[Mr M NCEDANA: No, Speaker I was asking whether he is not insulting when he says I did not listen when he as talking and I did not read his speech.Isn’t that an insult

USOMLOMO: Ayisiso isithuko mhlekazi, akakuthuki tu kwaphela.] [SPEAKER: That is not an insult, sir, he is not insulting you at all.]

†The MINISTER: Can I elaborate why I’m saying that, because I think the member jumped before I could actually explain why I’m saying that. The member is saying that, despite the challenges that we are facing as a department, we don’t seem to be doing something about those challenges, which is why I’m saying to him that I think he must read the speech very carefully. For every challenge that we’ve highlighted, we’ve also come up with a solution to that challenge. If he read the speech, he would have seen that. That is why I’m saying that he should perhaps read the speech very carefully. The member keeps on making the example of ...

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Speaker, the hon MEC keeps on saying he should have read the speech, but he never gave us the speech before he presented it here today.

†The MINISTER: Okay, he should have listened.

†Mr M OZINSKY: How should we have read ...

The SPEAKER: Order! Order!

†The MINISTER: He should have listened.

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order! That’s not a point of order.

†The MINISTER: Secondly, Mr Speaker, he keeps on making the example of eNyhunyhwini. The reality is that there are so many enyhonyhwini’s in this province. [Interjections.] I have become very concerned when the people try ...

The SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER:... to politicise the housing issue.

†The SPEAKER: Order, Minister! Hon Ncedana?

[Mnu M NCEDANA: Somlomo, asiyonyani le ithethwa nguMphathiswa uba ndifaka ipolitiki kwinto yaseNyhunyhwini.]

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraphs follows.]

[Mr M NCEDANA: Speaker, the Minister is not telling the truth when he says I am policising the issue of Nyhunyhwini.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon Ncedana! Order, please! Order!

[Mnu M NCEDANA: Bendibuza kuwe, Somlomo into yokuba wenze ntoni ngeNyhunyhwini?][Mr M NCEDANA: I was asking you, Speaker that what has he done about Nyhunyhwini?]
The SPEAKER: Order, hon Ncedana! Order! Take your seat. Hon Ncedana, if you want to pose a question to the Minister, can you please ask the Minister? You don't just pose a question.

[Nksz M TINGWE: Somlomo, enkosi Somlomo ndicel’uqonda uba uMphathiswa ukulungenele na ukuthatha umbuzo?

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraphs follows.]

[Ms M TINGWE: Speaker, thank you, Speaker, I want to ask whether the Minister is ready to take a question?

USOMLOMO: Mphathiswa uyamva.]

[THE SPEAKER: Minister, you can hear her.]

The MINISTER: I’m responding to the questions. How can I ...

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. [Hlala phantsi sisi.][Sit down, madam.]

The MINISTER: ... [Inaudible.] ... when I’m responding to the questions.

[USOMLOMO: Mphathiswa qhubekeka.]

[THE SPEAKER: You may continue, Minister.]

†The MINISTER: The hon member Ncedana keeps on making examples of eNyhunyhwini. The irony is that inyhunyhwini was there when he was still part of the government in the City of Cape Town. The question is: What did he do about it?

We have a number of areas like the area that he’s talking about, because the reality here is that no matter how much money we get, when it comes to housing, the challenges ... [Interjections.] ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon member!

†The MINISTER: ... will always be far less than the demand. [Interjections.] That’s the reality. I think we should not then mention a particular area and not mention all the areas that are still facing the same challenges, like the area of eNyhunyhwini.

Regarding the issue of the capacity constraints, if you heard when I was delivering my speech, I mentioned a number of challenges that we are faced with. Equally so, I also outlined how we are going to deal with those challenges, particularly the issue of capacity constraints in municipalities. I spoke about the PRTs. However, what the member must understand is that the issue of the bulk infrastructure problem is a nationwide problem. For example, in this province alone we have a backlog of R20 billion when it comes to bulk infrastructure. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon McKenzie!

†The MINISTER: Nationally the challenge of bulk infrastructure is more than a trillion rand. That’s a reality.
That is why you find that in some areas where there are bulk infrastructure constraints we cannot do anything, because as the department we rely on other departments to deal with that particular problem. Those are the realities that we are faced with, not only in this province, but in the country as a whole.

Regarding the question of land – and I have mentioned it a number of times in the House – as early as in 2008, way before I became the Minister, a decision was taken nationally to appoint an HDA and an HDA is represented in the House. An HDA was given the responsibility to do a land audit of all the pieces of land across the province. They have completed the audit and presented it to us as the province. This is one example of showing that we are doing something about land and this is not the first time we are talking about this. [Interjections.]

That presentation was made to us and we know now where the pieces of land are that are suitable for human settlements. We know who owns some of the pieces of land around the City and around the province and we know their status. Again this shows that something has been done to actually identify those pieces of land. Therefore it is not true when hon Ncedana says that we haven’t done anything about the challenges that we spoke about here.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: National hasn’t done anything about it. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Let me come to hon Ozinsky. Mr Speaker, I am not going to waste time ... [Interjections.] ...

The SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER: ... with the refugee jibe that the ANC keeps harping on. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†The MINISTER: On the issue of the war veterans; it is simply not true that this government is not interested ... [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Ozinsky. Order!

†The MINISTER: Through you, Mr Speaker, please listen to me. There are two issues here. The first issue is that in terms of the policy we can only provide 40 m² housing and we have asked the national department dealing with military veterans to come on board because we are required to provide a size that is bigger than what is required by the policy.

The second issue about the war veterans is that we have asked them because they could not agree as to what criteria are going to be used to identify war veterans, so we have asked them to go back and identify the war veterans and to tell us exactly what the criteria will be that they will use to do that.

Those are the two issues so it is absolutely not true that we are not interested. [Interjections.]
†Mr M G E WILEY: You are not a war veteran. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon Minister! What is it? Is it a point of order or is it a question?

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: No, no, it’s a question. I want to ask the hon Minister ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order!

†The MINISTER: I’m answering the question, Mr Speaker.

†The SPEAKER: Firstly, you can’t just pose a question. You firstly ask the hon Minister if he is willing to take a question.

An HON MEMBER: He lies a lot.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Minister, can I ask you a question?

†The MINISTER: No, sorry, I’m not answering this.

†The SPEAKER: Take your seat, hon member.

†The MINISTER: I get the impression, Mr Speaker, that the ANC is completely out of touch with reality. [Interjections.] In fact, they don’t even understand some of the things. Let us look at the issue of serviced sites, for example. This is not a new programme; this has been part of the policy for a very long time. The only difference is that there is a shift in emphasis, not in policy.

I am sure you have the budget in front of you. If we talk about serviced sites, the first picture on the left, we are saying that what we need to do is to make sure that we provide infrastructure ... [Interjections.] ... No, I am talking about the speech. Now, the first picture on your left-hand side ... [Interjections.] ... is exactly ...

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Ozinsky!

†The MINISTER: ... what we are talking about when we talk about serviced sites. You can see that that community, even though the people are still living in informal structures, has roads, electricity, sanitation and water. That is what we are talking about when we say that we need to improve the living conditions of our people. We must have accelerated services before we build top structures because if we do that we will spend less money for more people and by doing that you are able to improve the living conditions of many people. That is what we are talking about.

Clearly that side of the House doesn’t understand when we say that this is what we mean, because they are completely out of touch with reality and don’t even know what is happening on the ground.

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order! Hon Minister, order! Please take you seat. Hon Magwaza, leave the House please. [Interjections.] Please leave the House. I’ve warned you twice.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: What have I done?
†The SPEAKER: Hon Magwaza, please leave the House.

†Mr P UYS: Mr Speaker, what did she do wrong? What did she do wrong?

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: What have I done now?

†The SPEAKER: Order! I’ve made the ruling. Hon Magwaza, leave the House, please.

†Mr P UYS: Mr Speaker, what did she do wrong?

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: No, I need to know. What happened now?

†The SPEAKER: Hon member, I’ve warned you twice or thrice, but you carry on interjecting while the Minister is busy.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: No. No.

†Mr P UYS: Mr Speaker, she did nothing wrong.

†The SPEAKER: Leave the House, hon member.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: Speaker, …

The SPEAKER: Order! Order!

Ms N P MAGWAZA: Speaker, …

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Magwaza!

[Nksz M TINGWE: Somlomo, ndicela uthetha nawe, Somlomo. Ndicelaukuqonda ukuba wenze ntoni ngoku?]

[Ms M TINGWE: Speaker, I want to speak to you. I want to know, what has she done now?]

The SPEAKER: Order! No. I’ve made a ruling, hon member. Take you seat.

[Nksz M TINGWE: Wenze ntoni?]

[Ms M TINGWE: What has she done?]

†The SPEAKER: Hon Magwaza. Leave the House, please. [Interjections.]

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: What have I done now?

An HON MEMBER: Exactly!

Ms N P MAGWAZA: I don’t mind leaving, I will leave peacefully. I just want to know what I’ve done.

An HON MEMBER: Thank you.
†The SPEAKER: I've warned you several times ... [Interjections.]

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: I didn’t say anything. You just feel like saying I must leave the House.

†The SPEAKER: Hon member, I've warned you several times and you keep carrying on ...

†Mr P UYS: What has she done?

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: What did I do?

†The SPEAKER: ... with your interjections.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: I have said nothing. Absolutely nothing.

†Mr P UYS: She was quiet.

†The SPEAKER: Just leave the House, hon member.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: You just feel like telling me to leave the House for nothing. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Leave the House, hon member.

An HON MEMBER: For what?

†Mr P UYS: Mr Speaker, I was looking at her. What did she do?

†The SPEAKER: Order! Order! Leave the House, hon member.

†Mr P UYS: What did she do?

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: I didn't do anything. [Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon member! Hon member!

†Mr M OZINSKY: A point of order, Mr Speaker.

†The SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky, take your seat, please.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Speaker, we have the right to know why you put someone out of the House. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Take your seat. I have explained it several times. Order! Hon Chief Whip. Take your seat, please, members.

†Mr M OZINSKY: You have no reason to put the member out of the House.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: No, he does not.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Yes, there’s no reason.
*The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Mr Speaker, you made a ruling and they must adhere to it. That is unfortunately so; you made a ruling and then there is no further discussion of the ruling.

†Mr M OZINSKY: You have an obligation to be even-handed.

†The SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky, take your seat, please.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Members of the House interject all the time and then you pick one member who doesn’t even interject.

†The SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky, take your seat! Hon Ozinsky, take your seat, please. Hon Magwaza, leave the House. [Interjections.]

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: Mr Speaker, what did I say? I don’t mind leaving the House. [Interjections.] I have been quietly sitting here and I said nothing.

†The SPEAKER: The House will be suspended for five minutes.


†The SPEAKER: Hon Magwaza, you totally contravened Rule 43: Disregarding the authority of the Chair. I requested you several times and you didn’t want to listen to me. I gave a ruling to which the member must adhere and if the member does not want to adhere to the ruling it will mean that a disciplinary hearing will also take place. [Interjections.] Therefore I’m requesting you for the last time, hon member, to leave the House.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: I did nothing.

†Mr P UYS: Mr Speaker, may I address you, please?

†The SPEAKER: No, there is no address on the matter. There is already a ruling and ...

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: In the time of Hitler, where nobody’s allowed ...

†The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Order!

†Mr M NCEDANA: Mr Speaker, will you please tell us what did hon Magwaza do?

†The SPEAKER: I’ve made a ruling, hon Ncedana, and I’ve explained it several times and the ruling stands. Thank you very much. I have explained it several times and there is ruling, thank you very much.

†Mr M NCEDANA: But Mr Speaker, you did not explain what she did.

†The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Ncedana, I already made the ruling in the House. Over to you, hon Minister.

†Mr M NCEDANA: Based on what?
The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, over to you.

Mr NCEDANA: Mr Speaker, you made a ruling based on what? We have a right. Remember, nobody...

The SPEAKER: Order! Take your seat, hon member. I warned hon Magwaza several times in front of you. You were in the House. And I also gave the last warning to hon Magwaza and you were here in the House at the time.

Mr NCEDANA: What did she do, because I was in the House and she didn’t do anything.

The SPEAKER: Order! This is not allowed, totally, hon Ncedana. I am not going to discuss it. I’ve made the ruling already. Hon Minister, over to you.

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, let me deal with two or three last comments that were made by hon McKenzie. On the issue of figures...

Mr NCEDANA: Mr Speaker ...

The SPEAKER: Take your seat, hon member.

Mr NCEDANA: With due respect, we can’t accept ...

The SPEAKER: Take your seat, hon member.

Mr NCEDANA: No, I’m leaving. I’m just telling you that we can’t accept the House being ruled in this way.

The SPEAKER: You are welcome.

Ms N P Magwaza, having disregarded the authority of the Chair, was ordered to withdraw from the Chamber for the remainder of the day’s sitting. The ANC and COPE walked out of the Chamber in protest.

The MINISTER: On the comparisons that were made in terms of numbers, made by hon Ozinsky, I just want to raise two points. The first point is yes, it is true that during the time of the ANC administration, the ANC was very obsessed with chasing numbers. As much as they boast about the number of houses that they built, I have a list here, of a number of projects that we had to go back to and rectify because of the fact that the quality was compromised due to the fact that the party that was in power at the time was obsessed with chasing numbers. That’s the first thing. The point is that this administration is more concerned about quality rather than quantity. It’s better for those houses to be fewer as long as they are quality houses.

There’s a second point that I want to raise about the comparisons when it comes to figures. If the hon member listened very carefully, I mentioned a number of other programmes where we are going to spend the money. It was not the case before. Currently we are upgrading the CRUs. We are going to spend over R1 billion over five years.
That is the money that could have been used to create more opportunities, but we have a responsibility as the department to make sure that we upgrade those units because there are people living there, and they were totally neglected by the previous administration. Amongst other programmes, that is where we’ll be spending our budget. Because we have to make trade-offs, it means that when you use that money for that particular purpose then there will be fewer houses.

I’ve made mention of the grant structure that has changed. In 2009, when I began my term as the provincial Minister, we set ourselves some targets, based on the figure that was projected at the time. That was before the restructuring of the grant. I’ve explained that in detail, because if you then restructure a grant and take away more than R500 million, which could have yielded 5 000 houses and 5 000 sites, obviously the number of houses and sites that you build is going to decrease. I think I’ve explained that. Those are the reasons why you see that the number of houses that you are building now is less than the houses that we used to build previously.

Regarding the issue of Mrs Kassiem, Mr Speaker, I do not really want to address issues of this nature that are raised by hon member Ozinsky because there are so many Mrs Kassiems out there. We have been saying in the House several times that we are dealing here with a backlog of more than 500 000 families who are on our waiting list. You can imagine then what will happen if we entertain each and every person who comes to you and says “I deserve to get a house”. That’s not how we work. We have a waiting list and everybody must be given a house, following the proper processes.

On this issue specifically, Mr Speaker, Mrs Kassiem has been offered opportunities several times before and she turned them down. That is the fact, and I have proof at my disposal which shows that she has been offered opportunities before. She did not like the areas where these opportunities were, for example in Delft. The hon Ozinsky cannot then come here and accuse us of not taking care of people like Mrs Kassiem.

That’s not the way we do things, but we do make exceptions, and in her case we made an exception, but she refused to take those opportunities before.

The fact that Mrs Kassiem is being evicted is unfortunate, but again there’s this perception by the ANC that all the landlords are DA supporters. Hon member Ozinsky is misleading the House when he says that Mrs Kassiem is being evicted by DA supporters. This is a very, very serious accusation, Mr Speaker, because we do not know for sure who is evicting Mrs Kassiem.

Mr Speaker, I’m not going to waste a lot of time on the red herring and mumbo jumbo that was raised by the hon member Ozinsky. However, I just want to say this: One of the problems that we have as the Department of Human Settlements is massive corruption. As I’m speaking to you now, Mr Speaker, an ANC councillor has been found guilty of corruption in one of the projects that we are dealing with. One of the ANC councillors in Johannesburg was fired for being involved in corruption. We have been saying that councillors are very much involved in corruption, and this is proof of what we’ve been saying all along.

I just want to say then that it shows how divided the ANC is, because they don’t even know their own policies.
When we say that this is a national policy, we base this on documents and facts. In fact, the hon member Mr Ozinsky is making unfounded allegations when he says that we didn’t set the targets for the new financial year. They are here in our APP. It just shows that the ANC does not read. They come here and make all sorts of noises with no facts. What I’m telling you now is based on facts. There is this document which clearly shows that we have set the targets. All the targets here are set by the municipalities. When I read my speech, I also made it very clear that the targets that we set for the 2012/2013 financial year are more than 10 000 serviced sites and more than 16 000 houses.

I just want to make this point very clear, Mr Speaker. The ANC has completely lost it. They make a lot of noise about issues that they cannot substantiate with facts. I must say that this department is on the right track in terms of the challenges. We’ve made it very clear. We didn’t hide the challenges that we are facing. Equally so, we’ve made it very clear what measures we are putting in place to deal with these challenges.

I want to thank all our partners who are here today – our stakeholders – for supporting us. I want to thank my officials for working tirelessly to ensure that we spend our budget, as we did, and, equally so, to ensure that we are able to deal with the challenges that we are facing in a very complex environment in human settlements.

Lastly, I just want to thank the members of my family who are here – my sister, my two cousins and brothers. Without you, I wouldn’t be able to do what I’m doing. It’s a shame that most people do not understand what we are dealing with in Human Settlements. [Applause.]

Debate concluded.

†The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Madikizela. The business of the House will be suspended for five minutes. Thank you very much.

BUSINESS SUSPENDED AT 16:35 AND RESUMED AT 16:41.

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL[B 3—2012]

(Debate on Vote 9 – Environmental Affairs and Development Planning)

*The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Mr Deputy Speaker, hon Premier, members of the Provincial Cabinet, hon member of the Opposition in her absence, the other political parties in their absence, hon members of the Provincial Parliament, heads of the department and senior managers, colleagues, friends and residents of the Western Cape, welcome and thank you very much for the opportunity to address you.

Mr Deputy Speaker, you will notice that we put an environmentally friendly gift on the table. There are also environmentally friendly pens in there. They tell me they were designed that way and that the ink will disappear when politicians use them to write with so that we don’t have to be burdened with their writings for too long.
†Firstly, let me welcome two people in particular. The head of the department who accepted to serve in our department, Mr Piet van Zyl. Thank you very much, Piet, for joining us as head of our department. I wish him all the best in his fundamental leadership role. The other person is the CEO of CapeNature, Manana Moroka. It’s an exciting period, and we’re looking forward to work with you. I thank both of you for bringing your expertise to the department in helping us to serve the people of the Western Cape in our most important role.

*Mr Deputy Speaker, this vision asks each one of us to ensure that each person has the ability, the resources and the power to live a quality life.

†In order to ensure this and to enhance our service delivery policy priorities, my department has taken strategic decisions to improve existing working relations with other spheres of government and important stakeholders, in support of our intention to being “Better Together”.

Mr Speaker, my delivery will focus on an account of progress and a commitment from me and my team to present plans that –

- are budget aligned;
- are within mandate;
- will deliver on policy priorities and, ultimately, if not most importantly;
- will focus on what we are doing for the ordinary citizen to whom we are accountable.

Samuel Taylor once said that “there are no rights whatsoever without corresponding duties”. It is our constitutional right to clean air, clean water and a clean natural environment, but it is also our responsibility to work together to be able to enjoy these rights.

This has made me realise that it is important for us to accept that with rights comes a responsibility to ourselves and our fellow citizens. In order for us to be better together we must accept the responsibility and individual duty to ensure that the state of the natural environment is protected for future generations.

Mr Deputy Speaker, my address will allude to why being better together can work, how it is already working and why it is the only approach which will ensure that the citizens we serve have the quality of life they all deserve.

I will share perspectives of how working with the different spheres of national and local government informs better decision-making which impacts on service delivery imperatives.

*Today we will see a few mayors in the House as well. I want to welcome them too. It is very important to attend these events in order to draw one golden line from local government straight through provincial to national government level.

Mr Deputy Speaker, furthermore I want to tell more about my department’s legislative responsibilities and how this serves the man on the street – these people who cannot do what we as government can do. To me it is also important to recognise those responsibilities that the citizens have claimed so as to ensure that the condition of the environment is preserved for future generations.
†Mr Deputy Speaker, during my previous address I introduced the Provincial Strategic Objective 7 – Mainstreaming Sustainability and Optimising Resource-use Efficiency – as a new approach to enhance the ability of my department to have an impact on the environmental challenges we face in this province. This new way of conducting our business ensures that we do the right thing without compromising environmental and planning legislative processes.

Firstly, we are being better together as we have strategically and through mandated obligations aligned ourselves with the National Outcome 10 strategic priority, which is to “protect and enhance our environmental assets and natural resources”. I can confidently state that my department is contributing and meeting its obligation to this national strategic priority.

Mr Deputy Speaker, governance and sound leadership are some of the qualities that characterise effective municipalities. This sphere of government is crucial to uplift our people and to effect the change which is needed on the ground.

I am pleased to announce that my department, through the Development Facilitation Unit, has in the past financial period conducted 25 capacity building workshops. Suffice to say that this team has addressed 100% of all requests received for development facilitation services from Western Cape municipalities.

Mr Deputy Speaker, we are being better together as we jointly work to improve the socio-economic conditions of the citizens by fostering co-operative governance with all municipalities. These capacity-building initiatives ensure that local and provincial spheres of government work towards the consistent interpretation of environmental, planning and related legislation.

We live in a developing country which is rich in diversity and it is evident that we need to be practical and real about what we can achieve, and ask ourselves whether or not what we have set out to do is addressing the “real needs” of the estimated 5,3 million people in the Western Cape.

Sound and responsible working relations are the cornerstone of any successful service delivery strategy. Mr Deputy Speaker, during the 2009/2010 financial period my department investigated 207 complaints received from the public at large regarding issues of environmental contraventions.

During the 2010/2011 financial period an escalated statistic revealed that 233 complaints were received and investigated. It is also the intention of my team to investigate 100% of the complaints received in the new financial period.

This is an indication that our communities are becoming more and more aware of their environmental rights and how to work together with my department to protect their natural environment. Mr Deputy Speaker, it is important that I express my gratitude to this team and that of CapeNature who, during the previous financial period, undertook 133 law enforcement actions to combat the loss of biodiversity.

I am also proud to announce that six Environmental Management Inspectors have been registered at CapeNature, and the target set for the new financial period is to register 10. Therefore, based on this increased capacity, 30 criminal enforcement actions will be undertaken during the 2012/2013 financial year.
There is an important message, Mr Deputy Speaker: Biodiversity crime remains an enormous threat to our biodiversity, and CapeNature’s law enforcement officers’ objective is to decrease biodiversity crime.

Allow me to emphasise that I recognise this work as the manner in which we serve the non-affluent communities by ensuring that their right to a clean and protected environment is upheld.

We do care. We are responsive and because of our competent teams we can be held accountable.

Working together also means doing the right thing, in terms of this mandate. It is important that we do not compromise the environmental and planning legislative processes, while ensuring maximum service delivery impact.

Water management

Mr Deputy Speaker, my department set out to address one of the most challenging service delivery imperatives in this water-scarce province. Through strategic working relations with the national and local spheres of government and after provincial-wide consultation with key stakeholders, my department developed and finalised a status quo report on water in the province during the 2011/2012 financial period.

A Western Cape Sustainable Water Management Plan which followed from this was completed in March of the current financial period and will be presented to Cabinet for endorsement. The implementation of this will commence in the new financial period.

What will be done?

- This component in my department, as led by Dr Joy Leaner, will prioritise river and estuary rehabilitation to address pollution in key economically important rivers of the Western Cape.
  It is the intention of my team to work closely with the Berg River Task Team, led by the national Department of Water Affairs and joined by the Department of Local Government and CapeNature.
- We will also be working closely with the National Estuary Monitoring Programme and National River Health Programme to develop monitoring protocols during this financial period, in order to monitor water quality in those rivers and estuaries.

A budget in excess of R1,1 million has been allocated to implement these interventions.

Mr Deputy Speaker, we work very closely on this with our entity, CapeNature, which hosts the Cape Estuaries Programme, and then also with the National Department of Environmental Affairs, which has prioritised estuaries for environmental protection.

During the new financial year we will further prioritise estuaries for rehabilitation and monitoring of water quality, taking cognisance of the Estuary Management Plans that have been developed via the Cape Estuaries Programme.
While I echo the sentiments of working together, also allow me, Mr Deputy Speaker, to thank Mr Rashid Khan, in his absence – his department is here and I thank them for attending today – from the Western Cape Regional Office of Water Affairs who has shown commitment and support to my department as we tackle water management in this province.

**Biodiversity management**

Mr Deputy Speaker, CapeNature, under the leadership of CEO Manana Moroka, invited me to officially launch and open their flagship tourism offering, Oudebosch, at the Kogelberg Nature Reserve in February 2012. Oudebosch has set a new benchmark in sustainable development and has already received international recognition by being awarded the prestigious Holcim Award for Sustainable Construction.

Conservation cannot happen without the involvement of local communities. In order to ensure sustainability, communities need to experience the socio-economic benefits of conservation. Job creation and access to protected areas are all priorities for CapeNature in general and Kogelberg specifically. The Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve has invested an estimated R3,5 million in employment opportunities for the local community.

Work includes activities such as alien plant clearing, firefighting, footpath and road maintenance and cleaning, as well as gate services at the reserve.

Mr Deputy Speaker, we are reaching out to our communities by taking care of their natural environment and basic economic needs.

I am pleased to report that through the work of CapeNature an estimated 40 000 ha of land was cleared of alien vegetation over a period of three years.

These programmes and related activities such as the suppression of wild-fires allow for the creation of job opportunities, and I can account that 58 343 person days employment were created. This target has now been increased for the new financial period to 210 000 person days employment created. Allow me, Mr Deputy Speaker, to also convey my sincere gratitude to the Chairperson of the CapeNature Board, Prof Aubrey Redelinghuys, and his co-directors for fulfilling and conducting their oversight responsibility with intent and professionalism.

**Climate change**

Mr Deputy Speaker, climate change is evident. People are now looking to government at all spheres to provide solutions to this challenge. Allow me to state from the onset that this issue can only be addressed through a co-operative approach and support by civil society, government and the private sector. In order for government to effectively work towards addressing climate change, it must have clear guidance and a framework within which to address this policy priority.

Strategic relationships between all spheres of government are just as important and will ultimately determine the impact of work done by government.

During the 2009/2010 financial period I approved the White Paper on Sustainable Energy for the Western Cape.
The aim of this framework serves as an effective and practical tool to mitigate the effects of climate change and promote the eradication of energy poverty.

A draft Sustainable Energy Bill was born from the White Paper and this provides a sustainable energy framework for the province to promote sustainable energy practices. The Bill will now be subjected to a public participation process during the 2012/2013 financial period.

Mr Deputy Speaker, it is the intention of my department to provide support to four municipalities to develop sustainable energy plans during the new financial period.

In addition to advancing renewable energies as an alternative sustainable source of energy and encouraging improvements in energy efficiency, the Climate Change team, led by Ms Helen Davies, will provide support to four municipalities in the new financial period to develop climate change adaptation plans.

It is also the intention of my department to expand the representation of municipalities on the working groups related to energy matters as this has now become a key policy priority. Climate change also requires all spheres of government to make informed decisions to better prepare, adapt to and mitigate the envisaged consequences of climate change in general and specifically potential risk of sea level rise.

I can announce that sea level rise risk assessments have been completed for the Eden, West Coast and Overberg District Municipalities. The Agulhas Coast assessment was recently completed. These assessments build local coastal capacity on how to adapt to the risk of sea level rise.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I have explained that climate change requires an integrated approach by government and all stakeholders. Funding in excess of R1.6 million has been allocated for a series of deliverables related to climate change for the new financial period.

Part of the work which will be done during the new financial year will include the review of Western Cape policies and strategies to ensure alignment with the National White Paper on Climate Change. This was one of the key decisions made by the Western Cape after involvement at the COP17 Conference which took place in 2011.

Mr Deputy Speaker, it was just as important for my department to take COP17 to our stakeholders. A series of municipal and community climate change summits were hosted across five district municipalities. This was also supplemented through the distribution of awareness-raising material to municipalities sourced from the COP17 Conference.

I want to thank Mr Alfred for his contribution to climate change in this province. Mrs Pelelo is going to leave us at the end of April. I want to thank her for her input in building this department. We wish her all the best.
Mr Deputy Speaker, the ability of a government and more specifically the Western Cape government to make informed decisions on land use provides an indication of the degree of sustainable thinking. In essence this means ensuring that we find a balance between maintaining the natural environment while promoting economic growth.

Urban sprawl and informal settlements remain a reality and this is worsened by poor planning decisions that impact on the socio-economic state of the province.

I am proud to announce that my department, as led by Chris Rabie and team, will facilitate the approval of the Land Use Planning Act during the new financial period. A draft Bill was finalised after lengthy consultations with Western Cape municipalities, and province-wide public workshops have already commenced involving all key stakeholders. An amount of R358 000 has been allocated to ensure the delivery of this project.

*Mr Deputy Speaker, the legislative framework will consolidate all existing legislation and will guarantee improved alignment with planning and other developmental legislation.

One of the primary goals of the Land Use and Planning Act is to clarify the distribution of the powers of the various government spheres, as provided in our Constitution, regarding the making of decisions concerning land. I heard this morning that Mr Chris Rabie has closed his sessions with the municipalities by telling them to budget a bit more for staff and court costs, but I think this is something the mayors here should dearly take notice of. With this new piece of legislation municipalities might see the inside of a court quite often. This piece of legislation encourages good planning practices, socio-economic and environmental integration, as well as cooperative governance.

Mr Deputy Speaker, during the new financial year my department would also like to finalise the integrated revision of the Provincial Spatial Development Framework (PSDF). The revision of the PSDF was necessary not only because it is a legal requirement, but also because new information regarding several aspects, including the various roles of the Western Province government and municipalities compelled it. In the previous financial year the Growth Potential Study of Towns was finalised and a second phase was needed. An amount of R1,8million is going to be used for this.

†Mr Deputy Speaker, I can also announce that various general amendments to zoning scheme regulations were made to reflect new planning policies and trends, including the provision for renewable energy installations such as solar and wind generating structures in the landscape and parameters to ensure that these facilities are sensitive to the environment and the visual landscape of the Western Cape.

Over the last number of years significant support has been given to municipalities to improve their Spatial Development Frameworks and Integrated Human Settlement Plans through the Built Environment Support Programme (BESP). This support will continue in the new financial period. Funding in excess of R4,5 million has been allocated to this deliverable as part of the BESP work.
Pollution and waste management

*Mr Deputy Speaker, pollution and waste, as well as inefficient transport and other source uses, increase the impact on the environment. One of the strategic outcomes put to my department was to implement an air quality plan. This plan was completed during the 2009/2010 financial period.

I can report that during the 2010/2011 financial year my department monitored atmospheric air quality at seven places and that these places will increase to nine in the new financial year.

Mr Deputy Speaker, during 2010 my department lead an inter-governmental task team to address a number of complaints from residents in the Oudtshoorn community regarding unpleasant odours. This task team consists of officials from the proper district municipalities and other stakeholders such as the Western Cape Department of Health and the Department of Water Affairs, and keeps on finding effective management approaches to address the complaints. The source implications relating to air quality management will be addressed in the new financial year with funds to the amount of around R4,9 million.

†With the intention to promote sustainable management practices as well as to guide and support municipalities and industries with regard to integrated waste management planning, my department developed the Western Cape Provincial Integrated Waste Management Plan. The Waste Management Plan ensures that the legislative waste licensing function is administered by my department.

Mr Deputy Speaker, we intend to implement a green procurement policy to minimise the environmental impact of government operations by changing the focus of procurement considerations in areas such as paper and stationery, lighting equipment, office electronic equipment, events greening, cleaning products and services, as well as waste services.

The policy has been developed and capacity building with key stakeholders commences in the new financial period. It is expected that the implementation of the policy will commence in the 2013/2014 financial period.

*I can also announce that the Healthcare Waste Regulations headed by Mr Gottlieb Arendse and his team will be implemented during the new financial period after all legislative processes were followed. Funds allocated for this project amount to more than R1,2 million and include awareness and capacity-building initiatives with stakeholders.

Impact management

†Mr Deputy Speaker, my department strives to be responsive, is diligent and ensures that the environmental and planning processes are managed effectively and with high levels of efficiency.

It is important for me to explain that while my department can manage the efficient administration of applications during those stages of the process when information has been submitted to my department for review or decision-making, it is imperative for applicants and their consultants to submit all the required information timeously.
Targets identified for the new financial period are as follows:

- 800 EIA applications finalised;
- 90% of EIA applications finalised within legislated time frames; and
- 1 300 planning applications finalised

Whereas the procedures, and specifically Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) as such, have often been blamed for resulting in development and service delivery delays, it is rather poor EIA project management and poor quality EIAs that often cause unnecessary delays.

My department, as in the past, will again be releasing guidelines to assist applicants and their consultants, as well as presenting a number of capacity-building initiatives.

*Mr Deputy Speaker, my department’s Development Facilitating Unit (DFU), headed by Mr Gerhard Gerber, supplies extra support to the Western Cape Municipalities and government departments in terms of their development applications. Because of the work done by the DFU and the rest of Mr Tony Barnes’ team, good progress was made to reach the OIE project management and quality goal. Allow me at this stage to wish Mr Tony Barnes all the best because he is currently recovering from an operation.*

Lastly I want to mention the commitment of my team regarding effective process management. This is what the government could accomplish, but responsibility should also be accepted and understood by the applicants.

†While reasons can be submitted to my department as to why there has been a failure to comply with the requirements for consideration of applications, it is equally important for applicants to bear in mind that legislation outlines that applicants can have their application lapsed if the required information is not submitted within six months. New applications will then have to be submitted from scratch as part of a new process.

*I can confirm that this team invests time, skills and ability in all the processes of all the applications. The previous targets that we reached, as well as new targets, are proof of that. Although what we are doing is crucial, “better together” is only possible if all of us are aware of what is expected from one another.*

This team, in essence, manages specialised processes and funds allocated to these are in the excess of R36 million.

Organisational environment

Mr Deputy Speaker, funding is a limited source which could have a negative impact on the quality of service delivery, although the biggest challenge for my department is to address environmental challenges with the allocated budget. However, this did not stop the vision to create a province where there are opportunities for socio-economic growth.

The total budget for this Budget Vote is R379 273 000. The funds available to the department to reach its legislative mandate and provincial strategic goal priorities, is R177,5 million, of which R133,1 million will be used for staff costs. CapeNature receives more than 53% of the total budget of this Budget Vote. In spite of additional funding, 80 of the 491 posts are still not funded.
My department has specialised officials with scarce skills on the payroll and with that we also try to keep staff in their jobs.

Mr Deputy Speaker, a small respite was reached with the implementation of the Occupation Specific Dispensation to keep staff employed. However, this had a significant impact because it put more strain on the operational budget allocation.

My management support team headed by Mr Theo Gildenhuys, saw to it that low-level jobs were abolished in order to fund higher level specialised jobs. The result is that although enough expertise is built into my department, we have fewer staff members to perform functional operations.

Outreach to our communities

Mr Deputy Speaker, my department has its own challenges, but wherever possible we tried to make a difference.

During the past two years we facilitated opportunities to provide funds to ambitious individuals to better their academic prospects by means of internal and external scholarships to the amount of more than R400 000 in the 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 financial years, as well as for this financial year.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I can also announce that by means of a stakeholder’s outreach programme, CapeNature involved 117 schools in environmental programmes.

When I give you the next section, I can see my colleague, the hon Donald Grant’s eyes widening. We do it after school hours. You don’t have to worry. I know that part of the policy. It is important to take the environment to our youth. Our youth also have a Life Orientation period we can use to bring the environment to them.

Mr Deputy Speaker, with all these initiatives we involved 117 schools. This allows us to empower our future leaders and to enable our communities to understand the importance of our natural environment.

Mr Deputy Speaker, CapeNature set a goal to expand to 14 new stewardship conservation sites. It is also a goal of the team to equip an estimated 22 000 learners with environmental education opportunities, and to involve 2 615 interest groups by means of environmental awareness activities. Six youth groups will get the opportunity to be registered in environmental programmes.

Mr Deputy Speaker, allow me to thank the officials of my department, as well as the staff of CapeNature, for their hard work, commitment and the goals they are trying to reach. I also thank my team of chief directors, senior managers and the strategic and operational support team who gave content and meaning to this strategic target.

My department has a special paradox to contemplate – balancing economic growth while guaranteeing a sustainable environment.

I did not expand on the comprehensive processes my department and CapeNature are managing.
I rather tried to give an overall impression of responsibility, integrity, leadership, institutional function and accountability through responsible process management and the adherence to environmental and planning legislation.

†Mr Deputy Speaker, my department is aligned nationally. My department understands its responsibility of oversight and empowerment to our local sphere of government. My department is faced with challenges, but we are very cognisant of the needs of our communities who need us to protect the state of their natural environment. My department understands stakeholder relations as an approach to improving service delivery imperatives – PSO7 has allowed us to forge significant strategic relations and to abolish a silo working mentality. I am most aware that what we do today will change the future of tomorrow, and this can only be done when we work hand in hand.

Mr Speaker, we are better together. [Applause.]

†Mr M C WALTERS: Mr Deputy Speaker, we must thank the Minister for his enlightening treatment of his department’s budget. It is an extremely important department, far more than indicated by the size of its budget, and pursues its mission most diligently. The production of frameworks guiding and planning while initiating services aimed at supporting municipalities in the pursuit of their mandated functions related to environment, planning, etc, was especially praiseworthy. These activities will be addressed by my hon colleague, Johan Visser. I will concentrate on the role of CapeNature in conserving our natural environment and biodiversity. Cape Nature and its predecessor have always had the reputation of being a highly professional body. In its present status as an entity of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, it maintains, in spite of funding constraints, that professional status. The council of fit-for-purpose expertise and representative of stakeholder communities maintain an effective oversight and leadership role. The previous CEO, Ms Lucille Meyer, instituted it and the new CEO, Ms Manana Moroka, maintains a stable management and administrative milieu which facilitates effective execution of programmes.

Cape Nature commands 53%, or R204,326 million, of the departmental budget. Even this is insufficient to meet the demands of managing one of the seven floral kingdoms of the world, with the highest degree of biodiversity of them all. The drive of the entity to expand its budget by the recruitment of external funding is a major feature. Its pursuit of public-private partnerships in expanding the tourism and other facilities in partnership with private firms is especially commendable.

