

PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

WRITTEN REPLY

FRIDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 2025

1. Prof N Mbombo to ask Mr I M Sileku, Minister of Mobility:

Given anecdotal reports that Government Garage-branded (GG-branded) vehicles have increasingly been targeted in robberies, placing public servants and their families in danger, and considering that GG vehicles are managed by Government Motor Transport (GMT):

(a) What is the total cost to each department for the management and operation of GG vehicles, (b) how many incidents of robbery or related crimes involving GG-branded vehicles have been reported in each department over the past three years and (c) what measures has the Department put in place to (i) reduce the risk of such incidents and (ii) improve the safety of public servants who rely on GG vehicles?

Response:

1(a) What is the total cost to each department for the management and operation of GG vehicles,

The total cost for the management and operation of GG vehicles to each department for the period 1 April 2025 until 31 August 2025 is reflected in the table below:

Summary: Total cost to each department for the management and operation of GG vehicles 1 April 2025 until 31 August 2025						
Client Department	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Total
Dept of Justice (National)	1 062 016,23	1 127 702,99	1 063 461,71	1 121 537,10	1 143 036,48	5 517 754,51
WC Education Department	7 152 710,29	7 752 475,17	7 292 573,51	7 071 007,11	7 258 668,49	36 527 434,57
Public Service Commission (National)	8 903,35	9 108,73	8 886,52	9 135,40	15 925,39	51 959,39
Dept of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (National)	1 974 102,46	2 160 445,60	2 104 629,10	1 952 030,42	1 736 738,30	9 927 945,88
Dept of Home Affairs (National)	65 059,85	66 094,47	60 509,20	58 970,96	58 775,27	309 409,75
Dept of Rural Development and Land Reform (National)	327 819,79	400 033,09	334 157,29	385 269,20	359 860,76	1 807 140,13
The Secretary of Parliament (National)	268 995,30	232 351,82	205 044,10	154 844,15	139 904,30	1 001 139,67
Cape Nature	2 738 771,92	2 865 357,53	3 005 293,98	3 158 371,35	2 940 896,97	14 708 691,75
WC Mobility Department	10 461 836,89	10 274 689,64	9 734 349,36	10 107 241,88	9 149 189,74	49 727 307,51
Office of Chief Justice (National)	5 921 353,43	5 872 181,66	5 660 976,50	5 749 155,16	5 715 006,26	28 918 673,01
WC Dept of Infrastructure	2 149 005,05	2 269 504,26	2 242 261,27	2 297 075,45	2 317 147,99	11 274 994,02
WC Dept of Health and Wellness	43 181 879,03	45 030 651,99	45 703 374,81	47 944 052,96	43 031 004,41	224 890 963,20
WC Provincial Parliament	190 153,41	164 245,86	152 206,01	166 486,02	161 276,41	834 367,71
WC Provincial Treasury	173 055,29	187 109,09	143 370,08	152 047,48	178 025,23	833 607,17
WC Dept of Social Development	5 862 605,47	6 165 319,54	6 297 038,72	6 624 799,38	5 938 826,09	30 888 589,20
WC Dept of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	460 890,25	458 538,17	441 494,92	499 406,73	470 152,56	2 330 482,63
WC Dept of Policing Oversight and Community Safety	919 233,45	987 292,52	838 320,59	1 002 174,25	921 391,19	4 668 412,00
WC Dept of the Premier	1 060 470,42	1 099 768,17	1 055 486,60	1 151 006,36	1 122 203,28	5 488 934,83
WC Dept of Agriculture	2 445 725,90	2 489 050,88	2 632 741,53	2 807 316,65	2 471 364,46	12 846 199,42
WC Dept of Local Government	433 976,62	525 859,34	554 664,06	540 752,09	581 193,30	2 636 445,41
WC Dept of Cultural Affairs and Sport	2 043 514,84	2 143 702,01	2 191 249,33	2 255 755,95	2 096 459,73	10 730 681,86
WC Dept of Economic Development and Tourism	153 415,37	155 933,02	157 109,31	164 235,65	167 891,39	798 584,74
	89 055 494,61	92 437 415,55	91 879 198,50	95 372 671,70	87 974 938,00	456 719 718,36

1(b) How many incidents of robbery or related crimes involving GG branded vehicles have been reported in each department over the past three years;

The amount of stolen and hijacked vehicles per department for the period 1 April 2022 until 19 September 2025 is recorded in the table below.

