

# PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

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## QUESTION PAPER

### WRITTEN REPLY

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Note: \* Indicates translated version.

**FRIDAY, 23 JULY 2021**

**1. Mr B N Herron to ask Mr D G Mitchell, Minister of Transport and Public Works:**

With regard to the Golden Arrow Bus Services and the two electric buses introduced by the Minister on 5 July 2021:

(a) Whether the two BYD electric buses are the same buses procured by the City of Cape Town and delivered to the City in 2018 before the City cancelled the tender, (b) who owned the buses that the Golden Arrow Bus Services has acquired, (c) how were they (i) acquired by, (ii) procured by and (iii) allocated to the Golden Arrow Bus Services, (d) whether the buses are owned by the Golden Arrow Bus Services, (e) what role did the Western Cape provincial government and/or the Department of Transport and Public Works play in this, (f) what procurement process was followed if the WCG was involved, (g) is this permitted in terms of the Provincial Transport Operations Grant (PTOG) or other subsidies provided to the service, (h) how does the use of electric buses on routes affect the operating subsidy for the two electric buses given the operational costs differential, (i) what role did the uYilo Kickstart Fund play in the arrangement, (j) how does uYilo Kickstart Fund finance the pilot project, (k) how long will the pilot project operate for and (l) why are the buses not being used on longer direct routes, for example from Khayelitsha and Mitchells Plain, in order to test their range?

(490)

**2. Mr B N Herron to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:**

In the early hours of 1 July 2021 a retention pond near an informal settlement area, Bloekombos, burst its banks spilling raw sewerage into the surrounding houses and causing damage to property and creating an environmental hazard:

(a) Whether the Minister or his Department has taken any action as a result of this incident; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details, (b) if action was taken, against whom was the action taken and what are the relevant details, (c) what investigations have been done into the cause of the burst or spillage and what was the

outcome, (d) what role did the City of Cape Town's maintenance or failure of maintenance play, (e) why would a burst retention pond, intended to retain stormwater runoff, result in a sewerage spill, (f) how has the Western Cape provincial government's Department of Environmental Affairs assisted the community of Kraaifontein, (g) whether the Minister's Department visited the site and assessed the damage; if so, what are the relevant details, (h) whether the area been sanitised and (i) what caused the dam to burst?

(491)

**3. Mr B N Herron to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Human Settlements:**

With regard to the apartheid-era migrant labour hostels in Langa, Gugulethu and Nyanga in Cape Town:

- (1) (a) What is the total number of (i) unrefurbished or (ii) transformed into family units hostels in each of the three townships, (b) for each, identify by (i) name and (ii) location the (aa) City-owned hostels, (bb) privately owned hostels and (cc) so-called "grey" hostels (hostels that were privately built on public land);
- (2) whether there are any other hostels unrefurbished or untransformed not included in the three "categories" above; if so, (a) what are the details, (b) what is the plan to transform each of these hostels into family units and (c) when will each planned transformation be complete;
- (3) (a) how many and (b) which (names and locations) of the privately owned hostels have been abandoned or are no longer managed or maintained by their private owners and (c) what is the plan with the privately owned hostels;
- (4) whether there are plans to expropriate the hostels in (3); if not, (a) why not and (b) how will the living conditions in the privately owned hostels be improved; if so, who will expropriate these hostels;
- (5) whether compensation will be paid; if not, why not; if so, (a) why and (b) how much;
- (6) whether the owners will be required to repair the buildings so that they are appropriate for human habitation; if not, why not; if so, what are the details of the action taken to date;
- (7) what is the government's plan with the so-called "grey" hostels;
- (8) whether the Province regards the "grey" hostel as public housing; if not, why not; if so, (a) why and (b) how many people are currently residing in public, private and "grey" hostels?