The quality of the products of these partnerships is readily observable, also in the fact that the eco-friendly facilities created in the Kogelberg Nature Reserve have won awards and accolades for the quality and innovative integration into the natural environment.

The expansion of such partnerships should be pursued so as to expand the income which could then be redeployed into other functions of Cape Nature which are constrained by the limitations imposed by official funding. At present, other income from diverse sources, including tourism and agency fees received for alien clearance, amounts to an estimated R55,462 million for the 2011/2012 financial year and R59,425 million for the 2012/2013 financial year.
Among these functions is that of research. While research does take place in the universities, CapeNature, the custodian of our unique biological diversity, should be empowered to direct a co-ordinated and integrated research programme. This task would be far easier if an organisation similar to the Agricultural Research Forum could be brought into being, integrating and guiding the research efforts of those academic and other research groups working on the biological diversity of the Western Cape and the factors affecting it. As in agriculture, better together will expand delivery and success.

The infrastructure projects of CapeNature are related to the promotion of the attraction of tourists to the nature reserves and will involve a total cost of R85,868 million by completion in 2014. These projects include 10 nature reserves in three district municipalities and will enhance the tourism product offered by CapeNature. This product will include a range of products, ranging from conference facilities, accommodation, self-catering and camping facilities, allowing a wide range of citizens from all communities to enjoy the wonderful biodiversity, nature trails and scenic beauty of these reserves.

Let us all – and now I do not refer to the persons in the House but to the citizens of the Western Cape – support these projects as far as possible and, through this, support the programmes of CapeNature. We must increase the external income of CapeNature.

In its further pursuit of external income, CapeNature, through its marketing and eco-tourism programme, maintains a comprehensive range of activities, ranging from tourism, marketing and communications, through the requisite IT systems to special projects related to the development and maintenance of unique products.

The vision of CapeNature is to be “a quality-driven public entity conserving the unique natural heritage resources for the benefit of all”. The mission for the 2012/2013 financial year is the establishment of biodiversity conservation as a foundation of a sustainable economy creating access, benefits and opportunity for all.

The promotion of this vision, its community and youth programmes – referred to by the Minister as well – aimed at promoting public understanding of ecosystem services, the value of biodiversity products and, importantly, a conservation ethos, are to be commended.

CapeNature is certainly not only the guardian of our natural heritage and biodiversity, it also presents the public with a range of opportunities to enjoy that heritage. In this process of enjoying affordable access, the public is able to contribute to the ability of CapeNature to expand and improve its services.

The range of activities grouped under its biodiversity support and conservation management programmes are manifold and reflect the diversity of responsibility which this entity executes on behalf of the province and include wildlife management support, biodiversity crime prevention, fire management, alien vegetation control, marine protected areas, islands and estuaries, biosphere reserves, world heritage sites and several others which place great demands on limited manpower and funding.
It is clear from the plans and reports of Cape Nature that the attainment of goals and mission are constrained by limitations of funding and also capacity. While the pursuit of extra income through tourism and agency activities is commendable, as I have said, great care should be taken that this should not become the major thrust to the detriment of the conservation responsibility. Aspects such as marine protected areas and estuaries, for instance, are of prime importance for the fishing industry, serving in the first place as reserves from which depleted stocks elsewhere can be replaced, as has been very spectacularly demonstrated in New Zealand, where rejuvenation of stocks following expansion of marine protected areas was widely evident.

South Africa requires a radical expansion of such areas if they are to realise this potential, and national funding should be dramatically increased if CapeNature is to exercise an expanded management role in this respect on behalf of the Department of Environmental Affairs.

An aspect of biodiversity conservation, in which Cape Nature plays an important role, is that of the control of alien invasive species. At present, this comprises mainly the clearing of invasives with funding from Working for Water and the Expanded Public Works Programme. This is, however – and I think we should always realise this – only a holding programme, as clearing is not a long-term solution. If you’ve cleared an area and you’ve left it for three years, the aliens are back.

They remain the greatest threat to our biodiversity and, if allowed free range, will completely swamp our unique Cape plant kingdom. An area of special concern, which is not being effectively addressed, is that of the continuing appearance of new threats. Threats such as Spanish broom, pampasgrass, pennisetum grass and others are constantly expanding their range and will move to replace others as those are reduced. Radical action while such infestations are small will save major expense when they occur over larger areas after entering the exponential phase of expansion typical of invasives. The “hit squad” to exercise this function should be more visible.

Cape Nature is also responsible for the devising of control strategies for damage-causing animals and of the issuing of permits for the application of control measures. This often places the entity between a rock and a hard place. Excessive losses by livestock farmers place great pressure on Cape Nature and the Minister, while animal rights activists campaign on the opposite side. It is clear that this is one area where policy and strategies need to be revised so as to ensure preservation of biodiversity while promoting the alleviation of the plight of farmers. Guidance could perhaps be sought in the experience of other developed countries such as the USA and Australia.

I wish to convey the appreciation of the standing committee to the board and the staff of CapeNature for the cordial reception we have always received on all occasions where we have visited, including the Kogelberg Development and the Harold Porter Centre.

It is our beautiful environment and its unique biological diversity that makes the Western Cape the Western Cape, and you deserve maximum support in your mission.
Mr J J VISSER: Mr Deputy Speaker, allow me to thank the hon Minister for the beautiful little gift he gave us. I do hope nature won't be deteriorating into trees looking like these trees; however, it's a very beautiful tree he gave us.

Mr Deputy Speaker, it’s an honour to talk about this Vote. This department holds the key in this province when it comes to what the DA propagates regarding economic growth and job creation.

The hon Minister could be the most popular Minister, if he wants, by simply approving each and every application for development that comes before him, but by doing that he will allow the environment to be disturbed to such an extent that a process of degeneration of nature and the environment will take place that will be irreversible.

On the other hand the hon Minister could be very conservative and approve very few applications for projects, which will have the opposite effect. The key to success then is definitely a perfect balance between development and conservation, and this is no easy task. It’s a fact that this is a very complicated process which must be followed where the hon Minister has to make a decision without appearing to be biased.

Thus, it is important that this Land Use and Planning Act (Lupa) be finalised during this financial year, as promised by the Minister, because this is a tool that could be used to help him make better decisions.

The law will determine the guidelines and form the basis to support municipalities to also make better decisions regarding development and to determine their towns’ borders and thereby determining the areas for development. This gives the municipalities the opportunity to compile and carry out their economic framework with greater certainty and in tandem with the department and in the end, also the province. Municipalities can do and carry out their planning for buying land in a more efficient way.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the hon Minister is still just a normal human being, and therefore the proposal to establish an advisory board to advise the Minister and make recommendations is welcomed. This will hopefully result in developers and local governments having more trust in the Minister’s judgement, which will hopefully decrease incidences of court cases. It’s a shame that so much money and energy are wasted on court cases when it could have been spent in other ways and to the advantage of the community. It seems as if every application that is affected automatically results in a court case and this should not be so.

The so-called red tape that exists and which slows down applications for the approval of development is an absolute pullback which impedes economic growth and progress. It discourages developers; deters them from making investments and leads to some of them becoming bankrupt, something which has a very negative impact on the economic environment. This red tape should be abolished where possible, and municipalities can play a significant role in doing this.
One important aspect of development is also to make sure that there is not an oversupply of one entity and an undersupply of another. The balance should be kept at all times. It makes no sense that developments that are half finished, are halted because of little or no interest, or do not happen because of lack of money. Also, it doesn’t make sense to approve developments which will add pressure to natural resources, like for instance, water. These kinds of developments should be accompanied by a national, and more important, a provincial long-term plan.

It is important to make sure that existing business centres are not disturbed or damaged by development. Businesses should not be taken further away from poor people who cannot get transport or afford transport costs, and those who are working have a problem with time when distances to shops get too great. This creates opportunities to establish shebeens where smuggling and illegal trade take place.

Economic development and conservation go hand in hand, because the waste that is generated by this development must be handled and stored without polluting and damaging the environment. The Minister had told you how much effort is put into monitoring this aspect, and we welcome the Western Cape Waste Management Plan that is put in place.

The provision of electricity and the accompanying transport of electricity over longer distances, power lines with the masts carrying these lines, all stand tall in nature, disturbing it by having an effect on the migration patterns of birds. Where there is development, there are roads, power lines, water pipes, and so forth. All these things cut through directly and disturb the balance of migration routes of insects, reptiles, birds, animals and so on which are very important to nature.

Natural disasters are on the increase because of man’s interference in nature. The canalisation of water, wind and fire increases the intensity of these elements whose powers should not be underestimated. The challenge to the hon Minister and his department to establish centres and to try and identify and address these phenomena in time before they intensify is good. The use of aeroplanes and helicopters to fight fires can also be used to fight fires in inhospitable areas and bring them under control.

Thus a total of around five million people are dependent upon this Minister’s decisions, and their lives are impacted directly and indirectly. With a budget of R348 million this is a huge task and therefore it is good to see that this department’s budget was increased from R299,9 million with almost R49 million. There will never really be enough money available to provide for the work this department has to do.

I haven’t even touched on the futuristic methods and processes yet that could be driven by this department – and the Minister mentioned it – things like green energy, the processing of liquid and solid waste, the use of seawater and waste water, etc.

Mr Deputy Speaker, this hon Minister and his department is definitely busy creating an open opportunity society and a fine balance between conservation and development and by working together with municipalities and the private sector they definitely build on the principle of better together.
I would like to wish the hon Minister and his department all the best for the year to come and I call on the House to accept this Vote.

*The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Mr Deputy Speaker, I thank the two hon members, my colleagues, for their hard work, where they continue their hard work in the standing committees, and keeping me on my toes and often peppering me with questions. And all that to create a better environment and a better future for our people out there. I thank them from the bottom of my heart for those inputs.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I appreciate the officials' hard work, the late nights and their inputs. I also want to thank all our families. If there is a team who works very hard and who puts in many hours, it is my own family and their families. They all sacrifice a lot, and we want to use this opportunity to thank them. I also want to thank my ministerial team for their long hours and sacrifices.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I can't help it, but there has to be a little politics in this debate. The ANC has now fled like a coward, but I know where the hon Ozinsky was heading, because he had a photo or two.

Before I get do that, I don't want to involve Salga in this unpleasantness. Firstly, I want to thank them that Demetri of Salga is attending today. We appreciate this. Thank you for sharing a passion for the environment.

Mr Deputy Speaker, what we should remember, however, is that although the ANC may run away, they cannot hide. Their sins will come to light. The hon Ozinsky loves making the House a guardian, but if he can shout, we can shout louder. If he can give a dressing-down, we can give a better dressing-down. He may jump on a house and a lot of other things, but he cannot hide from the marsh of corruption, the marsh of megalomania where the ANC had left us and the marsh of cadre deployment. To get out of that marsh takes time, and the Western Cape will go on doing better each year and the ANC has no answer to that. One thing the ANC has no answer to is that we do a better job of governing. They don't have an answer to that. They can play all their games.

This is a battle, but I want to give hon Ozinsky, where he is watching me on TV, a message. The voters will square up with him, as the voters squared up with the ANC in the Western Cape and will square up with the ANC nationally in 2019. They won't get away from that.

Mr Speaker, he has a photo or two of a dead leopard. Let me talk about that, because when he walked out, he told me he will quote this in the papers. He has my blessing to do that. We can fight the battle there, because an honest, open, transparent agenda doesn't ever have to be hidden.

The reasonable person understands reasonable principles and the reasonable person understands the work CapeNature is facing. They understand that this is a responsible organisation that will not put down an animal if not necessary. They will understand the leopard programme that was launched 12, 13 years ago in cooperation with Agriculture and other organisations when there were only about 10 or 11 leopards left in the Western Cape, was such a success that five leopards were killed on our roads last year. When such a programme is growing, there'll be conflict between man and nature. When CapeNature has to act, it will have to act responsibly and we'll defend that issue later.
I also want to tell hon Ozinsky that when he uses a messenger who sees himself as having the monopoly on loving animals, he must please choose a better candidate. We’ll also settle with that person. He can still learn a lot about honesty and integrity.

I thank you, Mr Speaker. It’s an honour and privilege to work with the department and it’s an honour and privilege to present this Vote. Thank you. [Applause.]

Debate concluded.

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL [B 3—2012]

(Debate on Vote 3 – Provincial Treasury)

†The MINISTER OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Mr Deputy Speaker, Cabinet colleagues, Leader of the Opposition in her absence, Members of the Provincial Parliament, Director-General and Heads of Department, the head of Treasury plus your senior management that are coming in at the moment, citizens of the Western Cape, thank you for allowing me this opportunity to table the 2012/2013 budget for the Western Cape Provincial Treasury.

At the outset I would like to issue my heartfelt appreciation to Dr J C Stegmann and his team for their expert guidance during the provincial budget process. Our results in the last financial year have reconfirmed our position as South Africa’s best-run administration. To Dr Stegmann, his full team, and all of you in those offices throughout the city, I give you my thanks. I would be pleased if you could pass that on to each one of them.

Mr Speaker, our vision for this province does not stop there. We have set ourselves the target of becoming the best-run regional government in the world. One of the most critical factors upon which our success will be judged, is our ability to eradicate corruption. We have already made significant progress towards this goal.

In 2010/2011, for the second consecutive year, each and every department of the Western Cape government achieved an unqualified audit from the Auditor-General. We were the only province to secure this achievement, which stands in stark contrast to our provincial counterparts, who racked up 32 qualified audits, and four disclaimers between them.

We also spent more of our total budget than any other province in South Africa, just over 99%, ensuring that Western Cape citizens received the best possible service delivery.

Through the implementation of a year-round monitoring system that tracks our progress, we are once again due to spend around 99% of our allocation in 2011/2012.

We achieved another success in this year’s mid-term budget process when we gazetted the smallest adjustment to the province’s budget since 1994.
This means that each and every department, having gone through the Provincial Treasury's rigorous budget process, spent their allocations according to their plans.

Despite several high-level challenges we are determined to retain and improve upon this track record.

Before I proceed to give details on our new and innovative priorities for the coming year, I would like to use this opportunity to initiate an open, and what I hope will be a candid, debate about the state of South Africa's public service which has been in rapid decline over the last decade.

In a recent academic essay, Barbara Lipietz and Ivor Chipkin launched a compelling argument for why South Africa's administration has reached its current degree of dysfunction. They argue that the dismantling of South Africa's bureaucracy, which was built up over nine decades on the established principles of public administration, simply because of its association with the previous apartheid regime, was a grave error. With its demise went any sense of prescribed hierarchy and clear lines of accountability, as well as the unglamorous tasks of planning, organising, staffing, directing, reporting and budgeting.

The drafters of South Africa’s post-1994 public service legislation adopted the principle of letting managers manage with wide discretion, while holding them accountable for efficient and effective spending that was widely felt, especially by those who were left out in the cold during the years of apartheid. In the beginning this allowed the state to be much more responsive to the broader needs of the population, more equitable in its resources allocations and more agile.

This system worked relatively well until the early 2000s, due largely to the type of people in command, passionate and highly skilled people who were intent on turning our country around and a lingering emphasis on good financial administration.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon Minister. I am listening carefully how you relate that to this specific budget Vote of the province. Just bring it a little closer please.

†The MINISTER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I will do that in due course. What I am showing you is how good management, in a Treasury, is actually what we need to develop, not only in this province, but in this country.

By the mid-2000s, the majority of these staff members had been systematically rooted out of the jobs that they loved and were replaced by cadres with less experience and far more self-interest. Under their reign the freedoms written into our laws began to be abused for personal gain. The Public Service has been allowed to run roughshod over our laws, including the core text governing the spending of the public’s money, the Public Finance Management Act.

Recent newspaper articles confirm this under headlines that speak of the toxic mixture of politics and greed.
As has been widely reported, several provinces are facing financial crisis. In the 2010/2011 financial year the various provinces racked up unauthorised expenditure of R16,8 billion, a telling sign of the prevailing disregard for proper procedure and the breakdown in accountability. One notable exception is KwaZulu-Natal, where the Premier and Provincial Treasury have worked extremely hard to turn things around.

Mr Deputy Speaker, you will have noticed that KwaZulu-Natal a few years ago also suffered these problems, but as a result have realised that they need to have this strong and strict financial management in order to turn things around. We highly praise them for that today.

Provincial finances have been further compromised by the decision of the national government not to upgrade and fully integrate the computer systems that government employees use to manage government resources. Although it is acknowledged that these systems are extremely stable, we find ourselves in the technological equivalent of the Stone Age, with systems that are susceptible to maladministration. The latter has been made worse by the substandard administration of our current systems.

While we do not believe in throwing the baby out with the bathwater, we have resolved to go back to basics. In so doing we will call upon the national Minister of Finance, Pravin Gordhan, who is earnestly engaged in finding solutions to the current problems, to consider our seven-point plan to take the public service back.

Firstly, the national government must upgrade the public service finance systems. Secondly, we must develop standard operating procedures across all departments and public entities; entrench fiscal discipline through budget credibility, proper cash management and banking and personnel management; manage our fiscal performance through clearly set annual performance plans and quarterly performance reports that are subjected to continuous oversight; entrench proper accounting and asset management; develop standard structures, competencies and the appointment requirements for CFOs; and most importantly, Mr Deputy Speaker, strengthen the leadership roles of treasuries.

In the coming year the Provincial Treasury has been allocated R154,286 million, a 7,95% increase on last year’s budget.

The four programmes of provincial treasury will steer the Western Cape government, led by the seven-point plan I have just outlined, towards becoming a skilful and effective instrument of public policy, which is the driving force behind all well-run regional governments across the world.

In brief, Mr Deputy Speaker, the programmes will receive the following funding:

*Programme 1: Administration*

It receives 21,54 % of the budget or R33,245 million to give strategic direction and quality financial support to me, the HOD and the treasury team as a whole.
Programme 2: Sustainable Resource Management

It receives 44.21% or R68,204 million to ensure that the province’s budget and its financial assets are professionally managed, and to ensure that the budget across the board is utilised effectively and efficiently.

Programme 3: Asset and Liabilities Management

This receives 19.86% or R30,639 million to ensure that our accounting systems, physical assets and supply chain management systems are effectively managed.

Programme 4: Financial Governance

It receives 14.39% or R22,22 million to develop and drive financial practices that support our goal of reaching Level 3 financial maturity by 2015.

Above and beyond these programmes is a set of new and innovative priority areas that will form the basis of the work of this department in the coming year. These were devised following a series of think tanks that sought to address whether we understood the true nature and cause of lapses in our financial performance and whether we have thus far been effective in turning them around. This process was in line with our principle of going back to basics.

We have also taken heed of the various critiques that have been levelled at us from time to time and have reacted by becoming more agile, supportive, professional and responsive in the assistance that we provide. Our first priority is to ensure that the province’s departments, public entities and municipalities devise more responsive budgets that grow our province’s economy, contribute to jobs, deliver services more effectively and enable all our citizens to lead better lives.

In the coming year we will place a far greater focus on assisting our municipalities to achieve financial conformance. In so doing we will replicate the high-level social, labour and economic data that we produce for the Provincial Economic Review and Outlook on an annual basis at local government level.

The Municipal Economic Review and Outlook (Mero), which we will launch later this year, will give insight into the major challenges and opportunities that lie within our municipalities and allow us to budget without having to fly blind.

Mr Deputy Speaker, together with the Provincial Economic Review and Outlook, these documents will be used to link the intentions of government with its plans and allow for greater synergy.

In 2012/2013 we will also aim to improve the way that provincial departments and municipalities spend their budgets. We will place particular emphasis on ensuring that budgets are spent in line with their stated purpose, that data has integrity, that budgets are properly monitored and implemented and that there is a clear chain of accountability amongst financial managers. We will pay special attention to municipalities that achieve notoriously poor financial outcomes year in and year out.
Another top priority for Provincial Treasury in the 2012/2013 financial year is to encourage the national government to adopt new and improved financial technology that will remove the risk of public service corruption. In response to instances of fraud committed by government employees, we have conducted a thorough investigation of our accounting system and have identified several loopholes that leave our funds vulnerable to abuse.

We will strengthen our internal controls, where we can, by embracing new technology such as biometric scanning that leave no room to cheat the system. We will also ensure that each and every staff member that uses our financial systems is fully trained in accordance with their system profile.

To maximise our budget over the coming year and into the future, we will take a proactive approach towards ensuring that the Western Cape government receives its fair share of nationally raised proceeds and that our departments and public entities collect the monies due to them and explore other alternatives to generate revenue. To achieve this we will fund research initiatives into the National Transfer System and the funding models and actively lobby the national government for a fairer allocation of resources.

We will also review our research on the current fuel levy, the casino tax exclusivity regime and the government’s motor transport funding scheme. In the past month we have gazetted legislation that will allow a second tourism-orientated casino to move into the metropole. We hope to pass this legislation by the end of the year.

Our fifth priority is to improve the management of the province’s fixed assets so as to increase their lifespan and reduce burdensome maintenance costs. In 2012/2013 we will further develop our best practice framework for infrastructure procurement by ensuring that it is in line with the construction industry development board’s recommendations.

We will also improve the quality of the computer systems that control our assets. We will pay equal attention to the monitoring of our moveable assets to ensure that the province receives the benefits from its procurement efforts. We will embark on a transversal campaign to plan our procurement well in advance and source our goods more strategically. This will allow us to spend more efficiently and give our taxpayers a better bang for their buck. Our research in this regard will be shared with municipalities to allow them to better achieve value for money at local government level.

To ensure that we procure our immovable goods from a wide range of local suppliers, we will roll out our highly successful supplier open days across the province.

During these engagements new entrepreneurs and emerging businesses are given insight into what it takes to tender for government business, become part of our supplier data base, get financing and obtain the correct tax documentation.
Since coming to power in the Western Cape, we have significantly increased the number and value of tenders that we award to historically disadvantaged individuals and women.

*Ms A ROSSOUW: Well done.

†The MINISTER: This year we will launch a supplier help desk to open access to government tenders to more small and emerging businesses.

In the coming year we will support the province’s employees to better fulfil their jobs through the introduction of a business information and data management unit. Mr Deputy Speaker, this team’s vital task will be to close the knowledge gap between provincial and local government through the sharing of information and improved co-ordination within the Provincial Treasury. This unit will also ensure that all the information produced by the department is documented and safeguarded for use by current and future members of staff. This co-operative approach will prevent duplication of effort.

Lastly, but of equal importance, we will focus resources on further improving the quality and integrity of our financial reporting to ensure that all financial transactions and their values can be fully accounted for. The implementation of the latest accounting standards in this financial year will be key to achieving this goal. Part of this plan involves assisting provincial departments, entities and municipalities to compile interim and annual financial statements so that budgets are monitored all the year round.

Through this initiative we will further improve audit outcomes and financial maturity ratings across the board in the years to come. All of the above programmes are designed to refocus our work on the basic tasks of planning, organising, staffing, directing, reporting and budgeting. Mr Deputy Speaker, our success in the above initiatives and turning South Africa’s troubled public service around, is highly dependent on our ability to build fit-for-purpose financial managers at provincial and local level.

The current staff members of the Western Cape Provincial Treasury are leaders in their field and set the example for treasuries across South Africa. To grow new talent, we have invested in a programme that invites learners from across the province to draft high-level essays that deal with the pertinent issues of our economy. Up to 12 winners each year receive full bursaries to study finance at tertiary institutions of their choice. We run this programme in conjunction with our partner, Nedbank, because we know that we can build tomorrow’s leaders better together.

The Western Cape Provincial Treasury is playing its part to support Minister Pravin Gordhan’s quest to address financial management weaknesses that are undermining service delivery in our country and to fulfil the Auditor-General’s goal of achieving clean audits across the board by 2014.

Through this department’s determination, we are fast-tracking the revitalisation of the Western Cape’s public service.
This will result in better service delivery and making the Western Cape a better place for all. We remain steadfast in our pursuit of becoming the best-run regional government in the world.

Mr Deputy Speaker, before I finish, I did recognise the department, the Treasury and all of the staff. I must also, sitting behind us, recognise my office for the long hours and dedication as we try to become the best-run regional government in the world – need I say to become the best run Ministry in the world? – and I thank them very, very much for their very hard work and I hope that’s not going too far, Mr Deputy Speaker.

*Mr E J VON BRANDIS: Mr Deputy Speaker I support the Provincial Treasury’s budget of R154 million for the 2012/2013 financial year. Although the amount of the budget is only a small part of the total provincial budget of about R29 billion, the provincial budget has a cardinal role and function to play in the success of the entire province.

The department is there to monitor gaps where corrupt conduct might take place and to prevent this by improving, shaping up and successfully implementing the existing accounting systems. By living their mission and vision the provincial treasury guarantees that the budgets are positioned to reach the planned objectives of the various departments, entities and municipalities.

Mr Deputy Speaker, as part of the Western Cape government’s objective to make the Western Cape the best-managed regional government in the world, a level of excellence in each aspect of the administration has to be reached that dictates the minimum requirements. This is the same level of excellence that in the past two years contributed to guarantee that each department received an unqualified audit.

In this connection it’s heartening to hear that a superordinate plan was already implemented to get the best audit results. The good work done by the Red Flag task team should never be forgotten, but should continuously be investigated and expanded.

It is good to see that the Provincial Treasury has a greater focus on giving efficient support to local governments. In light of the audit reports there are gaps that have to be addressed. While 22 municipalities received a clean or unqualified audit report, there were entities and municipalities who received qualified audits just because the correct documentation wasn’t delivered on time. It is important that these incidents are condemned, but also to see that the necessary corrections are made to prevent such neglect.

The realisation of fiscal performance should be directed to the intention that supports the focus to create effective and value-for-money spending by better planning, to better the quality and integrity of financial accounting and reporting, to put into practice strict income and cash flow management as well as through continued improving, monitoring, evaluating and reporting.

The level of excellence should be raised over the entire province to assure that all municipalities, all entities, as well as all provincial departments receive the Level 3 Plus Financial Grade. Especially in Level 3 it is important to expand capacity over the entire province regarding the supply chain management and movable assets management.
Focus is directed at compliance control and we are looking forward to the day when Level 6 Financial Management Grading will be received by departments and entities. However, one should mention that already Level 4 and 5 properties are being noticed in the current systems, such as effective utilisation of resources and risk management.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the Provincial Treasury’s guidance to help departments and entities gain a Level 3 Plus Financial Management Capacity is welcomed. The necessary training for all officials will guarantee that they will be able to perform their functions effectively and apply the correct financial controls. This kind of training and support is an aspect where the Provincial Treasury in local governments can also expand capacity.

Mr Deputy Speaker, after 1 January 2013 no municipality is allowed to employ a person in one of the top financial positions if he or she does not comply with the required conditions. The impact this have on management must be managed well. However, it should be ensured that municipalities are equipped in time by the various officials with the necessary skills to deliver the levels of excellence as required in the Western Cape.

The role of the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board is to improve the public’s trust that gambling is being done honestly and free of corruption and that social responsibility is taken into account.

This is an important function being performed for the Western Cape. With a budget of R43,28 million the board manages an environment that, in a socially responsible way, will see to it that around R297 million will be collected for the 2012/2013 financial year. This, however, shows a decrease when compared to the R349,5 million which was budgeted for 2011/2012. This could mainly be attributed to the economic downturn and the conservative preparation of the budget.

An interesting development in the area is the expiry of the exclusivity rights of GrandWest in Goodwood in 2010. This gave an opportunity for a second casino to be opened in Cape Town and the accompanying bigger income for the province. The amendment to the Act will be submitted to the standing committee in this year and we are looking forward to it.

The board’s biggest obstacle at the moment is lack of office accommodation, as well as the fact that the post of executive official has not been filled yet. The board is requested to address this issue urgently. I thank Prof Madima and his board for the responsible way in which they performed their functions and trust that the targets they have set will be reached to maintain their effective and efficient activities.

Mr Deputy Speaker, firstly I want to thank the Minister, as well as Dr Stegmann and his staff for their sustained commitment to a clean and corruption-free public sector in the Western Cape, for the results we see, for the objectives that are constantly reached, as well as guidance given to other departments, entities and municipalities. And, secondly, I support the Budget Vote as delivered.

†The MINISTER OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Mr Deputy Speaker, may I say, first of all to hon Von Brandis, the chair of the standing committee, thank you very much for the role that he plays.
Can I also ask him to convey to his full committee, and those that are not here today, my gratitude as we proceed towards a Level 3 Plus and also endeavour to become one of the best-run regional governments in the world.

One of the key components of achieving that outcome of success is to make sure that we have proper oversight and that is the role of hon Von Brandis and his committee. So I want to thank him for the role that they do play and I also want to thank him for being flexible. I know every now and then we put pressure on you or we add an extra burden to the committee and we thank you for the way in which you deal with it and the way in which you handle the oversight.

We look forward to having, shall I say, more pressure from your side as we improve because obviously that is exactly what oversight does. Also, can I thank you for thanking Prof Madima and his team from the Gambling Board? That was actually an oversight on my part, so thank you for doing that because we value the work they put in.

I also want to say that I’m sorry that the ANC is not here today to also partake in this debate because we need to have these kinds of debates to understand where we need to redirect ourselves or where there are issues being raised by the Opposition that we need to take on board in order to become the best-run regional government in the world.

With that, can I thank the hon Chair and all of those present, again the department for all that they do? Thank you very much.

Debate concluded.

The House adjourned at 18:06.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

TUESDAY, 27 MARCH 2012

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Speaker:


The Conduct Committee begs to report as follows on the Committee’s activities in the 2011/2012 financial year:

1. Due to the resignation of the Secretary to the Provincial Parliament, Mr P G Williams, Ms R K Begg was sworn in as the new Registrar on 29 March 2011.

2. The Code has been successfully implemented in that all Members, including Members of the Executive, have disclosed their registrable interests in respect of the 2011 year.
The due date for submission of disclosure forms was 8 August 2011. Ten (10) Members who submitted their disclosure forms late were reprimanded by the Committee.

3. Numerous members of the media and the public gained access to the public part of the Register.

4. The Registrar reported on the number of instances of advice being given to Members of the Provincial Parliament on the Code of Conduct.

5. The Committee dealt with one complaint that was lodged in the previous year. The new Registrar was requested to proceed with the investigation. The Registrar submitted two progress reports on the matter.

6. The Committee considered the Registrar’s reports.

At its last meeting on 13 March 2012, the Committee decided not to proceed with the matter owing to the fact that almost two years had passed since the complaint was lodged. Two of the five Members of the Committee voted against this decision.

7. A request was made to the Registrar to compile a report on proposed amendments to the Code of Conduct. A report was handed to the Committee on 23 September 2011. The matter had not been finalised yet as more research needed to be conducted before proposed amendments to the Members of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament Code of Conduct Act, Act 3 of 2002, and the Code could be considered.

8. The next period of disclosure will take place on a date to be determined by the Committee.


Report of the Conduct Committee on a complaint against a Member of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament in terms of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament, dated 27 March 2012, as follows:

At the meeting of the Committee on 29 November 2010 the former Registrar of Members’ Interests, Mr P G Williams, submitted a report on the complaint lodged by hon Member M Ozinsky against hon Member J J Visser. The Registrar reported that the complaint was lodged on 2 June 2010.

The complaint related to the actions of Mr J J Visser at a Public Accounts Committee meeting held on 27 May 2010. It was alleged that hon Member Visser –

(a) delayed the Standing Committee on Public Accounts in commencing its work for nearly an hour whilst Mr Manyathi, the previous Head of the Department of Transport and Public Works, was waiting outside;
(b) denied that he had previously received a copy of Mr Manyathi’s letter to Scopa, or that the letter had been distributed to Members of the Committee at the previous meeting;
(c) despite being warned of the consequences of his actions on at least two occasions, persisted with the alleged misleading of the Committee; and
(d) breached the oath of office of Members of the Provincial Parliament.

The Committee recommended that the Registrar, Mr P G Williams, proceed with the investigation of the matter.

Due to the resignation of Mr P G Williams in December 2010, the new Registrar of Members’ Interests, Ms R K Begg, was sworn in on 29 March 2011.

On 10 June 2011 Ms Begg, as the new Registrar, handed in a preliminary report regarding her own investigation of the complaint, and the Committee recommended that she be given more time to investigate this matter.

On 23 September 2011 a Committee agreed, at the request of the Registrar, that more time be given to her to continue with the investigation of the complaint as she was, inter alia, waiting for records to be transcribed. It was also brought to the attention of the Committee that some of the Members of this Committee were witnesses to the conduct complained of, and would therefore not be eligible to deal with the matter when it is deliberated upon.

The following Members of the Committee, namely Messrs H P Geyer, E J von Brandis and Ms T N Bevu, were recused from attending meetings where the deliberations on this complaint would be taking place.

On 30 November 2011, the Registrar presented her report, dated 4 November 2011, on the investigation to the Committee.

In view of the contents of the report it was agreed that the Committee needed to hear oral evidence from the following individuals, namely Mr J J Visser (Member charged), Mr M Ozinsky (complainant), Mr B Daza, Senior Committee Co-ordinator, and Ms N Gcwabe, Committee Co-ordinator. It was also agreed that 24 February 2012 would be set down as the date to hear oral evidence.

On 23 February 2012 the special meeting was held to consider requests from Messrs Visser and Ozinsky for further particulars in this matter. As the contents of these requests were crucial to the hearing of oral evidence set down for the following day, 24 February, the Committee (a) requested the Registrar to provide guidance on the requests of the two Members and (b) agreed that the meeting to hear oral evidence on 24 February be postponed. All parties involved were informed in writing of the latest developments.

On 13 March 2012 the Committee met to deliberate on the report compiled by the Registrar, with reference to the requests by hon Members Visser and Ozinsky. The Committee considered the Registrar’s report and accepted the guidelines proposed by the Registrar. The Committee further deliberated on the need for legal representation and the use of polygraph tests and resolved the two aspects.
During deliberations Members raised concerns about the (a) long time it had taken to finalise this matter, (b) fairness of a long protracted investigation towards the complainant as well as the Member whose conduct was complained of, and (c) time period stipulated in the Code for the finalisation of investigations.

Members felt that justice would not be served by prolonging this matter any further. It was then suggested that the Committee not proceed with hearing oral evidence on this matter.

As there were differing views on this suggestion, the matter was put to a vote, and the final decision was that this investigation be halted and the matter not be proceeded with.
The House met at 14:15.

The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL[B 3—2012]

( Debate on Vote 11—Agriculture)

†The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Mr Deputy Speaker, Premier, Ministers, colleagues, and members of the House, members of the media – and friends of agriculture. Thank you all for being here today to support the budget. Every one of you is very dear to me.

Thank you for the opportunity to present to you the Western Cape 2012/2013 budget for Agriculture and Rural Development.

Speaker, the Western Cape government is guided by the belief that growth is the driving force behind development. This government believes that the social curse of poverty and unemployment can only be solved through the creation of opportunities. The people of the Western Cape must take responsibility for recognising and building on these opportunities.

*Speaker, for every R1 million direct investment in the agricultural sector, 11 jobs are created. The second largest job creator on the list is the wholesale and retail trade and they create only three jobs for every R1 million invested. If the Western Cape agricultural sector can export 5% more, it will create 23 000 jobs in our economy. These figures underline the essential role of agriculture in our objective of growth-driven development.

Speaker, allow me a word of special welcome to Jacky Goliath. Not only was Jacky selected as the Western Cape Commercial Female Farmer of the Year recently, but last Friday in Kimberley she was also selected as the South African Commercial Female Farmer of the Year.

Jacky, please rise. [Applause.] Jacky started a nursery with 1 000 small plants in her backyard in 2001. Today, De Fynne Nursery handles more than 600 000 plants per year and Woolworths is one of her clients. She is an incredible example of what people can achieve when they seize opportunities. Jacky is helping us to grow the province’s economy. Congratulations, thank you, and you are most welcome in the House today.

†The Western Cape government is pioneering a new approach with which to engage its citizens. We are saying: "Let's do it better together". This approach places equal importance on government's responsibility to deliver services as it places it on citizens' responsibility to access these very same services.

Speaker, in order to facilitate development through growth, it is important to understand the different roles of the private sector and government. Government can
create the enabling environment for the private sector to prosper. The private sector creates jobs and economic growth. The Western Cape government understands the complexities involved in creating this enabling environment.

It is for this reason that 12 Strategic Objectives were designed in order to create the enabling environment for development. These Strategic Objectives do not recognise departmental boundaries, and work groups are often put together across various departmental programmes.

Speaker, it is against this background of "development through growth" and "better together" that the Department of Agriculture has to deliver on the Provincial Strategic Objective 11: Increasing Opportunities for Growth and Development in Rural Areas. In order to achieve these goals, five work groups have been created.

*Speaker, these working groups are made up of various government departments, agricultural and commodity organisations and tertiary institutions. The working groups are an example of better together, since they use the expertise of all role-players to focus on the best solutions to specific challenges.

Speaker, every member of the House has an onion and a trilingual agricultural dictionary in front of him or her. The onion is a symbol of the complexity and multifaceted nature of the Western Cape agricultural sector. Each of you present here today represents a layer of this bigger agricultural onion.

†Whether you are on the outside or closer to the centre is not important. What is important is to recognise the fact that each layer is crucial for the overall health and appearance of the onion. I will come back to the dictionary later on in my speech.

Allow me to welcome Nobantu Gwabeni from the Masiphile Peace Project in Khayelitsha, who produced these onions. This group won the 2011 Subsistence Farming category in the Western Cape Female Entrepreneur of the Year competition. I also ask her to please stand up. [Applause.]

I will visit this group in April, and we will have a working lunch at their garden in Khayelitsha. I will bring the meat and using their vegetables we will cook a meal and discuss issues of food security and the challenges of producing food in an urban setting.

**The Budget**

*The Western Cape department is getting R560 million for the 2012/2013 financial year. Bearing in mind Provincial Strategic Objective 11, we are going to create opportunities for economic growth and development on our platteland. Consequently, the five working groups are our five priorities. They are production increase, market access, research and technology, rural development and extension services. These priorities span across the borders of various departments in our government.

1. **Increased agricultural production**

My department aims at increasing agricultural production in our province by 10% over the next 10 years.
This a very ambitious target, since it will have to be done against the backdrop of successful transformation and better guardianship of the natural environment. Speaker, this means that we have to establish, train and support more new farmers. We have to produce more with less water and lower input costs.

†I have committed the Western Cape to a 60% land reform success rate regarding the establishment of new farmers. Our Farmer Support and Development Programme will roll out R142 million in the form of conditional grants towards this end. I want to encourage our new farmers to work together with our extension officers and the agricultural commodity groups to attain long-term sustainability.

The Western Cape is pioneering an approach to land reform which makes the private sector an integral partner. Through the various commodity organisations, projects and people are identified and supported.

