



# Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement Western Cape Provincial Parliament IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

Ref Number: 11/4/7

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The Standing Committee on Local Government, having undertaken an oversight visit to a Ward Committee Meeting in Subcouncil 5, Ward 13, that took place at the Durbanville Council Chamber located in Oxford Street, Durbanville, on 05 November 2014, reports as follows:

## **Delegation**

The delegation consisted of the following Members:

Mr M Mngasela (Chairperson)  
Adv L Max  
Mr NE Hinana  
Mr QR Dyantyi

## **1. Introduction**

Sections 72 – 78 of the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act (Act 117 of 1998) sets out the legal framework for the establishment, elections and operations of ward committees. It further requires that all municipalities with ward committees make administrative arrangements to enable ward committees to perform their functions and exercise their powers effectively. It is at the discretion of municipalities to determine appropriate local operating policies for their ward committees.

A ward committee is composed of the Ward Councillor (who is also the Chairperson of the Ward Committee) and not more than ten other persons. Ward committee meetings are convened by the municipality through the office of the Speaker. Ward committees have the power to make recommendations to the Municipal Council, through the Ward Councillor, on any matter affecting the ward. In addition, the Municipal Council may delegate any duties or powers to the Ward Committee.

## **2. Overview of the visit**

The Department of Local Government briefed the Committee on the functionality of ward committees throughout the province during a Committee meeting that took place on 30 July 2014. During this meeting a number of issues were raised which prompted the Committee to resolve that the Department should return to brief the Committee on its intended intervention plans for improving the functionality of ward committees and the associated timeframes for each of the challenges identified by the Department. At the same meeting the Committee agreed to undertake unannounced oversight visits to ward committee meetings.

The Committee subsequently arranged to undertake such visits to the Ward Committee meetings of Subcouncil 5, Ward 13 (Delft), as well as Subcouncil 7, Ward 103 (Durbanville). On the day of the oversight visit the Committee was however informed that the Ward

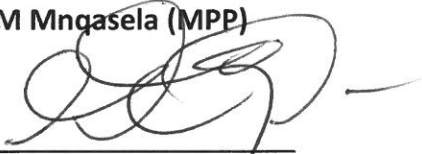
Committee scheduled to take place in Ward 103 had been postponed due to a by-election that was taking place.

The Committee attended the Ward Committee meeting in Subcouncil 5, Ward 13, which commenced at 16:00 on Wednesday, 05 November 2014, and adjourned at 17:00. The meeting was presided over by Ward Councilor, Mr G Fourie who welcomed the Standing Committee Chairperson and members. The Committee observed the proceedings as the Ward Committee members asked questions of clarification on the various agenda items which included, amongst other, the appointment of a panel of legal practitioners for the provision of legal services for the collection of debts owed to the City of Cape Town.

### **3. Acknowledgments**

The Committee wishes to extend their gratitude to the Ward Committee for receiving the Committee on the day of the oversight visit.

**M Mngasela (MPP)**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M Mngasela', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

**Chairperson: Standing Committee on Local Government**  
**11 February 2015**