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

## **MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

### **STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**

**Wednesday, 14 August 2019, (at 09:00) Committee Room 1**

#### **PRESENT**

##### **Members:**

##### **Democratic Alliance**

Allen, RI

Botha, LJ

Philander, WF (Chairperson)

##### **African National Congress**

Windvogel, R

##### **Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF)**

Xego, M

##### **Additional Members**

Bans, AP (ANC)

##### **Persons in attendance**

**See the attached register**

#### **1. Opening and welcome**

The Chairperson opened the meeting and allowed for brief introductions.

#### **2. Presentation on the status of Forensic Pathology Services (FPS) in the province**

The presentation was led by Ms. A Thomson, Manager of Forensic Pathology Services (FPS) in the Western Cape.

The Committee deliberated on the presentation focusing on matters relating to the mandate of the Forensic Pathology Service in terms of the Regulations regarding the rendering of Forensic Pathology Service Regulation No.R. 359 OF 2018; the statistics of the cases logged between 1 April 2018-31 March 2019; the service pressures within the FPS; the circumstances of homicide deaths in the

province between 2017-2019; statistics of weekend homicide case admissions; status of FPS at Tygerberg and Salt River FPL; staffing establishment in the provincial FPS and the progress made in building the new Forensic Pathology Lab in Observatory.

The Committee sought clarity on the service pressures within the provincial FPS; the number of cases at the Tygerberg and Salt River FPL and the staffing establishment of the FPS.

The Department informed the Committee that the provincial FPS experienced an increase in case admission year on year as well as case complexities. The 2019/2020 average case admission is 1062 per month; compared to 1003 for the same period in 2018/2019 and 985 for 17/18 financial year. During the meeting, Tygerberg had a total of 129 cases whilst Salt River had 58 cases.

The Department also reported that during the 2019/2020 financial year the FPS had 287 approved positions. Furthermore, two Pathologists and six FPO positions were also approved.

### **3. Presentation on the status of the Emergency Medical Services in the province**

The presentation was led by Dr. de Vries, Director for the Emergency Medical Services in the province.

The Committee deliberated on the presentation focusing on matters related to the incident group contributions; trauma incidents types contributions in the City of Cape Town in the current financial year; top 10 areas where trauma incidents occur in the City of Cape Town; top 10 areas where gunshots incidents occur in the City of Cape Town in 2019; the comparison of the red zone areas; the EMS incident timeline; the anatomy of a call performance impact; mission time and the EMS strategies in the province.

The Committee sought clarity on the top 10 trauma incidents areas and top 10 gunshot incidents areas in the City of Cape Town in 2019; the red zone areas; the response times and the EMS strategies.

The Department reported that in 2019 in the City of Cape Town the top 10 areas for trauma incidents were Khayelitsha; Delft; Philippi; Strand; Mfuleni; Macassar; Mbekweni; Nomzamo; Lwandle and Du Noon. Whilst, the 10 10 areas for gunshot incidents are Delft; Khayelitsha; Phillipi; Manenberg; Hanover Park; Lentegeur; Tafelsig; Bonteheuwel; Westbank and Eastridge.

The following red zone areas have been identified and are Browns Farm in Phillipi; Tafelsig; Beacon Valley; Hayden Park; Nyanga; Gugulethu; New Crossroad; Manenberg; Hanover Park; Kalksteentfontein; Chicago in Paarl; Site C in Khayelitsha and J Section in Lingeletu. The Department mentioned that the EMS staff wait at the Police Station to be escorted by SAPS before entering a red zone area. The response time in the Metro is 15 minutes and less, however, in the red zone areas it can take more than 15 minutes depending on when the Police escort becomes available.

Dr. De Vries, highlighted that in the EMS Call Centre, all life- threatening calls are subject to 15 minutes response time, however, due to the challenges relating to the red zone areas calls that take 60 minutes response time impact on resources. The EMS is heavily dependent on SAPS to respond in any identified red zone area.

The Department also reported that the strategy for the EMS in the province includes strengthening senior EMS leadership; creating comprehensive staff Health Services; reassess resource cost constraints; health services platform design and the WOSA initiative by means of greater community engagement.

The Chairpersons thanked the Department for the interaction and excused the officials to allow the Committee to conduct its internal matters.

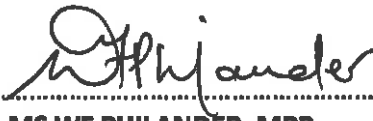
#### **4. Consideration of the Committee documents**

- 4.1 The Chairperson tabled the Draft Minutes of 31 July 2019 which were considered and adopted.
- 4.2 The Chairperson tabled Draft Committee Programme which was considered and adopted.

#### **5. Other matters**

The Chairperson informed the Committee about the Social Cluster Visit Week which was scheduled for 26 -29 August 2019 in Laingsburg. All Members of the Committee confirmed their attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00.



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**MS WF PHILANDER, MPP**  
**CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**  
**WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT**  
**DATE:**