

Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement Western Cape Provincial Parliament IPalamente yePhondo IeNtshona Koloni

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE PREMIER AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS ON THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE PREMIER FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020, DATED 2 FEBRUARY 2021

1. Introduction

Annual reports are the key instruments for departments to report on performance measured against performance targets and budgets as outlined in the strategic plans and annual performance plans of departments.

The Annual Report Programme for the 2019/20 financial year was advertised in the newspapers, inviting stakeholders and members of the public to attend and participate in the discussions. No members of the public were present during the discussion of the Annual Report, therefore, no input was received.

Members of the Standing Committee on the Premier and Constitutional Matters deliberated on Part A: General Information, Part B: Performance Information and Part D: Human Resource Management of the Annual Reports of the Department of the Premier.

2. Overview

The Committee considered at a virtual meeting the 2019/20 Annual Report of the Department of the Premier on 7 December 2020.

Before proceeding to the consideration of the Annual Report, the Premier and the Director-General were given an opportunity to make opening remarks. The Premier and the Director-General provided a synopsis of the successes and challenges faced by the Department of the Premier.

In the year under review, the Department of the Premier received a clean audit with no unauthorised expenditure for the 2019/20 financial year. The Committee raised concerns and recommendations based on its interaction with the Department on its 2019/20 Annual Report.

3. Concerns

- 3.1 The Department installed 630 Wi-Fi hotspots which provides 120 000 citizens access to the internet using limited free data. This service is available to an estimation of only 1.7 % of the population of the Western Cape.
- 3.2 The Committee raised a concern that the Department does not set targets to track the number of citizens gaining access to the internet via the Wi-Fi hotspots.

4. Information Requested

The Committee REQUESTED that the Department provide the Committee with the following information by 22 February 2021:

- 4.1.1 A list of all grievances, misconduct and dispute matters lodged and the outcomes of these cases;
- 4.1.2 The latest report on the plans for the next Premier's Advancement of Youth (PAY) project;
- 4.1.3 A copy of the monthly reports that were produced on Citizen engagements detailing the top 10 issues identified by the Western Cape Government (WCG) Contact Centre for the year under review;
- 4.1.4 The target set by the Department on the number of the citizens accessing the internet using limited free data through the Wi-Fi hotspots every month;
- 4.1.5 A copy the Cape Higher Education Consortium (CHEC) evaluation report that was conducted in 2018 and considered in the 2019/20 financial year by the CHEC/WCG Joint Task Team (JTT);
- 4.1.6 A list of the names of the Faith-based Organisations that assists in the development of the protocols relating to bereavement and funerals in the event of COVID -19 cases; and
- 4.1.7 A copy of the Work from Home policy.

5. Conclusion

The Chairperson thanked the Premier and the Department for their preparation and responses to questions raised by the Committee members.

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MR R MACKENZIE CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE PREMIER AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS DATE: 2 February 2021