	1 April 2022 Until 31 March 2025			1 April 2025 Until 19 September 2025			1 April 2022 Until 19 September 2025
Department	Stolen	Hijacked	Total	Stolen	Hijacked	Total	Recovered
Dept of Justice (National)	1	8	9	0	0	0	2
WC Dept of Education	1	18	19	0	4	4	10
Dept of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment (National)	1	10	11	0	1	1	4
Dept of Home Affairs (National)	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Dept of Rural Development and Land Reform (National)	0	2	2	0	1	1	0
The Secretary of Parliament (National)	0	1	1	0	2	2	0
Cape Nature	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
WC Mobility Department	0	3	3	0	3	3	2
Office of the Chief Justice (National)	0	2	2	0	0	0	1
WC Dept of Infrastructure	1	15	16	0	3	3	3
WC Dept of Health & Wellness	2	51	53	1	7	8	25
WC Dept of Social Development	5	43	48	0	11	11	28
WC Dept of Policing Oversight and Community Safety	0	7	7	0	1	1	5
WC Dept of Agriculture	0	2	2	0	0	0	1
WC Dept of Local Government	0	6	6	0	2	2	2
WC Dept of Cultural Affairs and Sport	0	9	9	0	2	2	2
GRAND TOTAL	11	178	189	1	38	39	86

1(c) What measures has the department put in place to (i) reduce the risk of such incidents and (ii) improve the safety of public servants who rely on GG vehicles?

GMT employs a multilayered mitigation model that combines technological safeguards with departmental compliance. Key systems include:

- Real-time vehicle telemetry and geo-fencing.
- Daily vehicle telemetry health checks conducted with Transport Control Officers (TCOs).

- Proactive alerts triggered by entry into designated hotspot zones.
- **Driver/vehicle user if considered safe** to 'press the panic button' to silently alert the Vehicle tracking company of the emergency for action.
- Panic button alerts are monitored and reacted on 24/7/365 with support from vehicle recovery teams and SAPS.
- High risk areas were ringfenced on the telematics system, and vehicles entering said areas are monitored (*'live tracked'*) by the Vehicle tracking company until leaving the area safely.
- Pilot on the fitment of additional vehicle recovery units, proved successful for vehicle tracking scenarios during hijackings/thefts, and/or leading to vehicle recovery.
- On request from the client department, GMT may grant Transport Control Officers full access to the vehicle telematics system to allow them to plot and track all allocated vehicles, when they are internally alerted/notified of a vehicle hijacking. Upon request from the HOD of WC Department of Health and Wellness, GMT granted EMS Transport Officers full access to the telematics system to monitor the Departments allocated vehicle fleet as part of a proof-of-concept initiative. This enables coordinated plotting and tracking of all allocated vehicles in collaboration with the vehicle tracking company, enhancing the efficiency of vehicle monitoring and recovery operations. This is in addition to the current GMT/Vehicle tracking company operational arrangement to **call the Vehicle tracking company directly on 060 567 1145. For vehicle tracking escalations contact Dwain Gouden on 083 741 4928. Alternatively, to contact the GMT Client Care Centre on 0800 092 468 (as per the double-sided sticker on the vehicle's windscreen) and select option 1 for hijacking incidents.**
- Central to these measures is the **mandatory use of GMT-issued orange driver identification tags**. These tags are critical for identifying authorised drivers, enabling live monitoring, and supporting emergency responses. **Strict adherence to this requirement remains essential.**
- GMT is procuring all new vehicles with 'smash and grab' window film as a standard feature.
- GMT is procuring all new vehicles with 'central locking' as a standard feature.
- GMT provide client departments operating in high-risk areas with access to pre-positioned unmarked vehicles and CAA numbers for flexible use when risk is elevated.
- The WCG branding have been removed from the vehicles.
- GMT changed the number plate background from yellow to white for all new vehicles as an additional risk mitigation measure.
- GMT is in the process of procuring vehicles in non-standard colours to test whether reduced visual recognisability lowers targeting.

- GMT is in process of procuring vehicles of different brands and models to test whether different brands and models' recognisability lowers targeting.

Following executive discussions within the Mobility Department, the issue was raised in the Mobility Transport Priority Committee (MTPC) with SAPS to look into the increased trend of vehicle hijacking. The TPC chairperson acknowledged the concern raised and indicated that the matter will be investigated with police collaboration.

GMT facilitated engagements with senior SAPS officials at the Western Cape SAPS Command Centre and data analytics was shared with them.

GMT facilitated engagements with senior SAPS officials at Lingeletu-West Police station to discuss protocols that underpin our risk monitoring and incident response efforts. Lingeletu-West SAPS requested amongst others that all Government Departments provide advance notice of any intended visits to the Khayelitsha area. This advance communication allows SAPS to arrange a police escort, which significantly reduces the risk of vehicle hijackings. GMT issued a communication to its clients via circular **MD-04-2025-2026** to communicate and sensitise clients of the advice provided by the senior SAPS officials.

GMT rolled out awareness materials via GMT circular **MD-09-2025-2026** to support drivers with practical safety guidelines, reinforce best practices, and clarify protocols in high-risk scenarios, including hijackings.

GMT will be partnering in awareness campaigns within the Western Cape Department of Health and Wellness being planned for October 2025.

MINISTER OF MOBILITY

DATE: