

PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

WRITTEN REPLY

FRIDAY, 01 AUGUST 2025

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

- (1) (a) What Programmes, initiatives or partnerships has his Department implemented, either directly or in collaboration with external stakeholders, to promote women empowerment and to enhance the participation of women in the transport and mobility-related economic sectors in the province from the 2020/21 to the 2024/25 financial year, (b) for each Programme, initiative or partnership identified in (a) above, (i) what is the name of the Programme, initiative or partnership, (ii) what is a brief description of its (aa) purpose and (bb) scope, (iii) what is the number of women who have benefited from it, (d) what are the years in which the Programme, initiative or partnership was active or was planned to be implemented and (e) what is the total cost incurred by his Department for the implementation of the pro-grammes, initiatives or partnerships in (i) 2020/21, (ii) 2021/22, (iii) 2022/23, (iv) 2023/24 and (v) 2024/25;
- (2) whether there are any new or upcoming Programmes, initiatives or partnerships specifically targeted at improving gender equity and the economic inclusion of women in the mobility sector for the 2025/26 financial year; if so, what are the relevant details?

Response:

No .	Question s:	2023/2024			2024/2025				2025/2026	Comment/Note
Programme 2 – Transport Operations										
1	Initiative				Go George or George Integrated Public Transport Network (ITPN)	Jobseeker voucher (1st phase, pilot)	Bicycle Distribution Programme			
2	Description (Purpose/Scope)				The George Integrated Public Transport Network (GIPTN), GO GEORGE bus service continued to provide residents of the greater George municipality with a scheduled, reliable, and safe public transport system	The Jobseeker Travel Voucher Programme tackles a significant obstacle for unemployed individuals by offering transportation for interviews. Citizens are given travel vouchers to attend interviews with potential employers, valid on weekdays from 9am to 3pm using Golden Arrow Bus Services.	Bicycles are distributed across the province and across a number of focus areas, including scholar mobility, community safety, community development (e.g., cycling clubs and soup kitchens) and SMME development. Distributions are informed by an open application process where interested parties apply to the Department for bicycles using a standard application form. The project team assesses the applications, and allocations are based on demonstrated need, the number of applications received, and the availability of bicycles.			The Provincial BDP aims to facilitate access to social, educational, and economic opportunities by providing access to bicycles to communities in need. In addition to distributing bicycles, the programme provides recipients with safety gear, as well as safety and maintenance training to ensure recipients are adequately equipped to use their bicycles confidently and safely. After distributions, a monitoring and evaluation process is undertaken to assess the programme’s impact and how it has benefited recipients. Furthermore, the Department, together with its partners, hosts various awareness campaigns where support is offered to communities through activities such as basic bicycle mechanic training and bicycle repairs.
3	Partnership					Golden Arrow	National Department of Transport, Community safety, SMME support.			
4	Number of Women participated				Go George currently has approximately 162 active vendors across its network, whose primary role is the distribution	During the first phase of the pilot 1162 women registered and received Gold Cards for Golden	Women who have benefitted: Women have benefitted directly and indirectly from the Programme, including through the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Bicycles have been distributed to women-owned businesses, including to a		Bicycle distributions are primarily targeted at focus areas that meaningfully enhance mobility and support local	

					and sale of products used for accessing the Go George bus service. Of these 162 vendors, 99 are women.	Arrow Bus Services.	<p>business in Malmesbury in the last financial year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bicycles have been distributed to a number of NGOs, including NGO's that supports vulnerable women and children. • The Department hosted a Bicycle Day in the last financial year as part of a Women's Day Event in Langa and distributed bicycles to a woman-run community development organisation. • Scholar mobility is a key focus area of the programme, distributing bicycles to learners, including young girls, to improve access to education and support better educational outcomes. • A number of the community-development programmes (e.g., soup kitchens, youth development programmes) that have received bicycles are led by women. The Provincial BDP helps empower these women to better serve their communities, playing a vital role in community development and upliftment. • Neighbourhood Watches that have received bicycles have reported improved safety, reach and response time as a key benefit of the programme. This makes communities safer, especially for women and children who are typically more vulnerable to crime. • Another key benefit reported through the M&E process is improved access to reliable transport, particularly for low-income households. This enhances access to jobs, healthcare, education, and other essential services, including for women, who often face greater mobility barriers. 		empowerment. While the programme does benefit women, quantifying the exact number of women recipients is complex, as bicycles are typically distributed to organisations that then allocate them further, and this level of data is currently not collected in the M&E process. However, the programme continues to have a positive impact on communities by improving access to opportunities for all recipients, including women and young girls.	
5	Upcoming Programs Partnerships				This initiative serves as an opportunity for small businesses to grow and thrive. Go George provides vendors with the necessary promotional materials to help them effectively market their	<p>The programme initially planned to run till March 2025 but, given its positive impact, it has been extended till March 2026.</p> <p>Western Cape Government</p>	The programme continues to have a positive impact on communities by improving access to opportunities for all recipients, including women and young girls.		<p>Years in which the Programme was active:</p> <p>The Provincial BDP has been active since 2019, and the Department plans to continue the programme.</p>	

					products and services. Further this support also acts as a platform to promote other small business opportunities.	launches Phase 2 of Jobseeker Travel Voucher Programme: 10 June 2025 - Mitchells Plain Town Centre Community - The second phase was officially launched on 10 June 2025 at the Mitchells Plain Town Centre Library and was met with an encouraging response. Over 300 unemployed jobseekers attended, registered and received Gold Cards that will allow them to travel free to access job opportunities, using Golden Arrow Bus Services across the Cape Metro.																									
6	What is the total cost incurred by his department for the implementation of the programmes, initiatives or partnerships					<p>The cost to the Province for Gold Cards issued to woman was R46 480.00. Through the programme beneficiaries were each provided with 12 free trips on Golden Arrow Bus Services to access employment opportunities. Surveys show that approximately 40% of</p>	<p>Bicycles distributed and costs: Over the last 5 financial years, the Department has distributed over 2 400 bicycles. The total number of bicycles distributed per year, and associated costs are shown below.</p> <table><tr><th>Year</th><th>No. of bicycles distributed</th><th>Budget (including VAT)</th></tr><tr><td>2020/21</td><td>800</td><td>R 1.7m</td></tr><tr><td>2021/22</td><td>480</td><td>R 1.9m</td></tr><tr><td>2022/23</td><td>400</td><td>R 2.1m</td></tr><tr><td>2023/24</td><td>400</td><td>R 2.8m</td></tr><tr><td>2024/25</td><td>385</td><td>R 2.7m</td></tr><tr><td>Totals</td><td>2 465</td><td>R 11.2m</td></tr></table>	Year	No. of bicycles distributed	Budget (including VAT)	2020/21	800	R 1.7m	2021/22	480	R 1.9m	2022/23	400	R 2.1m	2023/24	400	R 2.8m	2024/25	385	R 2.7m	Totals	2 465	R 11.2m			
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						jobseekers using their voucher are now employed.				
Programme 3 - TRANSPORT REGULATION: PROGRAM/INITIATIVE: WOMEN EMPOWERMENT -SUB DIRECTORATE: FORMALISATION AND EMPOWERMENT										
1	Initiative	Constitutional compliance in terms of South African Network for Women in Transport (SANWIT) - Several workshops throughout this period in preparation for the anticipated AGM of SANWIT	Wealth Creation Workshops - Financial Literacy Financial Conduct Authority National Credit Regulator	Drafting of Constitution	Enhancement of a safer driver environment for all motorized road users - Explore the broadening of impoundment regulation	Enhancement of scholar transport safety - Skills intervention: Defensive Driving	Wellness Campaign (Cape Town and Bellville Taxi ranks - Wellness Awareness - Checking of blood pressure, eyesight		<p>The National Department of Transport established a body called South African Women in Transport in 2007. In 2009, the provincial structure of SANWIT was established in the Western Cape. In line with the National Department support, this department supported and still supports the Western Cape Provincial structure of SANWIT by means of access to office facilities, meeting facilities, provision of logistical support for engagements complying with financial prescripts, where necessary.</p> <p>Although this SANWIT entity stems from DOT, which has a broader spectrum of competencies than the Western Cape Mobility Department, the department needed to engage the other related entities such as Maritime, ACSA and rail to take on board SANWIT Women support. This is still a struggle as this department can only fund initiatives and support SANWIT members where it relates to road-based transport.</p> <p>The strengthening of SANWIT as an entity has an objective to a) align like-minded women to foster a united front when engaging government and other</p>	
2	Partnership	DOT	DEDAT and External Stakeholders		WCMD / City of Cape Town / Department of Premier	Road Accident Fund	ABSA/SANTACO-WC			
3	Mode of Transport	SANWIT	SANWIT	SANWIT	SANWIT/Minibus Taxi Operators/Metered Taxi and E-Hailing Operators/Scholar Transport	Scholar Transport	Minibus Taxi Operators			
4	Description (Purpose/Scope)	Workshop format	Workshop format	Workshop format	Workshop format	Workshop format	Campaigns			
5	Number of Women participated	38 (4 occasions within fin year)	22	35	25	-	27			