Hortgro, the fruit industry body, in partnership with the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, is in the process of establishing 600 ha of fruit trees for various empowerment projects. This year will see developments reaching 500 ha, creating 570 permanent and 545 temporary job opportunities.

*Speaker, the commodity approach is bearing fruit. The fruit industry was the forerunner to cooperate with government with regard to empowerment. This cooperation now has become the basis on which we are also cooperating with several other commodity groups. This year, the following commodities will be supported and funded for empowerment projects:

- Dairy: Milk producers’ organisation: R10,5 million;
- Animal production, including fresh-water fish, large stock, pigs, ostriches and poultry: R23,8 million;
- Sheep and wool: National Woolgrowers’ Association: R4,5 million;
- Grain: Grain South Africa: R6,5 million;
- Vegetables: Potatoes South Africa: R11 million;
- Wine: Vinpro: R8,5 million; and
- Table grapes: Sati: R9,5 million.

†What is successful land reform? My department has developed five criteria to monitor the progress made by land reform projects and beneficiaries which the department has supported over the years. I can announce that based on preliminary results of the 202 land reform projects in the Western Cape –

- 74% have access to markets;
- 78% have sound financial management and record-keeping systems;
- 50% are reinvesting in their farming enterprises. And you can only reinvest if you are making money;
• 76% are implementing their business plans;
• 50% are Sars compliant; and
• 38% are labour law compliant.

*Mr Deputy Speaker, there can be no doubt that lots of work still has to be done in some respects. I have set a goal that 60% of all our empowerment projects have to be successful, and I am confident that we will reach this within the next five years. However, these figures are already much better than the national success figure of 10%. I am convinced that our success may be linked largely to the good cooperation with industry role-players.

The Western Cape government will be hosting a triannual agricultural summit this year. All role-players in agriculture should seize this opportunity to discuss and determine the future challenges and prospects of the agricultural sector. We need strategies that will ensure that agriculture will remain a growth sector in our economy.

†Increased production cannot ignore the role small food gardens play within our urban context. The work of small farmers, such as the Masiphile Peace Project, is important and contributes to our provincial food security at a household level. We have allocated R11 million to food security projects. We will establish 70 community gardens in 2012/2013 and 864 household gardens this year through our suit-case programme. We will also rehabilitate 58 existing gardens.

2. Market access

*More production requires more outlets. The Department of Agriculture has a market access programme that is housed in the Agricultural Economic Services programme, which will receive a budget of R15 million this year. The market access programme rests on two pillars:

• Supporting new farmers to gain access to traditional and new markets; and

• Supporting commercial farmers to develop new markets. Our traditional European markets no longer show the same growth potential as for example the East or Africa, and we support producers to adapt together with the world.

During the past financial year, 39 small farmers participated in our market access programme. Production quality and production volume are deciding factors for participation in the programme, since these are the two critical factors for prospective buyers from abroad.

Six black economic empowerment (BEE) wine firms exhibited wine in Nigeria. Another six BEE fruit farmers visited Holland and succeeded in doing business. Twenty-two wine businesses, including six BEEs, took part in the Yantai International Wine Show. This was made possible by an invitation from the governor of Shandong province, with whom we have a relationship as a result of our membership of the Regional Leaders’ Summit.

Then I want to welcome Lionel Martin. Lionel is one of our successful new farmers who is taking part in the market access programme. Recently, he exported 1 176 cartons of fruit to the value of R122 000 to the British supermarket group Asda.
Lionel has also received an undertaking of another three cargo containers, or 14 112 cartons, from Asda for this year. Best wishes and congratulations. [Applause.] Another example of successful market access is Alec Abraham of Siyazama Farms. Alec recently exported two cargo containers, or 7200 cartons, of grapes to the value of R504 000 to China. Alec is currently in Russia on a marketing tour.

†Speaker, these success stories are made possible when government works together with industry role players. I want to thank our partners in this regard. They include the Fresh Produce Exporters Forum and the National Agricultural Marketing Council on the Market Access Programme.

This year we will continue to assist our producers with market access. An amount to the tune of R2 million has been allocated for this purpose and will benefit ten producers.

*Agricultural exports are an important component of the Western Cape economy. Approximately 37% of all exports from the Western Cape is agricultural products. We export 60% of all our rooibos tea. We export 60% of our fruit. We export 50% of all our wine and until recently we exported 90% of all our ostrich meat.

It is also a fact that the international markets for agricultural products are incredibly competitive. The Western Cape agricultural export profile is an indication of how good our farmers really are, but we dare not become complacent for one moment. The export environment is changing rapidly, particularly with our export markets regularly changing the rules. Consequently, it is one of my department’s objectives to maintain our export profile for at least the next five years.

However, when something like the outbreak of bird flu during the past year hits us, resulting in a prohibition on all exports of ostrich meat, the challenges regarding agricultural exports become clear again. The net effect of this outbreak is that the ostrich industry, and indirectly the province, is losing at least R1,2 billion, without even mentioning the job losses.

This is also when the incredibly important work of our veterinarians is highlighted. Our veterinarians play a critical role in maintaining the regulatory framework for measuring animal production. Their work generally is not seen by the general public until there is an outbreak of a disease. It is our veterinarians who inoculate dogs and cats in our informal settlements to prevent diseases such as rabies. It is our veterinarians who maintain the buffer zones to protect Cape Town’s status of being free of African horse sickness.

During the past year our veterinarians were involved in the culling of more than 40 000 ostriches and the payment of more than R50 million as compensation to ostrich farmers. I also have to thank the national Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and her department for the funds appropriated by her.

Mr Deputy Speaker, let us also give recognition to the people who became veterinarians for their love of animals but who have had to manage this tragic process. Our veterinary budget for the 2012/2013 financial year amounts to R50 million.

3. **Research and technology**

Research and technology development is essential for four reasons in particular:
Our farmers have to remain competitive in the global export markets; We have to produce more food; We have to produce food more cheaply; and We have to adapt to a changing climate.

†Our approach to these challenges will be twofold: Firstly, we will increase the research capacity of the department in its existing disciplines and build capacity in new areas of research. Our research budget allocation for this financial year is R88 million.

The programme will appoint one specialist scientist, three scientists, one facility manager, two research technicians and also an information developer at a budgeted cost of R10 million. This allocation also allows us to increase the operational budget to three research institutes and seven research farms.

*Secondly, the Western Cape Department of Agriculture took the lead with the establishment of the Western Cape Agricultural Research Forum. The forum will coordinate research between the various role-players and will promote better resource allocation within the research community.

†Research should not happen in a vacuum and neither should it be hobby-horse research, but it should be anchored in the needs of farmers and industry. Such an example is the ostrich research programme. We are spending R7,8 million on ostrich research in this financial year.

The natural environment and our biodiversity are fundamental to a successful agricultural sector. South Africa is a water-scarce country. Agriculture is one of the major water users in our economy. We need to produce more crops with less water. We are therefore expanding our work on a real-time web application project to other crops than the current grapes and potatoes at a cost of R4 million.

This will assist our farmers to optimally plan irrigation schedules and water usage. This project is one of the most innovative projects undertaken by the Sustainable Resource Management programme, which receives a budget of R50 million for this year.

*Land care as part of the above programme with a budget of R32 million plays an important role in our efforts to enhance water awareness among a wider audience. This is done by means of poverty alleviation and infrastructure projects. This year we have received R7,7 million in this regard, as well as an additional R4 million earmarked specifically for job creation projects.

It is envisaged to create 40 000 man-days of work during the 2012/2013 financial year by projects aimed at conserving the natural resources of the province and ensuring their sustainable utilisation. The projects also include raising awareness of environmental conservation and its benefits among our youth attending school, mostly of disadvantaged communities. The aim is to reach 8 000 learners in primary schools.

4. Rural development

We live in an era characterised by urbanisation. Our urban infrastructure is put under pressure as people are flocking to cities looking for opportunities.
Rural development is our effort to support rural communities so that opportunities for development can be created there as well.

Speaker, since I was entrusted with this task in 2009 we have made unbelievable progress. With only a two-person team and a budget of only R2,5 million for the past year we can also report on progress made.

We have already identified 15 nodes for rural development, and 221 projects in six municipalities have created 1 301 jobs. A total of 1 453 people received training. Investments from national and provincial departments as well as district municipalities amount to R265 million in these six municipalities. In other words, with an input cost of R205 million we have been able to spend R265 million in these six municipalities. Investment streams have been made possible by good coordination between the various levels of government.

The most important work we can do for our rural development nodes is to create an environment where private investors would want to invest their money. Therefore, I am today inviting the business community to come and have a look at what is currently happening in our rural development nodes. We are working hard to create an environment in the country-side where you can do business. Our Rural Development Programme this year receives R4,1 million, which also makes provision for two additional persons.

5. **Extension**

Extension is our last work group. We are in the process of revitalising our extension programme. Extension officers are often the only interface between producers and our department, and the quality of their advice can make the difference between success and failure.

*Field workers are critically important if we want to increase our production by 10% and also if we want to achieve a success rate of 60% for empowerment projects. We now have 93 field workers, and this year we are going to appoint another five. Our field workers undergo ongoing training, which also includes study bursaries. They are equipped with the latest technology to enable them to provide better quality service. This year we are budgeting R22 million for refresher courses for field workers.

6. **Skills and people**

Mr Deputy Speaker, we can develop the best plans in the world, but without actual skilled and dedicated people it will remain just that: Plans on paper. We need people to drive our plans. It is therefore of critical importance to have a human capital development strategy in place.

*We have identified certain scarce skills, including agricultural engineers, veterinarians and agricultural economists. These skills and talents are being exploited and developed to the benefit of the entire agricultural sector. We are budgeting for R2,2 million in this regard.

Elsenburg College is known countrywide and is a much loved institution of our agricultural sector. This is where our agriculturalists and agricultural leaders of the future are trained.
Welcome to the student representative council who are also present here today. [Applause.] This year, 147 first-year students have enrolled to undergo diploma, degree or practical short course training, respectively. The College also has a bursary programme, and 97 students are supported with bursaries to the value of R2 million. Thank you to all the private sector organisations for their contributions to this bursary programme.

The extremely successful Western Cape-Burgonie winemaker exchange programme will be continued this year, and a similar opportunity for cooperation with Upper Austria is being investigated. Our budget for the Cape Institute for Agricultural Training amounts to R46 million this year.

The Western Cape is still the only province with a dedicated farmworker development programme. We know that farm workers are important role-players in the agricultural value chain. It does not make sense to invest in research and technology if the hands to implement these are not trained as well.

It is our farm workers’ hands that make the difference in what a Western Cape apple looks like on the shelves overseas. We are budgeting R12 million this year for the Farm Worker Development Programme. This includes our Farm Worker Competition. We are expecting more than 1,000 entries from 15 regions this year. Once again, the winner will become a member of the Prestige Farm Worker Forum, which meets directly with me on matters concerning farm workers.

It is my pleasure today also to welcome Rentie Titus here with us. Rentie is a former finalist in the Farm Worker Competition. Rentie has landed an administrative job with the Department of Agriculture and is working with Jackie Jordaan on our Langgewens experimental farm. Welcome and congratulations and best wishes for your career.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I am returning to the onion, and something about the dictionary. The state, agricultural organisations, commercial farmers, new farmers, small farmers and subsistence farmers are all layers of the agricultural onion. We are lying closely together. In Afrikaans we say “ons 1é lepel”. It is also a fact that an onion can only grow if all the different layers stay together. We all have to work together for the sake of the bigger picture to create a bigger and better onion.

The bigger picture of agriculture is to provide the people of our country with food that is healthy and affordable. We can produce a surplus that can be exported. Agriculture creates jobs. Jobs allow people to spend their lives in a meaningful and dignified manner. Agriculture is not the place for cheap politics.

The Trilingual Agricultural Dictionary: In the Western Cape we officially recognise English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa as our main languages. The people of our province can do much more to better understand one another.

There is no better way to communicate this need than to learn to speak another person’s language. I have consulted the dictionary and here are some examples:

- Uie, amatswele, onions;
- Koei, inkomo, cow;
- Aartappels, amatapile, potatoes.
All my extension officers have been given such a dictionary, and I expect them to take it with them, whether it is in Namaqualand with its peculiar Afrikaans or in the Southern Cape where isiXhosa is the first language of many people.

†Better together comes together in this dictionary. My staff, English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa speakers, developed this dictionary based on our need to communicate with each other and our clients.

*Mr Deputy Speaker, I conclude. The Western Cape Department of Agriculture has performed incredibly well in the recent past. The department has received several awards for inter alia the following: Best Annual Report for a Government Department in South Africa; award for a clean audit report in 2011/2012, and best agricultural empowerment project in South Africa, namely AgriDwala in the Western Cape. [Applause.]

I therefore want to thank the special team, headed by my HOD, Joyene Isaacs, at the Department of Agriculture. Thank you for the way you have been motivating our staff, and for the correct example you have been setting. Many people have told me that when they visit the Department at Elsenburg they get the feeling that people are working there. Thank you very much for this.

Thank you also to the staff of my own office under the guidance of Jannie Roos. Thank you also for your support and hard work. I think we have the best ministry in the Western Cape.

Thank you also to Mike Walters and the members of the standing committee for the interest you are showing and for the oversight role you are playing.

However, it is also true that when one is experiencing success at the top, the danger of falling is just so much bigger. Rest assured that the department and I are prepared to tackle the challenges of the future.

Then I also want to thank my wife, Christa, who, like me, is trying to make a positive change. Thank you, Christa, for your continued support.

Speaker, it is my wish for agriculture for the next year that –

- land reform will be dealt with quicker and with more success;
- all role-players will work together as a team to make good and well-considered decisions without wasting time; and
- agriculture will get the recognition it deserves as a role-player that has an impact on the economy of our country.

And lastly it is my wish that when we sing God bless Africa – and I have already said it in the House …

†Mr M OZINSKY: Only the President does that. [Interjections.]

*The MINISTER: … we will realise that the hand on our heart is also the hand that has to do the work.
Mr M C WALTERS: The Minister has presented an excellent overview of the department’s approach to rural development and his commitment to the integration of new farmers into mainstream agriculture, and I thank him for this.

Elsenburg has been referred to by agriculture leaders in South Africa as a citadel on a mountain to the rest of South Africa with regard to services to agriculture. The Department of Agriculture in the Western Cape is often colloquially referred to as Elsenburg, the leader in agriculture and rural development since its establishment 113 years ago.

*I am glad the Elsenburg students are here today so they can realise that they are part of a long traditional chain that made a huge contribution to the development of the Western Cape in the past and that will also do so in the future.

†The distinction of being crowned as the best department in South Africa, both provincially and nationally, emphasises its role in setting norms and standards for the provincial departments in the fields of research, extension, veterinary and engineering services, economic analysis, rural development and land reform.

We need to congratulate Minister Gerrit van Rensburg and his HOD, Joyene Isaacs, on the attainment of all of the above, while still constantly striving to improve the services Elsenburg offers. The reception the standing committee receives on its various visits to the department has always been extremely cordial. Visits to other centres of the department, including the Oudtshoorn Experimental Farm and the Nortier Experimental Farm at Lamberts Bay all impress with the neatness and orderliness of the facilities and the businesslike approach of the staff. We thank the Minister and ask that he conveys our appreciation to them.

With a budget of R559,792 million for 2012/2013, a very wide range of activities will be addressed. The budget is intended to expand to R616 million by 2014/2015, an increase of approximately 5% per year.

*The agricultural sector being served by the department is the key to rural development, one of the main objectives of provincial strategy. An investment of R100 000 in agriculture gives rise to one job opportunity and is always mentioned by economists as a norm.

That these figures have now improved to 11 jobs per R1 million investment, as announced by the Minister, indicates an increase in the importance of agriculture as a job creation mechanism. It has always been seen as the cheapest way of creating jobs. When all is well with agriculture, the countryside thrives.

The department’s creation of working groups consisting of relevant departments and university and industry organisations to promote development in rural areas is a laudable innovation, and they will focus on various relevant development targets. The standing committee enthusiastically supported the foundation of a Western Cape Agricultural Research Forum because pooling of expertise and facilities would result in accelerated research progress. Pooling of expertise in the five task groups will also lead to rapid progress in the field of rural development. Setting a target of a 10% increase in agricultural production over 10 years, which the Minister described as very ambitious, is perfectly feasible in my opinion.
The developmental inputs for new farmers and incentives for individual achievements will contribute to reaching this target, while better extension and working with even established commercial farmers can make this target easily attainable.

Optimising plant protection and fertilisation is one aspect that can be improved, while addressing soil acidity problems that reduce yields, even with generous fertilisation, is one of the aspects that can be improved.

†The land reform initiatives of the department, especially in the field of share equity schemes, have already achieved success rates of 90% or more, while the rest of South Africa is littered with the relics of failed land reform initiatives. The rolling out of share equity schemes in other provinces is sure to take place. Production and management expertise is reserved in such schemes, as well as informed access to upstream support systems and downstream marketing and processing schemes.

The close association of private sector partners such as Hortgro with land reform initiatives through facilitation of the department’s Farmer Support and Development Programme is a very promising initiative, which could lead to emulation elsewhere.

Where food production for export is involved, each hectare equates to at least one permanent job and one seasonal opportunity. The department’s move to a more commodity-orientated approach to land reform not only links commodity production, marketing experience and expertise to land reform partners, but at the same time it also integrates them into the community of commercial farmers.

The department intends deploying R74.3 million in commodity-associated land reform projects during the coming year. The burgeoning success of the 2012 land reform projects in the Western Cape certainly augers well for the future of land reform and the attainment of the department’s postulated 60% success rate. In the pursuit of a 10% production increase the department will not be neglecting the utilisation of home and community gardens to enhance the quality of life in poor communities.

In support of the expansion of production Elsenburg provides a full suite of services to support both land reform initiatives and commercial agriculture. The research initiatives of Elsenburg should bring new, improved production technologies to the fore and perhaps new commodities to the market. The announcement by the Minister of a significant expansion of the research programme must be gratifying to the industry and will promote innovation.

The integration of the inputs of university and ARC research to the Western Cape Agricultural Research Forum could prove to be a powerful tool in this connection. By focusing the intellect and the energies of the many disciplines involved on the target of the general 10% improvement in production and expansion of product range, it should ensure that the target is achieved and surpassed. Strong leadership will, however, be essential to maintaining momentum.

*Elsenburg and its other offerings present a complete set of services to keep Western Cape agriculture on the foreground as a rural developmental driver. Market access and economic extension are prerequisites for success in agriculture these days. Elsenburg has the expertise and capacity to provide this support.
The Minister has just referred to successes that have already been achieved in this connection. We must accept that the successes he referred to are only the first of many in the great progress that will be made in the near future.

Extension support to farmers, both commercial and emerging, is essential. It is the extension officer who can interpret the latest research information within the context of the production system that can accompany the producer on the way to success. For better deploying this process, the department has experimental farms or agricultural development centres spread strategically across the Western Cape. Support is also given by the experimental farms of the Agricultural Research Council as well as industry organisations.

The building blocks of an overarching system for technology demonstrations and producer training are available and will be able to be deployed in the extension process. Especially for beginner farmers, contact on the farm will be very important, since extension guidance is most successful in this way.

Elsenburg has an effective veterinarian support programme that will be able to assist producers. My colleague, hon Geyer, will have more to say about this sector and its needs. As far back as the end of the nineteenth century, Elsenburg has been a pioneer in South Africa in the field of agricultural training of producers and farm managers. Former students of Elsenburg laid the foundation of the agricultural industry of the Western Cape as it is today.

Elsenburg training has also had a huge impact in other provinces. It is therefore heartening that in the new South Africa Elsenburg also has tackled the challenges of the era in an energetic way. Agricultural colleges in the rest of South Africa have been allowed to deteriorate and in some cases they are hardly functional. Well-known colleges such as Glen and Sidara have completely lost their sparkle. The situation is aptly described by the expression “Elsenburg was keeping its head while all about were losing theirs”.

Elsenburg’s services have been expanded dramatically to satisfy the needs of all sectors, including those of new entrants to agriculture.

†A total of 458 students are now involved in tertiary education at Elsenburg, in comparison with about 100 students twenty years ago. These include BA degrees in collaboration with the university at various levels and specialisations at diploma level. Further education and training (FET) has also been expanded, with 102 learners being registered for 2012. Bursaries to the value of R2,85 million are available to allow meritorious candidates to attend the college. The appointment of a college council to exercise oversight will also help to ensure that this momentum is maintained.

In concluding, it is necessary to refer to the land programme of the department, where working together with other organisations like Working for Water, CapeNature and several municipalities, the problems posed by invader plants are addressed to reduce the impact thereof on biodiversity and water resources, while providing jobs to those involved in the process. The focusing of this concentration of efforts from various sources also clearly illustrates the value of better together and the department’s involvement therein.
The Department of Agriculture is pursuing its mission with energy and has shown a resilience that has allowed it to soften the impact of various disasters in the rural economies and communities of the Western Cape, while at the same time supporting the further development of such economies. Its identification as the best department in South Africa is well deserved. The Minister and his team have earned the thanks of Parliament. The budget is supported. I thank you.

†Ms T N BEVU: Mr Deputy Speaker, let me first welcome the budget Vote presented by Minister van Rensburg. The Western Cape province is home to about 24% of the farm workers in the country and yet agriculture contributes only about 4% to the province’s economic growth. In fact, it is the only sector that had negative growth of about 1.8% for the year 2010. Late last year the agricultural index was down 0.4%, down 2% the year before then and down 6% a year ago. The meat production index is 33% below that of three years ago and that for wheat production is down by 22%.

The food factories in the province have not been reaching their potential for a long time since 1999. Of course, furniture manufacturing is showing healthy signs, but that is not where the majority of our farm workers are.

A few weeks ago the Minister of Labour, Mildred Oliphant, led what they called inspection blitzes to farms in Paarl, followed by public participation imbizos at the Mbekweni Sports Field on 16 and 17 March 2012. It was embarrassing to hear that 18 years after our freedom farm workers in the Western Cape are still subjected to such poor treatment by the farm owners.

Cope feels that the Department of Agriculture does not have the political will to tackle these problems. We know that, strictly speaking, farm workers do not fall under the department’s mandate, but surely it should be concerned about the working conditions of farm workers since this interlinks with its mandate. Most farm workers in the Western Cape still work long hours in harsh weather conditions, often without access to toilets or drinking water and they are also exposed to the toxic pesticides that are sprayed on crops.

Minister Botha, you know about the working and living conditions of farm workers in the province, ...

†Mr M OZINSKY: What did he do about it?

†Ms T N BEVU: ... since they were also made against your farm. [Interjections.]

Farm workers still earn among the lowest wages in South Africa and are often denied benefits to which they are legally entitled. [Interjections.]

†Mr M OZINSKY: In any case, I’m asking what you did about it.

†Ms T N BEVU: Many farm workers confront obstacles to union formation, which remains at negligible levels in the Western Cape agricultural sector.

Farm workers who live on farms often have insecure land tenure rights, rendering them and their families vulnerable to evictions or displacement, in some cases from the land on which they were born.
In March 2011 the Western Cape had 107 labour inspectors who were responsible for over 6 000 farms and all other workplaces in the province. However, the agreement between the Department of Labour, Agri SA and other parties which requires, amongst other things, that labour inspectors give farmers prior notice of inspections, makes a mockery of the process and undermines the inspectors’ capacity to identify violations on farms.

This protocol for access to farms needs to be revised and proper training given to labour inspectors to undertake reactive inspections and their capacity also needs to be boosted. If I had time I would also speak on the revised sectoral determination.

It has been proven time and again that farmers in the province do not comply with national labour, tenure security or immigration legislation. The houses they provide for their workers, including those of Minister Botha, do not meet the standards set out in Agri West Cape’s Code of Conduct of being safe, hygienic and providing adequate protection. The farmers still do not pay wages that enable workers and their households to attain an adequate livelihood.

Mr M OZINSKY: Hear, hear!

*Ms E PRINS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I see some guests here who were invited by the Minister, but apparently most of them are from his own stable and there are precious few emerging farmers. [Interjection.] Nevertheless, I am glad the big farmers are here today to listen to what we expect to happen in agriculture.

It is an established fact that agriculture in the Western Cape with all its value chains has the potential to be the biggest contributor to economic growth and social prosperity in the province. Wendel Barry once said – and I quote:

Grond is diegrootsamebindendefaktor van lewens; die bron en toekoms van almal. Dit is die geneser, hersteller, die ooprigterwaardeur die siekteoorgaan in gesondheid, ouderdom in jeug en doodverander in lewe. Sonder die behoorlikeversorgingdaarvankansgeengemeenskaphênie, want sonderbewaring en bewerkingkanonsgeenlewehênie.

Therefore it is correct that the purpose of the department should be to unlock the full potential of agriculture so as to promote the economic, ecological and social wealth for all the people in the province. This can be done only if we succeed in ensuring full participation by all – and I stress all – participants. Sustainable management and protection of the natural resources should form the basis for ensuring the production of affordable nourishing agricultural products and these should be accessible to every resident and visitor to the province.

Agriculture should be a wealth creator for everybody wanting to partake of it and not only for a selected few. To achieve this, there are some indispensable requirements that should include the following: Research and terminology; development; professional and dedicated support to agriculturalists, new farmers and established producers; and the exploitation and creation of new markets, with special emphasis on markets and outlets for new entrants to agriculture. Agriculture in all its facets should be made attractive to the future agricultural economist, the aspirant veterinarian, the developing champion wine and cheese maker and the custodian of natural resources. Training opportunities should be created to develop human capital, especially for those who do not have free access to money.
Mr Deputy Speaker, the ultimate purpose of agriculture is not only the production of agricultural products, but the development and production of healthy, stable communities. We can present the fanciest examples of selected empowerment projects to the outside world and try to show how good we are – and the Minister likes to do this to demonstrate how dedicated and purposeful the DA is to empower people in the field of agriculture …

*The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: But that is true.

An HON MEMBER: We are very proud of it.

*Ms E PRINS: … but the Minister will never mention the very difficult circumstances in which officials have to work in order to achieve certain objectives, nor will he indicate how many people who are wrongfully overlooked or whose applications for assistance are rejected while there are some favourites who receive assistance from the department time and again.

The hon Minister likes boasting about the efforts to open new markets, but if we put this to the test, we shall see that it is repeatedly the same inner circle that is simply expanded further. Agriculture cannot simply be a showcase of a few success stories, such as the Lushof case. [Interjections.] The Minister is fond of appropriating the success of Lushof for himself, but he fails to indicate what private financial inputs come from the co-owner who is abroad and has the interest of his people at heart.

Agriculture’s success story should be a broad way of milestones that are wealth creation and food supply for the population, but in the case of the hon Minister it is a cemetery full of tombstones of wasted opportunities. Just think of the R30 million cut in the agriculture budget in 2011/2012. This is a deficit that will be difficult to wipe out and it is putting the department under tremendous pressure.

Mr Deputy Speaker, this DA government which is in power in the Western Cape under the leadership of Premier Zille … [Interjections.] … who wants to put everything under central control, is designing one strategic plan after the other at great cost, and nothing is achieved. It is simply becoming ever more complicated and is putting increasing pressure on the department.

In this regard, the department reports in its annual performance plan, the APP, on page 26, that the changes introduced by the creation of the corporate service centre of the Department of the Premier, have brought about tremendous challenges for the department, particularly with regard to the execution of the human resource administration process, and that problems are indeed being experienced.

The result is that the department in many fields internally and externally has to make adjustments in order to optimise the delivery outputs within the restrictions and allocated funds. An amount of R2,2 million is budgeted for this.

It is clear that the design of new systems and ideas is interfering with the reality of the challenges that the practical delivery of services to the agricultural sector is posing. It would appear that the department is losing its direct focus and control and is increasingly using external organisations and bodies to take over the department’s main tasks at considerable costs.
Cash funds are being privatised and paid out to be managed and controlled by untransformed commodity organisations. In short, this means that the department is losing its direct responsibility and control and that the development of privileged and disadvantaged producers is now being left to these organisations. The question is what part of the allocated funds is now really reaching the beneficiaries and what part is lapped up by, inter alia, Casidra and Agrimega. How much duplication is taking place that erodes the funds that could be applied to the benefit of producers? [Interjections.]

Ensuring food security is one of the main tasks of the department. Food gardens and the Suitcase project play an integral role in growing vegetables and making people aware of self-help food-provisioning among households, schools and communities. Even here the department now wants to contract out some of its responsibilities. It appears as if the department wants to ensure that big established producers should develop further and that smaller black farmers should be left at the mercy of agencies.

An HON MEMBER: Oh shame.

Ms E PRINS: In developing countries it is the norm that the government pays direct attention to its developing farmers and home gardens. We cannot have a Eurocentric approach where the commercial producers get all the support from the government. [Interjections.] This will not aid the development of the poor and neither will it build a nation with a bigger share in agriculture.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: [Inaudible.]

Ms E PRINS: Minister Carlisle, please, it was quiet when you were not here.

The national Minister of Agriculture last year in her budget speech indicated that specific attention should be paid to creating opportunities to assist new entrants to agriculture ...

*Mr H P GEYER: Are you using her as an example?

*Ms E PRINS: ... to market their products locally. Access to marketing is essential for the success of any producer and it is clear that Provincial Strategic Objective (PSO) 11 does not take into account the circumstances of black producers.

*The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: That is not true.

*Ms E PRINS: Most black producers do not have direct access to formal powers, according to a question I put to the committee.

*Mr H P GEYER: Read the speech.

*Ms E PRINS: PSO 11 concentrates on export markets and the department obviously does not have an idea of the number and production volume of black producers at this stage. [Interjections.] The department, through its agricultural economics programme, should give priority attention to the completion of the database so as to assist these producers in creating outlets for their products.
While there are programmes to prepare new producers for the market, at this stage the Minister has no idea of the actual income and success …

*Mr H P GEYER: Do you have an idea?

*Ms E PRINS: ... producers are achieving in the programme. [Interjections.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, one of the strategic objectives of the department is to ensure that at least 60% of all land reform projects in the province are working.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Minister Meyer, is that a point of order?

*The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Mr Deputy Speaker, is it parliamentary to mislead the House?

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Unfortunately it isn't a point of order. Proceed, hon Prins. [Interjections.]

*Ms E PRINS: The main concern is the actual monitoring of projects before the damage ... [Interjections.] – you don't know what is going on here–is irreparable and nothing else can be done to save the project.[Interjections.]It is inexplicable that the department in some respects is using mentors ... [Interjections.] …

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, Minister Carlisle!

*Ms E PRINS: ... who themselves did not apply hugely successful farming practices. Is it a case that in the country of the blind the one-eyed is king? How much money does the department spend directly or indirectly ... [Interjections.] ... on mentors and how does the department measure the performance of these mentors? The time has come for the department and the Minister to give more recognition to the role that organised agriculture can play in this regard, instead of being strung along by these entities to whom the government’s land reform programme offers an opportunity to make money from the state’s programmes, instead of ensuring that agriculture is really transformed, skills are transferred and people are empowered.

At a previous occasion I asked the Minister what measures are in place to ensure that beneficiaries in share-equity schemes will indeed get their fair share in the businesses. The Minister has not yet replied and I am asking him again today.

*Mr P UYS: Officially.

*Ms E PRINS: Minister, maybe you can give me the true reply today.

*The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: The true reply – he has been lying so far?

†Mr M OZINSKY: Speak for him.

*Ms E PRINS: I have heard how my chairperson, hon Walters, referred to the successes of the share-equity schemes. I would like to ask, Mr Deputy Speaker, that when our committee meet again, he should please show me how he measured the successes of those share-equity schemes.
*The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Didn’t you listen?

*Ms E PRINS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I would be neglecting my duty if I did not touch on the issue of farm workers. This province has a strategic plan for farm workers that was put in place under the ANC government.

*Mr H P GEYER: Oh no.

*Ms E PRINS: Good progress has been made to improve the circumstances of farm workers. I cannot find any indication in the budget that funds have been allocated directly to a programme to address the circumstances of farm workers.

An HON MEMBER: She definitively did not listen.

Ms E PRINS: Or have farm workers now been relegated so far to the background that their interests are also being contracted out? But rural development does not end at the farm gate; it is a separate programme that is aimed not only at people living on farms but at all people in the rural areas. I also would like to see whether this province has any plans, apart from the development of farm labourers, and whether people in rural areas are getting more than guidelines for own vegetable gardens.

In the recent past we have heard a lot about the crisis being experienced by the ostrich industry in the Little Karoo Valley. It is sad that we have been battling for a year to gain the upper hand over the latest wave of outbreaks. We also visited the region last year and compiled a report. A couple of weeks ago we again discussed this issue here in the Chamber.

It is astonishing, however, that the same problems are now again being experienced. In spite of several pronouncements it is still farmers themselves who have to take steps on the farms regarding infection control such as washing of hands when handling animals, disinfecting feet and the responsible transportation of animals across borders without endangering the entire poultry industry. This department has to pull up its socks to play a bigger role in this matter.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the challenges facing agriculture requires dedicated officials and there is no shortage of those in the department. I believe the senior management of the department is the very best there is in the country.

An HON MEMBER: Good.

Ms E PRINS: There is no lack of dedication and adaptation. All of the programme managers are competent, diligent, knowledgeable people in their field of expertise who do not shy away from any challenges.

However, it is a pity that they are at the mercy of political management who rather make funds available for “dashboards” ... [Interjections.] ... and theoretical “window dressing” and who are focussing verbosely on taking control away from knowledgeable people ...

*The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Read the speech.

*Ms E PRINS: ... and on making sure that the inner circle can pull the strings.
Hon Minister, the time has come for you not to exercise mere showcase management but to begin fighting for a proper dispensation that can be applied to the benefit of the entire agriculture environment.

†Mr H P Geyer: Mr Deputy Speaker, as an introduction to this budget speech, allow me to repeat a very important statement that was made in July 2011 ...

†Mr M Ozinsky: Now you’re reading your speech ... [Inaudible.]

†Mr H P Geyer: ... namely that the food and agriculture organisation of the United Nations announced that rinderpest, the cattle plague that decimated half of the cattle and buffalo population throughout Africa during the nineteenth century has officially been eradicated. [Interjections.] This is only the second epidemic disease ...

†The Deputy Speaker: Mr Ozinsky, just quieten down a bit.

†Mr M Ozinsky: Mr Deputy Speaker, on a point of order: Is the member allowed to read his speech?

†The Deputy Speaker: He’s just started. I haven’t seen him reading it in detail.

†Mr M Ozinsky: You were stopping other members from reading their speeches. That’s why I’m raising it.

†The Deputy Speaker: I will watch that. You can sit down, please.

*The Chief Whip(DA): Mr Deputy Speaker, I think the hon Ozinsky should talk a little bit softer in the House, since we cannot hear the hon Geyer.

*The Deputy Speaker: I’ll watch it. Proceed, hon member.

†Mr M Ozinsky: Hon hypocrite.

†Mr H P Geyer: This is only the second epidemic disease to be eradicated after smallpox in May 1980, which still killed 15 million people as recently as 1965. The last known outbreak of rinderpest was recorded in 2001 ... [Interjections.] ... amongst wild buffalo in Kenya.

*Mr Deputy Speaker, the destruction of 80% to 90% of South Africa’s cattle herds and other livestock by rinderpest in the late 19th century led to the appointment of the pioneer veterinarian Dr Arnold Theiler as well as the establishment of Onderstepoort, a veterinary research institute. It is therefore of cardinal importance for the research programmes that started at Onderstepoort in 1908 to be continued and supported by national government in order to ensure a disease-free environment for people and animals.

†Bernard Vallat, World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Director-General, said – and I quote:
This successful eradication shows that actions against animal diseases do not come within concepts of agricultural or merchant good, but within the concept of Global Public Good because by alleviating poverty, contributing to public health and food security and improving market access as well as animal welfare they benefit all people and generations in the world.

*Mr Deputy Speaker, there is another danger lurking, and that is Newcastle disease, or fowl plague, which wreaks havoc amongst poultry. It is a dangerous plague disease and remains a serious economic threat that also affects our food security and health. This plague disease is also transmitted by inhalation of contaminated air or by eating polluted feed. The main causes of the transmission of this disease remain the transportation of live poultry, negligence among people and unhygienic equipment and poultry products.

†Mr Deputy Speaker, African horse sickness has also taken its toll on the country. During May 2011 more than 10 horses died daily, leaving a total of 410 dead animals country-wide and a fertility rate of above 65%. Fortunately the racing industry remained relatively unscathed.

*Mr Deputy Speaker, earlier this year a delegation from the European Union visited the ostrich industry to study the situation regarding bird flu. According to a media statement the South African Ostrich Business Chamber (SAOBC), with the support of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, called in the assistance of experts to monitor this situation. Members of the SAOBC and the department, veterinarians, farmers and several other persons involved attended a week long work session of the European Union.

Since April 2011 the industry has been affected by the H5N2 bird virus and an export ban on ostrich meat is in force. Lifting of the ban was recently again delayed following confirmation of an outbreak of the virus on a farm within a control zone in the Little Karoo Valley. Meanwhile, the industry has lost about R108 million in export revenue.

The delegation advised the industry to restructure itself for sustainability. The most important changes to be implemented are to restrict the movement of ostriches and to introduce stricter bio security measures on farms. The density of ostrich populations in certain areas should also be reduced, according to the statement.

The team of experts also said the ostrich industry, in cooperation with government, should apply a reliable and sustainable disease control system to prevent further outbreaks of the virus. This would also contribute to the restoration of the industry’s export status.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I have given this long background on purpose, because in this situation we have to do everything in our power in trying to introduce control measures. We have to think of every possible modus operandi. In his speech the Minister referred to the training of more veterinarians and the erection of laboratories. Without these specialists in their field and the facilities to do research, any country is doomed as far as agriculture is concerned.

Together with the Minister and his department I would also like to give recognition to and to thank the veterinarians, engineers and technical staff at research stations and other persons directly engaged in agricultural research.
Thank you for giving so much love and dedication to your work. During a difficult time in agriculture, you have gone the proverbial extra mile.

Mr Deputy Speaker, if we are more careful and more considerate in handling animals, their feed and their transportation, we can make a contribution to introduce safeguarding and prevention measures.

One of the most recent foot and mouth outbreaks was some time ago in KwaZulu-Natal. The possibility that this disease was transmitted from Mozambique cannot be ruled out, and this means we have to be prepared in this regard.

†The efficient prevention and control of animal diseases rely on appropriate legislation and the early detection of the disease, followed by rapid-response mechanisms. It is the responsibility of the government to ensure appropriate alliances, which are functional, between the public and private sectors.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon member! Hon Prins.

*Ms E PRINS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to know if you are checking whether the hon member is also reading his speech.

