

**PARLIAMENT OF THE
PROVINCE OF THE
WESTERN CAPE**

**QUESTION PAPER
ORAL REPLY**

Note: * Indicates translated version.

THURSDAY, 4 JUNE 2026

7. Mr B N Herron to ask Mr J J Londt, Minister of Social Development:

With reference to his reply to question 14 of 14 May 2026:

- (1) What is the average waiting time for (a) trauma counselling and (b) psychosocial interventions in gang-affected communities;
- (2) what is the total number of social workers in the (a) province and (b) City of Cape Town;
- (3) given the significant role that neighbourhood watch teams play in keeping communities safe, what additional Department support, if any, is available to these teams?

(75)

Minister of Social Development to respond in an oral reply

- (1) The average waiting time for (a) trauma counselling and (b) psychosocial interventions in the DSD is 24 hours after the matter has been reported. The response time for designated child protection organisations may vary depending on if and when an incident is reported, as well as capacity-related factors, such as limited availability of social workers trained in trauma support and competing priority of high caseloads of children's court matters. These factors may impact the availability of social service practitioners to respond to the requests within a uniform timeframe.
- (2) The total number of Social Service Practitioners in the Department of Social Development (DSD) and funded Designated Child Protection Organisations (DCPOs) is as set out in the table below:

Province:

Number of Social Service Professionals	Department of Social Development	Designated Child Protection Organisations
Social Work Managers	11	6
Social Work Supervisors	88	75
Social Workers	617	512
Social Auxiliary Workers	363	269
Total	1 079	862

Cape Town Metro:

Number of Social Service Professionals	Department of Social Development	Designated Child Protection Organisations
Social Work Managers	7	1
Social Work Supervisors	52	17
Social Workers	371	66
Social Auxiliary Workers	173	21
Total	603	105

- (3) Some of the neighbourhood watch members are also GBV ambassadors which are supported by the Department through various capacity building initiatives as well as monthly/quarterly debriefing sessions.