

PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

THURSDAY, 30 JULY 2020

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **(Final mandate stage)** Report of the Standing Committee on Finance, Economic Opportunities and Tourism on the National Gambling Amendment Bill [B 27B–2018] (NCOP), dated 22 November 2019 as follows:

The Standing Committee on Finance, Economic Opportunities and Tourism, having considered the subject of the National Gambling Amendment Bill [B 27 B–2018] (NCOP), referred to the Committee in terms of Standing Rule 217, recommends that the House confers on the Western Cape's delegation in the National Council of Provinces the authority to not support the Bill.

Report to be considered.

2. **Annual Committee Report of the Standing Committee on Finance, Economic Opportunities and Tourism for the 2019/20 financial year, dated 1 April 2020, as follows:**

Members

The Committee comprised of the following members:

Baartman, D (DA)(Chairperson)
Mitchell, D (DA)
Van der Westhuizen, A (DA)
Makamba-Botya, N (EFF)
Nkondlo, N (ANC)

Alternate Members

America, D (DA)
 Bans, A (ANC)
 Maseko, M (DA)
 Mvimbi, L (ANC)
 Schafer, B (DA)
 Xego, M (EFF)

1. Introduction

The mandate of the Committee is to:

- 1.1 Maintain oversight over the executive members and the Departments concerning the way in which they perform their responsibilities, including the implementation of legislation and to hold them accountable; and
- 1.2 Consider and report on legislation, other matters and the annual reports referred to it by the Speaker.

In fulfillment of its mandate the Committee must:

- 1.2.1 Facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative and other processes of the Committee.
- 1.2.2 Conduct its business in a fair, open and transparent manner.
- 1.2.3 Promote cooperative governance.
- 1.2.4 Report regularly to the House.

2. Reporting Departments and Entities

- 2.1 Provincial Treasury
- 2.2 Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board
- 2.3 Department of Economic Development and Tourism
- 2.4 Western Cape Destination Marketing, Investment and Trade Promotion Agency (WESGRO)
- 2.5 Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone Licencing Company SOC Ltd

3. Overview of Committee's activities

Number of Committee Meetings	13
Number of Public Hearings	6
Number of International Study Tours	0
Number of Oversight Visits	3
Number of Provincial Bills considered	0
Number of NCOP Bills considered	1
Workshops/conferences attended	0

4. Oversight activities

The Standing Committee on Finance, Economic Opportunities and Tourism conducted its oversight responsibilities and produced a high level of output, holding a total of 13 meetings,

three oversight visits and six public hearings during the 2019/20 financial year, despite this being an election year.

4.1 Legislation

During the 2019/20 financial year, the Committee deliberated on Vote 3: Provincial Treasury and Vote 12: Economic Development and Tourism in the Schedule to the Western Cape Adjustment Appropriation Bill [B 6–2019]. Both Votes were supported and the Reports on the Votes were adopted on 27 November 2019.

The Committee also deliberated on Vote 3: Provincial Treasury and Vote 12: Economic Development and Tourism in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 3–2020], on 12 and 13 March respectively. Both Votes were supported and the Reports on the Votes were adopted on 18 March 2020.

On 19 November 2019, the National Gambling Amendment Bill (the Bill) [B 27B–2018] (S76) was officially referred to the Committee. The Committee received a briefing by the National Department of Trade and Industry on the Bill on 22 November 2019. However, since this Bill was already processed by the previous Standing Committee on Finance (SCOF) in the Fifth Parliament and because there were no further changes to the Bill, the Committee resolved that it would reiterate the stance taken by the SCOF before the end of the Fifth Parliament, which was not to support the Bill.

The Committee also dealt with the Special Appropriation Bill [B 10–2019] (hereby referred to as the Eskom Bill). Even though the Eskom Bill was not officially referred to the Committee, Members felt that it required special attention because of the financial implications it had for the Western Cape and South Africa as a whole. The Eskom Bill was a Section 77 Bill that appropriated an additional amount of R59 billion for the requirements of the Department of Public Enterprises to assist Eskom Holdings SOC Limited with its financial obligations and to provide for matters connected therewith. The Committee felt that bailing out Eskom was unsustainable and would impact negatively on the overall fiscus. The Provincial Treasury briefed the Committee on the impact of the Eskom Bill on 18 October 2019. Following the briefing, the Committee made a number of recommendations to the National Assembly and National Council of Provinces. One of the recommendations was that the Houses should impose conditions in the Eskom Bill to indicate the exact functions for which Eskom must use the R59 billion.

4.2 Committee Meetings

On 4 June 2019 the Committee held its first meeting of the Sixth Parliament, which was the election of Chairperson, in accordance with Standing Rule 82(1) of the Standing Rules of Western Cape Provincial Parliament. Advocate D Baartman was elected as the Chairperson of the Committee.