An HON MEMBER: No.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Prins, I have already ruled on this and I will watch it. The rules allow a member to read as far as possible, so it is not out of order if he reads. [Interjections.]

*The MINISTER OF HEALTH: At least he wrote his speech himself.[Interjections.]

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon Prins, you have had your turn to read your speech. Hon member, proceed.

*Ms E PRINS: Then you have to talk to them, ...[Inaudible.]

*Mr H P GEYER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I presume you will allow me added time for the time the honPrins has now taken up.[Interjections.]

†Co-operation between farmers, private veterinarians and state practitioners are of the utmost importance if South Africa is serious about the limitation and eradication of transmittable diseases. [Interjections.] The increase in our population will necessitate increased animal production and that will create new challenges in the field of disease control that we should adhere to.

We must have adequate research and control facilities on our borders and in our harbours. Yearly rabies claims between 55 000 and 70 000 victims worldwide, mostly children, and only 1% is not caused by bites from infected dogs. The disease can effectively be controlled and incidents reduced by vaccination, as well as the effective control of the dog population.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to reiterate that we need to train an adequate amount of well-trained veterinarians, scientists and researchers to safeguard South Africa’s animal and human population.
Of equally great concern is that there is presently only one specialised bee researcher in South Africa, who is stationed at the Plant Protection Research Institute of the Agricultural Research Centre in Stellenbosch.

Three quarters of our agricultural crops require active pollination of which bees are the main insect pollinators. The spread of American foul brood disease since the first quarter of 2009, as well as the irresponsible use of pesticides ... [Interjections.] ... have caused a dramatic decrease in the bee population. [Interjections.] The disappearance of bees will have a tremendously negative impact on our agriculture and biodiversity. Based on what is known of this disease, the ARC published guidelines to assist beekeepers with managing their hives, in order to live and work with the disease. Worldwide this disease is normally considered as untreatable.

Aquaculture is an increasingly important protein source as the average person consumes approximately 17 kg of fish per year. The control of aquatic animal diseases is a major constraint to production. The quality of our water is dwindling at an alarming rate due to pollution and that has a direct impact on the quality of fish produced. Again, Mr Deputy Speaker, we need scientists and researchers.

*Mr Deputy Speaker, I also want to highlight research and technology, an absolute necessity. Our farmers should be able to compete with a strong international export industry. With growing population figures we will have to produce more on the same piece of land; in other words, we have to work smarter and more thoroughly to produce more food more cheaply. We therefore welcome the department’s objective to increase agricultural production by 10% and we are excited to hear the success stories we have been told about here today.

†Mr Deputy Speaker, through you to hon Bevu, I am sure she doesn’t have her facts straight. [Interjections.] In fact, I’m not sure if she’s aware that we are talking about Agriculture, the best department in South Africa; I repeat, the best department in South Africa. [Interjections.]

*As far as the hon Prins is concerned, she is making a noise again ....

†Mr M OZINSKY: Why don’t you respond to that?

*Mr H P GEYER: ... like an empty container and is saying much without any content, as usual.[Interjections.]Go read the Minister’s speech and look around. Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. [Interjections.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, this is no idle conversation. No, we are seeing it again here today; the guests have been introduced to the House, but the ANC is criticising everything as always. Today they should rather hold their tongue, since the Minister has set out his dedication and commitment with regard to the success of empowerment – 60%. Do you realise how well it will be with the country if the rest of South Africa would follow our example?

An HON MEMBER: Exactly!

Mr H P GEYER: What I find exciting, Mr Deputy Speaker, is the involvement of the private sector and other bodies to make this matter a success.[Interjections.]Making it better together!
Mr Deputy Speaker, with the planned establishment and training of new farmers, as I said previously, things can only go well in this country. We are grateful that 39 small farmers took part in the market access programme this year. This was through better together and the smarter work I have referred to just now.

We have also listened to the success stories of six black economic empowerment (BEE) wine producers, six BEE fruit farmers as well as Mr Lionel Martin’s wonderful success story. But it is a pity that the Western Cape still is the only province with a dedicated farm worker development programme, in spite of what members of the Opposition are now saying. [Interjections.] Nevertheless, the Western Cape is not going to be put off by this ... [Interjections.] ... and we appreciate the dedication and perseverance of the Minister and his department in this regard.

Mr Deputy Speaker, through you to the hon Minister van Rensburg, thank you that, together with your department, you also have the characteristics of this onion to keep agriculture in the Western Cape tightly together. I therefore fully support the budget of the hon Minister of Agriculture and I reiterate my support to him and his department. Thank you.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I request the hon Minister to reply.

*The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to begin with the chairperson of the standing committee, hon Mike Walters. Thank you for your kind words of congratulations and of thanks. It is wonderful to have a person of your experience and expertise as chairperson of my committee and it is a pleasure to work with you.

To the hon Bevu, it is a fact that there was a decrease in agricultural value from 2009 to 2010, but this is a national figure and there were difficult circumstances nationally. What is very interesting, however, is that the Western Cape’s contribution increased from 21% to 22% in that year, but it is very seasonal and we are in agriculture.

Yes, it is also a fact that the Minister of Labour now has to visit farms because her labour inspectors are not doing their work. I would like them to do their work and that all farms comply 100% with all labour legislation. I believe and am 100% sure that the working conditions of farm workers in the Western Cape definitively are the best.

You have to bear in mind that agriculture is the only industry that knows where its workers are going to sleep tonight. [Interjections.] We do not even now where the people working in this Parliament will be sleeping tonight and whether they are cold or hungry or sick, but agriculture cares for its workers and also provides accommodation for them – and often under difficult circumstances. [Interjections.] This is not mandatory, but very often they do so. [Interjections.]

Mr M OZINSKY: [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER: I shall get to hon Ozinsky in a minute. [Interjections.]
Hon Geyer, thank you for having thanked the veterinarians for the huge task with stock diseases, and as government we shall look at how we, together with the ostrich industry, can help our people so they can comply... [Interjections.] ...

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky, you are making too many interjections. Quieten down a bit.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Throw him out.

*The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: We shall see how we can help farmers so they can comply and can restructure in these difficult times. Hon Geyer, thank you for recognising the enormous work of my department. Yes, we need more veterinarians and we also need more funds for research on bees.

Hon Prins, it is a pity that you are talking about “window dressing” and showcase management”. I really think you are hurting the integrity of my department.

*The PREMIER: Yes.

*The MINISTER: These people are winning many prizes and you call it showcase management. I want to say to you ...

*Mr H P GEYER: You can't even spell it.

*The MINISTER: ... tell the person who writes your speeches he has no idea of what is going on.

*Ms E PRINS: Who told you that?

*The MINISTER OF HEALTH: He is in Johannesburg.

An HON MEMBER: Did you write it yourself?

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! May I just ask the Minister and hon Prins to call each other “hon member”, please?

*The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I will continue in this way, but I am indeed calling her hon Prins. Hon Prins, I hope you did not write your speech yourself and I really was hoping you would stop talking, because I wanted to protect you from yourself.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Shocking! Shocking!

An HON MEMBER: Shame, she can't write.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Deputy Speaker, on a point of order: The hon MEC is calling the integrity of the member into question. The member says she wrote her speech, but the hon MEC continually questions the member. That can only be calling her integrity into question. [Interjections.]

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, are you calling the integrity of the hon member into question?
*The MINISTER: Mr Deputy Speaker, no, on the contrary. I am saying I hope she did not write it herself.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may proceed.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Deputy Speaker, the hon MEC said that the hon Prins must tell the writer of her speech that he doesn't understand politics, therefore the hon Minister says that she is lying when she says she wrote her speech.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky, I've heard your point of order. The hon Minister has confirmed that he’s not referring to her integrity and I’m happy with that. Please continue, Minister.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: He doesn’t mean that.

*The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I want to conclude ... [Interjections.]

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon Prins!

*The MINISTER: I just want to say to the hon Ozinsky I don't know why he is always trying to be the corpse at every funeral. Thank you. [Laughter.]

Debate concluded.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon Leader of the Opposition! Hon Leader of the Opposition, order! This brings us to the end of this Vote. The House will adjourn for five minutes.

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL [B 3—2012]

(Debate on Vote 12 – Economic Development and Tourism)

†The MINISTER OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Mr Deputy Speaker, hon Premier, Cabinet colleagues, the Leader of the Opposition, Members of the Provincial Parliament, heads of departments, all the staff of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism and citizens of the Western Cape, it is an honour to address you today on the 2012/2013 Vote for the Department of Economic Development and Tourism (Dedat).

Before I begin, I would like to recognise IhsaanBassier, who is sitting in the box on the side. If you remember, in the Budget Vote yesterday when I spoke under the Treasury Vote, I mentioned the SA Writing Competition. Ihsaan is the winner of the Provincial Treasury and Nedbank Essay Writing Competition on Maths, Economics and Accounting. Congratulations, Ihsaan. [Applause.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, I speak to you two days before the beginning of "Africa's grandest gathering" and one of the top 20 festivals in the world, the Cape Town International Jazz Festival. I would like to extend a warm Mother City welcome to all local and international visitors who have come to our beautiful province to attend the festival.
This year’s Jazz Festival promises to be yet another success with performances by phenomenal artists such as Hugh Masekela, Zahara, James Ingram, Lauryn Hill and others. The Western Cape is proud to host this prestigious international music festival.

In 2011 the Cape Town International Jazz Festival contributed R498 million to the economy of the Western Cape, R800 million to the national economy, created 2700 jobs and saw 33500 tourists visit our province over that weekend. The Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC) has hosted the Jazz Festival for many years with attendance growing from 14000 in the first year to a staggering 34000 last year.

The Western Cape government would like to see the Jazz Festival grow even bigger. We will lend our support to the achievement of this goal. At this stage I would like to convey my thanks to the organisers.

I think I have mentioned it in the House before, but I want to mention it again. This phenomenal event is now also being taken to Luanda and Maputo by the organisers, so they are exporting what we do so well to other parts of Africa and I am very proud of that.

I get hounded all the time for Jazz Festival tickets and I’m pleased to say I don’t have any tickets, because they’ve all been sold out! So perhaps what I need to do now is say to those people who keep on asking me for tickets that we need to plan better because last year we had the same problem and tickets were sold out well in advance of the event. Therefore, until we double the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC) I would suggest that you buy your tickets early. It is really good news that the tickets were sold out so quickly and such a long time before the event because it shows how successful it is. Of course, it’s also an economic venture so ticket sales are very important.

Last week the team of architects who will oversee the expansion of the CTICC to almost double its current size was announced. This expansion means that the CTICC will no longer have to turn down bookings and can play an even bigger role in creating growth and jobs in the Western Cape.

The Department of Economic Development and Tourism will allocate R161,7 million over the medium term to aid in the construction costs necessary for the expansion. This is money well invested that will benefit the Western Cape and the country as a whole.

The macro-economic benefits of the CTICC’s expansion have been calculated as follows:

- A contribution of R452,9 million to the national GDP by 2014, increasing to R1,44 billion by 2018;
- A cumulative contribution to taxes amounting to over R469 million;
- A creation of R2,63 billion in indirect household income;
- The generation of net foreign exchange of R470 million by 2018; and
• An increase in total delegate and visitor numbers to 238,000 in 2014, and to
470,000 in 2018.

Mr Deputy Speaker, our department’s vision is of a Western Cape that has a vi-
brant, innovative and sustainable economy characterised by growth, employment
and increasing equity and built on the full potential of all. This department is also
charged with leading Strategic Objective 1: Creating Opportunities for Growth and
Jobs.

This is a vision we cannot deliver on our own. We will work in collaboration with
government, business and citizens because we know that we can create the con-
ditions necessary for inclusive growth Better Together.

To ensure that we have a smoothly running department in order to deliver on our
vision, Programme 1: Administration will receive R27.738 million in 2012/2013.
The strategic leadership for the attainment of our goal of inclusive growth will be
provided by the Western Cape Economic Development Partnership (EDP). An
amount of R3.5 million will be allocated to the EDP in this financial year for this
purpose.

The EDP will be launched on 26 April 2012 as an independent, membership-
based, not-for-profit company to lead, co-ordinate and drive the Western Cape
economic delivery system. Speaker, traditional approaches to economic devel-
opment are no longer working. The EDP will provide a new way of working together
to deliver better outcomes.

In its first year, the EDP will focus on the following:

• Formulating a co-constructed, strategically coherent plan for the Western
Cape economy that includes an analysis of our risks and opportunities;

• Building effective partnerships between citizens, business and government;

• Co-ordinating a strategy towards contested markets and building a strong
economic and business brand through an integrated platform;
• Continuously monitoring the performance of the economic delivery system and
make recommendations for service delivery improvements; and

• Co-ordination of a regional market attraction, retention and expansion strat-
egy.

Under the leadership of Andrew Boraine and his team I am confident the EDP will
deliver on these objectives for the benefit of the people of our province.

Entrepreneurs operating in the small and medium-enterprise (SMME) sector are
the backbone of our economy. It is estimated that 80% of new jobs globally are
created in this sector. We will continue to support new and emerging SMMEs so
that they can become self-sustaining and successful businesses, and by doing so,
employ more people.

Programme 2: Integrated Economic Development Services will receive R45.28
million in 2012/2013 for the purpose of, firstly, creating an enabling environment
for inclusive growth, and, secondly, providing demand-led support to businesses.
In the 2011/2012 financial year partnerships between our department and other SMME support organisations saw about 7 900 existing and start-up businesses being supported. Amendments to procurement regulations on the BBBEE scorecard saw the extensive roll-out of workshops, awareness sessions and hands-on assistance to SMMEs.

In partnership with the Provincial Treasury, the Department of Health and the Department of Transport and Public Works, awareness sessions were held throughout the province.

In collaboration with the South African Supplier Diversity Council, support was provided to 200 SMMEs that were identified as preferred suppliers to major building contracts and other blue-chip procurement opportunities.

In addition, the Partnership Network, co-funded by Dedat, Seda, The Business Place and the West Coast Business Development Centre, saw 2 332 existing businesses and 3 956 businesses being developed. This year we intend to build on these successes by providing even more support to SMMEs.

An amount of R6,4 million will be allocated to ensure SMMEs are supported in accessing procurement opportunities offered by corporates. Through a partnership with a major commercial bank, R2,3 million will be allocated to supporting SMMEs to improve their chances of accessing commercial funding and increasing business sustainability.

To continue the process we embarked upon in 2011 – making it easier to do business in the Western Cape – we will allocate R3,7 million to the Red Tape Unit in this coming year. This funding will be used, amongst other things, to continue our Business Support Helpline. Through this helpline, troubled businesses and individuals can –

- report red tape blockages;
- receive assistance from staff with an extensive network of contacts within government and private institutions and organisations; and
- enquire about support services available to SMMEs. A partnership with the Cape Town Active Programme will ensure that SMMEs are able to access support agencies that form part of the enterprise support ecosystem.

The staff at the Red Tape Unit will ensure that all issues, including cross-cutting and transversal issues, are identified and prioritised by government.

The Red Tape Unit will also ensure that ongoing interaction with businesses takes place with the view to devising strategies that resolve issues that inhibit business growth, and, ultimately, job creation. This government is committed to creating a climate that encourages entrepreneurs to establish their businesses in our province.

The improvement of the regulatory environment that businesses operate in is the single most important element of our economic growth strategy, and reduction of red tape remains a high priority for us.
In am pleased to announce that since it came into operation in the latter part of 2011, the Red Tape Unit's Call Centre recorded more than 300 cases for investigation and resolution, with a resolution rate of more than 80%.

The Red Tape Unit has also set up South Africa's first Mediation and Arbitration Centre, in collaboration with the University of Stellenbosch, to drastically reduced red tape in the commercial litigation process by both cutting settlement dispute costs and the time for settlement. This Centre, which is housed within the Cape Chamber of Commerce, is another example of how we are helping businesses to grow through our better together approach. In 2012, we intend to roll out Red Tape Units in all municipalities in the Western Cape.

The Cape Winelands District Municipality has already agreed to collaborate with our department to achieve this, and we hope to see the other municipalities coming on board soon. We will also stimulate economic growth and job creation through industry development, trade and investment promotion.

Programme 3: Trade and Sector Development has seen a year-on-year increase of 36% from R63,4 million in 2011/2012 to R95.6 million in 2012/2013.

Approximately 67% of this budget will be allocated to four priority special purpose vehicles that we have set up to grow the Western Cape's most competitive sectors. They include the oil and gas, green economy, ICT and the business and process outsourcing (BPO) industries. We have focused on these sectors to attract international markets and drive growth in the Western Cape economy.

A key industry in the achievement of this goal is the BPO sector. This sector employs approximately 30 000 people, and despite the economic downturn the BPO industry has managed to realise 20% growth per annum.

This is the most cost-effective sector for creating employment, particularly for the youth. Nearly all the revenue generated by the BPO sector goes towards salaries and in nearly all cases these jobs are permanent and full-time.

The Western Cape has become a choice destination for the world's most prominent brands, including Amazon, Shell, Lufthansa, Asda, Bloomberg – and the list goes on. These companies have set up operations in our province.

Our department intends attracting even more international companies to the Western Cape. We will allocate R7,6 million to BPe SA for this purpose in 2012/2013 and over R28 million over the mediumterm.

The balance of the funding for the Trade and Sector Programme, R10,5 million, will be allocated to employment-sustaining sectors such as clothing, textiles and fashion and the agri-aqua and food-processing sectors.

The funding that we will provide will largely go towards skills development to ensure that the firms within these sectors move up the competitiveness ladder towards world-class production. Major inroads have also been made in creating linkages across the value chain, particularly within major retailers.

I am pleased to report that after many years of decline, the clothing and textile sector seems to have turned the corner, and along with strong national and provincial government support it is moving towards a more sustainable model of development.
Mr Deputy Speaker, perhaps now is the time to explain the jacket I’m wearing today. [Interjections.] I hope those hon members don’t take exception to the blue colour. This is the jacket I’ll be wearing whenever I visit any of our factories or places of work where we are setting up programmes to, first of all, develop pride amongst our blue-collar workers. We also need to become far more productive as a region. At the same time this jacket is also showing support for the Wosa programme that is being put in place through the clothing and textile industry ... [Interjections.]

†Mr M OZINSKY: Does the Communist Party know?

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: What workers are there in the Communist Party?

†The MINISTER OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: You will notice the badge I’m wearing says “Wosa” – Wear only South African. Mr Deputy Speaker, you will also notice that I have a label on this jacket because this jacket is made by South Africans right here in the Western Cape.

†The PREMIER: That is fantastic.

†Mr M OZINSKY: It’s a waste of money.

†The MINISTER: Exciting developments are also expected within the aquaculture sector. In 2012 we will conduct a feasibility study into the building of an aquaculture development zone.

From 1 April 2012 Wesgro will serve as the economic development delivery agent within the strategic context of the EDP, and will take up a new role of tourism destination marketing. This decision was jointly agreed upon by the boards of Cape Town Routes Unlimited (CTRU) and Wesgro, and will entail the winding down of CTRU. The functions of CTRU will be transferred to Wesgro from 1 April 2012, along with its allocated budget for the financial year 2012/2013 and its full-time staff members.

By incorporating trade, investment and tourism marketing under one roof we will bring about greater efficiency in these strained economic times. It will also ensure co-ordination of the Western Cape government’s outward-facing marketing initiatives, the optimisation of the Future Cape 2040 brand, and the enhancement of the Western Cape’s image as a world-class business and tourism destination. In 2012/2013 Wesgro receives a total budget of R22 million, plus the R25 million allocated to CTRU, for destination marketing purposes.

Mr Deputy Speaker, without the proper development and maintenance of infrastructure in our province our economic growth plans are doomed to fail.

Within the next two years, as part of a pilot project, the Western Cape government aims to create the largest mesh network in the world that will connect all households in Khayelitsha, Mitchell’s Plain and Saldanha Bay, including the industrial development zone footprint.

Along with the funding allocated to this programme by the Department of the Premier and the City of Cape Town, Dedat will allocate a further R12 million in 2012/2013 to –
• create a Broadband Leadership Council consisting of key stakeholders to drive the strategic direction and ongoing investment in the broadband environment in the Western Cape;

• drive the development of a provincial fibre optic backbone network that connects to every municipality in the Western Cape by 2016;

• connect all schools in the Western Cape by 2014;

• extend free public access to ICT to all communities by ensuring that every ward in the Western Cape has a facility by 2014; and

• build an alternate last mile access to the Western Cape by installing an open access wireless mesh network in a suitable area. We have chosen Khayelitsha and Mitchells Plain in the Metro to roll out the pilot project, and the Greater Saldanha area outside the Metro.

†The PREMIER: There you go.

†The MINISTER: This is an ambitious plan. However, by working better together with industry and other government spheres in a co-ordinated manner, it is achievable. We have conducted extensive research into this programme that has shown us its immense potential to drive economic growth and jobs for all the people of the Western Cape.

It will also increase the competitiveness of the Western Cape by putting us on par with our competitors in the developed world, the developing world and the rest of Africa. This will secure our relevance in a world economy that is being increasingly driven by global networks and broadband connections.

In the Western Cape Government Budget Speech I outlined our plan to stimulate job creation through a multibillion rand infrastructure investment programme. Included in this is an additional allocation to the budget of R1,097 billion over the medium term. As part of this we will be funding the proposed IDZ in Saldanha Bay, which is now entering a very exciting final phase.

At present, we are devising the application for the official designation of the IDZ through a specially formed licensing company. The contents of the application will go before the Provincial Cabinet and the Saldanha Bay Municipal Council as early as possible in the new financial year, before being submitted to the Department of Trade and Industry.

Once submitted, the approval process is in the hands of that department, but we are confident that the partnership between all three spheres of government, including Transnet, has been very thorough in this project, meaning that national Cabinet approval and official designation by the DTI should be possible by the end of the year.

For the coming year we have allocated R5 million to this initiative. The first phase of the Cape Town Port Precinct Development project is finally out of the blocks, and has been allocated R2 million for the coming year. On the basis of expert recommendations we will start to define the areas to be addressed in a detailed exercise that will create a vision for the role of the port in the Western Cape economy.
Focused attention will be given to the related infrastructure in order to improve the logistics functions supporting this major economic asset, including road and rail access, intermodal facilities, as well as other industries like the ship and rig repair sectors that are directly dependent on the Port to be able to create the much needed jobs in our province.

Another project, the Fringe Project, aims to develop a design-focused precinct in the Eastern Quarter of the CBD in Cape Town. This will become a prime space to develop and showcase African design, innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship. The project has already delivered the following:

- Business feasibility study;
- Urban design framework;
- An economic analysis of the area; and
- Marketing and stakeholder engagement with over 100 relevant stakeholders, including the CT Design Network, City of Cape Town and the District Six Trust.

There is already tremendous support for the Fringe as an ideal project that speaks to the premise that we can use design to address social and economic issues in society. Perhaps I must also pause here at this stage to say that part of the Fringe will lead us into the winning of the Design Capital 2014, which is also going to show us and change the way that we grow this innovative design economy, and at the same we once again congratulate Ravi Naidoo and his team on hosting the Design Indaba. In the same way as has been done with the Jazz Festival where it has been exported to other countries, Ravi Naidoo has also been asked to set up a Design Indaba in Shanghai, so very well done.

Speaker, Programme 4: Business Regulation and Governance has a critical role to play in economic development by ensuring the realisation of an equitable and socially responsible business environment. This programme will be allocated R19,929 million in 2012/2013 to ensure that legal liquor traders operate according to the laws of the province and to educate consumers on their rights.

In December 2010 this House approved the Liquor Amendment Act, clearing the way for us to implement the Western Cape Liquor Act of 2008. I am pleased to report that we are on track with the implementation of this Act. Earlier this month, based on the recommendations I received from the standing committee, I duly appointed the Western Cape Liquor Board on a part-time basis, retrospective from 12 March 2012, for a period of three years.

The board will now oversee the important task of the implementation of the remaining sections of the Western Cape Liquor Act, which comes into effect on 2 April 2012. The Liquor Act will assist in tackling one of the biggest problems currently facing our province, and that is alcohol abuse.

Currently, over 50% of all injury-related deaths in the Western Cape are linked to alcohol abuse and about 80% of murders are associated with alcohol abuse. Liquor has eroded the sense of community in our province, and as of 2 April we are taking our communities back.
Speaker, the department has made considerable progress with its efforts to implement the Western Cape Consumer Affairs Act of 2002. We have completed the process of formulating and developing the required regulations which will inform the processes to be followed and implemented by the Consumer Tribunal.

The Consumer Tribunal will play an important role by protecting the rights of consumers in making appropriate rulings in matters where they determine that an unfair business practice has occurred. The Tribunal will be allocated R500 000 in 2012/2013 for this purpose.

Not everyone in our province is aware of the existence of the Consumer Tribunal, particularly in our rural areas. We will embark upon an education project that will focus on rural consumers, so that levels of exploitation of this category of consumer are reduced. The total allocated for consumer education is R800 000.

Speaker, Programme 5: Economic Planning will receive R19,9 million in 2012/2013 to provide us with relevant and well-researched situational data to enable us to formulate the best possible economic development plans.

In line with the Strategic Objective 1, the Economic Planning Unit will also provide high-level support to the EDP in terms of resource allocation for operational costs and exercise oversight on how resources are spent.

As I mentioned previously, Wesgro will receive an additional R25 million for the purpose of aggressively marketing the Western Cape as a tourist destination to world markets with a unified brand focused on promoting business and tourism trade.

As highlighted in the Western Cape Budget Speech, tourism currently contributes over 10% to the region's GDP. We hope to grow this figure to 15% by 2015.

Programme 6: R53,04 million will be allocated to Tourism, Arts and Entertainment to assist in achieving this goal.

In the 2012/2013 financial year the Conventions Bureau will prepare 16 bids for conferences and conventions worth an estimated economic value of R360 million. In addition, five joint marketing agreements will be secured, with an estimated value of R42 million.

Support will also be provided to six mega-events, with an estimated economic value of R1 billion. These initiatives will play a crucial role in boosting tourism to our destination.

In 2012/2013 we aim to achieve the following key indicators:

- Number of international arrivals to the Western Cape: 1 658 929;
- International foreign direct spend: R24 billion; and
- Number of domestic visitors: 3000000.

Arrivals at the Cape Town International Airport (CTIA) as well as visitor numbers at popular attractions throughout the Western Cape indicate that we are well on the way to achieving this growth.
The latest tourism figures indicate that international arrivals at CTIA increased by more than 17% in December and January, and by more than 12% compared to February last year. Mr Deputy Speaker, so far we are having our best summer ever.

Well-deserved congratulations must be extended to the management of Cape Town International Airport, who recently ensured that our airport was named the Best Airport in Africa by the Airports Council International (ACI) in the Airport Service Quality (ASQ) global awards. Cape Town International is Africa's most award-winning airport. In the past year it also scooped the ACI Best Airport in Africa Award, the Best Improved Airport as well as the Internationally Recognised Skytrax Award for Best Airport for Staff Service Excellence.

Our province racked up a number of other exciting international accolades last year. Table Mountain was voted one of the New Seven Wonders of the World, Cape Town won Design Capital 2014 and over 45 million people voted Cape Town the best destination in the world in Trip Advisor's Top 25 Destinations in the World online survey. We hope to win even more awards this year.

Programme 7: Skills Development and Innovation will receive R25,12 million in the coming year. With this money we will continue to run our successful Work and Skills Programme. South Africa's youth unemployment has been described as a crisis and a ticking time bomb. The unemployment rate among 15- to 24-year-olds is 51%.

The ANC government has consistently paid lip service to the commitment to create more employment opportunities, but has allowed itself to be held to ransom by the unions. It is our youth that suffer as a result of the ANC's political posturing.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Do you think when you go to the factories you can hide that you are DA?

†The MINISTER: Most of the people in the factories voted for the DA. [Interjections.]

The DA-run Western Cape government, on the other hand, is determined to create jobs for youth that are willing to seize the opportunities that we are providing. The ANC need not look any further than the Western Cape government's Youth Wage Subsidy or our Work and Skills Programme. To date more than 2 370 young people have been put through our Work and Skills Programme and we have achieved a placement rate of 92%.

†Mr M OZINSKY: The employment figures in the next quarter are going to show a massive loss. You'll see.

†The MINISTER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I say again, this is not the only initiative that we have in place to assure that our youth are employed. In recognition of the skills shortage in the business analysis industry, in collaboration with the private sector we launched the Capaciti 1000 programme in February 2011. This programme is designed to grow the Western Cape's pool of business analysts by training and mentoring unemployed graduates in order to meet this industry's skills shortage.
To date, 97% of the 38 previously unemployed graduates who entered the programme in 2011 are now employed in the business analysis industry, at an average starting salary of R16 800. Due to the programme's high demand, 40 new prospective business analysts are starting their training this year, with a far greater demand than in other years.

In recognition of the excellent results the programme has achieved, Capaciti 1000's allocation will increase from R500 000 in 2011/2012 to R2,5 million in 2012/2013. In addition, the Provincial Skills Development Forum, which brings together stakeholders from business, labour, civil society, government and education institutions, will continue to identify interventions necessary to create employment opportunities.

In the upcoming financial year –

- the Forum will –
  - provide oversight over the Premier's Advancement of Youth Programme;
  - continue to support and assist individual companies and industries in dealing with skills shortages; and
  - host a Western Cape Skills Summit; and

the FET Support Group will support FET Colleges to improved their offerings. Educational institutions in our province will receive R10,080 million more in the 2012/2013 allocation than they did in 2011/2012. While these initiatives will go some way toward tackling youth unemployment, there is still much more to be done.

The National Treasury is currently sitting on the R5 billion that was intended for the Youth Wage Subsidy. We have piloted the Youth Wage Subsidy in our province and it works well. We will ask Minister PravinGordhan to release our share of those funds so that we can continue with this programme.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the work that this department will do in 2012/2013 is vital to achieving our Strategic Objective 1: Creating Growth and Jobs. We will undertake this work with vigour and a keen sense of what can be achieved if we are joined in our efforts by stakeholders across the spectrum.

Before I conclude, I would like to issue my warm thanks and appreciation to the Head of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, Solly Fourie. I ask him to please convey this to his senior management, his team which is sitting here and also those team members who are also out there in the trenches and at the coalface. They are determined to make a difference specifically for the unemployed in our province and also to help grow the economy of the province to help our citizens to create a life that they desire. I ask him to convey that to each and every one on his staff.

Mr Deputy Speaker, with that I table the budget for the Western Cape Department of Economic development and Tourism for consideration by this house.
*Mr E J VON BRANDIS: Mr Deputy Speaker, the Western Cape's economic growth rate is estimated at 3,5% for 2012 and 4,0% for 2013, better than the national expected growth rate of 2,7% for 2012 and 3,6% for 2013. The Department of Economic Development and Tourism has been allocated R1 billion over the 2012 MTEF and receives a budget of R291 million for 2012.

I support this budget and its application to perform the core functions and responsibilities of the department. Among the functions in particular are the creation of an appropriate and desirable environment where businesses can flourish; sector development to be led by demand and not supply; marketing of the entire region; development of the work force, and the development of infrastructure stimulated by growth.

Creating an appropriate and desirable environment where business can flourish entails the reduction of obstacles that tend to derail sustainable business development, profitability and job creation.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the establishment of the Economic Development Partnership is the joining of several role-players to the joint economic benefit of the Western Cape. The R11 million budgeted for the MTEF will turn the EDP into a cross-sectoral organisation that will give guidance and as economic motivator will promote increased levels of inclusive growth. Better together.

In 2011 the Red Tape task team was established and the R2 million that was budgeted for 2011 was used inter alia to establish the Red Tape call centre. I want to thank all people involved in this successful call centre for their hard work. The rate at which they are solving problems or blockages is approximately 70% at this stage, with the rest being referred for more in-depth investigations.

Mr Deputy Speaker, it is encouraging to see the growth and job opportunities that accompany sector development being expanded in terms of supply and demand. Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) and also Business Processing and Outsourcing (BPO) together have about 57 000 employees in the province. The latter also has an expected 2 000 job possibilities in the pipeline for 2012.

The three Special Purpose Vehicles in the clothing, textile and fashion sectors have contributed to the continued existence of the industry in the Western Cape. The approximately 44 500 employees in these sectors may be more at ease regarding their future, with an expected more than R220 million additional investments to be made over the next three years.

The success of the film industry in the Western Cape is well known, with movies such as Safe House and Chronicle, as well as the new Judge Dredd films, having been filmed here. The inclusion of Cape Town and the Little Karoo by the international rock group Coldplay in their music video Paradise, together with songs of praise for efficiency, prove that the film industry is an emerging industry that can be expanded.

Mr Deputy Speaker, according to the International Energy Agency there is a direct link between the creation of wealth and the consumption of energy. The wealthier a country, the more energy that country consumes. It has also been observed that when energy supply is limited, growth is also limited. Growing the economy creates an energy demand.
In South Africa, Eskom is still struggling to keep the existing power supply constant and the costs of energy, such as power, are among the highest in the world – and this is coupled with the fact that Eskom is being investigated for corruption and tender manipulation, while they pay salary increases of up to 507% to their executives. This creates the danger that the province will not be able to attract adequate investment and development. A case in point is the debacle of the investment of $2,7 billion at Coega by the aluminium smelter Alcan that did not materialise.

†Mr M OZINSKY: But they’re building a manganese smelter at Coega.

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: It won’t be built in a 1 000 years.

†Mr M OZINSKY: What have you got ... [Inaudible.] You don’t have anything. [Interjections.] You can’t run anything.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

*Mr E J VON BRANDIS: In spite of this national threat, Mr Deputy Speaker, the department is collaborating with the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning to develop the newly created Green Cape initiative.

There is a long-term potential to generate approximately 3 000 megawatt renewable energy in the Western Cape and in so doing to create more than 10 000 jobs by 2025.

The department is also responsible for marketing the entire Western Cape as a world-class destination. Tourism in the Western Cape contributes about 10% to the region’s gross domestic product. The types of tourism that contribute to further opportunities in the province are tourism associated with business, for example conferences, festivals, as we have heard, the festival mentioned by the Minister, taking place this weekend, as well as sport tourism.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the focus of the department to develop the work force is appreciated. The increased budget for the Work and Skills programme from R6.2 million in 2011/2012 to R9 million for this financial year is a tangible indication of the seriousness of the department to promote skills development and therefore also competent employees. Also encouraging are the further promotion, expansion and improvement of open days for suppliers, indabas with emerging contractors, SMME campaigns and career work sessions as supported and presented by the department.

The most visible results being promoted by the department remain the infrastructure development led by economic growth requirements. The most important projects are the Saldanha IDZ, for which R16 million is budgeted over the medium term, the Western Cape Broadband Framework and Implementation Plan, the enlargement of the CTICC, for which R80 million has been budgeted transversely for 2013/2014, as well as the East City Design Precinct and the development of Cape Town Harbour.
In conceptualising such projects it is important always to take into account the requirements and objectives of Green Cape. The sustainability, efficiency and completion according to green standards are a responsibility of all residents of the Western Cape. It is of cardinal importance for South Africa that there should be policy cohesion between government’s industrialisation, growth, job creation, energy security and the policies addressing climate change.

Mr Deputy Speaker, an important agent for effectively implementing these plans is the effective functioning of Wesgro as trade and investment agency. The R21 million budgeted for Wesgro is welcomed and it will help to expand trade partnerships and capital investment in the Western Cape.

In conclusion, the Western Cape Parliament passed the Western Cape Liquor Amendment Act in December 2010. The last sections of the Western Cape Liquor Act of 2008 and of the Western Cape Liquor Amendment Act of 2010 basically have to be ratified. As the Minister also mentioned, the appointment of the Liquor Authority in March 2012 will of course also lead to the establishment of the Liquor Licensing Tribunal. Here I would like to congratulate Mr Mervin Burton on his appointment as chairperson of the Liquor Authority.

A major threat to the health of our communities is the distribution of cheap ale, which has to be addressed urgently.

However, the Consumer Protection Act, together with the ratification of the Liquor Act, offers opportunities for the Minister and his department, by means of proper public campaigns and through the media, to demonstrate these benefits to the residents of the Western Cape and also the interest of the Western Cape government in the well-being of its residents.

Mr Deputy Speaker, for all these reasons I support the budget as submitted by the Minister and I thank the Minister. And also to Mr SollyFourie, to you and your team, thank you very much for your hard work and your perseverance to ensure economic success for the Western Cape.

An HON MEMBER: Great!

†Ms T N BEVU: Mr Deputy Speaker, we welcome the economic development and tourism budget presented by Minister Winde.

It should be obvious by now that the Western Cape export links need to be directed more to Africa, especially the sub-Saharan region. We are happy that even the DA, whose outlook is always waiting for things to be approved and certified by Western authorities, is now starting to realise that. [Interjections.]

Even Western organs of economic monitors like the IMF now say:

Sub-Saharan Africa is the only major region tracked by the IMF where faster growth is forecast for 2012 than during 2011.

In the Western Cape our primary and secondary industries are underperforming. Only finance, real estate and business are over performing, but, as Minister Winde stated, that sector is not creating the jobs we need in real terms.
Cope cautions against banking on the current over-performing sectors to continue performing well in the long term, unless we entrench the attitude of becoming suppliers of services in the sub-Saharan region. This might also drive our production-driven industries, especially food and agri-processing.

Minister Winde also used the province’s ailing textile industry as an example of where manufacturing could succeed in adverse conditions to create jobs. I don’t know how he thinks we will be able to compete with countries like China and India, for instance, on a garment-for-garment basis, unless, perhaps, we go into the niche areas such as fashion and high-quality goods. We know that Nigeria’s capital, Lagos, has just overtaken Dubai in the demand for fashionable items. Quick response times to the sub-Saharan region will benefit us because it takes a long time to get a shipment from China to Africa.

The Provincial Economic Review and Outlook (Pero) document, presented late last year by Minister Winde, shows that our province faces several job creation challenges. Our labour force has grown from 2,322,000 in 2008 to 2,356,000 in the third quarter of 2011, but the number of the employed has remained the same since 2008. Our unemployment rate is currently about 23,3%. Any country in the Western hemisphere with such a high unemployment rate would either be experiencing riots like Greece or be declaring itself to be in an economic recession.

I think the South African government, in general, undermines the tolerant behaviour of the poor in this country, whereas the DA government, in particular, mocks it in this province.

Worse still, the official inflation rate, i.e the change in the CPI for all urban areas, in February 2012, compared with that in February 2011, was 6,1%. This rate was 0,2 of a percentage point lower than the corresponding annual rate of 6,3% in January. This means from January 2012 to February 2012 the consumer price index for all urban areas increased by 0,36%. Looking ahead, inflation is likely to continue to be influenced and driven by food and non-alcoholic beverages and housing, reflecting higher rentals and transport.