(492)

**4. Mr P Marran to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Human Settlements:**

- (1) Whether the Minister or his Department gave any support to assist the Breede Valley Municipality (Worcester) with the evictions of people off land within that area despite the COVID-19 lockdown measures; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) what is the (a) number of people and (b) details of the evictions that took place in the Breede Valley Municipality between March 2020 and July 2021;
- (3) whether his Department filed for any legal application to prevent people being kicked off that land because of the heavy rain and intense cold during June and July 2021; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

- (4) whether any alternative serviced land was made available where evictees could go; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (5) whether due consideration and special arrangements were made for poor people in distress, such as heavily pregnant women and the elderly; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (6) whether his Department notified other state institutions and stakeholders, such as the courts, the relevant state departments and social institutions, about the evictions; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (7) why was this matter not held in abeyance until after the lifting of the COVID-19 restrictions?

(493)

**5. Mr P Marran to ask Mr D G Mitchell, Minister of Transport and Public Works:**

- (1) Whether the Minister was alerted or consulted about (a) a rail fly-over bridge in Worcester that was left dangerous and unserviceable due to heavy rain in June and July 2021 and (b) the road that was diverted to join a busy road at an traffic circle or roundabout at a rail level crossing with minimum safety, namely only a stop sign and other signage; if not, why not; if so, (i) what are the relevant details and (ii) what role did the Minister or his Department play in advising the relevant authorities on how to proceed at the juncture;
- (2) (a) whether there has been any incidents or collisions reported since the diversion was implemented, (b) how long will the repair or construction take for this situation to be reversed; and
- (3) (a) what is the total budget for the repair of the bridge and (b) when will the project be completed?

(494)

**6. Ms P Z Lekker to ask Mr A R Winde, Premier:**

- (a) Whether the Premier will list all the exclusive powers and/or competencies he has that he used to give instructions for the Western Cape to be on full alert during the public riots and looting that took place early to mid-July 2021 and (b) what those instructions were in each case?

(495)

**7. Mr A Lili to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Human Settlements:**

- (a) What is the number of serviced plots that are available in the province, including a breakdown per municipality, (b) what is the (i) total budget that has been spent on serviced plots and (ii) number of plots serviced in (aa) 2010, (bb) 2011, (cc) 2012, (dd) 2013, (ee) 2014, (ff) 2015, (gg) 2016, (hh) 2017, (ii) 2018, (jj) 2019, (kk) 2020, (ll) 2021 to date?

(496)

**8. Mr A Lili to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Human Settlements:**

With regard to the number of plots that have been serviced between 2009 and 2021:

- (1) What is the number of serviced plots or sites that have been (a) given to private property developers for mixed housing development and (b) how many low-cost houses have been built on these serviced plots during this period;
- (2) what is the total number of serviced plots that have been transferred to private entities for development, including the details of the development that took place on the serviced plots during this period?

(497)

**9. Mr A Lili to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Human Settlements:**

What is the total amount that the provincial government received from private property developers for the transfer of (a) sites and (b) serviced plots in (i) 2009, (ii) 2010, (iii) 2011, (iv) 2012, (v) 2013, (vi) 2014, (vii) 2015, (viii) 2016, (ix) 2017, (x) 2018, (xi) 2019, (xii) 2020 and (xiii) 2021 to date?

(498)

**10. Mr P Marran to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:**

- (a) Whether all the municipalities in the province have details of land ownership and
- (b) if a detailed breakdown of public and private land ownership in municipalities can be provided, including (i) residential, (ii) farms, (iii) commercial, (iv) serviced, (v) unserviced, (vi) open spaces, (vii) provincial government land and (viii) national government land; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(499)

**11. Ms N G Bakubaku-Vos to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Human Settlements:**

- (1) Whether the Minister is aware that a certain person, whose name has been furnished to his Department for the purpose of his reply, the mother of a disabled son, whose subsidy for the Vredebes Housing Project in Ceres was approved in September 2020, is now homeless and lives in an abandoned building; if not, why not; if so, (a) what are the relevant details and (b) what intervention has his office made to accelerate the building of her house;
- (2) (a) what progress has been made with the building of a house for this person and (b) when will the house be completed?

(500)

**PLEASE NOTE: The replies to the questions contained in this Question Paper are due on 6 August 2021. Should the replies not be submitted before or on the deadline, the Members have the right to have the questions transferred to the Question Paper for oral reply in accordance with Rule 206.**