

WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

[No 6 - 2026] Third Session, Seventh Parliament

MONDAY, 4 MAY 2026

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

17. Mr P Johnson to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Education:

- (1) (a)(i) How many school resource officers (SROs) are currently deployed at schools in province and (ii) at which specific schools are they placed, (b) what criteria are used by his Department to determine the allocation of SROs to particular schools, (c)(i) what assessment has his Department conducted on the impact of SROs at schools in the province and (ii) what were the findings and (d) what is the total annual cost for his Department for the SRO Programme for the 2026 school year;
- (2) in comparison to the 2025 school year, whether there are plans to expand the SRO Programme to additional schools in 2026; if so, (a) how many additional schools are being targeted and (b) what timeline has been set for such an expansion;
- (3) what partnerships exist between his Department and (a) the South African Police Service and (b) local law enforcements?

Answer:

17. My department has informed me of the following:

- (1) (a) (i) 82 School Resource Officers (SROs)
- (ii)

School Name	Type	Area
1. Arcadia Senior Sekondêre Skool	SAR	Bonteheuwel
2. Bonteheuwel Sekondêr	SAR	Bonteheuwel
3. Capricorn Primary School	SAR	Capricorn
4. Downeville Primary School	SAR	Manenberg
5. Elswood Sekondêr	SAR	Elsies River
6. Forest Heights Hoërskool	SAR	Eerste Rivier
7. Hillwood Primary School	SAR	Lavender Hill
8. Iqhayiya Secondary School	SAR	Khayelitsha
9. John Ramsay Hoërskool	SAR	Bishop Lavis
10. Levana Primary School	SAR	Lavender Hill

School Name	Type	Area
11. Modderdam Sekondêr	SAR	Bonteheuwel
12. Phoenix Sekondêr	SAR	Manenberg
13. Prince George Primary School	SAR	Lavender Hill
14. Voorbrug Sekondêr	SAR	Delft
15. Bulumko Secondary School	ABT 1	Khayelitsha
16. Joe Slovo Secondary School	ABT 1	Khayelitsha
17. Sizimisele Secondary School	ABT 1	Khayelitsha
18. Hindle High School	ABT 2	Delft
19. Masibambisane Secondary School	ABT 2	Delft
20. West Bank High School	ABT 2	Wesbank
21. Crystal Sekondêr	ABT 3	Hanover Park
22. Dr. Nelson R Mandela High School	ABT 3	Phillipi
23. Phakama Secondary School	ABT 3	Phillipi
24. Beauvallon Sekondêr	ABT 4	Valhalla Park
25. Bishop Lavis Sekondêr	ABT 4	Bishop Lavis
26. Kalksteenfontein Primêre Skool	ABT 4	Epping
27. Glendale Secondary School	ABT 5	Rocklands
28. Paramount High School	ABT 5	Tafelsig
29. Woodlands Secondary School	ABT 5	Woodlands
30. Liwa Primary School	ABT 6	Nyanga
31. Sikelela Imizamo Primary School	ABT 6	Nyanga
32. Sinethemba Secondary School	ABT 6	Nyanga
33. Atlantis Sekondêre Skool	ABT 7	Atlantis
34. Proteus Hoërskool	ABT 7	Atlantis
35. Saxonsea Sekondêr	ABT 7	Atlantis
36. Fezeka Secondary School	ABT 8	Gugulethu
37. ID Mkize Sen Secondary	ABT 8	Gugulethu
38. Intshukumo Secondary School	ABT 8	Gugulethu
39. Samora Machel Primary School	ABT 9	Machel
40. Sophumelela Secondary School	ABT 9	Machel
41. Zisukhanyo Secondary School	ABT 9	Machel

Area Based Teams (ABT):

An Area Based Team (ABT) is a methodology applied in 16 priority areas across the Western Cape which brings together Law Enforcement agencies under the control of the South African Police Services (SAPS), National, Provincial and Local Government role-players, as well as community-based structures, NGOs and experts aimed at coordinating and maximising collective impact of the Provincial Safety Plan

Schools at Risk:

Schools at Risk are those where learners and teachers are negatively impacted by violence, bullying, harassment, the influence of substance use and gang violence.

(b) The Western Cape Education Department (WCED) in partnership with the City of Cape Town, applies a risk-based and needs-driven allocation model when determining which schools would receive SROs, i.e. where they are most likely to reduce immediate safety threats, stabilise high-risk school environments and support sustained safe teaching and learning conditions. The allocation is generally informed by a combination of safety risk indicators, contextual vulnerability and operational feasibility considering:

- Crime and incident data
- Geographic crime hotspots
- School safety profile and vulnerability
- Socio-economic and community context
- Strategic priority areas

(c) (i) The WCED has monthly SRO management meetings to review the impact and effectiveness of the SRO Project as well as to discuss solutions to challenges. In addition, annual meetings are held with all the principals where SROs have been deployed, SROs, SRO management and WCED safety management officials to review impact and effectiveness of the SRO Project.

- (ii) There has been observations and feedback indicating:
- Improved conflict mediation capacity in schools
 - SROs providing mentorship and problem-solving support, not only law enforcement
 - Strengthened relationships between schools and law enforcement
 - SROs are viewed as a positive supporting intervention
 - SROs are effective in improving school safety capacity, coordination and responsiveness
 - SROs impact is systemic and complementary, not independently measurable in isolation
 - They form part of a broader Safe Schools strategy combining policing, psychosocial support and infrastructure upgrades

(d) R36 347 000

(2) Yes

- (a) 3 additional schools will be incorporated into the SRO Programme. A total of 6 SROs will be allocated to these schools, being 2) SROs assigned to each school.
 - (b) The expansion will take effect on 1 July 2026, coinciding with the commencement of the City of Cape Town's financial year.
- (3) (a) The Department of Basic Education and the South African Police Service have signed a revised Protocol Agreement which serves as the national framework for cooperation between the education sector and law-enforcement authorities in promoting safe and secure school environments. The reviewed Protocol strengthens intergovernmental collaboration on school safety, crime prevention, emergency response and the protection of learners, educators and school property. It further provides guidance to provincial education departments and SAPS structures on coordinated implementation measures, including school-police station linkages, information sharing, awareness programmes and procedures for addressing violence, substance abuse, gangsterism, bullying and other criminal activities affecting schools. The SAPS forms part of a joint work plan including after school and holiday programmes.
- (b) Partnerships between the WCED and local law-enforcement agencies are primarily focused on school safety, crime prevention, learner protection and rapid response around school precincts. In the Western Cape, this most visibly includes cooperation with the City of Cape Town Law Enforcement Division and Metro Police.

Law-enforcement officers are stationed at identified WCED schools to:

- support crime prevention
- provide visible safety
- relationship-building with learners, staff & surrounding communities
- be part of after school and holiday programmes
- respond to criminal incidents
- anti-drug and anti-weapon operations
- support during unrest or protests affecting schools

Metro Police support schools through:

- visible patrols near schools
- traffic and pedestrian safety
- response to criminal incidents
- anti-drug and anti-weapon operations

- support during unrest or protests affecting schools

The WCED also benefits indirectly from the Western Cape Safety Plan through deployment of Law Enforcement Advancement Plan (LEAP) officers in communities surrounding high-risk schools. LEAP support helps stabilise situations in the vicinity of certain schools to enhance safe teaching and learning environments.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

DATE: 4 MAY 2026