Food price inflation is also expected to accelerate over the short term due to oil price increases. The average petrol price in January and February 2012 was more than 23% higher that during the first two months of 2011. This will cause widespread inflation.

Cope feels this province still does not prioritise the informal job sector. It fails to come up with effective, workable solutions to counteract labour market disadvantages that are defined by race, gender, age and education. Africans, for instance, are the most unemployed group in the province. Conversely, whites are the most employed and least unemployed, and the black youth are the most unemployed.

What is most scary is that an estimated 42% of young people below the age of 30 years are unemployed nationally. I don’t know what the provincial estimate is, but this is a recipe for disaster.

In conclusion, Cope wants to know how they will bring the informal sector, or parts of it, into the formal economy. How are we going to ensure that those entrepreneurs could help with overall economic growth? I thank you. [Time expired.]
†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: We'll have to have a Labour Relations Act debate.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Mr Deputy Speaker, I also extend my congratulations to Ihsaan on the success of his essay winning the competition.

Mr Deputy Speaker, today I want to remind the House about the priorities of the ANC government in trying to turn around the economy, the unemployment rate, ...

*Mr H P GEYER: Oh dear.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: ... the alleviation of poverty and also rural development and inequality across the country.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: They're not doing a great job.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: In the main I will be referring to just three aspects of how the DA government is undermining and depriving the people of the province of the right to earn a living. Those three issues relate to what is happening just here, at home, and I won’t be crossing any provincial lines or going national. These three issues are Wesgro, SMMEs and the EDP.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: And the what?

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: When the DA is confronted with awkward questions about the Western Cape and how things are being dealt with here, the standard response is always “But what did you do?” or “Look at province X or province Y”. That’s the wrong answer. Make the issue the issue without making personal attacks.

†Ms E PRINS: Yes.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: What premiers and mayors in other provinces do has nothing to do with how the Western Cape is being run.

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: This is South Africa. It’s a country.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: You govern here, the problems are here and the answers and solutions must be found here. [Interjections.] And here does not necessarily mean over there, amongst yourselves.

*Mr H P GEYER: Oh no, man, Carol.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: You continually talk about “together”. Together with whom? I will prove today ... [Interjections]... Can I be protected, Mr Deputy Speaker? I sat very quietly while everybody was speaking.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will protect you. Carry on, please.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: I will prove today, Mr Deputy Speaker, how together the DA really does things, especially in this department that is supposed to be the war room for economic growth. The three issues in this budget I want to raise, as I’ve said, are tourism, SMMEs and the EDP.
We have continuously said that this is not a pro-poor budget and I want to point out that the biggest threat to the tourism industry in the Western Cape cannot be laid only at the door of the economy; it should also be laid right at door of the MEC for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism.

I want to warn that if MEC Winde does not reconsider his latest move with Cape Town Routes Unlimited (CTRU) and the manner in which he is going about it, misery, unemployment and poverty will spread like wildfire through this province. [Laughter.]

MEC Winde has single-handedly destroyed CTRU. [Interjections.] Why, I ask myself? Is it because it represents one of the best examples of the ANC’s economic innovations? [Interjections.] Politics is the answer. The DA cannot acknowledge any ANC success story because they have built their whole existence around the fallacy that everything in the ANC is bad for the Western Cape and South Africa. [Interjections.]

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Every schoolgirl and boy needs to be quiet now. [Interjections.]

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: That’s why the MEC has torn the guts out of CTRU and left a handful of staff to be absorbed, yes, absorbed, by Wesgro in this takeover. Why else would this important component of economic development’s budget be cut from R62,9 million to R53 million but be expected to still perform in the same successful manner? I have just heard MEC Winde say that he wants tourism to grow. However, the budget has been cut and that’s clearly setting them up to fail and then they will have a convenient excuse for why they were originally absorbed.

MEC Winde announced in December 2011 that the Western Cape Cabinet had agreed in principle to the merger between Wesgro and Cape Town Routes Unlimited. Given that the Western Cape Tourism Act has not yet been repealed, we demand that he accounts to the House on the full motivation for this decision. MEC Winde has been acting without any thought as to how his actions are affecting the livelihoods of CTRU staff, some of whom have been with CTRU for years.

†The MINISTER OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Let me respond to that.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: We find it unacceptable that in these trying economic times the Minister can callously stand by while jobs are lost as he pushes through this take-over of CTRU by Wesgro. Even today, here, Mr Deputy Speaker, Wesgro’s praises have been sung and not a word has been said about the good job CTRU has done.

So, what’s wrong with one organisation being absorbed into another? Let me try to explain. The contracts of both the CTRU and Wesgro CEOs were due to end on 31 March 2012. However, only the Wesgro CEO was asked to remain and run the new organisation. Why was the CTRU CEO not asked to do this or given an extension on his contract? [Interjections.] Was there a fair, transparent and open process to arrive at the appointment of the Wesgro CEO? Also, their mandates differ widely.
Wesgro and its CEO, in particular, do not have an admirable performance record. For example, the AG’s report on Wesgro’s annual report had the following to say about Wesgro’s leadership, even though I’d like to mention that they received a financially unqualified audit report:

The chief executive officer, Mr Nils Flaaten, did not establish and communicate policies and procedures to enable and support understanding and execution of internal control objectives, processes and responsibilities related to performance reporting.

Despite this compromising finding, the CEO of Wesgro has now seemingly been rewarded with a new contract, while the CEO of CTRU is being dumped. Is this Wesgro move a case of rewarding a cadre for bad management? [Interjections.]

But what did the AG find at CTRU? He gave CTRU its fifth unqualified audit report in a row. [Interjections.]

This was testimony to the leadership... [Interjections.] ... of the CTRU board, the CEO and the staff.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: He’s a more compliant cadre. [Interjections.]

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Acsa has recently been awarded as the best airport in Africa, and there’s the success of the Jazz Festival the MEC has just alluded to now. Why did that happen? It was because of CTRU’s assistance and commitment to tourism. Their own document says that one of their main services is to market the Western Cape as a world-class business and tourist outlet. Isn’t that exactly what CTRU did and are we not reaping the benefits of that?

The MEC, however, was strangely quiet that day, as he is today, when Scopa praised CTRU at a hearing. Now we know why. We’re baffled by the Minister’s decision to absorb, read “dump”, CTRU into Wesgro. Has the Minister seen or paid heed to the AG’s report on Wesgro for the financial year that ended 31 March 2011? If he had, he would have asked CTRU to take over Wesgro and bring direction and acceptable corporate governance to the organisation.

Given that report and the fact that the Wesgro leadership has not been changed, we shudder to think what the AG will uncover this year.

†Mr H P GEYER: Nothing.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: To add insult to injury, Wesgro’s budget has been increased by 47% but the tourism budget has been decreased by 25%. [Interjections.]

Let me highlight for you, Mr Deputy Speaker, some the AG’s findings for Wesgro:

This accounting authority did not ensure that the public entity has and maintained an effective, efficient and transparent system of internal control regarding performance management, which described and represented how the entity’s processes of performance planning, monitoring measurement, review and reporting was conducted, organised and managed as required by section 51 (1) (a) (i) of the PMFA.
In this regard the AG said that a material impairment amounting to R1,1 million was incurred as a result of the decrease in the fair value of the Agency’s investment in a local company. I quote further:

Awards, or procurement, were made to suppliers who did not submit a declaration on whether they were re-employed by the state, or were connected to any person employed by the state, as per Treasury Regulation 16 A 8.3 and Practice Note 7 of 2009/10;

The preference point system was not applied in all procurement of goods and services above R300 000, as required by Section 2(a) of the Preferential Policy Framework Act;

The prospective suppliers list for procuring goods and services through quotations was not updated at least quarterly to include new suppliers that qualify for listing and prospective suppliers were not invited to apply for such listing at least once a year, as per the requirements of National Treasury Practice Note 8 of 2007-08;

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Sounds like Scopa.
†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: No, that’s an audit report.
†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: No, sounds like fit for purpose.
†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: I continue:

The National Treasury database was not inspected prior to awarding contracts to ensure that the recommended bidder, or any of its directors, was not listed as companies or persons prohibited from doing business with the public sector.

This, Mr Deputy Speaker, is serious stuff from a taxpayer’s point of view, but clearly not serious or alarming enough to sound caution to the Minister, because he hasn’t acted as far as we know.

We also see in Wesgro’s own 2010/2011 annual report that Wesgro paid Mr Guy Lundy, the CEO of Accelerate Cape Town, R600 000 towards the mobile office which was set up at the CTICC. Mr Lundy is a Wesgro board member. Surely this is unacceptable. Surely there’s a severe conflict of interest here. Has the Minister done anything about this? We believe not. [Interjections.]

That’s not the only time Wesgro has squandered taxpayer’s money. Fruitless and wasteful expenditure totalling R117 662 was blown on a 3G card for a staff member on a short official trip to the US.

It is any wonder, Mr Deputy Speaker, that the AG reported:

Roles and responsibilities over the review and monitoring of appliance and applicable laws and regulations are not clearly defined and understood as evidenced by the noncompliance with the applicable legislation governing the agency’s procurement and contract management processes.
The system used to collect, collate and report predetermined objectives are not documented in the policy and the procedures manual. This is evidenced by the reported findings related to the predetermined objectives that were reported in the prior period as well.

Mr Deputy Speaker, we want to know if the DA is serious or just plain sanctimonious and hypocritical when it comes to good, clean, transparent and open governance. If it were, it would stop this unethical and illegal takeover, with the resulting loss of jobs. [Interjections.]

We call on MEC Winde and the House to postpone the implementation of the CTRU and Wesgro merger, ... [Interjections.] ... as well as launch a special investigation into the legality and feasibility of such a move, ... [Interjections.] ... and to be transparent about justifying the legal opinions that influenced this decision at the expense of others.

At our recent Vote 12 budget discussion MEC Winde was at pains to answer my pertinent questions about the motivation for such a move of integration, absorption, call it what you like. Only after persistence on my part an official came to his rescue and told us that a legal opinion was obtained to justify this move and ...

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Shameful.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: ... that Wesgro’s mandate supposedly allowed for such a move. So, let’s say it did; why then the choice of leadership?

Why doesn’t anyone at CTRU know about the content of this legal opinion? It affects them. Why were the specific clauses used to justify this move not spelled out, even to us, the oversight committee? We cannot stress enough that the unfairness in this matter cannot be left unchallenged.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Yes.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: If MEC Winde is not stopped, this arrogant and disdainful disregard for the AG’s report, and the generally unacceptable good governance standards, will badly damage the tourism industry in the Western Cape. This can be laid squarely at his and Premier Helen Zille’s door, and that will be the legacy they will leave the industry. They are spreading unemployment, poverty and misery in the Western Cape.

*Mr H P GEYER: Look who’s talking.

An HON MEMBER: The DA.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Are you serious?

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Mr Deputy Speaker, just look at how the war affects SMMEs that have benefitted from their association with CTRU. More than 350 of these enterprises had gained from taking advantage of six marketing platforms, four promotional platforms, seven marketing capacity building platforms and three tourism campaigns. Together they represent at least 20 free-market-related opportunities created by CTRU for SMMEs. Now they’re gone. Destroyed.
†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Why have they gone?

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Isn’t that proof that the DA and its budget is anti-poor?

[Interjections.]

This is why the integration, read “closing down”, of ground-breaking ANC initiatives like the Red Doors is a disaster.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: They’re still there.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: The ANC started these projects to give the most marginalised an opportunity to regain their economic dignity by giving them access to assistance. Now MEC Winde justifies, under the guise of trying to do more with less, why these people need to travel distances because the Small Enterprise Development Agency (Seda) shares facilities and they don’t want to duplicate them. This is under the guise of trying to do more with less.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: As long as others pay for it.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: In the rural areas, Mr Deputy Speaker, we are told officials will visit the outlying areas – at whose request, and with what kind of notification to those communities? How often? With what kind of turnaround time for assistance? This is a national disaster we are facing with the DA.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: National disaster?

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: It has far-reaching effects. [Interjections.] In one of the paragraphs of the Vote under discussion it states, under Creating an Enabling Environment for Business:

The accent of this strategy is to review all government policies and practices which set the rules of the game for business in the province and which influence the performance of the market, incentives to invest and cost of business operations.

So, by implication what this says is we will consult with national government and ask for their assistance, but as soon as the Western Cape has its things going, and national has helped us, we will rubbish national government again, because now we are well on our way to proving ourselves as the Western Cape.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Beautiful. You can do better than that.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: They all do that, including the Premier. All of them.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: You can do better than that.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Mr Deputy Speaker, I finish by thanking the President again for the Saldanha IDZ financial injection and for his alluding to rural school children dropout rates, because unless the DA changes its attitude about only assisting the rich, private big business sector and encouraging a different thinking around planning and urban area boundaries, decentralising development initiatives ... [Interjections.] Excuse me?
†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: That’s the KwaZulu-Natal speech that.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: No, I write my own things, I’m sorry. Sorry to disappoint you. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: You said that before.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Decentralising development initiatives not only in the City Bowl with the newly elected EDP who will obviously only look after the rich ...

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: White ...

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: ... and the already empowered whites. Yes, you said it, you said it, There also lies a wave of young adults having to swim the sea of unemployment. The DA boasts that they want to become the best-run regional government in the world. [Interjections.] This is not the way to get to the top.

Mr Deputy Speaker, here were perfect opportunities ... [Interjections.] ... for this so-called better together copycat slogan to have proved itself. It didn’t work and it will not work. Maybe the lesson should be: Don’t fix it if it ain’t broke. Thank you.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Well done, Carol.

An HON MEMBER: You mustn’t be surprised if we hang you.

†Mr A M FIGLAN: Mr Deputy Speaker, there is no denying that tourism plays a vital role in the economy of the Western Cape, but it is also vulnerable to economic crises and fluctuations in the world markets and the economy. This is why it’s important to ensure that this market will continue to grow in the Western Cape.

More than 50% of the international tourists coming into South Africa visit the Western Cape and it must always be remembered that domestic tourists are as important. During the past summer season the Western Cape has seen tourism figures up by 14% over previous statistics. These figures, as released by the Cape Chamber of Commerce, showed a 14% increase in the number of overseas arrivals at Cape Town International Airport. The biggest number of domestic tourists were from KwaZulu-Natal.

The attractions of the Mother City and the rest of the province have also seen an increase in numbers. [Interjections.] This indicates the importance of continually and vigorously marketing the province and all the major tourist areas and attractions. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, Minister Carlisle and hon Ozinsky! Please give the hon member a fair chance.

†Mr A M FIGLAN: Mr Deputy Speaker, it is not only the natural beauty and splendour of the Western Cape that are the major contributors to tourism. The tour guides and factors such as technology also play an important part.
Tour guides must maintain a high standard of quality and content to keep up with the higher numbers and also with the challenges of technology.

It should not be forgotten that it is important to continue to place emphasis on the service industry, ensuring that the standard of service delivery is constantly increased and improved in order to maintain and attract more international and domestic tourists.

The importance of marketing is noted in the many accolades received. Here we note Table Mountain, Kirstenbosch, the Cape Town International Airport and all the accolades for the Wine Routes that are too numerous to mention.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the City of Cape Town and the Western Cape government have realised that other ways to attract tourists have to be found. This is why the idea of sport tourism is a great idea to boost the economy. The recent Cape Argus Cycle Tour has been estimated to have contributed R450 million to the Western Cape economy. This race has also proved that by working better together, an excellent event can be delivered and people are motivated to return.

The tourism industry is a major growth sector in terms of investment, employment and the diversification of services. Less directly, tourism also stimulates the property market, especially prime residential projects. It can thus strengthen business contacts and can lead to trade joint ventures and even immigration plans.

As important as formal tourism is to the economy, more awareness must be generated and support provided to assist responsible and sustainable township tourism. The Dewani case initially cast a shadow over the township tourism industry in Cape Town, but it was good to hear that tour operators and owners of hospitality establishments later said that this case has not really affected the number of visitors. This indicates a more robust market and certainly a more informal cultural tourism than what Cape Town and Western Cape Tourism initially expected.

The establishment of the Western Cape Economic Development Partnership can only benefit the province. Better and more vigorous marketing can be done and the province must market itself smartly. Everything must be done in order to ensure that the Western Cape not only becomes the best-run regional government in the world but that it also positions itself attractively in the world economy.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the tourist attractions of the Western Cape are nothing without the people of the Western Cape. The people are the best ambassadors for the province. They must play their part to ensure that visitors keep returning and that the experience of these visitors will also encourage them to bring others to the province. The tourism industry is a key source for growth and jobs and the people of the Western Cape must realise and embrace this.

By working together we can all ensure that the benefits of tourism not only stimulate and encourage growth and development and job opportunities, but that these benefits also help to create the sustainable basis needed for the province to become the model province of good governance, development, growth and an example of our rich cultural diversity.
The MINISTER OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Mr Deputy Speaker, I thank all those who took part in the debate. Thank you, Chairperson, and your committee for the role you play and the speed with which you dealt with the Liquor Board.

You are preparing yourselves to be dealing with some legislation and changes in the coming year, so thank you for the work you are doing with that.

You highlighted energy as a risk. You are absolutely correct; it is one of the major risks our economy is facing in the future. We are already seeing from the numbers now in the economic uptake that even Madupi and Kosile are not going to be sufficient by 2018. It is a major risk in our economy and we are aware of it and we will be working as hard as we can to mitigate that risk.

I know the hon Ozinsky didn’t take part in the debate, but while a member was speaking he interjected so I had to make a note. He was making a whole lot of noise about manganese going to Coega. It is very interesting that the political decision to send manganese to Coega means it costs R850 per ton versus R400 if it went to Saldhana. One wonders if that political decision is going to allow that market to be sustainable in the long run.

Mr M OZINSKY: [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER: That is correct. It is called a symmetrical approach to the economy as opposed to an asymmetrical approach, in other words, focusing on the areas that can grow, and we see the relics of the approach of the ANC lying scattered all around the country.

The hon member also spoke about tourism and the festivals. Obviously the festivals and our strategy of promoting and funding festivals and events are a major part of the economy of this region. And perhaps we must also recognise that at the moment we have a major event, the Cape Epic, which is a world-renowned and probably one of the toughest mountain bike cycle races in the world and we are getting global coverage from this great event. We have the KKNK happening very soon as, well as the Two Oceans Marathon.

He also spoke about the Liquor Act and I thank him very much for the role that he played. You mentioned the ale and you know that that is something I talk about on a regular basis. I believe that this ale that’s manufactured in the province because of a loophole in the law, where sometimes five litres of ale will cost as much as a litre of water and can contain sometimes up to 11% alcohol, is solely manufactured to keep the alcoholics of the province alcoholics. It is really terrible stuff and we will do what we can to eradicate this from our province because it is horrendous stuff.

There was also another interjection and I’m sorry that I didn’t note these interjections and how they came about. However, it had to do with job creation and it’s quite interesting when the President made his State of the Nation Address earlier this year he quoted job creation in 2011 as 365 000 jobs created. He used the Quarterly Labour Force Survey for this, but just after he made this statement in his speech, the Statistics SA Quarterly Employment Survey came out with a very different number: 130 000 jobs. It’s quite interesting to see the difference in the number of jobs stated by the ANC.
The hon Bevu spoke about the Africa strategy and she was absolutely correct. We’ve spoken about some of the statistics of airline arrivals at Cape Town International Airport which are really great.

What is really encouraging is that there is a 26% increase year-on-year of the airlift into Africa and that exactly fits the strategy that you are talking about.

At the moment as we speak, Wesgro is in Ghana. I was part of a delegation to Angola, we hosted the President of Mozambique at the end of last year and we will continue to focus on the Africa strategy because it is the correct strategy. We will then also take that strategy to the world when we speak to people about our offering in this region of Africa and tell them that they can also use our economy and our region as a stepping stone for trading into Africa.

You also spoke about the textile industry. I agree with you and I think that is why we are seeing the increasing numbers. It is because of the niche markets and because we are moving into more fashionable items. We will continue to look at how we can reskill our labour force and how we can become more competitive.

However, where I don’t agree with you is when you say the DA continually mocks the poor and the unemployed. I think that is totally incorrect. The 23% unemployment rate in our province is a number that I use on every single platform that I can. To every business I speak to I keep on telling them that that is a major risk that should be highlighted on their bottom line in their management meetings. That 23% unemployment rate is unacceptable and that’s the number that keeps me awake at night. That is the number that we should be focusing on because then we will start to have a real impact on the poor. So I can assure you that that is where we do focus.

Now we move on to the hon Beerwinkel. The hon member Beerwinkel made a couple of statements. I think what she needs to judge us on and to measure us by are the real numbers and that’s growth, the GDP, of the region. Have a look at whether that changes. You sow doom and gloom going forward and say that now that the DA is in control in this province, we are going to disintegrate and fall to pieces.

You must have a look at the unemployment number and whether there are changes in that unemployment number, and you must look at the GDP growth rate. Those are two very high-level numbers and the only two you need to look at. You don’t have to worry about anything else. Have a look at those two over time and see what is happening. If you have more time you can drill down but obviously, listening to your speech, I don’t know if you have that much time.

You started off by talking about Cape Town Routes Unlimited and that this was an ANC economic innovation. Well, that shows us how much you know about CTRU and where it comes from. It comes from the JMI process – it’s a pity the hon Witbooi isn’t here – which started in the time of Hennie Bester.
It was carried on by Leon Markovitz and it was then seen through by the hon Gelderblom when the hon Witbooi was there. So you can’t come here and say it’s an ANC innovation. You need to have your facts right when you come to the House.

You spoke about how I have jumped in and intervened in this process of CTRU and Wesgro. That shows how much you know about how Wesgro and CTRU are run. Both of them have boards that run their organisations.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Oh, come on, please! You have power over those boards.

†The MINISTER: That’s the kind of question you should be asking in the standing committee. You should be asking me about the process and how this came about. First of all, I received a letter from the board to say that in the interests of going forward in the economy etc, etc, they would like to make a suggestion to me that we take CTRU and place it in Wesgro. [Interjections.]

That is how it started. Then we had to get a legal opinion to see if this could take place. The next thing I did was to call a meeting between the chairpersons of both the CTRU and Wesgro boards, as well as the CEOs. I told them that this had been put to me and asked if they would take it back to their respective boards to see if it was acceptable. That is what started this process that we are busy with.

Then there is another point where you had inaccuracies. You spoke about the CEOs of the two organisations and cadre deployment. Now I don’t actually take into account what political party any of the officials in my department belong to, have belonged to or have ever been involved in. Generally I actually really don’t care. [Interjections.]

However, when you talk about the CEO being a cadre deployment, I must say I know a little bit about his political background, because in the last election, when we won in this province and took it from the ANC, I noticed he was on a list to go to Parliament for another political party. So I don’t know where you came up with that cadre deployment idea, and that’s another fact that you need to get straight.

The next thing the hon Beerwinkel spoke about was an issue that was raised by the AG and that was to do with the film studio. You said “a company that Wesgro has shares in”. That is actually the Cape Town Film Studio. That is the company that you were talking about. Obviously between the purchase of the shares and the growth that is involved in the beginning, before something is built, you might get an escalation in value immediately. You first have to build it so that you see a drop in shares.

However, you will also know, whether on this side of the House or on that side, I’ve always said that I did not think that it was correct that one of our entities should own shares in a company. I still don’t. I was at a board meeting of Wesgro the other day and I still conveyed that to them.
I will continually convey that to them and I will say again that when the share value, as this business grows – which it will do and it’s showing very good promise – and as our shares reach parity with the price we paid for them, I will suggest that they sell them and put the money into skills development or any other programme that can grow our economy. [Interjections.]

As for the question you raised about the audit outcomes, I think those are the kinds of questions you should be asking in Scopa.

†Mr M OZINSKY: We asked them. You were here, but you were too scared to answer.

†The MINISTER: I’m not scared at all. But you see, you must ask these questions ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! [Interjections.]

The MINISTER: The next thing I’m going to ask is that the hon member accepts some of the invitations I send out and actually comes to one of the EDP meetings, because you are continually saying that this EDP process is going to be for big business, but it’s about the whole economy. Come along to one of the EDP processes and listen to what happens.

Come to the launch on 26 April 2012. Put that in your diary right now. I’m offering you a direct invitation right now: Come to the launch on 6 April and come and see what happens at this CEOs’ forum.

You then say “Don’t fix it if it ain’t broke”. Well, quite frankly, South Africa has one of the highest unemployment rates in the world.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: And you are creating some more.

†The MINISTER: So we cannot leave it and just continue; we have to do things differently. We have to fix it. [Interjections.] Don’t fix it if it ain’t broke? I promise you, with one of the highest unemployment rates in the world, it is broke! It is broken. We cannot accept that that kind of unemployment rate is acceptable. [Interjections.] It is totally unacceptable.

We have to do other things and we have to do them differently because we have to create jobs. You are so worried about the the linkages between CTRU and Wesgro, but have a look at the outcome. You keep on saying that I do not recognise anything to do with CTRU. If you were at yesterday’s tourism event where tourism came together, South African tourism, both provincial and local operators, that’s exactly what I did.

I commended the work that the CEO has done and the leadership role that he is playing in the working groups that the two organisations have put together. They have created a working group for this process of transition. The second thing you speak about is the legislation. Obviously the legislation comes into account and that is why we said to you in the standing committee that there will be a process of changing or recalling the legislation on CTRU.
That will now happen during this year. That’s why you still see it in the line items in the budget because until that legislation is no longer there we have to continue with this process.

I now move on to the hon member Figlan who spoke about tourism, especially heritage and cultural tourism. That was also part of yesterday’s event, how we really need to be focused in the tourism space on heritage and cultural tourism. In this province that is a rich resource that has not been exploited or commercialised sufficiently.

I think there is huge opportunity in creating a new and viable tourism economy around heritage tourism space. Two weeks ago we launched a national plan between the Department of Culture and the Department of Tourism. It was launched at Lilies leaf two weeks ago and again yesterday we continued that process between the departments here in the province.

We will continue to push this through because I do believe it’s a niche space that is underutilised. This department has been working on this project for a while and now we will start to get some good traction on it and create some new spaces for the economy to grow in.

With that I thank everyone who took part in the debate.

I see many, many members of the department in the gallery and once again thank you very much for the long hours, dedication and all that you do for the economy and growth and to change the unemployment rate in the province. I thank you all very much. [Applause.]

Debate concluded.

RULING

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Before we adjourn, I need to make the following ruling relating to something that happened on Monday. I am doing it now because the hon Skwatsha is back in the House.

During the debate on Monday, 26 March 2012, the hon member Skwatsha said in reference to a former member of this House that that former member was corrupt. A point of order was raised as to whether such a remark, which, if it had been made in respect of a current member of this House would undoubtedly have been unparliamentary, was in fact unparliamentary when made in respect of former members.

I have consulted various parliamentary sources relating to freedom of speech in the House and could find nothing to indicate that a former member of the House had the same protection as a current member. In other words, it would be in order, strictly in terms of being unparliamentary or not, to say that a former member is corrupt.

However, it has long been accepted that members have a positive duty not to abuse the privilege of freedom of speech and to temper their utterances in debate so as to conform to the parliamentary standards of propriety. This applies to every member under all circumstances, whether the reference is to persons outside parliament, to fellow members or to members of another House.
Although I therefore cannot rule the remark of the hon member Skwatsha to be unparliamentary, I need again to call on all members to temper their references to former members and not to abuse their right to freedom of speech in the House, especially where such statements relate to unsubstantiated allegations of misconduct. Thank you. That is the end of the ruling.

The House adjourned at 17:35.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

The House met at 14:15.

The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS—see p. 5758

ANNOUNCEMENT

(New member)

†The SPEAKER: Order! Hon members, I have to inform you that the hon member Grant Haskin has been sworn in this afternoon in the Speaker’s boardroom as a Member of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament. I want to welcome the hon member on behalf of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.

HON MEMBERS: Hear, hear!

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL [B 3—2012]

(Debate on Vote 14 – Local Government)

†The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Mr Speaker, hon Premier of the Western Cape, Provincial Cabinet Colleagues, Members of the Provincial Legislature, executive mayors, municipal managers, partners in local government, invited guests, ladies and gentlemen, the theme of my budget speech is “The road to a better future”.

I would like to present to the House today two roads that lead to the future. The one road is a wide and easy one that leads to disappointment. The other road, the more difficult one, is the one that will take us to our destination.

The easy road is the road of quick fixes and flashy launches. It is the road where decisions are taken for short-term results that get lots of attention. The harder road is the one that will lead us to success. It is the road where we make sacrifices today so that we can achieve our aims tomorrow. It is the road of good governance, sound administration, thorough planning, and meaningful communication. Without these there can be no improvement in municipal service delivery. Mr Speaker, it is the road we must choose because it is the right one.

Let me give an example. It is very easy, with all the pressure that comes from the people who elected us, to satisfy their needs in ways that are easy to see. It is tough to say “We must rather invest in our sewerage works or bulk infrastructure even though few people will see it, but it is the right thing to do.” These are the tough choices that we must make.

In her State of the Province Address, the Premier said that we must join in the fight against poverty. My department will contribute to this by making sure that municipalities are doing their job and that people have access to government services. However, it is a long road and a tough road and there are no shortcuts.
The Premier also said that we cannot walk this road alone. We must help each other clear obstacles out of the way and we must encourage each other along the way. It is better, and it is necessary, that we walk this road together.

**Functional municipalities**

Mr Speaker, we must make the tough choices if we want our municipalities to work. We need compliance to legislation, a zero tolerance approach to corruption and robust infrastructure.

*Some municipalities may think that these choices are not so important, but without it our municipalities are on the road to nowhere. To date, three municipalities have received qualified audit opinions and with four other municipalities, the audits have not been completed yet because the annual financial statements were not submitted or were submitted very late. To abide by the needs of their residents, these municipalities have to comply with the basic principles of good administration requirements.*

On this road we are travelling, we must each take responsibility to make the right decisions. The most important decision a board can make is the appointment of their municipal manager.

Since the Amendment Act on Local Government: Municipal Systems came into force on 5 July 2011, I have been encouraging councils to make the right decisions. My officials have been sent to oversee each interview process and report back to me and the national Minister of Cooperative Governance on each appointment. Mr Speaker, I can only tell the national Minister whether the right processes were followed during appointments and whether the candidate appointed has the minimum qualifications.

The council decides who the most appropriate person is for the job. The most appropriate person is someone who is competent and who will stand up to the council and say that a decision is illegal. It takes wisdom to appoint the right person.

†I am pleased to report that out of our 30 municipalities, 17 have already appointed municipal managers to five-year terms. This is a great contribution to the stability of those municipalities. However, we will only be able to say that we have succeeded when changes in political leadership in a municipality do not automatically lead to changes in municipal managers.

Councils are also in the process of appointing executive managers who report to the municipal manager. I am also sending my officials to every one of these interviews, and I am confident that councils will appoint managers who can do the job. With good senior managers in place a council can then focus on making sure that the key pillars are in place, namely good governance, effective administration, sound planning and continuous communication with residents.

**Sound governance, sound administration**

Many municipalities still do not have one set of by-laws for all the towns that previously had separate councils. My department will be assisting these municipalities to develop a municipal code that contains one coherent set of by-laws.
We will also help municipalities to provide a checklist that will list the key laws and regulations with which municipalities must comply. This compliance model will help municipalities to monitor if they are complying with the more than one hundred laws that apply to them.

Fraud and corruption can undermine all of the gains that we have made under democracy. We will support municipalities to raise awareness around fraud and corruption and to put proper systems in place to prevent them. My department will be working closely with the Hanns Seidel Foundation to create awareness about the protection that the law gives to whistle-blowers.

Some councils may think that developing a municipal code, adopting and enforcing by-laws, complying with legislation and raising awareness of fraud are not so important. However, this is the difficult road I am talking about. We must pay attention to the details that contribute to a sound, effective administration.

Good administration is also needed with assessing and collecting property rates. If a municipality makes a mistake in interpreting the Municipal Property Rates Act, it can pay a very high price when it is legally challenged. I want to protect municipalities from this, and so I have asked my department to produce a user-friendly property rates guide for municipalities. I am proud to say that this has been completed and that it provides a detailed, accessible manual that will guide municipalities through all the legal requirements.

*A Property Tax focus group was set up by my team and will meet on a quarterly basis. The purpose of the focus group, which consists mainly of municipal officials with knowledge of property tax, is to discuss general problems, identify solutions and suggest training activities. The first meeting was held in February 2012 and was well attended and enthusiastically supported by all role-players.

†In the past year my department’s contribution to establishing sound governance and administration has been significant. We provided a 24/7 helpdesk to support councils before and during their first council meetings, and sent our senior managers to attend them. We have given legal advice on an ongoing basis to all municipalities on a range of council issues.

We have rolled out three phases of councillor training. In the first phase we assisted Salga in the roll-out of their councillor induction course. In the second phase we provided training to all councillors in areas such as oversight, delegations, rules of order and procurement.

*We are now in the third phase, during which in-depth training is provided on budgets, financial and spatial planning, housing and emergency management services. Council members need to know what to do and what they are not allowed to do, and this training provides an excellent basis in this regard.

Mr Speaker, we must have procedure in our councils. There have been many council meetings over the past year that resulted in chaos. My department will finalise a standard regulation on the rules of procedure in councils, which will describe the conduct of councillors and which will result in violations if councillors do not follow the rules. We will assist municipalities to adapt these to their specific needs and then implement them.
We endorsed the Western Cape Privileges and Immunities of Councillors Act on 13 December 2011. This Act not only points out privileges and immunities to council members, it also sends the message that there may be cases where the unlawful decisions of council members will not enjoy protection. Workshops about this new legislation will be offered by the department.

There are times when a council chooses the easy way. Managers are appointed who are not able to do the job and will not stand in the way of illegal decisions. I have often voiced my frustration with the limited powers that I as provincial Minister have to intervene effectively before a situation deteriorates to the point where the residents suffer. With the Constitution as a basis, my department will draft legislation that clearly spells out what actions can be taken in these situations. It is time to put a stop to this blatant disregard of the law by some councils.

Sound planning

†The second pillar of a functional municipality is sound planning. If we look at the failures of municipalities over the past ten years, it is because of either poor governance or poor planning.

A municipality's integrated development plan (IDP) is the "super plan" that builds on many other plans like the Comprehensive Municipal Infrastructure Plan, Integrated Transport Plan and Disaster Management Plan.

Many IDPs are improving on their strategies, but are weak on implementation. My department has made huge strides in this area over the past two years. We have put 17 learners through the six sessions of another IDP learnership. We have obtained R10 million for five municipalities to implement catalytic projects that support their IDPs.

The most exciting development has been the active participation of provincial and national departments in municipal IDP processes. Provincial departments assessed municipal IDPs together and their assessments were shared with municipalities. Provincial and national departments and state-owned enterprises participated in the IDP indabas, where all three spheres of government shared their budgets and plans for the coming year in every district.

I am pleased that sector departments in the Western Cape are rallying around integrated development planning. As one municipal manager recently said, "This year's IDP indaba has instilled in me the confidence that provincial departments have actually read our IDPs."

*This work will be pursued in more depth and expanded over the following year. We invite more national departments and institutions under state ownership to participate in the assessment and IDP indaba processes, and we will improve the quality of input from all participants. Preliminary IDPs will be analysed and not the final IDPs as in the past. This will ensure that municipalities can update comments before adopting final IDPs.

Good planning is needed in municipal infrastructure.
Mr Speaker, the province has maintained its position as the best performer on the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) expenditure in the country, which was 99.85% for the financial year 2010/2011. This represents 185 projects worth R311 million that are underway or have been completed. This performance is due to the fact that our engineers visit and offer their assistance to every municipality that is struggling to spend its MIG funds.

Mr Speaker, I told you of our water meter programme last year. During the past two years, we have assisted municipalities to identify more than 1 000 water meters that were either not working properly or that were not connected to the financial system. These municipalities could not load these meters onto their financial management systems and could not collect the revenues owed to them. Together with Provincial Treasury, we provide intensive assistance to four municipalities to increase their income during the coming year.

We have completed training of the water process controllers and it was very successful. Together with the Development Bank of Southern Africa and the University of Stellenbosch, 149 people successfully completed the eight module course. That means there are 149 people who now have more skills and can manage water and waste water treatment works. In the coming year, in collaboration with the Local Government Seta and the Development Bank of Southern Africa, we will be training 29 electrical artisans in various modules in preparation for their practical trade tests.

†My department will also provide direct technical support to municipalities. We have appointed more engineers and also have four highly experienced engineers from the Development Bank of Southern Africa. They will spend almost all their time assisting municipal officials with planning and technical advice.

Disaster planning is one of the most neglected areas in government, which is why the Provincial Disaster Management Centre has focused on this. In the past year we assisted the provincial Department of Health and the Airports Company of South Africa to develop disaster management plans for the hazards for which they are responsible. We also assisted six municipalities to compile their IDP Disaster Management Chapters, which identify the key risks in the municipalities and the measures that must be taken to reduce these risks.

Mr Speaker, I am very pleased to announce that our long-awaited video wall has been installed at the Provincial Disaster Management Centre. At minimal cost the centre now has a high-tech system that receives data and information from various sources, such as Working on Fire, and can feed this into its databank and display it on our screens. This video wall will enhance the effective co-ordination of disasters as well as special events such as the Argus Cycle Tour and Two Oceans Marathon.

Good planning is also the basis for effective fire-fighting. Before a fire starts we must find out where it is mostly likely to start and place our airplanes at the closest airfield. We must have an incident command system that identifies the role of every stakeholder involved, and there are many stakeholders, namely Cape Nature, Working on Fire, the district municipalities, the Metro and the SA National Defence Force. Before the fire season began we developed such a joint plan with our stakeholders.
With the use of 24 aircraft provided by national government for our fire season, the plan was effective. We had 78 fires, big fires, 14 of them really serious, and I am pleased that our thorough planning and excellent partnerships resulted in limiting the loss of life and damage to property. I would like to thank national government for its contribution in walking this road with us. Like the Premier, I would like to salute the two fallen heroes of the last fire fighting season, namely Callie Muller and Terry Joubert.

Mr Speaker, we cannot go wrong if we get all of this planning right. Councils often don't want to spend money on such things because it does not make headlines. However, if they don't, they will face a huge problem in the future.

Ongoing communication

*Mr Speaker, my team was hard at work to ensure that municipalities and residents constantly talk to each other. We rolled out training for almost all ward committees in the Overberg and Central Karoo District and will complete three other districts in the next few months. We distributed the Ward Committee Accountable and Communications Model to all municipalities and discussed the model with officials and councillors in workshops.

We helped six municipalities to improve or develop their communication strategies and implementation plans. We are also finalising a survey of public participation and have given feedback of the results to the six municipalities that had been identified in the previous year. Development is a difficult road when there are not enough resources and we need to talk to each other all the time to understand each other's needs and limitations.

Beating poverty

†Mr Speaker, I believe that the biggest challenges our country faces are poverty and inequality. People who are poor and have no job and have no real prospects of ever getting a job, lose hope, and when people lose hope, they have nothing to lose. We must make sure that we never end up in a place where our people have given up hope.

*The number of mobile Thusong centres has doubled over the past year. These centres deliver a number of government services over several days in one rural location. Mr Speaker, it would take me a long time to name all the government partners who are walking this road with us, but I would like to thank Sassa, the national Departments of Interior and Labour, and the provincial Department of Social Development for their cooperation.

We have doubled the mobile Thusong centres from 12 to 24 and we have increased the number of people reached from 12000 to 31707. We have had more national departments and agencies join the Mobile Thusong programme than ever before – for example Statistics South Africa, SARS and the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA), which are some of the agencies that joined us.

I invite all the people in this House to come to our next Mobile Thusong centre so that you can see how this one-stop mobile shop provides services.
Because people have access to government services, they have access to programmes that can help them out of poverty.

We went to a lot of effort to ensure that our Thusong centres are effective. A provincial sustainability plan that informed municipalities how to manage their centres financially and administratively, was finalised. Assistance is being offered to 14 municipalities to conclude lease agreements with government departments. Up to now, a major obstacle has been the funding for maintenance of the centres.

Twenty-five Thusong managers completed two blocks of the accredited Junior Executive Development Program at Kromme Rhee.

†Our goal is to have one fixed Thusong Centre in every local municipality, and we are on track. The Robertson, Prince Albert and Paarl East Centres are almost completed, and construction on the centre in Mossel Bay will start next year. We are assisting Cape Agulhas, Kannaland and the Berg River Municipalities with the planning of their centres.

Our goal this year was to develop a Thusong location plan for each district. Mr Speaker, we have developed location plans for every district, and we will begin with implementation next year. What this means in practice is that by 2014, 85% of the residents of this province will have had access to a Thusong Zone, Centre, Satellite, Mobile or Extension Service. This means that we will reach our people at least once a year.

You know about our Community Development Worker (CDW) programme, but you may not be aware that the CDW programme is the reason that our Thusong Mobile Programme is so successful. The CDWs inform people that a mobile is coming and help to organise and manage the mobile while it is under way. This is in addition to the continuous work that CDWs are doing through their information workshops, community projects and government service referrals. A large part of the services that CDWs perform is to assist people to complete application forms for government departments. I am pleased to say that the CDW Programme is meeting or exceeding its Annual Performance Plan targets for this year.

In addition, Mr Speaker, I am making the Community Works Programme (CWP) one of the flagship programmes of the department. We have only three CWP sites in the Western Cape right now which each provide up to 1 000 jobs to unemployed people for two days a week for a year. Next year this will increase to eight sites, which will provide employment to up to 8 000 people.

The sites in the Western Cape will focus on two goals, which are to improve our schools through maintenance programmes and prevent informal settlement fires. The exciting thing about this programme is that it skills people and then lets them apply their new skill for the benefit of the community. After one year, they have a qualification and a job reference on their CV. This, Mr Speaker, will provide hope to 8 000 people and improve schools and informal settlements for many more.

Conclusion

Mr Speaker, I have only listed a few of the contributions of my Department in the past year, and there are many more. Our pool of expertise has provided performance management support to the Stellenbosch Municipality and the Langeberg Municipality, change management support to the Saldanha Bay Municipality and organisational design support to the Cape Winelands District, Drakenstein, Bitou and Prince Albert Municipalities.
Our CDW Programme supported many community projects, including a food garden and soup kitchen in De Doorns, a vegetable garden at a primary school, an initiative to start a honey-beekeeping business, a sewing project in Kliprand and 25 backyard chicken farm projects.

The CDWs also provided information sessions on Housing Consumer Education, teenage pregnancy, "Financial Smarts", the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, (Paja), and many other topics. A total of three hundred such sessions were facilitated across the province and reached more than 4 000 people. Eleven students have been given municipal bursaries and have started their studies.

We have developed a user-friendly municipal infrastructure financing guideline, and have completed financial assessments of five municipalities that need to finance large bulk infrastructure projects.

We conducted disaster assessments of avian influenza and of the floods that took place in Eden District in June 2011, and conducted a detailed debriefing on the Eden/Central Karoo drought of 2009-11.

We have trained 25 people in urban search and rescue operations, and they can be deployed elsewhere in South Africa if the need arises. We assessed the Disaster Management Plans of 15 municipalities. Our total budget that will be spent is approximately R155 million.

*Mr Speaker, allow me to thank my department, Dr Hildegarde Fast and her team. Allow me to also thank our families for their sacrifices while we work long hours to serve the community of the Western Cape.

†Mr Speaker, I believe we all want the same thing. We all want to live lives that we value. We all want to live in a country of peace and prosperity. However, we cannot take shortcuts if we want to get there. We must choose the road of sacrifice, responsibility and old-fashioned hard work. I ask all of you in the House today to walk this road with me.

†Mr J JVISSER: Mr Speaker, as Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Local Government in the Western Cape Parliament, I would like to congratulate the Minister of Local Government, hon Anton Bredell, on the budget allocation tabled by his department before the Western Cape Provincial Parliament here today.

We are grateful that the department's 2012/2013 budget has been properly adjusted. Last year I commented on the insufficient budget the department had received with which it had to perform a mammoth task and for which it received little or no recognition.

The Western Cape local government has received an increase of 19.4%, or R25 million, in its 2011 budget of R155 million. The relatively small budget is only 0.04% of the total amount allocated by the Western Cape Province to its various departments. This small department— and I think it is the third smallest department, consisting of only 351 personnel – tackles its major task with rigour and zest.

It has to implement and execute no less than 30 local government Acts and establish and support good local government municipalities.
There are 30 municipalities, which include the Metropole, 24 B municipalities and 25 C municipalities in the Western Cape.

Municipalities, as the Minister said, are responsible for the delivery of basic services to people. Those services are important for a dignified life. Municipalities must establish ward committees to assist them to establish integrated development plans. The department assists municipalities, in turn, with their responsibility to devise budgets which speak to the needs of people. The department has a wide and varied terrain to cover in order to implement and monitor the functions of local government. We await the best practice model for ward committees to be rolled out to municipalities.

As the Minister said, at least one Thusong Centre per municipality has to be established and developed to its full capacity. The main purpose of these Thusong Centres is to enhance the process and function of service delivery as closely as possible to those who need it. Even more Mobile Thusong Centres are already operative and the Minister has invited you all to visit one. It is, however, a pity that the national departments, who had committed themselves to participating, are slow to co-operate.

Disaster management centres have to be established and maintained and kept on a state of alert as the Western Cape is plagued by flooding of low-lying areas during the rainy months and the destruction by fires, fuelled by the southeaster, during the dry summer season. The department helps municipalities to co-ordinate their disaster risk management by helping them to put together appropriate plans to be able to execute the plans.

Disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, hailstorms, extreme cold, extreme heat, extreme volcanic activity and extreme droughts are not so evident in the Western Cape, but there is a risk of that happening. It cannot be prevented, but the aftermath could be devastating and should be managed and properly taken care of.

One of the areas where municipalities struggle is with the maintenance of existing infrastructure, which is in a very poor condition in most municipalities, as well as the creation of new infrastructure that is necessary for new development. Mass Infrastructure Grants are available to municipalities for this purpose and it is important for the hon Minister and his department to see to it that these funds are available, spread evenly and that municipalities spend the funds they receive where they are needed.

I also want to congratulate the hon Minister and his department on the initiative of the property rates guidelines. We welcome that and also the rules of order by-law that was advertised.

The sole responsibility of the department is to ensure the proper functioning of municipalities in the Western Cape.

The department executes its task against the backdrop of a nearly non-functioning national Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs, the main purpose of which is to support the provincial departments yet it offers little or no help at all.
The legacy the ANC left in the municipalities they governed, or are still governing, in the Western Cape is one of poor management and noncompliance with the laws. [Interjections.] Yes, just look.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Are you talking nonsense again?

†Mr J J VISSER: No, I'm telling you the truth.

*Mr P UYS: Where's Bokkie?

†Mr J J VISSER: The struggle now is to get all 13 municipalities in the Western Cape to the level where they are able to adhere to all legislation and principles of good governance and are able to spend money wisely and deliver good, sound services.

Political instability and coalition government in some municipalities contributed to the problem of bad governance. We therefore salute this small department, which is able to perform such a mammoth task on such a small budget, for supporting municipalities. This department can only achieve its set goals by motivating and empowering officials to work better together as a team in order to have greater outputs as a department and be able to create an open opportunity society for all in local government.

The DA-led government in the Western Cape can indeed achieve its set goal of being the best provincial government in the world when this department helps all municipalities to fulfil their functions and also work better together. Thank you Mr Speaker.

†Mr M NCEDANA: Mr Speaker, the core responsibilities of municipalities are to provide a democratic, accountable government to the people; provide services to the communities in a sustainable manner; promote social economic development; and encourage the involvement of the community. Mr Speaker, as long as these objectives are not achieved by municipalities we will continue to see protests about service delivery in our communities.

One of the biggest challenges faced by the municipalities and the Department of Local Government is that the leadership does not work to achieve these objectives. In fact, in many respects leadership's desperation to cling to power leads to corruption, neglect of the core duties of the municipality and, in the main, appointing people with no capacity.

As we have seen in the report from the Auditor-General, one of the biggest challenges faced by municipalities of the Western Cape is that of a lack of capacity, or no capacity at all, in the people that hold strategic positions at managerial levels.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

Mr M NCEDANA: This, Mr Speaker, can only be corrected if we have a department of local government that will focus on making sure that the capacity is indeed improved, without playing politics.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!
Mr M NCEDANA: One of the other challenges that are faced at a municipal level is the community development workers, the people who are appointed to be a bridge between all spheres of government and the communities. To date the system functions well and they are doing their work, but the frustration is that the issues that are raised are not carried to the communities and/or resolved. The department must look into how to correct the situation because its objective is to make sure that complaints are addressed and service delivery challenges are indeed improved.

One of the problems that we are faced with in the Western Cape municipalities is that many of the municipalities do not align their budget with the IDP. You will find that communities are asked to become involved in the IDP and it is approved, but the budget does not speak to the issues raised during the IDP processes.

I am not sure whether the Minister is doing something in this regard. This is a problem in all the municipalities and not only now. It goes back a long way, irrespective of whether it is the DA or ANC governing the municipality. It is a challenge that we are faced with.

Ward committees and community involvement are some of the issues that were identified as the core responsibilities of municipalities. Ward committees in many municipalities are dysfunctional and exist in name only. One of the challenges faced by the ward committees is that they are chaired by councillors. The councillor chairing the ward committee then becomes the referee and the player.

This is a challenge, Mr Speaker, and it needs to be addressed in order to improve service delivery to our communities. I know of a councillor in whose ward there is a development and who is employing the people for that project. Now a councillor is a politician and it can’t be correct that he is responsible for employing the people on any project that takes place in his ward.

Mr Speaker, I think the ward committees were created to facilitate and manage development in their particular communities. In order for all of us to be effective we must not politicise service delivery challenges. We continue to face unacceptable conditions, particularly in poor communities. Roads are collapsing, we see more and more potholes and rubble is not removed. The clinic in Stellenbosch is a case in point and to date that problem has not been fully corrected.

Mr Speaker, in thanking you and the Minister for the work you are doing I want to say that a big challenge awaits us. [Time expired.]

†Mr P UYS: Thank you to the MEC. I think you started off wrongly because you were supposed to congratulate the ANC with their major victory in the Saldanha Bay municipality. The DA votes are down and we are grateful that some sanity has been restored there.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: You won your own ward.

†Mr P UYS: Mr Speaker, I want to say to the mayors, deputy mayors, Speakers, councillors and municipal managers present here today that it is a good thing that they have joined the debate and the discussion on this very important vote.
Local government is a sphere that is most crucial in accelerating service delivery, but also the most challenged sphere of government. The challenges include the delivery of basic services, political governance and the differentiated model that we see of local government. Accountability must be enhanced and here the improvement and strengthening of ward committees can go a long way to help.

Mr Speaker, in his budget speech the MEC referred to the integrated planning between the three spheres of government. I must say I agree, but we need a far more integrated co-operative governance system in which the three spheres of government work much more effectively together.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: You have it.

†Mr P UYS: We need to strengthen our municipalities and not erode their powers and their functions.

In the 2010/2011 financial year, Mr Speaker, the department’s budget was R110 million. In this financial year, 2012/2013, it is R155 million, an increase of R45 million. However, if you look at the departmental transfers to municipalities in 2010/2011, it was R14,6 million and now in 2012/2013 it is R13,5 million, of which R4,3 million goes to unspecified Thusong Centres. This is a decrease while the budget increased by R45 million.

Of the R10,3 million allocated to Thusong Centres in this financial year – and I’m referring to the capital – R4,3 million goes to other specified Thusongs. We don’t know where that will go to, most probably to some DA municipalities. Of that amount R2 million goes to the Berg River Municipality and R2,5 million to the Theewaterskloof Municipality, both DA municipalities, while the R2 million allocated to the Cederberg Municipality last year was taken away. [Interjections.] You don’t have to guess who’s controlling the Cederberg Municipality – the ANC.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Shame on you.

†Mr P UYS: Mr Speaker, as we see Thusong Centres being built, it’s not sustainable because it is being left to the municipalities to run and operate them and they don’t have the money to do so. Also, there is no money coming from the MEC and the department for them to be able to do that.

With the reduction in transfers to municipalities it is very clear that the MEC and the DA are more and more directly controlling municipalities. You don’t give municipalities financial support and they then end up functioning as a sphere of government. You send in your hand-picked DA team to do specific things which you tell them to do in municipalities – and that is what has happened.

You dictate when, where and what must happen, undermining local government and its elected leadership. Mr Speaker, municipalities are being eroded to try and get more direct control over municipalities. The message to municipalities is clear: Toe the DA line or you will get no help.

The MEC and the department are not focusing on roles and responsibilities that will capacitate local government development. When national departments – and we will call this debate in the House – send in a team to help Western Cape municipalities, the MEC and the department resist this, even instructing municipalities not to work with the national government team sent to support them. [Interjections.]
MEC, you say you and your department want to be the first port of call to municipalities. How can that be when there is no trust between you and the municipalities? Mr Speaker, I must say that the level of trust in local government has declined sharply.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: In your days.

†Mr P UYS: Much of this stems from poor communication with communities, lack of transparency and weak and ineffective ward committees. We have seen a backlog in the city of Cape Town because it did not want to accept ward committees. Then it started ward forums and because of that there is still a very slow uptake happening in terms of the ward committees.

The real reason behind this is that the DA doesn’t really want community involvement and they don’t want real public participation. We have to ensure greater community participation through ward committees and IDP forums, Mr Speaker. Greater acceptance and understanding by the MEC and the education of councillors and officials and the community on the importance of ward committees, and the value of community participation, are required.

MEC, in your 2012/2013 targets you state that you want to support only 17 municipalities with ward committee training and capacity building. That’s too few. In an incremental manner municipalities should delegate some limited powers to ward committees while ward committees should take responsibility for ward development plans by attaching CDWs to each ward committee. School governing bodies, community policing forums and health forums should be incorporated into ward committees, or at least have a more structured relationship with ward committees.

Mr Speaker, the CDW programme is underfunded, and we have mentioned this to the MEC on many occasions, and it is not taking us forward. Currently the department employs 170 CDWs. In addition the department appointed 10 CDW supervisors. Previously we had 200 CDWs. Now an additional 10 CDWs must still be added as supervisors to the number of CDWs and where must that money come from? It will be from a decrease in the number of CDWs in our communities and in our wards.

I am not arguing that supervisors are not important ... [Interjections.] ... but the revised budget of 2011/2012 was R3,2 million and if you look at this financial year, it’s also R3,2 million. I think there should be a target and an implementation programme to get one CDW at each of our ward committees. Of that R45 million increase, R3 million could easily have been allocated to CDWs to double the number of CDWs to well over 300.

What is of major concern is that at the Langeberg and Swellendam Municipalities no allocation is made for CDWs and no agreement is in place. Why is it so difficult for MEC Bredell to call these DA municipalities to order? Also, Mr Speaker, the City of Cape Town refused to sign a memorandum of agreement with the province. In the transfer to local government there is no allocation for CDWs to the City. It looks like no MOA and no money and it looks good if you look at that, but it is not correct and can be very misleading.
What the DA province did do for the DA City of Cape Town was to transfer R971 000, not this year but two years ago. Now the City just uses the money as they wish and so far there is R671 000 left. How can you transfer operating costs to a municipality, just let them keep the kitty there and use it as they wish? We don't see it happening in any of the other municipalities. It is clear that the City does not take any notice of MEC Bredell. You transfer and they spend or whatever they want to do with the 32 CDWs that are being managed now from the provincial management side.

Looking at the way the DA government utilises CDWs, Mr Speaker, it is clear that their roles, function and management must be reviewed. At the City of Cape Town – the one municipality the MEC will never touch and he will never speak to it or do anything there – in the past month a security tender worth R350 million involving 22 contracts for guarding more than 1 000 sites was cancelled by the City of Cape Town because of the fraudulent and corrupt manner in which the contracts were dished out.

The Public Protector is already investigating a multimillion rand communication contract awarded to TBWA Hunt/Lascaris by the DA-led provincial government ... [Interjections.] ... and announced a probe into the sale of land owned by Naspers to the City for R106 million, but independently valued at R50 million. [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Minister Carlisle!

†Mr P UYS: Mr Speaker, the MEC and Premier ... [Interjections.] ... and it seems MEC Carlisle also, are saying nothing and not moving one finger to ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order!

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Chuck him out.

†Mr M OZINSKY: Throw him out.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: The second warning.

An HON MEMBER: You can’t do that.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Order, hon members!

†Mr P UYS: Mr Speaker, we will deal with hon Carlisle in that regard. His time will come. [Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Hear, hear!

Mr P UYS: In the 2011 financial year the City of Cape Town spent 71,5% of its capital budget, an under spending of R950 million in one year. In the 2011/2012 financial year the City again slashed its capital budget by more than R1 billion. [Interjections.] Over two years R2 billion of capital money was unspent and I have a long list of what could have been done with the money, starting with water and sanitation, in the City of Cape Town.
It’s not even 30 June yet. I don’t know what the next cut in the City will be. Irregular expenditure of at least R164 million has been uncovered in the City during the 2010/2011 financial year, with the City regressing from a clean bill of health to an audit outcome with various findings in the last financial year.

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: It’s a crying shame!

†Mr P UYS: In a report by the Auditor-General on the City of Cape Town dated 9 February 2012, the finding on procurement and contract management was damning: R33 million worth of contracts were not advertised for the full period. We can understand why they do that; it is so that some of their opponents and some of the other tenderers do not get the opportunity to tender. Then there was R36 million of no declaration of interest obtained, and so we can go on.

*Mr Speaker, the hon MEC also referred to the valuation process and I think that manual is long outstanding. What worries me is a company – and here I am talking about George – named Cape Data Values that was involved in what I would call a controversial valuation of 50 000 properties that took place in George. There were many errors there and they had to be given extra time to remedy these.

It seems to me that this company is moving through the Western Cape and I really want to appeal to the MEC today. One of his responsibilities is to provide guidance to municipalities when there are people working at municipalities who cannot do a decent job. In this regard, we also heard about the Swartland Municipality where they had to exceed well beyond the budgeted amount for tender valuation processes, and of course Theewaterskloof too.

Mr Johan Koegelenberg, Mr Henry McCombi and Mr Patrick Murray were three councillors in the Eden District Municipality. They appeared in court on charges of corruption and two of them are still DA councillors in the Eden District Municipality.

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: Oh, you lot are corrupt.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon McKenzie! Order!

*Mr P UYS: They tried to bribe a councillor and asked an official at the municipality to approach the councillor for money in exchange for voting for a DA candidate. There was a disciplinary hearing for these three and it was recommended to hon Bredell that they be fired and that they be unfit councillors.

We are still waiting for his response. Also very interesting, Mr Speaker, is that when the press enquired about this, it was the hon Minister Botha who responded, who is of course not the MEC of local government, although he would have liked to have been.[Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Hon Prins, order please!

*Mr P UYS: Perhaps the MEC should just tell us what is going on in the DA-controlled Stellenbosch Municipality, where Mr Dave Daniels, until recently head of the MEC’s department and a highly respected person, had to break his silence on the reasons for his resignation as municipal manager of the municipality of Stellenbosch. Mr Dave Daniels resigned earlier last month, a few months before his contract came to an end. And what does he say?
Daniels said he resigned because he did not want his professional reputation and personal integrity to be infected – and this is a very strong word – by working for the DA mayor, Conrad Sidego, who has no respect for people or for the law.

Mr Daniels also says the mayor should explain to the council why he conducts business in a secret and non-transparent manner. Mr Daniels also says that the mayor gives the staff direct and irrational orders. The mayor offers the council no strategic leadership and the mayor and mayoral committee make decisions in secrecy and then do not inform the council about it. He also goes on to say that the mayor interferes and tries to do the work of the municipal manager.

You know what a serious offense it is if somebody interferes with the administration. Daniels refused to give his approval for the mayor to stay in a hotel in Johannesburg for private business while he went to Durban for council business. So of course he got angry at him. Can you believe it? Mr Daniels said he informed the MEC about this, so he must not say he does not know anything about it. The question today is: What did he do about it?

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: Nothing.

*Mr P UYS: Mr Daniels adds that the council should take a serious look at the conduct and behaviour of the mayor. It could be argued that the mayor has violated the code of conduct for councillors. Mr Speaker, what will come of it? The Speaker of the municipality is not going to do anything, he's DA, and the MEC will not do anything about it, because he is DA, and so the mayor will simply just continue.

Mr Daniels was very concerned, however, and he said that he was going to bring this matter to the attention of the Auditor-General, the provincial and national Scopa and the national Minister, among others. He obviously brought it to the attention of MEC Bredell.

†Mr Speaker, we as the standing committee addressed the department and asked the department and the MEC for certain information, and I want to refer to the Barrett Survey. The department declined and said that the standing committee would not understand it. We then said if we will not understand your document, just come to the standing committee and explain to us what the outcome of this is.

Of course, they don't want to give us access to the outcome because the survey measures the personal values of the employees and the perceived and desired organisational values. MEC, what was the outcome in your department and what are you hiding?

*The MINISTER OF LOCA GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: You won’t understand it. You know nothing.[Interjections.]

†Mr P UYS: I don’t know what you’re hiding, because you’re not telling us.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: He’s hiding the Secrecy Bill.

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: He’s not hiding a brown envelope.
†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: What's in the brown envelope?

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Tell us.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon Brown and Minister Botha!

†Mr P UYS: Mr Speaker, the MEC didn’t want to say it’s section 106. You know he burnt his fingers terribly with section 139 when he tried to put the Overberg District Municipality under administration. You know what he wants to do now? He wants to take section 106 and try and initiate... [Inaudible.] ... legislation. You are going to lose. It is unconstitutional and you are not going to succeed. [Time expired.]

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: You want to airbrush around the subject.

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: There is no Brown in the brown envelope. You know that.

*Mr M C WALTERS: Mr Speaker, I would like to thank Minister Bredell for his review of the objectives in service delivery that was deployed by his department. With local government regularly coming under fire at a national level, the excellent work done by Minister Bredell and his department is commendable.

With a large proportion of municipalities in South Africa in a financial crisis, or on the verge of total collapse, local government in the Western Cape is going from strength to strength, despite what the hon Uys said.

*Mr P UYS: Only where you live.

*Mr M C WALTERS: Several successful programmes have already been launched that contribute towards improved service delivery and educating communities about how to benefit from services provided by municipalities. The Western Cape Department of Local Government is the only department that has fully exploited its budget for the past three years.

In addition, Minister Bredell also introduced measures to ensure that municipal budgets are utilised optimally and applied for service delivery. In cases where this has not happened, prompt action followed to identify problem areas and highlight corruption. The Minister devoted his speech to the road to a better future. We are on that road, better together.

The Department of Local Government also started to address the shortage of skills in municipalities this year. A bursary programme that aims to foster specific skills was launched by the Minister on 20 March 2012. Its purpose is to address the serious problems that exist throughout South Africa in municipalities in terms of specific skills.

Service suffers from severe pressure because expertise in areas such as civil, mechanical and electrical engineering is lacking. Proper knowledge of urban and regional planning and construction management also delays service delivery. This year, five municipalities are participating in this exchange programme, with thirteen bursary holders.
These bursaries target specific training in civil engineering, electrical engineering, urban and regional planning, construction management and mechanical engineering. The five municipalities participating in this will benefit from it and the expertise will result in better service delivery.

Mr Speaker, together with an improvement in expertise in the municipalities, the remarkable steps taken by the Provincial Parliament to improve local government must also be mentioned. Last year, the Western Cape Provincial Parliament became the first legislator in South Africa to form an oversight committee that also specifically look at the finances of municipalities.

The Standing Committee on Local Government, chaired by the hon Visser, is composed of members of various other oversight committees that have broad expertise on municipal financial affairs. This committee was established to have oversight over financial affairs in the Western Cape and to act as an early warning system in case a problem is detected in a municipality.

The aim is to prevent the department from only intervening when it is too late, and I think hon Uys has referred to such a case. It can then rather provide assistance to prevent a municipality from stumbling.

It will also be an important antipode for mismanagement and corruption in municipalities, as the committee will be able to observe this quickly and effectively. This step is another major step taken to ensure that local government in the Western Cape is managed on an excellent basis and that residents of the province benefit from it.

There are several issues that still need to be addressed. The legacy of apartheid and the ANC in the Western Cape still complicate the task, but the results obtained by Minister Bredell and his department cannot be explained away. The Western Cape has an excellent Department of Local Government.

We know that the department under the leadership of Minister Bredell will go from strength to strength, and they are busy putting norms and standards in place for peer departments elsewhere in our country. The department's budget is supported. I thank you, Mr Speaker.

*The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Mr Speaker, thank you very much to the hon Visser for his leadership as chairman of the standing committee and his oversight role. I appreciate it. The hon member has raised these issues: The integrity with which we must govern the ward committee systems, which is very important, and disaster management, which is a passion for all of us.

Disaster management is something we do not give much attention to until disaster strikes. We are particularly proud of those 25 persons who were trained, not only for their achievements, but also for the results and the comments we have received.

Over infrastructure, as you know, we have been fighting for a very long time and it is quite high on our agenda. We all realise that we cannot build this country without infrastructure.
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The property tax act is long overdue, as hon Uys has admitted. It is just a pity that he could never see this when he was the MEC, but we are busy with the process. This is a terribly complex document and this is now the programme and the plan that will have to be rolled out to take out municipalities by the hand...

*Mr P UYS: To protect [them].

*The MINISTER: ... especially to follow the step-by-step guide and understand the roles that are clarified therein between myself, national, the municipal manager and the valuator. The roles in this whole process represent a fairly complex field, and we will have to get it right otherwise we will have to defend it in the courts.

Mr Speaker, of course we can only achieve this if we work together and are better together, otherwise we will not achieve it. I will be walking a very easy road with the councils who want to cooperate with me. Those who do not want to cooperate with us should just go ahead and believe the false prophets, such as hon Uys, and then they must just bear the consequences.[Interjections.]

†Mr Speaker, I say thank you very much to the hon Ncedana. Thank you very much for your positive comments. I appreciate it. You touched on a couple of crucial points. You started off by quoting from the Constitution on the functions and powers within a municipality. You should also look at Schedules 4, Part B, and 5, Part B, as they break that down.

The core function of a municipality is obviously to provide water, sanitation, refuse removal and electricity. Add to that town planning, sewerage and storm water and then add that it’s definitely necessary to get to sustainability and to balance out the human factor, the environmental factor and social factor components. That is what we need in municipalities. That is the core of the municipality. It you don’t address that in your budget, your municipality will have a problem. So, you are spot-on about the fact that we find that in the Constitution.

There is a problem with leadership roles and corruption within municipalities and that is exactly why I’ve addressed those issues in my budget speech. That’s what the department is busy with: Assessing, helping and supporting municipalities. I’ve acknowledged the fact that the municipalities will appoint their municipal managers.

We monitor the process to help them and strengthen them to come to the right conclusion at the end of the day, but it is the prerogative of the municipality to appoint. Therefore we don’t interfere there. I will report on that to the national Minister.

To lose one or two court cases won’t divert me from my road. Our function and our responsibility is to see to it that we focus on local government in order to get it right because it is the only way in which we can serve the people of the province. And that’s our focus – to serve the people of the province.

The support is not based on a political level at all; we support all municipalities. This is how it always in life, if you try to fire somebody they will find a reason to say they are not guilty and blame the other party. We are there to monitor. There are many things that are wrong in municipalities and we need to rectify it and we need to join in as a team to fight that. I don’t expect hon Uys to understand that, but I will get to him.
As far as the CDW programme is concerned, nobody can convince me that community development can be wrong. If it is the people within the programme then we must change that. We are focused and we have a dedicated team there that is focusing on getting the discipline right from within. That is why we also have this oversight layer to help them, but obviously they work within the legislation.

One problem, hon Ncedana, that we do find within municipalities is that they also have their own community development workers. So a lot of the complaints we receive I pass on to the department but then we find it is not our CDW worker, but it’s within the municipality’s area of discipline and so forth. I still believe this programme does change the lives of people and it is important that we focus on that.

You are quite right about the IDP process and we need to acknowledge that it is the first time that the leadership in this province realises the importance of the IDP and it has set up a programme where we involve all state departments. That is because the IDP is not the responsibility of local government alone; it is three spheres of government working together.

We’ve pulled them all together and are discussing it. It is the second time we’ve done this and yes, again, we’ve made mistakes, but we will rectify them and build on that. It is obviously important to align the budget to the IDP, but then there is also another very important step and that is to align that to service delivery and the budget implementation plan, because at the end of the day if you don’t implement it you won’t be successful. So thank you for that.

I have a passion for ward committees because we need to communicate with our people and we have this model that we roll out. Again it’s up to the leadership within municipalities to accept that and if they don’t, we can’t enforce it or force it on them. So if hon Uys keeps playing politics with things like this we won’t succeed with these programmes in ANC councils because they will get a negative message from somebody.

As for the ward committees, hon Ncedana, the simple model here will be that the ward committee meeting must be the first meeting of the month and that must feed all the other meetings within the council. Therefore the feeding source of the council’s agenda will be the ward committee within the council. There are councils that have a best practices system and we are very proud of them and we will build on that.

Thank you again, hon Walters, for your input and your support. You also address the right topic and the right issues. Thank you for keeping us sharp through your oversight role.

*I want to apologise first of all to my staff and management team for their also receiving a bit of a swipe in a political debate. I am 100% convinced that the employees of Local Government do not play political games. They are not sent out to go and drive any political agenda. They know it and I know it and I think it is reprehensible to make such a statement.[Interjections.]

*Mr M C WALTERS: Coming from him, it is quite normal.
*The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I should actually be speaking to the hon Ozinsky now, but I have to speak to his delegate, the hon Uys, through you, because the hon Ozinsky does not have much of a say in his own party, the party to which he belongs.[Interjections.]

Let me start with the by-election. He wanted me to start with that. It was an ANC ward and you won it again and you were very lucky. There was not enough time for the people's eyes to open, but their eyes will still open,[Interjections.] So, you were very lucky. You also did not work there, because you are too afraid of that community.

Mr Speaker, South Africa has only one hope and that is the DA.[Laughter.] We can argue as much we want.

Mr P C MCKENZIE:[Inaudible.]

The MINISTER: Hon McKenzie has also woken up now, because he actually knows it is true. There is only one hope.

*Mr J J VISSE: That's a half-hearted laugh.

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: You should not make jokes here in Parliament, man.

*The MINISTER: Well, we cannot trust defectors, so we talk to those people who understand these things.

*Mr M C WALTERS: Repeat defectors.

*The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, South Africa has only one hope and that is the DA. The DA takes the difficult way, the way of sacrifice, responsibility and hard work. That is the way we will take.

Hon Uys began by talking about integrated government services. That is right, but it is very hypocritical to stand here and make such a statement when you know there are currently only two spheres of government, because the third one does not actually effectively exist. It is an office that has utterly and completely fallen apart.

Our politicians should also not pretend that we are talking about spheres of government when we are thinking of levels. This is actually what all of us do, so we should also get that terminology right. Local government in this province is doing well under difficult circumstances. The local government department in the province, the provincial department, is doing very well, but we are sitting with a problem at the national level.

You see, if hon Uys stands here and says to me local government is important, he must explain how it was so important for the ANC if in six years they gave us five regional Ministers of Local Government in this province. Nothing could therefore happen in those six years because there was such a lot of defecting after money and cheques, that we could not achieve stability. It must have been hell for our officials.[Interjections.]
Now there is stability in the province, but we have been given a national office and we warned them that nothing happens in that national office, because Minister Shiceka has been abroad something like 15 or 16 times. You cannot manage a department in this way, Mr Speaker.[Interjections.]

Hon Witbooi won't understand.[Interjections.]Yes, she won't understand.

Ms J WITBOOI:[Inaudible.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

*The MINISTER: Reference was made to the Cederberg Municipality's R2 million that has gone away. Hon Uys must just go and do his homework. It had been taken away already before the DA was in charge there.[Interjections.]Thank you for mentioning it, because we don't look at the politics behind it, Mr Speaker.

The Cederberg Municipality's situation was very simple. They did not meet the requirements that had been set. Regardless of whether the DA is in control, or the ANC is in control or whether they are in control with somebody in a coalition, we as a province will do the responsible and the right thing and take away the funds and then the municipality will just have to explain it to the people. The easy explanation is of course to shift the blame, so hon Uys will probably remain with the easy way.

Mr Speaker, we have a responsibility to make the Thusong centres work. Again, in the hon Uys's time they could never come up with a plan. Now there is a plan.[Interjections.]We have lease agreements that we have concluded where we join hands with the municipalities ...[Interjections.] ... so that all government departments can come together there. This has several advantages. One, the facility will be affordable and become self-sufficient and two, because everything is centralised, the residents save a lot, because then they can go to one central point.

Let's look at the national team he referred to. Well, I don't know whether he knows what the national team does, because no one knows.

*Mr P UYS: You don't want to know.

*The MINISTER: Maybe he should go and do a bit of homework before he mentions it, because I can already tell him the member who is the head of that management team is also mentioned in the next Special Investigation Unit's report and he is just going to have to wait for it. It is after he had been in charge merely three months. Of local government he knows not a thing.

Training people for ward committees: I almost want to be so bold as to take my little white mugs out again, but then I will be chased out again. I think hon Uys will only understand it if I drew him a picture. You see, this is an old tactic of the ANC: if something does not work, then we just keep adding to it, instead of saying it does not work.

The alternative is not to give more power to the ward committees, because then we will create another government sphere within the local governments. We must get this communication channel right and we must get the other responsibilities right, and then it will work. It can work and we will make it work.
However, to give them more powers will cause total chaos at the level of local government. Of this I can assure you today.[Interjections.]

Why hon Uys spent so much time on the Metro, is because he has a fear of the Metro. It's incredible, this fear he has of the Metro, because half his speech was about the Metro. He has nothing to talk about but the Metro. He cannot talk about service delivery, because he has never been part of a system that provided services, so then he has nothing to say.

Then he comes here and he actually murders the truth completely as he speaks about the Naspers Building. Sworn appraisers gave two sworn valuations for the Naspers building.

*The MINISTER OF HEALTH: He knows it.

*The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: The one valuation is R104 million and the other one is R120 million, so where he finds his figures I don't know. Let's leave it at that.[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Mr Speaker, can you help me, please. I'm new here ... [Laughter.] ...

†The SPEAKER: Order! What is it? Is it a point of order, hon member?

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: I don't know which point, because you never rule on the number of a point of order. That's how it's supposed to be, that you rule on a point of order and a number. I'm asking you to help me. Is it right that anybody who stands up can be condescending, sarcastic and rude and we have to sit here and keep quiet? [Interjections.]

†The SPEAKER: Order, take you seat, hon member. That is not a point of order. Order, hon members! Order!

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: No, that's wrong. It's wrong.

*The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, if the ANC wants to dish it out, they must also be able to take it.[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Above the belt or below the belt.

†The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

*The MINISTER: I'm glad the facts and the truth hurt. With regard to discipline, we will apply discipline in councils. Let me make it abundantly clear: a little bit of criticism from the ANC will not cause us to deviate. We have one set of rules for all councillors. I'm not going to protect a DA councillor who is trespassing. They will bear the consequences of their actions...

*Mr P UYS: Who has been fired?
*The MINISTER: ... but, Mr Speaker, I am not going to hang any councillor to help drive hon Uys's agenda.[Interjections.] This is a very important point. We work with people and with people's lives and we will not drive a political agenda.[Interjections.]

*Mr J J VISSER: Like Marius Fransman.

*The MINISTER: With regard to the application of Section 139 in respect of the Overberg, to which the hon member refers, it is very interesting that Overberg came to see me six months after that – they were busy going to see everybody – because they could not pay their salaries. So we were probably correct in our summary.

*Mr P UYS: The DA rules there.

*The MINISTER: You see, hon Uys wants discipline in councils, but he is not willing to take the hard way, the difficult way. He wants to remain with the easy way, because he wants to be everyone's friend. We are not in a popularity competition; we are in a service delivery era. We have to provide services to the people out there, and they should get the best. So, if the councillors were wrong, action will be taken against them, but if they are found not guilty, that is how it will be reported, regardless of hon Uys.

We often talk about human rights. Let me give you a definition of how the ANC views human rights in the Constitution. The ANC's human rights are about whether the person has an ANC membership ticket in his pocket. For the DA, it is about whether it is a person who resides in the Western Cape.

*Mr P UYS: Whether they have a blue T-shirt.

*The MINISTER: We serve all people in the Western Cape and we will continue to serve all people in the Western Cape. Once again I thank my department for their vision, their support and their selfless late hours of work to help drive this service delivery agenda.

**STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS**

†Ms A ROSSOUW (DA): Mr Deputy Speaker, on 23 March during a debate in the House, the hon Stali made the following remark:

I want to move that the hon Premier must not speak isiXhosa because she is insulting our language. She doesn't respect our language and she doesn't know isiXhosa. So she must stop talking isiXhosa, because this is a language that we also like and it is our language.

Multilingualism is the only way forward in this country. It is essential that we are able to effectively communicate with each other. That measure can only be achieved to the extent that the person is able to correctly interpret and understand the finer nuances and shades of the different idiomatic expressions of another language.
Had multilingualism been given a much higher priority, much earlier, nation-building and the understanding of each other’s cultures would have been much further advanced. It is only through language that we really are able to communicate and understand each other’s thinking and culture.

Mr Deputy Speaker, multilingualism is the instrument to build bridges towards each other, to create respect and tolerance, to cement our societies together and to reconcile our past. Multilingualism should be encouraged and we can only do that if we invite others to partake in our language, to make our languages accessible. We cannot work and govern together if we are not able to understand each other.

The DA promotes and encourages multilingualism. If we can all understand each other correctly, we can all work better together for the good of our province and our country.

It is of absolute importance that every effort should be made to stand in the way of the proposed Bill of the national government which will force departments to use three official languages, with adaptations for each province. The further stipulation is that only one of the previously advantaged languages, Afrikaans or English, may be used. The other two must be previously disadvantaged languages.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Your last sentence, hon member; your time is up.

†Ms A ROSSOUW: The proposed Bill is contrary to the Western Cape Provincial Constitution and the Western Cape Languages Act.

†Mr K E MAGAXA (ANC): Mr Deputy Speaker, the DA’s Project Reclaim has failed dismally. [Laughter.]

The voters of the Laingville area of St Helena Bay, Ward 12 in Saldanha Bay Municipality, have rejected the DA, its leaders, its shenanigans and gerrymandering with contempt.

Even with a wave of food parcels in blue shopping bags to buy votes, the buying off of the last councillor to resign and oppose the ANC and backing an independent against the ANC, the ANC has retained the ward and increased its support amidst an increased voter turnout. The ANC won the ward outright with 57,56%, or 1 385 votes. The DA received only 850 votes.

This is a clear signal by the people that they want change, and not the DA. The ANC will continue to contest every municipal election, make steady progress and democratically rebuild the ANC.

Of the 13 by-elections conducted across the country yesterday, the ANC retained 12 wards, and in Nongoma the IFP kept its seat. The ANC congratulates all its volunteers who worked hard and thanks all its supporters for their growing confidence, and also the new councillor, Trevor Benjamin, on his election.

It is a proud moment in the year the ANC celebrates its centenary with 100 years of service to the people and leading the struggle to freedom, equality and justice for all. Our struggle continues.
†Mr E J VON BRANDIS: Mr Deputy Speaker, on 10 October 2011 Patricia de Lille, Mayor of Cape Town, stated at a media briefing that the City of Cape Town is applying for an interdict against Sanral from going ahead with its proposed tolling of sections of the N1 and N2, despite numerous objections. She further stated that the proposed tolling would have diverse effects on the people of the city, especially the poor.

On 11 October 2011 Sanral denied that a dispute existed and named its preferred bidder, namely, Protea Parkways Consortium. It was estimated that the project would cost approximately R10 billion, which would be reimbursed by tolling.

Fortunately, because of the efforts of the Western Cape government and the City of Cape Town against the tolling of the R300, N1 and the N2 in Cape Town, the Deputy Minister of Transport nationally, Jeremy Cronin, stated in the Cape Times of yesterday that the tolling will be shelved in the Cape because it cannot be a priority. He further stated that there is no Cabinet support for that. In today’s Die Burger it is reported that the same sentiments might not be shared by Sanral, who is responsible for tolling the specific roads in the Western Cape.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the tolling of the N1 and N2 has been strongly criticised by the affected farming communities. The City of Cape Town has been vocal and active in opposing the toll, even going to court about it. The Western Cape Minister of Transport and Public Works, Robin Carlisle, is quoted as saying: “I welcome the fact that the toll road will not happen”. The Deputy Minister of Transport is against the toll. I support the opposition to the toll and urge the City of Cape Town and Minister Carlisle to continue our collective opposition.

Better together we can ensure a fair deal for all our people.

†Mr M NCEDANA (COPE): Mr Deputy Speaker, earlier today during question time questions were posed to the Premier about the Municipalities of Beaufort West and Kannaland which she answered. When questions were posed to the Premier about the City of Cape Town’s corruption she ran away.

It is clear confirmation that the DA is a very corrupt organisation. [Interjections.] The City of Cape Town’s maladministration, corruption practices and irregular expenditure of at least R164 million during the last financial year was uncovered in the City of Cape Town by the Auditor-General.

In 386 cases valued at R33,8 million no declaration of interest was received from the officials. An amount of R67,8 million was paid despite false declarations of interest by the City of Cape Town officials.

A tender of R1,3 million was awarded. Among the people who benefitted from this project was a councillor in the City of Cape Town – I guess it was a DA councillor. Inspector J du Toit raked in almost R40 million. Now the DA has the audacity to stand up here and say they are fighting corruption when, in fact, every time the DA is caught out being corrupt they defend each other. Everybody in the country now knows that the DA is not immune. In fact, the DA is an extremely corrupt organisation.
Mr M OZINSKY (ANC): Mr Deputy Speaker, the DA Premier claims to believe in our Constitution and an open society, yet day by day her actions contradict her words.

In the latest attack on the constitutional rights of citizens of the Western Cape and open government, Premier Zille has withdrawn an invitation she had personally made to the Landmark Foundation to attend an Animal Welfare Summit being organised by her Office for next week.

The reason given for the withdrawal of the invitation is that the Landmark Foundation has instituted legal action against the Western Cape Provincial Government and CapeNature to ensure that they apply the threatened and protected species regulations under the Biodiversity Act and stop the Bredell cull, which is resulting in the deaths of thousands of protected animals, such as leopards. The withdrawal of the invitation follows the unilateral cancellation of a signed agreement between CapeNature and the Landmark Foundation, merely because they disagreed with the issuing of hundreds of hunting permits on instruction of the hon MEC Bredell.

The Landmark Foundation is a world-leading NGO in sustainable conservation methods. In the Western Cape it has pioneered projects to study and protect endangered predators such as leopards. It has led the campaign against the Bredell cull, and recently began legal action against Zille’s government for its refusal to implement legislation protecting threatened species.

In an open society the fact that an individual organisation disagrees with government ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr M OZINSKY: Sorry, Mr Deputy Speaker, really, this is unacceptable.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr Carlisle, please lower your voice.

†Mr M OZINSKY: In an open society, the fact that an individual or organisation disagrees with government, or even takes government to court, does not remove their rights to participate in policy formulation or to engage with government. However, Premier Zille does not like to hear from those who disagree with her views. Zille has long made her mind up that the votes of farmers are more important than the conservation of protected species like leopards. That is why after meeting only farmers in 2010, she instructed the hon Bredell to ensure that hundreds of hunting licences were issued to farmers, without following any due process, and in contravention of the Taps regulations and the laws governing Cape Nature.

It is clear that Premier Zille is scared that if the Landmark Foundation attends the summit ...

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The hon member must finish off.

†Mr M OZINSKY: If I could just finish.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The last sentence.
†Mr M OZINSKY: It is clear that Premier Zille is scared that if the Landmark Foundation attends the summit, her policies, which threaten the survival of leopards in the Western Cape, will not be supported.

*Mr M C WALTERS (DA): Mr Deputy Speaker, the DA is now being accused by the ANC of undermining the government and governance of the country because the DA insists that all possible corruption must be investigated. This clearly shows how radically the ANC-in-government has deteriorated with regard to corruption, especially when the President of the country is involved.

To the ANC, it is acceptable that prosecution should be suspended, although there is \textit{prima facie} evidence of corruption. The DA has called upon the Appeal Court by insisting that the interests and values of the public must be embodied in the National Prosecuting Authority. This is not a witch hunt. Delays in proving his innocence detracts from the image of the office of the President.

The fact that the President’s adviser, Schabir Shaik, was indeed found guilty and sentenced to prison places an even greater obligation on the President to prove his innocence. Shaik was released on parole after only one year on the grounds that he was terminally ill. However, he is still walking free.

This puts even more doubt on the impartiality and honesty of decisions not to proceed with the criminal prosecution, and this following allegations about the President’s alleged involvement in the arms deal.

The President must set an example for all South Africans. He should be a worthy holder of the highest office in the country. Indemnifying him from prosecution raises doubts about his honesty. It serves as an encouragement for the horde of ANC cadres to also turn to corruption and claim community funds for themselves.

The DA asks: let the law follow its course so that governance of the country can be continued effectively by honest people who are committed to South Africa and its people.[Interjections.]

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I wanted to rule the hon member out of order, but I’ll give him the benefit of the doubt in this case.

†Mr R B LENTIT (ID): Mr Deputy Speaker, on 29 September last year, at the launch of the “Each One Settle One” campaign the national Human Settlements Minister, Tokyo Sexwale, argued that the housing backlog would remain, irrespective of whether or not provinces utilised their allocated funding from National Treasury.

Housing is a national crisis. In the Western Cape the housing backlog is one of our government’s biggest challenges. There is no quick fix to the housing backlog. We have to find alternatives and effective systems must be put in place to better manage the waiting list.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to commend Minister Madikizela and his department for the Housing Demand Database Improvement Programme that is being rolled out to all the municipalities in our province. This is now in the final process, with only five municipalities left to service.
This initiative, and the City of Cape Town’s 2011 campaign to update the information of candidates on the housing waiting list, is a vital audit to obtain the relevant statistics that will determine how many of these names should be struck from the list due to current circumstances of the individual which no longer make him or her eligible to be on the housing waiting list.

*Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS (DA): Mr Deputy Speaker. The Sunday Times recently referred to the realities of the state of health in our country. South Africa’s 452 government hospitals are described as "on the brink of collapse".

It was alarming to read that an urologist at the Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital in Soweto had to complete a surgical procedure by the light of his cell phone when a back-up generator failed to kick in after a power outage.

In Mpumalanga at the Piet Retief Hospital, there are patients who for months were fed mostly only chicken because there were no vegetables and other meat available.

In Limpopo, the doctor/patient relationship is 17 per 100 000. This does not even come close to the national average of 55. The national Department of Health’s spokesman, Fidel Hadebe, has said the country’s public health system is in crisis and that it is not a problem that can be solved overnight.

†How is it, then, that on the same page as this article, the Western Cape is regarded as a province with the best public health care? We have the best doctor to patient ratio, which stands at 135 per 100 000, which is almost triple that of the national average. We also have “a state-of-the-art hospital” in one of South Africa’s poorest communities, the Khayelitsha District Hospital. The article says that the corridors were clean and women with babies on their laps waited on comfortable couches with blankets.

The province’s success is the result of good business principles, which include financial discipline and not misappropriating funds as is happening in other provinces.

*Mr Deputy Speaker, there is no reason why the Western Cape’s strategies and management principles cannot be implemented in other provinces. It is better to co-operate than to have the people of South Africa suffer under maladministration.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE (ANC): Mr Deputy Speaker, the Western Cape will be better off without Community Safety’s MEC, Dan Plato, who flirts with hardened criminals like gang lords, drug dealers, rapists and murderers. [Interjections.]

In fact, he is a danger to all law-abiding citizens as he is endangering even the lives of his protectors. All others around him are jeopardised as they may now become targets in the underworld, as the MEC crossed the divide and got involved with unruly elements, and the department may be infiltrated by unwanted characters.

MEC Dan Plato is the wrong choice for the job and he has dragged his department’s name down. This MEC has to explain to the House how he was at an accident scene of a gangster’s car even before the police arrived on the scene.
Can he explain why he and his PA went on a campaign to Beaufort West on a public holiday? Is the rumour correct that it is exactly the same person that was implicated when he wanted to use taxpayers’ money to fight the newspaper who published a story about the two?

*The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to bring it to the attention of the House that the hon member is creating a false impression for us.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Is this a point of order, hon Minister?

*The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: It is a point of order. The member said I went on a holiday with my PA.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, I’m afraid this is unfortunately not a point of order.

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: It is not a point of order; you have to be smart enough ...

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can I point out to the hon member McKenzie ... [Interjections.] Why don’t you sit down, Minister. Mr Wiley, I’ll listen to you in a moment. Mr McKenzie, I listen very carefully. You are bordering on unparliamentary expressions by saying for example the hon Minister “flirts with hardened criminals”. I will look specifically at that expression again, but I would ask you to temper your language please.

†Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to refer to a clause in the Rules that talks about impugning the integrity of a member, and this statement is impugning the integrity of a member.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes. That is, in fact, what I will do when I consider it.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Mr Deputy Speaker, it is strange that the MEC now attacks the SAPS and Commissioner Lamoer in order to protect his PA after three other people were arrested and taken to court for various drugs found in her house. Premier Helen Zille needs to restore trust in Community Safety and remove MEC Plato.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: May I, before hon member Haskins responds, say welcome ... [Interjections.] Order, hon Minister! Can I also from my side welcome the new ACDP hon member in the House, Mr Haskin. I think he has moved one bench back through the years, like I did in this case.

†Mr G C R HASKIN (ACDP): Mr Deputy Speaker, I also not only moved one bench back; I’ve also lost a little hair, as you would have noticed!

Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to use this opportunity to thank and congratulate our previous member, Pauline Cupido, who has moved on from this House after nine years of very hard work. From the ACDP side we would like to thank her for her hard work and her commitment and wish her well in her future endeavours.

It is an honour for me to be back in the House after a break of five years. I am looking forward to the opportunity of working with members from across the board.
What I have noticed already in my brief time here is that the adage by one Alphonse Karr that the more things change, the more they stay the same is very true.

What has obviously changed, very obviously, is the switch from side to side. But what hasn’t changed is the banter, the interjections, the nonsense, and also some humour that slips in every now and again, even if it is unplanned humour. I feel that I am going to fit right in right here. [Laughter.]

As I conclude I would just like to say that I commit myself to obviously working with all the members in the House towards furthering the aims of this government for all the people of the province, for their sake, for God’s glory as well, and also to be sure that whatever work is done should benefit the people, and all the people of the Western Cape.

*Mr J J VISSE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I thought it would perhaps be ...

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Ozinsky, quiet please!

*Mr J J VISSE: ... appropriate, at this time of the budget, and while there is so much politicking going on, to talk about what has happened between 1994 and now in South Africa. The question that you should most certainly ask yourself is whether we are better off today than then. As for myself, I have aged 18 years and these days I have aches and pains that I never thought existed, so I am definitely not better off.

But let's look at the pains and joys. Demographically, the population has increased from 39 million to 51 million with a birth rate decreasing by 27,6% and a mortality rate increasing by 92,5%. This is an indication of how many immigrants have invaded our country as a result of relaxation of border security.

Despite a growth rate of and an increase in industrial activities of 54,9% and a real gross domestic product per capita of 31,2%, unemployment has increased by 12,4%. Unemployed people have increased by 135%. Could this be attributed to the social policy followed by the government?

Currently five million people care for the country’s population of 50 million, with 15 million living only off social grants. The percentage of black managers has increased by 550% thanks to the government's policy of affirmative action – this, at least, is one bright spot.

People’s standard of living has only increased by 27,9%, which can be described as very poor. The housing backlog has only shrunk by 10,7%. I referred to this in my speech on Tuesday. The number of farms has also decreased by 34,4%, which clearly illustrates the growth in the economies of scale, and it also has to do with the government’s inability to apply land reform effectively and efficiently.

The number of children who must rely on child care increased by 1 262%, while child mortality has decreased by 21% ...

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The hon member must finish.
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*Mr J J VISSER: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. But what do the voters say about this? With an increase of 120,4% in registered voters, the level of satisfaction has only increased by 28,6% to [reach] 55,3%. [Time expired.]

VIGILANTISM IN KHAYELITSHA

(Notice of motion)

†Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the causes the implications of the shocking incidents of vigilantism currently plaguing the community of Khayelitsha.

[Notice of motion as given by member.]

Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the causes and implications of the shocking incidence of vigilantism currently plaguing the community of Khayelitsha.

[Notice of motion as printed on Order Paper.]

GANGSTERISM DURING ELECTIONS

(Notice of motion)

*Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the ANC’s disorderly element of gangsterism during by-elections.

[Notice of motion as given by member.]

Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the disorderly actions of certain gangster elements in the African National Congress during by-elections.

[Notice of motion as printed on Order Paper.]

PEOPLES’ REPUBLIC OF CHINA

(Notice of motion)

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the statements by the hon Premier and the Hon MEC for Finance that the Peoples’ Republic of China is a capitalist country.

[Notice of motion as given by member.]
Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the statements by the hon the Premier of the Western Cape and the hon the Minister for Finance, Economic Development and Tourism of our province that the People’s Republic of China is a capitalist country.

[Notice of motion as printed on Order Paper.]

ASSISTANCE TO MILITARY VETERANS

(Notice of motion)

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the lack of assistance by the provincial government to military veterans.

[Notice of motion as given by member.]

Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the lack of assistance provided by the provincial government of the Western Cape to military veterans.

[Notice of motion as printed on Order Paper.]

WITHDRAWAL OF INVITATION

(Notice of motion)

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the withdrawal of the invitation personally issued by the Hon Premier to the Landmark Foundation to attend the Animal Welfare Summit.

[Notice of motion as given by member.]

Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the withdrawal of the invite personally issued by the hon the Premier of the Western Cape to the Landmark Foundation to attend the Animal Welfare Summit.

[Notice of motion as printed on Order Paper.]
DRUGS SEIZED IN GOODWOOD

(Motion)

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the police on the swift seizure of R1 million worth of drugs in a sting operation which saw two men arrested in Goodwood last week.

[Motion as moved by member.]

Mr P C MCKENZIE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the police on swiftly seizing R1 million worth of drugs in a sting operation in which two men were arrested in Goodwood last week, the week of 18 March 2012.

[Motion as printed in Minutes.]

Agreed to.

CONGRATULATIONS TO VINORIA NYMBEZI

(Motion)

*Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Vinoria Nymbezi, who obtained her degree in nursing from the University of the Western Cape and now works at the Lentegeur Psychiatric Hospital. She has obtained this degree despite a forced marriage at 13. Vinoria went back to school after the birth of three children, studied at Mkhangeli Adult Night School and passed matric in Crossroads at Simunye High School, Delft.

[Motion as given by member.]

Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House –

(1) congratulates Vinoria Nyembezi on the degree obtained by her at the University of the Western Cape; and

(2) notes with pride that –

(a) she is now working at the Lentegeur Psychiatric Hospital despite a forced marriage at the age of 13; and

(b) after the birth of three children, she resumed her school career at the Mkhangeli Adult School in Crossroads and passed matric at the Simunye High School in Delft.

[Motion as printed in Minutes.]

Agreed to.
THURSDAY, 29 MARCH 2012

BOLAND SUMMER FESTIVAL

(Motion)

†Mr R B LENTIT: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House extends its best wishes to the organisers of the Boland Summer Festival hosted by the Drakenstein Municipality and set to start on Friday 30 March 2012 until Sunday 1 April 2012. Over the past 13 years this event has been an incident-free festival with no security problems, which unites communities in and around the Boland district. We wish them another successful exhibition.

[Motion as moved by member.]

Mr R B LENTIT: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House extends its best wishes to the organisers of the Boland Summer Festival, which is set to start tomorrow, on Friday 30 March 2012, and will last until Sunday 1 April 2012, and has the support of the Drakenstein Local Municipality.

[Motion as printed in Minutes.]

Agreed to.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NELSON MANDELA FOUNDATION

(Motion)

†Ms J WITBOOI: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the Nelson Mandela Foundation on a new interactive website into which it poured millions of rands and which carries pictures of artefacts and memorabilia previously only to be seen at the Centre of Memory Exhibition in Houghton, Johannesburg.

[Motion as moved by member.]

Ms J WITBOOI: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House –

(1) congratulates the Nelson Mandela Foundation on a new interactive website, the archive.nelsonmandela.org;

(2) notes that millions of rands have been spent on this website, which aims to locate, document, digitise and provide access to all archival materials related to Nelson Mandela; and

(3) expresses its gratitude that pictures of artefacts and memorabilia, which could previously only be seen at the Centre of Memory Exhibition in Houghton, Johannesburg, can now be viewed on this website.

[Motion as printed in Minutes.]

Agreed to.
CONGRATULATIONS TO ANN BERNSTEIN

(Motion)

†Mr J J VISSER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Ann Bernstein, Executive Director of the Centre for Development and Enterprise, for winning the 2012 Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Award for her book *The case for business in developing economies*, conferred by the Atlas Economic Research Foundation in Washington DC. The reward recognises the publication that best improves the public’s understanding of a free society.

[Motion as moved by member.]

Mr J J VISSER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Ann Bernstein, Executive Director of the Centre for Development and Enterprise, South Africa, on winning the 2012 Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Award for her book “*The Case for Business in Developing Economies*”.

[Motion as printed in Minutes.]

Agreed to.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

(Motion)

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the national government’s intervention to set up an education forum in Grabouw following community protests about overcrowded classrooms. It is encouraging that the delegation has called all community role players, including trade unions, representatives of learners from Imyezo and Groenberg High School, principals from both schools and ministerial, fraternal, community development workers and ward councillors.

[Motion as moved by member.]

Ms N P MAGWAZA: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House expresses its appreciation and satisfaction with the intervention by the national government to set up an education forum in Grabouw, following community protests about overcrowded classrooms in that town.

[Motion as printed on Order Paper.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is there an objection against the motion? There is an objection. Objection noted. The motion will be printed on the Order Paper.
LATE ADMIRAL HUGO BIERMANN

(Motion of condolence)

†Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House conveys its sympathy to the family and colleagues of Admiral Hugo Biermann, who passed away earlier this week. Admiral Biermann, who was regarded by many as the father of the modern SA Navy, had the signal honour of being both the Head of the Navy and later the Head of the Defence Force.

[Motion as moved by member.]

Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House –

(1) conveys its sympathy to the family, friends and colleagues of Admiral Hugo Biermann, who passed away earlier this week, on 27 March 2012, at the age of 95; and

(2) notes that Admiral Biermann was regarded by many as the father of the modern South African Navy and had the honour of not only being the Head of the South African Navy but also, at a later stage, becoming the Head of the South African Defence Force.

[Motion as printed in Minutes.]

Agreed to.

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL [B 3—2012]

(Consideration of Votes and Schedule)

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Debates on the separate Votes have now been concluded and the House will now deal with the consideration of the Votes. As the Votes are put individually one member of each political party may state in his speech for not more than three minutes the reasons for his party’s decision on the question.

On Vote 1:

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (ANC): Mr Deputy Speaker, the ANC cannot support this Vote or the 2012 budget ... [Interjections.] ... that follows the policy of open opportunity. What we have seen in this Vote is that almost R300 million more has been spent on a bloated Department of the Premier. Staff numbers in this department have grown from 631 in 2008/2009 to 1 030, which is an increase in three years of 399 new staff members.

This trend is replicated to a lesser or greater degree in other departments, especially at administrative level.
The 2012 budget does not practically show a commitment to reducing poverty, inequality and joblessness or deal with the real issues and ills of the Western Cape.

An HON MEMBER: What does it do?

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I’ll tell you. Instead the budget is spent in the City to increase the capacity of the convention centre, the Founders Garden, etc. What I think the province should do is look at what the Premier of Gauteng has done. As she grows and regenerates her city ...

An HON MEMBER: With the help of the government.

†Mr P UYS: What government?

An HON MEMBER: What does it look like there?

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: ... she does exactly the same in the township and where the flats are.

We do not see a commitment to direct own funds and initiatives towards the poor and so we thank national government, and we are eternally grateful for conditional grants, because it forces this province to ensure that education, health and other essential services get to the poor. The rest of the money you have authority over you spend on the elite and outside townships and the Cape Flats.

It talks a lot about poverty and does very little in the real battle against it. What we saw so far is a bias by the Western Cape government towards rich investors, big business in central business areas, tourists with dollars and euros. These are the people you are better together with. You are not better together with the rest of the people in the province.

It sides with the affluent and cuts programmes, funding and initiatives to poor people, whether it’s the NGO sector, partnership with business, labour, government and civil society or even the Red Door. All interventions for and with the poor in the province have become a joke to hon Alan Winde.

If you don’t do anything about it, you will immediately hand it over to the West Coast Foundation or even to national government. Instead of dealing with the poor you pass it on to somewhere else. That is the chosen path of the DA; the one of open opportunity, as we’ve heard throughout this conservative budget that favours big business. It advocates cutting of corporate tax and reviewing of labour legislation and union bashing.

We cannot support a smokescreen called modernisation which is a guise for political purging of the administration and deployment of DA cadres and moving around of bad apples. We oppose the 2012 budget in totality.

[Time expired.]

†Ms T N BEVU (COPE): Mr Deputy Speaker, as Cope we are concerned about the increase in the budget of the Premier by R2 million. We feel it’s a lot of funds that can be used in service delivery rather than on administration in the Premier’s department.
We are not necessarily objecting to it but we have those concerns. Thank you.

†Mr R B LENTIT (ID): Mr Deputy Speaker, the ID supports the Vote that is aimed at achieving excellent outcomes, with people who are fit for purpose, and for its appropriate policy agenda with its alliance strategies and partnerships.

†Mr G C R HASKIN (ACDP): Mr Deputy Speaker, the ACDP cautiously supports this Vote, with reservation, simply because we had a vacant seat during the consideration of these Votes.

*Ms J L HARTNICK (DA): Mr Deputy Speaker, on the strength of the procedure that was followed and the outlines that were explained comprehensively to the committee, as well as in the House, the DA supports the budget.

Vote 1 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

On Vote 2:

†The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (ANC): Mr Deputy Speaker, can I just say that the ANC has spoken on the whole budget in my vote.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will then just go through the motions in any case. You needn’t rise each time.

Cope if you don’t want to speak, it is fine. I am just giving you the opportunity on Vote 2.

†Mr G C R HASKIN (ACDP): The ACDP supports the Vote.

Vote 2 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

On Vote 3:

†Mr P UYS (ANC): We don’t support it and we said it.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You should have said “Please record our objection” or “We ask for a division”.

*Mr P UYS: Too little, too late.

Vote 3 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

On Vote 4:

An HON MEMBER: We object. We won’t support the budget.

An HON MEMBER: Oh shame.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can I ask, to make it easier; that you say if you don’t support any of the votes you are not going to ask for a division?

†Mr P UYS: Yes. We should have asked for a division if we wanted to.
†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Then I put a question: Those in favour of Vote 4: Community Safety say aye. Those against no. I think the ayes have it. Are you asking for a division? You're not asking for a division.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE (ANC): We can't support gangsters. [Interjections.]

Vote 4 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

On Vote 5:

†Mr P UYS (ANC): Oppose.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Cope, ID, ACDP and the DA.

An HON MEMBER: The DA supports the Vote.

Vote 5 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

On Vote 6:

†Mr P UYS (ANC): Oppose.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The ANC's objection will be recorded. Cope. ID. ACDP. DA. Agreed to. The dissension is on the ANC's side.

Vote 6 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

On Vote 7:

†Mr P UYS (ANC): Oppose.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The objection will be recorded.

†Mr M NCEDANA (COPE): We support with huge reservations.

Vote 7 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

On Vote 8:

†Mr P UYS (ANC): Oppose.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your objection will be recorded. Cope. ID. ACDP. The DA. Agreed to. The objection of the ANC will be recorded.

Vote 8 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

On Vote 9:

An HON MEMBER: Oppose.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The objection will be recorded. Cope. ID. ACDP. The DA.
An HON MEMBER: They are "opposing" because of the tigers.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The ANC’s objection will be recorded.

Vote 9 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

On Vote 10:

†Mr P UYS (ANC): Oppose. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The objection will be recorded. Cope. ID. ACDP. The DA. Agreed to. The ANC’s objection will be recorded. [Interjections.] Order, Minister Winde!

Vote 10 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

On Vote 11:

An HON MEMBER: No, we don’t support this. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members! Minister Botha.

*The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Why does hon Ellen Prins not speak?

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member, there in the corner, behind hon McKenzie.

†Mr R B LENTIT: She wanted to speak.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Vote 11: Agriculture. The ANC objects. Cope. ACDP. ID. The DA. The Vote is agreed to with the objections on the ANC.

Vote 11 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

On Vote 12:

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The ANC opposes. The objection will be recorded. Cope. ACDP. ID. The DA. The Vote is agreed to. Hon Carlisle and hon McKenzie, you are distracting the attention of the House.

Vote 12 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

On Vote 13:

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The ANC. Oppose. The objection will be recorded. Cope. ID. ACDP. The DA. The Vote is agreed to.

Vote 13 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

On Vote 14:

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The ANC opposes. The objection will be recorded. Cope.
†Mr M NCEDANA (COPE): We support. The only worry is the few millions that are given to municipalities.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: ID. ACDP. DA.

*Mr H P GEYER (DA): Mr Deputy Speaker, I think with the difficult conditions under which the hon Minister works, we must support them and therefore the DA will stand behind the hon Minister and support this post.[Interjections.]

Vote 14 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

Schedule agreed to (ANC dissenting).

Clauses 1 to 10 agreed to (ANC dissenting).

Short Title agreed to (ANC dissenting).

BUSINESS OF HOUSE

(Motion)

†The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That, notwithstanding Rule 134 of the Standing Rules, the House deals with the finalisation of the Western Cape Appropriation Bill today.

Agreed to.

WESTERN CAPE APPROPRIATION BILL[B 3—2012]

(Finalisation)

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: As there is no list of speakers, are there any objections to the Bill being finalised? No objections. Agreed to.

Order disposed of without debate.

Bill finalised.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Bill will be sent to the Premier for Assent.

WESTERN CAPE UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE BILL [B2—2012]

(Consideration of principle)

†The MINISTER OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Mr Deputy Speaker, the Western Cape Unauthorised Expenditure Bill[B2—2012] deals with expenditure for the 2009/2010 financial year totalling R 70 472 901,52 incurred by the Department of Health which was reported as unauthorised expenditure by the Accounting Officer and in the audited annual report.
As in all cases of unauthorised expenditure, the reports were submitted to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts (Scopa) for consideration and the committee recommended that the expenditure be authorised by the House. [Interjections.]

The details of the unauthorised expenditure are as follows:

The Department of Health (Vote 6) incurred an over expenditure of R70 472 901,52 on Programme 5 in the 2009/10 financial year. This expenditure is as a consequence of –

- higher than anticipated patient activity;
- higher than anticipated inflationary increases in medical and surgical sundries, especially medicines – an increase of between 12% to 15 % was experienced;
- the unexpected outbreak of diseases such as H1N1 and measles;
- the higher than anticipated costs of HIV/Aids and tuberculosis on laboratory costs;
- the inadequacy of the National Tertiary Services Grant and the Health Professions Training and Development Grant in relation to the services that they are expected to cover. This matter has been addressed with National Treasury.

This Bill gives effect to the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and I therefore recommend that it be approved.

There are no financial implications for the province. Over expenditure was incurred on Programme 5 within Vote 6, but was covered by overall savings in Vote 6. For the 2009/2010 financial year, Vote 6 had an ultimate spend of 99,1%, and consequently there are no financial implications for the province with the approval of this Bill. Thank you.

*Mr E J VON BRANDIS: Mr Deputy Speaker, the Western Cape Unauthorised Expenditure Bill, 2012, was accepted by the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Development. The DA supports this draft Bill. [Interjections.]

Mr M OZINSKY: [Inaudible.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr Ozinsky, please calm down.

†Ms T N BEVU: Mr Deputy Speaker, this over expenditure was projected in the 2009/2010 financial year, as the Minister has said. The Adjusted Provisional Budget added R70,5 million to the Western Cape health budget, bringing the total allocated to Health Services in the province for the 2009/2010 financial year to R10,46 billion.

We are now being asked to condone R70,5 million in overspending by this department. Putting aside the outbreak of diseases – money which should have been allocated through contingency funds if the department had done proper planning – it is clear most of this overspending was the result of a lack of proper planning.
You cannot, for instance, overspend on professional training and the impact of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and laboratory costs. All of these things should have been properly planned for. Lastly, the provincial Department of Health has not yet demonstrated sufficient ability to collect the cash owed to it. [Interjections.]

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Mr Deputy Speaker, let me remind the House that although the over expenditure is R70.5 million, there was, in fact, in this department under the leadership of the hon Minister of Health and leader of the of the DA in the Western Cape firstly a restatement of R207 million before the Auditor-General was prepared to deal with the report from the department.

*Ms A J DU TOIT MARAIS: She is breaking the line.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Crossing the line.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Exactly. There was an unauthorised expenditure of R70.5 million. [Interjections.] There was also irregular expenditure of R33.2 million and under expenditure of R92.7 million. [Interjections.]

†Mr M OZINSKY: Why don’t you stand up then?

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I’m getting a report on whether I should have said something. I was not concentrating, but the hon member did break the line and I will speak to her when she comes back.

†Ms C F BEERWINKEL: We are only dealing with one small part of what the hon Minister is unable to manage. If hon members look at the explanation that is given in the resolution from Scopa and in the annual report, they will see that he talks about many reasons why they had unauthorised expenditure, namely the increased patient activity and the unexpected outbreak of disease.

Can the hon MEC honestly tell this House that the outbreak of disease was unexpected, in particular the H2N1 virus? Hon members will remember, when they go back to 2009, that after the hon Botha became the MEC he made a very big show of the H1N1 virus and said he was going to spend as much money as he could to protect the people of the province.

This is what he told Eyewitness News:

We are certainly not going to save any money in trying to curb this problem. We will make plans afterwards and cut elsewhere. I think at the end of the day the health of the people is more important than the budget.

Hon members will remember that with the H1N1 virus the hon member spent a lot of money on vaccines. The only problem is that these vaccines arrived at the end of winter and then he sat with a storeroom full of vaccines with no one to take them. In the following year, 2010, he went on a big campaign to get rid of the vaccines that he had ordered the previous year when he had told people to spend as much as they wanted and that they could do whatever they liked.

When it comes to this unauthorised expenditure members will see that I’m not making it up as it’s disclosed in Note 10 that the department incurred unauthorised expenditure after applying virements.
This is according to the audit report and it’s the same in the motion. In other words, they were given more money, but they didn’t manage to spend it properly. They were given a virement and they didn’t manage to use it correctly.

There is a higher than expected inflation rate on medical and surgical sundries. We are talking about over R70 million here, so we are not talking about “sundries”. The department should have planned for this, but it did not.

Today I want to raise my concerns about the process that was followed to get to the point of tabling this matter here today. The item of unauthorised expenditure served before the standing committee on one of our committee days. There were no officials from the department, neither was the Minister there to explain to the committee what the item was about. In my personal capacity I called officials from Treasury to come and explain to us what the item was about. Let me digress: Thank you, Mr Madema for always being ready to answer questions, and even on that day calling in officials who were away on a workshop. They came running back in their tracksuits to come and help us to understand. Thank you for that.

However, that meeting was illegal because the Minister of Finance had not yet tabled this unauthorised expenditure, so we had to have another meeting. Last week after the sitting we held the meeting and we were hurried through the process. Again there were no officials or even the MEC to explain or answer questions, neither were there any supporting documents as we quickly dealt with it.

After doing my own homework I then raised the question as to where I was supposed to raise my objections and I was told it was fine, the item was dealt with. Today my comments around the issue are the following: R70 million unauthorised expenditure is just wrong, no matter how justified the end result was. The fact of the matter is no proper projection or planning was done.

Budgets are allocated to be spent, as you say, in your planning. Unfortunately that was not done and the ANC will not support this unauthorised expenditure. [Time expired.]

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Mr Deputy Speaker, let me start off by saying that the previous speaker referred to acting in her personal capacity. Let me rather not say anything in my personal capacity. [Interjections.]

Let me refer to Programme 5 which was largely responsible for the central hospitals. The main cause of the over expenditure was an unusually high inflation rate of about 15%. The high inflation rate was never ever planned for by the previous government. Every year there was unauthorised expenditure and I have the figures here for what it was in the previous financial years. [Interjections.]

Also, if you remember, this was a budget which we adopted within a few days after we took over the government so it was the ANC’s budget. In the previous financial year the ANC had unauthorised expenditure of R89 million and the year before that the ANC had an over expenditure of R114 million. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!
The MINISTER: It becomes worse and worse. [Laughter.] But let me tell you, with
the first budget that we could take responsibility for we did a very simple thing. [In-
terjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Mr Ozinsky and Minister Carlisle. [Interjections.]
I want to include Minister Winde and Minister Madikizela.

†The MINISTER: As long as I don’t lose any time, Mr Deputy Speaker. When we
took over the government and we could have a proper influence on the budget we
planned properly. We did exactly what the previous speaker said and that is
proper projection and planning. She said there was no proper planning and projec-
tion and she’s 100% right. We changed that as soon as we took over and that’s
why we didn’t have any new or further unauthorised expenditure.

Mr M OZINSKY: [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER: Are you choosing a new topic for this debate or what? If so, then
put it on the table.

We changed that and we made provision for higher inflation, as one should do. The
second issue is that I want to know how on earth it is possible to anticipate
and plan for something like the N1H1 virus. If someone will give me that know-
ledge and that wisdom, I will actually buy it from them. We also had the measles
outbreak, which was extraordinary for that year.

There was also an increase in HIV/Aids and TB testing. That was also because we
accelerated those programmes. The fact is, we inherited an ANC budget, but we
then planned things properly from thereon. [Interjections.]

Let me just reflect on something else, Mr Deputy Speaker. The unauthorised ex-
penditure for the nine provinces in South Africa was R5,5 billion in the financial
year. Our component of that was only 1,28%.

An HON MEMBER: The Western Cape?

The MINISTER: Yes. It was 1,28% for the Western Cape. [Interjections.] I can tell
you for instance what the Eastern Cape’s was. [Interjections.] Yes, I will, since you
insist. It was R874 million. Are you still insisting? Let me tell you what Gauteng’s
was – R2,2 billion. Are you still insisting? I’ll tell you what KwaZulu-Natal’s was. It
was R2,5 billion.

In the bigger scheme of things this is a lot of noise about issues that aren’t impor-
tant. Mr Deputy Speaker, they know that this is still as a result of their bad gover-
nance and that we’ve changed and rectified it. [Interjections.] We will not take re-
sponsibility for your inadequate planning.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER: You were the Minister of Finance and the Premier, so why didn’t
you plan properly? [Interjections.] [Time expired.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon Brown! Minister Winde will now reply.
The MINISTER OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Mr Deputy Speaker, I’m not going to say too much because I think everything has been said by the speakers. I thank them for their contribution in this debate, but I must just say, following on after the hon Botha, that the hon Beerwinkel said that no planning was done, but of course, as was pointed out, we were not involved in the planning of that budget. We took over that budget.