Much of the Committee's attention was focused on energy-related matters, given the energy crisis that resulted in a spate of load shedding activity towards the end of 2019 and beginning of 2020. Besides leading discussions on the Eskom Bill in October 2019, the Committee also received briefings on the Energy Security Game Changer, and the National System Status and the Provincial Network Plan for energy, to better understand the energy predicament that the country is facing. On 9 March 2020, the Committee also received a briefing from Transnet on Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) infrastructure and

possible LNG projects in the Western Cape. This request stemmed from the Committee's intention to explore alternative energy options for the Western Cape in lieu of the current energy crisis.

The Committee was also requested to interview possible candidates to fill the vacancies of the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board (WCGRB). On 23 August 2019, the Committee interviewed 12 candidates and immediately thereafter adopted its report on the recommendations to fill the vacancies. This report was ATC'd on 29 August 2019. The Report spoke to the two immediate vacancies that had to be filled, the two vacancies that would occur at the end of March 2020, and the recommendations of candidates to fill the immediate/current vacancies and the future vacancies occurring at the end of March 2020.

In keeping with previous years' committee activities, the Committee deliberated on the 2018/19 Annual Reports of the Department of Economic Development and Entities; Wesgro and Saldanha Bay IDZ Licencing Company SOC Ltd (SBIDZ-LC), on 18 October 2019. The Committee also deliberated on the 2018/19 Annual Reports of the Provincial Treasury and its Entity, WCGRB, on 1 November 2019. Both reports were supported and adopted on 12 November 2019.

During the year, the Committee also requested a briefing from the Airports Company South Africa on the expansion plans for the Cape Town International Airport and the impact of the expansion on surrounding communities. The Committee also received a briefing on the Annual Performance Plans of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism and its Entities. TymeBank was also requested to brief the Committee on the service it provides in the digital banking sector.

4.3 Oversight Visits

During the 2019/20 financial year the Committee conducted three oversight visits. The first visit formed part of the Service Delivery Cluster Visit Week from 2 February to 6 February 2020. The Cluster Visit Week took place in Central and Klein Karoo. As part of the Committee's oversight project, the Cluster visited the Oudtshoorn Airport (the Airport) to discuss the funding allocated to the Airport by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism for critical tourism air infrastructure upgrades, the flight figures for the Airport, and the flight school training programme. The Airport was identified as a key economic asset within the Oudtshoorn area, hence the need to develop and upgrade the facility.

On 18 February 2020 the Committee engaged with local business owners at a workshop hosted by the Mitchell's Plain Chamber of Commerce. The Committee requested that local Mitchell's Plain business owners inform the Committee of the challenges that are hindering the growth of businesses in the area. It was noted that Mitchell's Plain covers 84 square kilometres of land in Cape Town, consists of over 40 suburbs, and is one of the biggest contributors to the economy in terms of retail spend, residential investment and labour provision. Mitchell's Plain is also home to many small businesses and informal traders who trade alongside major retailers, providing critical employment opportunities for the members of the Mitchell's Plain community.

On 9 March 2020 the Committee fulfilled its resolution to visit the Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone (SBIDZ) to see, first hand, the work that the SBIDZ-LC has undertaken over the past few years. The SBIDZ-LC gave the Committee an overview of the SBIDZ, an update on the infrastructure progress, a briefing on the Artisan Training Programme, and a brief description of legislative concerns they have experienced in the sector. The Committee was also taken on a tour of the SBIDZ where Members were shown the port land area, the Access and Security Complex and sites where SBIDZ businesses were under development. The Committee was introduced to business owners whose buildings/facilities were under construction or being renovated.

It was during this oversight visit on 9 March 2020 that the Committee also received a briefing by Transnet on the LNG infrastructure and possible LNG projects in the Western Cape.

5. Legislation

In the 2019/20 financial year, the Committee dealt with the following legislation:

5.1 Provincial Bills

- 5.1.1 Vote 3: Provincial Treasury in the Schedule to the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B 6–2019]
- 5.1.2 Vote 12: Economic Development and Tourism in the Schedule to the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B 6–2019]
- 5.1.3 Vote 3: Provincial Treasury in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 3–2020]
- 5.1.4 Vote 12: Economic Development and Tourism in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 3–2020]

5.2 NCOP Bills (Section 76)

- 5.2.1 National Gambling Amendment Bill [B 27B–2018]

6. Facilitation of Public Involvement and Participation

In line with its mandate to facilitate public participation as part of the legislative process, the Committee held public hearings on the Bills. To give effect to this, the Committee advertised the Annual Report and Bills such as the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B 6-2019] and the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 3-2020], informing and inviting stakeholders to participate in public hearings.

7. Financial particulars

The Committee's adjusted budget for the 2019/20 financial year was R100 000.00 and the Committee incurred actual expenditure of R 100 500.00 resulting in an over-expenditure of R500.00.