6	Upcoming Programs Partnerships	No further information	No further information	No further information	No further information	No further information	No further information	Minibus Taxi Operators - In terms of the minibus sector, the department is encouraged that within the SANTACO-WC structure, it will be extended to include two more women in addition to the current two executive members to specifically concentrate on enhancement of women affected matters. SANWIT - The department undertakes to support SANWIT in the form of logistics to enable them to function as a fully equipped and capacitate leadership.	entities b) create an enabling environment where women in transport can lobby for economic opportunities, c) create a platform of communication and dissemination of information in respect of issues pertaining to women such as GBV, Equality in workplace etc. In terms of the e-hailing sector, the current representatives consist of 30% of women.
7	What is the total cost incurred by his department for the implementation of the programmes, initiatives or partnerships	Logistical support for engagements was provided for not more than R15 000.00 per workshop	Logistical support for engagements was provided for not more than R10 000.00	R20 000.00	Difficult to determine as women were part of a group of 195 delegates over a two-day period		Sponsored by ABSA - no cost to department		
Programme 4 - Traffic Management									
1	Initiative				Cadet Traffic Officer Programme	EPWP Women Participation Initiative			
2	Description (Purpose/Scope)				A recruitment and training programme targeting youth who want to	As part of the EPWP job creation programme, women were			A dedicated campaign, aligned with the department's Culture Journey, aimed at attracting and retaining more female traffic officers through a gender-

					become traffic officers.	intentionally included to enhance economic participation in mobility-related support roles.				responsive approach to recruitment, wellness, and career support. Whole-of-Society Gender-Inclusive Road Safety Campaign
3	Number of Women participated				20 of the 119 cadets (approx. 16.8%) being women.	<p>35% of the employed individuals who form part of the EPWP programme are women.</p> <p>65 Females (2 Females have resigned so it is now 65) 18 Males</p> <p>83 participants currently</p> <p>13 Female supervisors 2 Male supervisors</p>				
4	Upcoming Programs Partnerships					Programme is continued to the financial year 2025/26 with an allocated budget. 86 Road Safety EPWP Ambassador were hired within the first quarter for this financial year 2025/26 across the City, Metro North, Overberg, Eden and Cape Winelands.				
5	What is the total cost incurred by his department for the implementatio					Each participant receives a monthly stipend of R3300, resulting in a total monthly				

	n of the programmes, initiatives or partnerships					expenditure of R99,000. Supervisor rate – R180 (R22.50 per hour) Normal rate – R150 (18.75 per hour)				
Overall Departmental contributions										
1	Initiative	Shova Kalula and WCMD Bicycle distribution programme			Companies with 50%+ female ownership were awarded tender from the Department	Shova Kalula and WCMD Bicycle distribution programme	WCMD Employee Bursary			
2	Description (Purpose/Scope)	In the 2023/24 financial year, 400 bicycles were distributed successfully. The Bicycle Days initiative was introduced in the year under review, as a platform used to promote the benefits of bicycles as a form of transport and highlight the potential for bicycles to be used across various sectors. The Programme brought attention to bicycle road safety and provided basic bicycle maintenance and training.			Companies with 50%+ female ownership with an amount of R1 3 481 277 was awarded.	385 bicycles were distributed across the Western Cape, including to Beaufort West, Prince Albert, City of Cape Town, Hessequa, Oudtshoorn, Swellendam and Swartland. The bicycles were allocated to 40 recipient organisations focusing on scholar mobility, community safety, SMME support, community development, and recreation. Furthermore, the Department hosted Bicycle Days to promote bicycles as a mode of transport. These events showcase the potential	Employees were awarded bursaries to further their education.			

						benefits of bicycle use, raise awareness about road safety, and offer basic safety training and maintenance support to communities.				
3	Number of Women participated	A great number of women have benefited from this programme.			Companies with 50%+ female ownership	A great number of women have benefited from this programme.	33			
4	Upcoming Programs Partnerships	Programme is continued to the financial year 2025/26 with an allocated budget.			Continued efforts to work with companies with 50%+ female ownership.	Programme is continued to the financial year 2025/26 with an allocated budget.	Continued efforts to award bursaries to WCMD employees.			
5	What is the total cost incurred by his department for the implementation of the programmes, initiatives or partnerships		.		Companies with 50%+ female ownership with an amount of R13 481 277 was awarded.	The budget was spent R2 693 449 on the overall programme.	Over R2 million was spent on bursaries for WCMD female employees.			