The hon Ozinsky interjected that we don’t know how to budget. The hon Minister of Health then spoke about unauthorised expenditure in that same year in the other provinces. But let’s talk about this year and the auditor’s report for this financial year where there still was unauthorised expenditure among the nine provinces to the value of R2.9 billion.[Interjections.]

Gauteng had R1.4 billion and ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

†Mr M OZINSKY: Can I ask the hon MEC a question?

†The MINISTER: No. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! No, he is not going to take a question.

†The MINISTER: I am talking about that unauthorised expenditure of R2, 948 billion across all the nine provinces. However, in the Western Cape it was zero! [Interjections.] As for the question about planning, I must say that unauthorised expenditure is exactly that. Things like viruses come along that one hasn’t planned for and one needs to spend money on that problem. That is what this process is. It’s about regularising that expenditure. [Interjections.]

We hear that it’s corrupt and that the money has been stolen, etc., but that is not true. This is about regularising that expenditure, as has been pointed out. I therefore ask the House to approve it. Thank you.

Debate concluded.

Principle of the Bill approved (ANC dissenting).

BUSINESS OF HOUSE

(Motion)

†The CHIEF WHIP(DA): Mr Deputy Speaker, I move:

That, notwithstanding Rule 134 of the Standing Rules, the House deals with the finalisation of the Western Cape Unauthorised Expenditure Bill.

Agreed to.
WESTERN CAPE UNAUTHORISED EXPENDITURE BILL[B 2—2012]

(Finalisation)

There was no debate.

Schedule agreed to.

Clauses and Title agreed to.

Bill finalised.

RULING

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! May I have the attention of the hon Magwaza and confirm that she did in fact break the line when she walked out. I was a little late to see it, but I want all members to note that there is an imaginary line from your desk. Be careful when you walk out that you don’t break that line. Hon member, do you agree with that?

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: Mr Deputy Speaker, I apologise. I was hasty to get out.

BUSINESS SUSPENDED AT 18:18 AND RESUMED AT 18:59.

CLOSURE OF UMYEZO WAMA-APILE SHOOL
AND IMPLICATIONS THEREOF

(Matter of public importance)

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Please be seated. We now come to the matter of public importance on the Order Paper. We have a speakers' list. Ms Magwaza, I believe, is the first speaker.

Nksz N P MAGWAZA: Sekela-Somlomo, mandibulele eli thuba uthe wathi makhe ndilithabathe ndiphefumile nangona kudala ndiphefumla kulo mba. Lo ngumba obuthathaka ofuna ukuphathwa ngononopenhlo olucwangcisiweyo oluza kuthi ekuggibeleni abantzana beli phondo bazive bekhuselekile ngokwemfundo, bazive amalungelo abo ethathyathelwe ingqalelo.


Andithi abaphathiswa owona msebenzi ebekufanele ukuba bayawenza kukuthi xa kusithi qi qhaphu ingxaki bakhwuleze kungekade konakale kwicandelo lakhe.


Loo nto leyo, Sekela Somlomo, ndifuna ukuthi ekugqibeleni akukho inokuze ilunge xa ungabamamameli abantu obasebenzelayo xa uthetha ngamathuba alinganayo avuleleke kuye wonke ubani. [Laphela ixesha.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[Ms N P MAGWAZA: Deputy Speaker, let me thank you for this opportunity you have afforded me so that I can comment on this issue. This is a very sensitive issue which needs to be treated with proper care which will at the end lead to our children in this province to feel secured when it comes to education and also feel that their rights are taken care of.

Deputy Speaker, first of all let me say that the negligence of the hon Minister of Education of this province has caused a big fire which is difficult to put out. He is the sole instigator of this in our province. If he had taken an opportunity to advise other ministers because when there are problems or accidents on the roads one will see the hon Minister getting there first irrespective of what the time is. If for an example there are problems in the department of social development the hon Minister of Social Development goes there to find out what the problems are and where he can assist. Who is this Minister who does not want to speak to the people? He does not want to engage the parents nor he wants to engage the children. Who is this Minister who does not want to do that?

Are the ministers not supposed to go and solve the problems which are encountered by their departments before things get out of hand?. Today we are talking about a vandalised, dirty and unattractive school in which children had been taught. He does not bother to go and acheck these problems and yet these are only two small problems. It is a problem of building the school and the problem of over-crowding in classrooms. Such problems would be sorted long ago if people were willing to sit down and discuss them.

Now he is crying foul when the hon Minister in the office of the President says that people, children, learners from Grabouw, Cosatu and all those interested in education of the children in order to improve the quality of education should come together to discuss and devise a way forward of handling this problem with dignity. What is wrong with that? I think the problem is the person who does not want to engage the people so that we can solve this problem as a province.

We would not be experiencing things like these racial battles. This racial conflict is caused by the divide and rule strategy used by the past apartheid government. During that time people used to live together in one place, blacks and coloureds. They are using racism in this school as if the learners in this school should not be educated together. Now they see this as a simple way to bring racial conflict among these children so that these children will fight among themselves. This is not going to help us because we are also some of the people who were born and grew here in his province. We do not know anything rather than living together with the coloured people. I was staying in Brown’s Camp, which was known as Braweni.

Where I was staying with coloured people and I grew up with them. Even today I stay with Manenberg where black and coloured people live together in harmony. Those people live together in peace. We do everything together.
Why are we going to allow our province to be divided because of the disrespect and the unwillingness of the Minister to do right, so that we fight among ourselves? The hon Minister has not performed his duties very well and we must agree on that in this House.

One of the things I want us to talk about is that we must thank the teachers of UMyezo waMa-apile Combined School. When one looks at these teachers one will find that they are dedicated and love their jobs because they have carried that school in difficult times in order to improve its conditions. If we are committed as this province to grow the passing percentage or rate of those learners we should be able to listen to all what was recommended or proposed whether we like it or not. We must listen to what people on the ground say so that we can be able to move forward, instead of taking them for granted as people who do not know anything because they are the people who stay there and know their problems.

Lastly, Deputy Speaker, there is nothing I hate like when people are raising their problems they are referred to as refugees instead of listening to them. People should not be called by derogatory names which are discriminating. That is very bad without doubt. It can be nothing to the one who says it as they think it as a joke. One cannot call us as refugees or foreigners and expect us to keep quiet. How many refugees or foreigners here who are of another colour? They got us here and we were born here. When the refugees or foreigners who are of another colour arrive here and they are given houses in the affluent areas. Why is it difficult to talk to people when they raise their problems? Lastly, Deputy Speaker, I want to emphasize that at the end of the day nothing can be solved if you do not listen to the people you serve, especially when one speaks about an equal opportunity in an open society. [Time expired.]

†Ms T N BEVU: Mr Deputy Speaker, I can’t agree more with what hon Magwaza is saying, because it’s a little thing that could have been avoided if the hon MEC Grant had gone to the community and listened to their complaints. It would have been avoided.

A steering committee has been established under the Office of the Presidency to guide the process and tone the polarisation in the area. I’m sure even the DA would agree. Polarisation, especially on a racial and ethnic base, in this country is too high a price to pay for arrogance. Coming with third force conspiracy theories of the so-called dossiers does excuse it also.

In fact, you are getting ridiculous in our eyes, and it is a failing government that turns to see the end of the devil when the heat rises. It must be cosy in the DA fantasy world, though. If it’s not conspiracy theories, it is the whole country being delusional and xenophobic, as hon Premier called us in her letter in the Cape Times yesterday. According to her, it is because we are xenophobic that we took offence to her refugee comments.

All of a sudden now we are told by people who were reared under apartheid privileges that we are xenophobic and whining because we refuse to be insulted by a latter-day sense of political struggle and peacetime heroes and heroines. Meanwhile, we spent the best parts of our lives in real refugee status, begging the kindness of strangers. We are now supposed to be xenophobic against this growing yawning gap between the DA and the rest of the nation. They live in a parallel world that cushions them from our realities.
Perhaps the mistake was with us. We’ve been too tolerant and too accommodative of our former apartheid enemies, to an extent that they regard this as weakness. Now they see us as only fools who know nothing beyond the mire of corruption. A change needs to happen then.

The funny thing is that when it suits them, the DA nosedives to the choir, as seen yesterday at the Saldanha Municipality where they were handing over food parcels for people to vote for the DA.

†The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Don’t lie.

†Ms T N BEVU: I honestly used to think highly of the DA until I came ...

†Mr M OZINSKY: Mr Deputy Speaker, on a point of order: Is it correct for that hon member to say to the hon member: “Don’t lie”?

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I did not hear that. Who said that?

†Mr M OZINSKY: The hon Madikizela said that.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, did you say that?

†The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Yes, I did.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please withdraw it.

†The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: I would like to withdraw it unconditionally ...

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

†The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: ... but she must not ... [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Please continue, hon Bevu.

†Ms T N BEVU: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I honestly used to think highly of the DA, until I came to work closely with them in this Provincial Parliament.

†The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to thank the two previous speakers, specifically the hon Ms Magwaza. If I understand her correctly, she wants us to go and examine exactly in what context one should place the whole Grabouw situation. I think one must really go and create a context for that. One can’t, hon Magwaza and hon Bevu, isolate the bigger picture and the organic nature of the Grabouw crisis from the broader national issue.

Allow me to then sketch the situation. In 2009, when the government came into power in the Western Cape province, they immediately saw the need for one new secondary school in the Grabouw area. We immediately saw the need to identify a piece of land on which to build a new school. It soon became apparent that this would not be easy and that, in terms of the terrain in Grabouw, it would also not be easily available.
Despite this challenge, Mr Deputy Speaker, we prioritised a new school in Grabouw in our infrastructure plan and located the necessary budgetary resources for when we acquired suitable land. A piece of land belonging to the national government was identified on which we could build at least one permanent school. We formally requested the transfer of this land from the national Department of Public Works to the provincial Department of Transport and Public Works in 2009 already. This was followed by numerous written communications to the Minister’s office in this regard.

Other interventions included a personal request by Premier Helen Zille to President Jacob Zuma in August 2009 and subsequent engagements with the Minister of Public Works and many others who arrived.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Three Ministers ... [Inaudible.]

†The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: There were many others.

†The PREMIER: Four. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

†The MINISTER: We have yet to receive any response to our request, and the matter is still being considered by the national Minister.

In the meantime, Mr Deputy Speaker, other permanent land options were and still are being investigated. But let us unpack the issue and, I think, let us be honest. Hon members, I really ask you to indulge me, and let us in a very sober and unemotional way examine what the situation is.

The school was severely overcrowded. Why was that the case? It was so because 600 learners were not expected in the beginning. I’m saying specifically that they just suddenly arrived. We must also bear in mind, hon members, that often learners arrive without the necessary transfer papers, further adding to the dilemma of finding space for them in the system.

Let us look back and let us specifically look at what the Western Cape government did to ensure that a smooth 2012 academic year commenced at the beginning of this year. We had two phases of registration drives last year, one in the first half of the year and one in the second half of the year. During these campaigns we encouraged early or timeous registration so that we could adequately plan for each child and, ideally, that we could ensure that every child was secured with a desk and textbooks. These things must be planned well in advance. They call it scenario planning.

It is also worth noting, hon members, that 99% of all learners for the 2012 academic year had been registered by the end of November 2011. In other words, hon Magwaza and Mr Deputy Speaker, this province was ready for the next year, and all systems were in place. What went wrong, Mr Deputy Speaker?

Let us now look at the registration at Western Cape schools, and this is a very, very important point I have to make. Hon Magwaza, please.
You have to conclude this debate. We all know that Western Cape schools opened on 11 January 2012 for the start of the academic year. According to a snap survey in January, our enrolment for 2012 was 936 418 learners. This suggests that the total enrolment this year has increased.

What we also need to look at – and I want to make this point – is that learners from other provinces, specifically from the Eastern Cape, account in this instance for 44% of the total number of learners who registered for the first time for Grade 1 to 12 for 2012 on our Central Education Management Information System. New Gauteng learners were 5,3%. The Northern Cape had 2,7%. This is very interesting. The Eastern Cape represents 77,9% of the learners who registered for the first time from other provinces.

Hon members, let us not ignore the real issue here, and I want to suggest ... [Interjections.] ... that we use a symbolism, and I genuinely want to do so. Remember a tap? If you don't fix the tap, you are going to sweep and dry up the water all the time. Fix the tap, and I want to start with that.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the problem is not the fact that a particular school in Grabouw is overcrowded. No. The problem is the meltdown and utter disgraceful state of the Eastern Cape Education Department ... [Interjections.] ... and their failure to provide their citizens with quality education, and this is the bottom line. Do you think that those learners come here because the weather is better in Cape Town? Do you think that they come here because they want to live with their extended family? Who wants to live with their extended family members while their parents and grandparents are in the Eastern Cape? Do you think they come here because the uniform looks nice? No, hon members. They come here because it is their only hope of receiving quality education, hon Ozinsky, through you, Mr Deputy Speaker. [Interjections.] They don't have a right to quality education in their own province, ... [Interjections.] ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

The MINISTER: ... and I will qualify this, Mr Deputy Speaker, to the hon Ozinsky. Those rights have been tampered with. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon Ozinsky, please give the member a chance.

†The MINISTER: Mr Deputy Speaker, the basic right to education has been tampered with, and we are making excuses for it here. The options in the Eastern Cape for any learner are either to stay in the Eastern Cape ...

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Mr Deputy Speaker, ...

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is it a question, Mr Skwatsha?

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Yes.

†The MINISTER: No, sorry, I can't take questions. I have very little time.

†Mr M SKWATSHA: It's going to help you.
†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

†The MINISTER: I'll speak to you afterwards. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr Ozinsky, please ...

†The MINISTER: Yes, we will speak afterwards. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, please continue.

†The MINISTER: Those rights have been tampered with and taken away. The options are either to stay in the Eastern Cape and receive no education or substandard education, or come to the Western Cape and benefit from the best education this country has to offer.

Mr Deputy Speaker, let me illustrate my point even further. It has been reported in the DispatchOnline just this week that the Education MEC in the Eastern Cape announced in his Budget Vote that he will spend R657 million less on new schools in this financial year. In that same week it was announced that parents at 300 schools said that they are now going to vote with their feet, close the schools and move away. This happened at 300 schools in the Eastern Cape, and this while the Eastern Cape province has 395 mud schools and other bad structures. [Interjections.]

I want to put it to the House, ... [Interjections.] I tried to live there. [Interjections.] I put it to the House, Mr Deputy Speaker, that until we admit and recognise the real issues here, we will always run away with the peripheral issues about refugee, immigrant, whatever, whatever, ... [Interjections.] ... and that is the problem. [Interjections.]

*The MINISTER OF HEALTH: You're also a refugee.

*Mr P C McKENZIE: No, I was born here. She was not born here.[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

†The MINISTER: Mr Deputy Speaker, do you know that ... [Interjections.] What does this mean? The statistics that I have just mentioned ...

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, Minister! I wanted to give you more time but your time has expired, unfortunately.

†The MINISTER: What it means ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER: Can I continue, Mr Deputy Speaker?

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just finish your last sentence.

†The MINISTER: The essence of what I want to say, with the collapse of a failed state in the Eastern Cape, is that in the next term we are going to have learners coming to us whom we haven’t planned for. That’s the issue.
Mr R B LENTIT: Mr Deputy Speaker, Project Reclaim is not new to the ANC. Marius Fransman started this project with his so-called “coloured nationalist agenda” to reclaim leadership in his own organisation which is still under dispute. [Interjections.]

Fransman is destroying the image of a globally respected organisation. [Interjections.]

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Allow the hon member to deliver his speech. Please continue, hon Lentit.

*Mr P C MCKENZIE: I am home-made.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon McKenzie, order! [Interjections.] Order! Hon McKenzie, when I have spoken then I ask for order. Please give the hon member Lentit a reasonable chance to deliver his speech; he only has 2 minutes. Thank you. Proceed.

†Mr R B LENTIT: Fransman is destroying the image of a globally respected organisation that fought oppression.

The current leadership status of the ANC in the Western Cape is sadly way off the mark from the vision their President, Nelson Mandela, had for our country. By using schoolchildren as a front to fuel political battles delays the future for a better life, and exploits them in the most inhumane fashion. Every time a learner fails, it is an extra year added to the financial burden of the parent and the economy. Our poor people are already competing for scarce resources, and dishonest political leaders are exploiting these divides for political gain. Disgrace!

Fransman’s actions threaten the legacy and essence of the principles that have become synonymous to 27 April, Freedom Day. It is clear that the chief commander, Marius Fransman, is ignorant of Tata Mandela’s vision.

*The rapprochement and reconciliation principles of former President Mandela in his maiden State of the Nation Address in 1994 speaks of the DA’s beliefs – unity, reconciliation, redress, diversity and service delivery. Our country’s Constitution should be respected and not manipulated to suit a specific agenda, especially when communities like Grabouw are being disadvantaged. A political party can only govern via the polls; that is democracy.

I appeal to principled members of the ANC in the Western Cape, such as the hon Leader of the Opposition and hon Skwatsha, to take control of their movement, to restore dignity and to control the ANC in the province according to the principles of Tata Mandela through the leadership they display in the province. I thank you.

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Mr Deputy Speaker, let me start off by saying that we sympathise with the learners and the parents of the Umyezo wama-Apile School for the fact that the ANC exploited them for political gain, inconvenienced them and for all the harm done to them. This government takes responsibility for conveying the apology to them on behalf of the behaviour of the ANC and its leader.
I would like to link up with the previous speaker who has very adequately portrayed to us the reasons for what is going on and what led to the situation in the school. Let me confirm that this case cannot be seen in isolation; it must be seen as a part of the ANC’s Project Reclaim plan in which they have no respect for learners, communities and people. It is their leader, Marius Fransman, who is leading this; he is the architect of that and it is a shame that the ANC is involved in that. It is especially a shame that the best leader the ANC could deliver in 100 years is a leader like Marius Fransman.

Mr Deputy Speaker, what needs to be added is that the ANC shamelessly exploited those people in that school, and the situation at that school. They created this problem at the school, and as a party they should take responsibility. Whether it is due to actions in this province and what is happening here, or what happens in the province of the Eastern Cape, our bordering province. They have got to take responsibility; it is their party.

The ANC is busy with an unconstitutional and an illegal Project Reclaim and their conduct is unacceptable. They are undermining the rights of learners and they are undermining the rights of ordinary good people who are already struggling to make ends meet. It is absolutely sick that the ANC bribes councillors and that they threaten councillors. They have a plan A and a plan B, and plan B is exactly what was executed in this school – to the letter.

In an affidavit which we already received early this year it was spelt out. We were so naïve, Mr Deputy Speaker, that we thought this was just a sentence in this …

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, Minister! Is it a point of order or a question?

†Mr M SKWATSHA: Mr Deputy Speaker, it is a question. I am sure my friend is going to take the question!

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are you prepared to take a question, Minister Botha?

†The MINISTER: No.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is not prepared to take a question. [Interjections.]

†Mr M SKWATSHA: A last question. It will make you … [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr Botha, please continue.

†The MINISTER:[Inaudible.]… breather, my honourable friend, Chief Skwatsha!

Fransman is threatening people and he is bribing people. He is busy with a totally unconstitutional and illegal campaign; it is unacceptable. As a province we have to stand up and do something about it.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon Ozinsky, is it a point of order or a question?

†Mr M OZINSKY: No, a point of order.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, I am listening.
†Mr M Ozinsky: Mr Deputy Speaker, on a point of order: Yesterday you made a ruling. Bribery is a criminal offence. The hon MEC stands up here and says a member of another House is bribing people. [Interjections.] No, he said Fransman is bribing people. [Interjections.]

†The Deputy Speaker: Order! Order! Please sit down. My ruling yesterday was that it was in order to reflect on a member of another House. In that case it was the previous Speaker that was reflected upon; he was alleged to be corrupt. Now it is another member of the same House, and I don't see any difference between the two. I did appeal to members, as part of the ruling, that they must temper their utterances when they do that, but it is not unparliamentary. Please continue.

†The Minister: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I am referring to the leader of the ANC, not to another member of another House. [Interjections.]

Of public importance in this debate here is not what the ANC created, in other words, the problem at the school; what is of public importance here is what is happening to the public with this whole action of the ANC. Hon member Bevu made a statement about apartheid tactics and apartheid. What the ANC is now doing, and what its leadership is doing in this party, is exactly what the apartheid government did. It is a shame that you allow that.

Mr Deputy Speaker, until very recently these members in the House refused to get involved in the actions and the conduct of Mr Marius Fransman. Unfortunately, with putting this debate on the agenda today, I am very sorry to say that you are now in cahoots with him. It is a shame; it's really a disgrace.

Although Project Reclaim is aimed at unseating what came about constitutionally in an election, and although it is the aim to unseat the DA, let me say that the DA is not concerned. The DA will not be the loser in this whole project. The real losers here are the learners and people in the communities. We are not afraid of Marius Fransman; he cannot bribe us, he cannot threaten us and we will not lose.

Many before him tried that. Van Schalkwyk was the last one to do it. It is not possible. You will not destroy the DA. He "stole" the leadership from his party by rigging your congress, and he is carrying on with this conduct throughout our province in Project Reclaim. My question is: How long will the ANC tolerate this leader with his conduct, the unconstitutionality and the illegal actions, to the detriment of the people of the province? How long are you going to tolerate it? Hon member Skwatsha, what is going on in this province? [Interjections.] I say that the leader of a political party who is prepared to do this to the detriment of learners and the public, is not fit to be a public representative. Thank you.

†The Minister of Education: Mr Deputy Speaker, it must be noted that any decision to close a public school temporarily is one that can only be taken by the Head of the provincial Department of Education.

Given the violent nature of the protests that recently occurred in Grabouw, which the hon Botha has shown to have been politically motivated and managed by outside agencies, and guided by what was in the best interests of the learners concerned, the decision taken by the Head of the Western Cape Education Department to temporarily close Umyezo wama-Apile Combined School was taken with my full support in the interests of protecting the learners concerned and the teachers.
The violent protests that have taken place in Grabouw over the last few weeks have clearly not been held with the view to protecting the best interests of the learners. If these protests were aimed at protecting the interests of the learners at Grabouw, firstly, why were classrooms burnt and was school property damaged? Secondly, why were teachers and learners intimidated into discontinuing the normal school programme? And, thirdly, why, when the school had been closed, and the Western Cape Education Department had ensured that a Grade 12 curriculum support programme and the school’s nutrition programme were in place for the remainder of the first school term, were these important programmes prevented from going ahead?

It is clear that the recent protests held in Grabouw were not held with the view to protecting and promoting the best interests of the learners. As my colleague Minister Botha has shown, these protests were more about political agendas and party politics than they were about improving the quality of education in Grabouw. It is completely indefensible that the interests of learners in Grabouw were undermined by the political interests of outside agencies claiming to be civically minded.

This has become even more evident in the past few days where it has been reported in the media that officials of the National Planning Commission have been to Grabouw and are currently setting up an education forum in the Theewaterskloof Municipality to look at the education problems in the area. Firstly, the only education problem we have in Grabouw is one of overcrowding at a specific school. This problem has been addressed and a temporary solution found, which I will discuss later. The point of the matter is that the problem is being constructively addressed by the Western Cape Education Department.

Secondly, the National Planning Commission has no jurisdiction whatsoever to interfere in our schools. Thirdly, we have not received any correspondence from the National Planning Commission with regard to the establishment or work of this education forum. That is a fact. I would also like to think that the Education Department would be a crucial role player in any education think tank or interest group. And surprise, surprise, they are not included.

Finally, if the national government believes that the setting up of an education forum is a solution to the challenges in education, then the question needs to be asked: How many education forums does the National Planning Commission have in other provinces? Surely the National Planning Commission’s education forums would be better served to address education problems in all of our nine provinces and, as I suspect, not just that of the Western Cape. I have yet to receive an answer to this question.

It is exceptionally clear that this again has little to do with education problems in the Theewaterskloof Municipality, and much more to do with party politics. It is also clear once again that the ANC cannot differentiate party from state, and are using state resources to clearly drive a political agenda. If the national government has any interest in the education of these learners, then they would transfer the land that we have repeatedly petitioned for. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon Minister! Hon McKenzie, which rule do you want to quote? Is it a point of order?

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Mr Deputy Speaker, what I want to know is: Why has the hon … [Interjections.] Shut up, man. [Interjections.]
†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please, please, please. [Interjections.] Mr McKenzie … [Interjections.] Order! Order! [Interjections.] Mr McKenzie, that is unparliamentary. Withdraw that remark before you …

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Okay. I will withdraw that remark.

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: And apologise.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: And apologise. And what else? [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! [Interjections.]

Mr P C MCKENZIE: Will you call the member to order, Deputy Speaker, because he is interfering with me now?

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr McKenzie, please make your point of order. I am listening. I want you to raise the point of order.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Thank you. On what grounds, Mr Deputy Speaker, and in terms of what rule, does the hon member have unlimited time?

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon member does not have unlimited time. He is talking in terms of Rule 114(3) …

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: Exactly …

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: … which gives him a maximum time of 15 minutes, but he is not unlimited. The Speaker has allowed 15 minutes for that.

†Mr P C MCKENZIE: The Speaker has allowed it without asking us.

†Mr M OZINSKY: But on the speakers’ list …

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is it a point of order?

†Mr M OZINSKY: Yes. On the speakers’ list it has no time listed.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, I have seen that, but it is not unlimited. [Interjections.] Order! We are controlling it from the Table. The Table is aware of the fact that it is a maximum of 15 minutes. Please continue.

†The MINISTER: Mr Deputy Speaker, it is quite clear to me that this is just a ruse … [Interjections.] …

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please continue, Minister Grant.

†The MINISTER: … to derail the argument that I am making in the House. [Interjections.] This government is deeply committed to doing whatever is necessary and possible to protect and promote the interests of our learners. This government is about workable solutions; it is about finding and implementing workable solutions that improve the quality of teaching and learning for learners at Umyezo wama-Apile Combined School.
The Western Cape government fully appreciates the urgent need for a new school in Grabouw to alleviate overcrowding at this school. With the unexpected late arrivals of hundreds of additional learners at the start of the school year, the existing facilities at the school do not provide for a suitable environment in which quality teaching and learning can take place.

As a permanent solution to the overcrowding this government has been working hard to find a site in the area on which to build a new school. The limited availability of suitable land has delayed the building of a new school. We will continue exploring every possible avenue, including continued discussions with the national Department of Public Works, for the transfer of the land mentioned by my colleagues earlier in this debate.

As a temporary solution to the overcrowding the Western Cape Education Department has secured a site on which to erect a quality temporary satellite campus. I have visited the site and I am pleased to report that construction of the temporary satellite campus is underway. Given the rocky terrain of the site, a degree of engineering preparation is required before all facilities may be installed.

To allow time for this work to be completed as quickly and as safely as possible, and to minimise the risk of any further disruptions to teaching and learning time at the school, arrangements are being made by the department to accommodate Grade 11 and 12 learners in a suitable venue pending completion of the temporary satellite campus. The Grade 11 and 12 learners will receive intensive tuition for the duration of the second term, thus alleviating the overcrowding at the primary school.

It is also working closely with the school to ensure that appropriate support is provided to the learners and educators concerned. I am also pleased to report that a number of improvements are being made to the school's existing facilities. These improvements will be completed by the start of the second school term.

Mr Deputy Speaker, guided ultimately by what is in the best interests of the learners concerned, I am confident these solutions will alleviate overcrowding at Umyezo wama-Apile from the start of the second school term. With the support of learners, parents, educators and the community, we will continue to make every effort to improve the quality of teaching and learning at the school.

Let's focus on what really matters right now, and that is providing our learners with uninterrupted quality teaching and learning at suitable school facilities. We have a solution, we have a plan and we care for our learners. In this debate I want to warn and caution any agencies … [Interjections.] …

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

The MINISTER: … that believe that disruption of our schools will be tolerated, or can ever be said to be in the best interests of our learners, that this will not be the case. [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr McKenzie, please, you are having a running commentary all the time. Please cool down now.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[Ms N P MAGWAZA: Deputy Speaker, the most important thing is that irrespective of what the hon Minister is saying he should have gone to the people and listen to their problems. He should be acting like other ministers who are going up and down doing their jobs without looking down at the people. That is his problem, to look down at the people. Is it because these are black people that he does not care, as the hon Premier who is howling me? Why is she calling them refugees? Why are the neglecting the people of this province, using them only as cows for voting?]

I want to explain something here. People from the Eastern Cape did not come to Cape Town just yesterday, or today, to look for greener pastures, or better facilities and everything else. Since 1820 people have been coming from the Eastern Cape to look for jobs. They were fetched by the farmers who sent labour brokers to go and fetch people from the Eastern Cape to come and work here in the Western Cape. [Interjections.] I want once again to explain that. Their mothers and fathers were thrown out of the Western Cape, some of them, and they were given a loaf of bread and a tin of fish to take as “padkos” in those vans. Have you experienced that? [Interjections.] You have never.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.]

Ms N P MAGWAZA: You know what I am telling you is true. I am telling the truth. [Interjections.] Some of them were thrown out in Umtata in the Eastern Cape. They were taken away from Cape Town and thrown out in the Eastern Cape ... [Interjections.] [Imonti.][East London.] Do you know that one? [Mdantsane.]

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! Will the hon member please address the Chair from time to time? She is talking away from the Chair.

†Ms N P MAGWAZA: Okay.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is there a point of order?

*The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Mr Deputy Speaker, the hon member should just keep to the topic. The topic is the school. She is busy with another topic entirely. It is not relevant.

†The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am listening carefully. The hon member may continue. [Interjections.] Order! Order! Please continue, hon member.
Ms N P MAGWAZA: Thank you very much. The member is making a mockery of what I am saying because she has never felt what those people felt in that area. Those people know what it is to go to sleep on an empty stomach. Those people know what it is to drink water and go to sleep and have no alternative. They are making a mockery of what I am saying here today.

Those people were given “padkos”, a loaf of brown bread and a tin of fish, put in a “waentjie” and taken to the Eastern Cape. Some of those people are back to make sure that the life of the children of their children are turned around to lead a dignified life. Those people are today called refugees. Those are people that were evicted by some of the farmers. Those people decided to go and build shacks for themselves so that their children can have shelter. You call those people amagoduka. What do you mean by those terms? Because they are black you can easily call them amagoduka. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

Ms N P MAGWAZA: What about other people of colour that came to the Western Cape for greener pastures for the same reasons? Madam Premier, you are always telling us about Fransman being the orchestrator of this project you are talking about. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Ms N P MAGWAZA: I just want to ask three questions. Did Fransman say there shall be racism? Did Fransman say there shall be overcrowding in schools? Did Fransman say learners are internally displaced? [Interjections.] The Premier said that. [Interjections.] The Premier said that.

I want to thank the speakers who spoke in this debate. This could have been avoided. I want to say that once again, MEC. If I was the leader of your Cabinet I would tell you that this situation could have been avoided. [Interjections.] This situation could have been avoided by talking to the interested parties. I am looking that side! I must speak this side! Sorry, Deputy Speaker.

Lastly, I just want to thank the speakers for taking part in the debate on this matter. Sometimes we must correct each other so that people have an understanding of what went wrong. What went wrong is not only about the overcrowding in the school. Students are sharing a chair. The chair that you are sitting on, Deputy Speaker, three children would share that chair at Umyezo. I know what I am saying. I have been there on several occasions. And they have good pass rates under those circumstances.

By doing this, by not talking to the people and everybody else concerned, it means that the MEC does not care about the poorest of the poor. I thank you.

Debate concluded.

The House adjourned at 19:45.
ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

THURSDAY, 29 MARCH 2012

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker:

1. Assent by Premier in respect of Bill

   Western Cape Additional Adjustments Appropriation Bill (2011/12 Financial Year) [B 4–2012] – Act 1 of 2012 (assented to and signed by Premier on 20 March 2012).

2. Publication of Act 1 of 2012


3. Publication of correction notice: Reviewed list of candidates


TABLINGS

The Speaker:

1. Reports received from municipalities and tabled in accordance with sections 132(1) and (2) of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003)

   (a) George Municipality


   (b) Drakenstein Municipality


   (c) Langeberg Municipality


2. Public Service Commission

MONDAY, 2 APRIL 2012

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Speaker:

The vacancy which occurred in the Western Cape Provincial Parliament owing to the resignation of Ms P W Cupido has been filled with effect from 29 March 2012 by the nomination of Mr G C R Haskin. The member made an affirmation in the Speaker’s office on 29 March 2012.

TABLING

The Speaker:

Report received from municipality and tabled in accordance with sections 132(1) and (2) of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003)

Bergrivier Municipality


TUESDAY, 3 APRIL 2012

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker:

4. Updated list of changes in ID, COPE and ACDP membership of Standing Committees

(a) Rules Committee
   Haskin, GCR (ACDP)

(b) Budget Committee
   Haskin, GCR (ACDP)

(c) Public Accounts Committee
   Haskin, GCR (ACDP)

(d) Standing Committee on Premier, Gender, Disabled and Youth
   Alternate Member
   Haskin, GCR (ACDP)

(e) Petitions Committee
   Lentit, RB (ID)

   Alternate Member
   Van Zyl, JA (COPE)
(f) Standing Committee on Agriculture and Environmental Planning
   Alternate Member
   Haskin, GCR (ACDP)

(g) Standing Committee on Community Development

   Health
   Lentit, RB (ID)

   Social Development
   Van Zyl, JA (COPE)

(h) Human Settlements
   Ncedana, M (COPE)

   Alternate Member
   Lentit, RB (ID)

(i) Standing Committee on Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport
   Haskin, GCR (ACDP)

   Alternate Member
   Lentit, RB (ID)

(j) Disciplinary Committee
   Haskin, GCR (ACDP)

(k) Aesthetic Committee

   Alternate Member
   Haskin, GCR (ACDP)

5. Assent by Premier in respect of Bill

   Western Cape Unauthorised Expenditure Bill [B 2–2012] – Act 3 of 2012 (as-
   sened to and signed by Premier on 30 March 2012).

6. Publication of Act 3 of 2012

   Publication of the Western Cape Unauthorised Expenditure Act, 2012, in Pro-
   vincial Gazette Extraordinary 6979, dated 3 April 2012.

FRIDAY, 13 APRIL 2012

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Speaker:

1. Report of the Standing Committee on Premier, Gender, Disabled and Youth
   on the Western Cape Laws Repeal Bill [B 1–2012], dated 11 April 2012, as fol-
   lows:
The Standing Committee on Premier, Gender, Disabled and Youth having considered the subject of the *Western Cape Laws Repeal Bill* [B 1–2012], referred to it, begs to report the Bill without amendment.

2. *(Negotiating mandate stadium)*: Report of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Development on the *Division of Revenue Bill* [B 4–2012](NCOP), dated 11 April 2012, as follows:

The Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Development, having considered the *Division of Revenue Bill* [B 4–2012] (NCOP), referred to the Provincial Parliament in terms of the rules of the National Council of Provinces (NCOP), begs to report that it confers on the Western Cape’s delegation in the NCOP the authority to support the Bill.

The Committee further requests that the House consider this report.

FRIDAY, 13 APRIL 2012

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Speaker:

*Updated list of changes in Standing Committees’ membership*

1. **Rules Committee**

*Members: 11*

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2. Public Accounts Committee

**Members: 5**

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3. Budget Committee

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4. **Standing Committee on Premier, Gender, Disabled and Youth** *(Premier)*

**Members: 5**

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| Hartnick, JL *(C)*  
Marais, AJD  
Figlan, AM | Premier  
Brown, L  
**Gender, Disabled and Youth**  
Hani, V | Alternate Members  
Stali, ZC  
Magwaza, NP | Bevu, TN | Alternate Member  
Haskin, GCR |

5. **Standing Committee on Local Government** *(Local Government and National Council of Provinces)*

**Members: 5**

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| Visser, JJ *(C)*  
Geyer, HP  
Walters, MC | Uys, P  
Alternate Member  
Skwatsha, M | Ncedana, M | | | Alternate Member  
Lentit, RB |

7. **Standing Committee on Human Settlements** *(Human Settlements)*

**Members: 5**

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Geyer, HP  
Visser, JJ | Magaxa, KE  
Alternate Member  
Skwatsha, M | Ncedana, M | | | Alternate Member  
Lentit, RB |
8. Standing Committee on Local Government Oversight

**Members: 5**

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Alternate Members

- Figlan, AM
- Geyer, HP

9. Standing Committee on Agriculture and Environmental Planning (Agriculture and Environmental Affairs and Development Planning)

**Members: 5**

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Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

Alternate Members

- Rossouw, A
- Figlan, AM

10. Standing Committee on Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport (Community Safety and Cultural Affairs and Sport)

**Members: 5**

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Alternate Members

- Rossouw, A
- Labuschagne, C
- Pretorius, PJC

Alternate Member

- Magaxa, KE

Alternate Member for Community Safety

- Lentit, RB
11. Standing Committee on Education *(Education)*

**Members:** 5

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Alternate Members
- Marais, AJD
- Rossouw, A
- Pretorius, PJC

12. Standing Committee on Community Development *(Health and Social Development)*

**Members:** 5

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Alternate Members
- Pretorius, PJC
- Wiley, MGE
- Rossouw, A

13. Petitions Committee

**Members:** 5

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Alternate Members
- Marais, AJD
- Hartnick, JL
- Wiley, MGE

| McKenzie, PC | | | | |
| Van Zyl, JA | | | | |
| Lentit, RB | | | | |
14. Conduct Committee

**Members: 5**

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15. Chairpersons’ Forum

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16. Aesthetics Committee

**Members: 5**

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WEDNESDAY, 18 APRIL 2012

**TABLINGS**

The Speaker:

1. Reports received from municipalities and tabled in accordance with sections 132(1) and (2) of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003):
(d) Knysna Municipality

(e) City of Cape Town

(f) Theewaterskloof Municipality

(g) Witzenberg Municipality

(h) Cape Winelands District Municipality

(i) Mossel Bay Municipality

2. Public Service Commission


3. Bills received from National Council of Provinces and tabled in terms of Rule 203:
   (a) Credit Rating Services Bill [B 8–2012].
   (b) Independent System and Market Operator Bill [B 9–2012].
   (c) Financial Markets Bill [B 12–2012].
TABLING

The Speaker:

Reports received from municipalities and tabled in accordance with sections 132(1) and (2) of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003):

1. Stellenbosch Municipality

2. Breede Valley Municipality

3. Swartland Municipality

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Speaker:

1. Publication of Act 8 of 2000 (isiXhosa version).

   Publication of the isiXhosa version of the Cape Town International Convention Centre Company Act, 2000, in Provincial Gazette Extraordinary 6987, dated 19 April 2012.


   Publication of the isiXhosa version of the Western Cape Health Facility Boards Act, 2001, in Provincial Gazette Extraordinary 6988, dated 19 April 2012.