

PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

QUESTION PAPER: WRITTEN REPLY, NO 9 - 2025

FRIDAY, 30 MAY 2025

1. Mr B N Herron to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Infrastructure:

With regard to the so-called "housing waiting list":

- (1) (a) How many different housing waiting lists are currently active in the province, (b) how many people are on each list and (c) can any one person be on more than one housing waiting list;
- (2) whether some lists are given priority over others; if so, (a) how is this priority determined and (b) what is the total demand for housing in the province according to the waiting lists;
- (3) (a) how long have the first ten people on each list been waiting for housing, (b) why has a housing opportunity not been allocated to them yet and (c) on average, how long is the wait time for a house;
- (4) given the income eligibility criteria for housing over the years, how many individuals who previously qualified and were placed on the waiting list no longer qualify and have since been removed.
- (5) whether the housing waiting lists inform the decision-making process in terms of where housing will be built; if no, why not; if so, how has the housing waiting list informed the location of any housing project?

RESPONSE

- (1) (a) There is only one officially recognised waiting list, that is the Western Cape Housing Demand Database (WCHDDDB). All municipalities, except the City of Cape Town, directly update this database. The City of Cape Town submits its data through a monthly transfer, facilitated by my department. The WCHDDDB is managed by my department, which conducts regular checks to identify and correct anomalies while providing support to municipalities.

(b) The table below provides a breakdown, by municipality, of the current number of people on the WCHDDB.

Municipality	Waiting
Beaufort West	7 550
Bergrivier	5 391
Bitou	9 105
Breede Valley	20 737
Cape Agulhas	3 851
City of Cape Town	431 902
Cederberg	6 421
Drakenstein	21 623
George	20 914
Hessequa	6 037
Kannaland	3 627
Knysna	9 606
Laingsburg	1 226
Langeberg	11 779
Matzikama	10 611
Mossel Bay	10 977
Oudtshoorn	12 101
Overstrand	16 090
Prince Albert	1 412
Saldanha Bay	13 546
Stellenbosch	20 158
Swartland	17 198
Swellendam	3 969
Theewaterskloof	14 318
Witzenberg	8 675
Total waiting backlog in Western Cape	688 824

(c) The WCHDDB prevents duplicate identity number registrations, preventing people from applying to multiple municipalities simultaneously.

(2) (a) No waiting list is given priority over another. Each municipality maintains its own waiting list within the WCHDDB system.

(b) The total housing demand in the province, based on the WCHDDB, is 688 824.

- (3) (a) The waiting duration of the first ten people on each list varies. See table below illustrating the information per municipality.

Registration Number	Application Date	Number of years waiting
Beaufort West		
646991	1991/06/07	33
706148	1992/01/08	33
51185	1993/12/03	31
672600	1993/01/01	32
611410	1994/09/15	30
51194	1995/09/11	29
51195	1995/09/14	29
51201	1995/10/18	29
51202	1995/10/23	29
51213	1995/12/05	29
Bergervier		
19940	2001/02/13	24
19962	2001/02/26	24
19975	2001/02/26	24
19976	2001/05/03	24
20003	2001/06/03	24
20010	2001/06/03	24
19952	2001/08/03	23
19929	2001/09/02	23
19938	2001/09/26	23
19960	2001/09/26	23
Bitou		
472014	1997/01/01	28
472580	1997/01/01	28
467038	1997/01/10	28
472088	1997/02/19	28
466738	1997/07/01	27
466814	1997/07/01	27
467339	1997/07/01	27
471919	1997/07/01	27
472702	1997/07/01	27
467894	1998/01/01	27
Breede Valley		
399147	1981/03/18	44
324756	1985/01/28	40
673800	1985/05/20	40

Registration Number	Application Date	Number of years waiting
610777	1986/01/01	39
557667	1986/02/03	39
231214	1986/10/14	38
668445	1986/02/21	39
328742	1986/06/16	38
135432	1986/11/07	38
232447	1987/09/26	37
Cape Agulhas		
98687	1992/07/01	32
686718	1994/02/06	31
96778	1994/10/01	30
98693	1994/10/01	30
96779	1994/10/14	30
96988	1994/10/14	30
96795	1995/05/01	30
96802	1995/08/01	29
97174	1995/11/01	29
97179	1995/11/01	29
City of Cape Town		
728301	1981/03/25	44
241778	1981/04/16	44
239429	1981/09/11	43
238587	1981/11/04	43
232112	1982/10/28	42
232020	1982/11/03	42
212994	1982/11/15	42
231026	1982/12/21	42
208037	1983/02/03	42
229019	1983/03/04	42
Cederberg		
696108	2019/01/04	6
696109	2019/01/04	6
696110	2019/01/04	6
696111	2019/01/04	6
696114	2019/01/04	6
696119	2019/01/04	6
696120	2019/01/04	6
696123	2019/01/04	6
696124	2019/01/04	6
696125	2019/01/04	6

Registration Number	Application Date	Number of years waiting
Drakenstein		
380884	1963/01/15	62
379823	1965/09/30	59
700782	1971/03/24	54
373323	1974/05/02	51
400969	1975/08/21	49
386111	1976/01/07	49
686705	1976/01/08	49
385750	1977/03/28	48
395007	1979/03/01	46
383300	1979/07/08	45
George		
612319	1992/02/11	33
610551	1994/03/16	31
705617	1994/04/12	31
181293	1994/04/12	31
623620	1994/05/19	31
657491	1994/10/01	30
87885	1994/10/05	30
420211	1994/10/31	30
77311	1994/11/04	30
83289	1994/11/04	30
Hessequa		
126722	1996/03/01	29
128794	1996/03/30	29
128363	1996/04/13	29
125860	1996/06/23	28
128725	1996/07/12	28
126667	1996/07/15	28
126274	1996/09/16	28
127752	1996/09/17	28
655012	1996/02/14	29
651897	1996/05/30	29
Kannaland		
673137	2002/12/18	22
101955	2006/05/11	19
101934	2007/06/22	17
101490	2007/07/08	17
102443	2007/09/06	17
102420	2007/10/31	17

Registration Number	Application Date	Number of years waiting
101662	2007/11/05	17
101930	2007/11/05	17
101931	2007/11/05	17
102364	2007/11/05	17
Knysna		
105398	1996/01/02	29
105419	1996/01/02	29
107110	1996/01/02	29
107138	1996/01/02	29
108960	1996/01/02	29
109468	1996/01/02	29
109469	1996/01/02	29
109470	1996/01/02	29
111640	1996/01/02	29
368565	1996/01/02	29
Laingsburg		
330850	2001/01/01	24
46000	2003/10/10	21
46007	2003/10/10	21
49097	2004/01/23	21
45965	2004/01/28	21
12513	2004/02/10	21
321759	2004/07/12	20
390303	2004/07/22	20
46663	2004/09/21	20
46011	2005/05/25	20
Langeberg		
67804	1986/07/23	38
67809	1987/01/15	38
67813	1987/04/27	38
67814	1987/04/27	38
67817	1987/08/17	37
73197	1987/07/11	37
67824	1988/02/16	37
67829	1988/04/11	37
73206	1988/07/19	36
67848	1989/05/15	36
Matzikama		
378930	1991/08/29	33
472720	1999/07/01	25

Registration Number	Application Date	Number of years waiting
403849	2001/10/05	23
9591	2001/01/24	24
626559	2001/09/15	23
387882	2001/12/05	23
185287	2002/04/15	23
183066	2003/08/28	21
13733	2004/01/01	21
13883	2004/01/01	21
Mossel Bay		
123221	1989/11/01	35
119322	1990/08/30	34
120763	1993/10/01	31
116134	1993/11/02	31
120842	1994/01/10	31
123176	1994/02/15	31
122657	1994/02/23	31
114137	1994/07/06	30
116082	1994/07/07	30
114105	1994/07/19	30
Oudtshoorn		
59849	1971/01/01	54
59851	1973/01/01	52
59876	1976/01/01	49
502656	1976/12/13	48
59898	1977/01/01	48
59948	1978/01/01	47
59043	1978/01/01	47
59051	1978/01/01	47
59909	1978/01/01	47
59913	1978/01/01	47
Overstrand		
381628	1982/10/13	42
599129	1990/01/09	35
657109	1990/10/10	34
592364	1993/10/12	31
599184	1994/10/18	30
54855	1995/01/01	30
599194	1995/06/05	30
649688	1995/11/01	29
599240	1996/02/19	29

Registration Number	Application Date	Number of years waiting
599245	1996/03/06	29
Prince Albert		
45809	2004/01/02	21
51283	2004/01/02	21
51284	2004/01/05	21
51285	2004/01/07	21
45815	2004/01/15	21
45817	2004/01/15	21
45819	2004/01/20	21
45822	2004/01/21	21
45825	2004/01/23	21
45832	2004/01/28	21
Saldanha Bay		
689784	1976/02/04	49
27031	1981/10/16	43
25706	1985/01/16	40
25715	1985/02/18	40
25826	1985/02/21	40
27440	1985/02/28	40
25980	1985/03/13	40
25625	1985/03/19	40
25936	1985/05/17	40
72002	1985/05/30	40
Stellenbosch		
535921	1979/03/07	46
532719	1983/02/14	42
551142	1984/11/07	40
542239	1986/03/20	39
532025	1986/03/24	39
543119	1986/03/26	39
531546	1986/04/02	39
533108	1986/04/03	39
535073	1986/05/13	39
539971	1986/05/13	39
Swartland		
2822	1999/03/17	26
2360	1999/08/31	25
400151	1999/10/21	25
5921	1999/12/13	25
6471	1999/03/27	26

Registration Number	Application Date	Number of years waiting
13607	1999/05/19	26
5979	1999/11/16	25
6804	2000/01/10	25
6221	2000/01/19	25
10631	2000/01/19	25
Swellendam		
707414	1999/05/18	26
53567	2004/01/13	21
53708	2004/01/13	21
54700	2004/01/13	21
52624	2004/01/14	21
51864	2004/01/16	21
51872	2004/01/19	21
52048	2004/01/20	21
51890	2004/01/21	21
53690	2004/01/21	21
Theewaterskloof		
296911	1975/08/15	49
394424	1989/12/18	35
299087	1999/09/04	25
299044	2000/01/21	25
293124	2000/08/31	24
297134	2001/03/07	24
294716	2001/04/09	24
602300	2002/07/12	22
653930	2002/10/02	22
302476	2002/11/11	22
Witzenberg		
34997	1995/07/07	29
35000	1995/07/24	29
35006	1995/11/15	29
133696	1996/01/30	29
35018	1996/05/05	29
35025	1996/06/29	28
35026	1996/09/07	28
35032	1996/10/16	28
35033	1996/10/16	28
35035	1996/10/16	28

(b) The long outstanding waiting period is not a true reflection since in most of these cases the applicants cannot be traced, no longer qualify, have passed on, have not updated their details on the database, etc. The ongoing data cleansing process will minimise the occurrence of such instances.

(c) The wait time for housing varies across municipalities, depending on the funding allocated to each municipality and the designated development areas determined via the municipality's Integrated Development Plan (IDP).

- (4) Many people on the waiting list fail to update their details, making it difficult to determine how many exceed the income eligibility limit. As a result, there is no definitive record of how many people no longer qualify.
- (5) The allocation of national funding to municipalities is based on areas with the highest need. Municipalities use their Integrated Development Plan to identify specific locations for housing development.

TERTUIS SIMMERS

MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE

DATE: