REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEBATES OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

(HANSARD)

FIFTH SESSION – SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

16 & 17 FEBRUARY 2023

OBTAINABLE FROM THE PARLIAMENT OF THE WESTERN CAPE, WALE STREET, CAPE TOWN

CABINET

Minister of Agriculture Dr I H Meye
Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport Ms A J Du Toit Marai
Minister of Education Mr D J Maynie
Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities Ms M M Wenge
Minister of Health and Wellness Ms N Mbomb
Minister of Infrastructure Mr T A Simmer
Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs
and Development Planning Mr A W Brede
Minister of Police Oversight and Community SafetyMr R I Alle
Minister of Social DevelopmentMs S Fernande
Minister of MobilityMr D G Mitche

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Leader of Government Business	Dr I H Meyer
Deputy Speaker	Ms B A Schäfer
Leader of the Opposition	Mr C M Dugmore
Chief Whip : DA	Ms W Kaizer-Philander
Chief Whip : Opposition	Ms P Z Lekker
Secretary	Mr R Adams

MEMBERS OF PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT PARTIES

Democratic Alliance = DA African National Congress = ANC African Christian Democratic Party = ACDP Economic Freedom Fighters = EFF AL JAMA-AH = AL JAMA-AH Freedom Front Plus = FF PLUS

Allen, Reagan Ivan	
America, Derrick	
Baartman, Deidre Maudelene	
Bakubaku-Vos, Ntombezanele Gladys	
Bans, Anyanda Precious	
Bosman, Gillion	
Bredell, Anton Wilhelm	
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Cassiem, Aishah	
Christians, Ferlon Charles	
Dugmore, Cameron Muir	
Fernandez, Ms Sharna Gail	
Fry, Christopher Mario	
Kaizer-Philander, Ms Wendy Felecia	
Kama, Mesuli	
Klaas, Moses	
Lekker, Ms Patronella Zingisa	
Mackenzie, Ricardo Denver	
Marais, Anroux Marais, Petrus Jacobus	
Maran, Patrick	
Marran, Fanck	
Maynier, David John	
Mayner, David John	
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Mvimbi, Lulama Lennox	
Nkondlo, Ms Nobulumko Degracia	
Plato, Daniel	
Pretorius, Gerrit	
Sayed, Muhammad Khalid	ANC
Schäfer, Ms Beverley Ann	
Sileku, Isaac	
Simmers, Tertuis Alfred	
Smith, Danville	
Van der Westhuizen, Andricus Pieter	
Wenger, Ms Mireille Mary	
Winde, Alan Richard	
Windvogel, Rachel	ANC

PERMANENT DELEGATES TO

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Gillion, Ms Maurencia Natalie	
Labuschagne,Ms Cathlene	
Londt, Johan Jaco	
Labuschagne,Ms Cathlene	ANC
Njadu, Edward Zoyisile	ANC
Sileku, Isaac Mbulelo	

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEBATES

OF THE

PARLIAMENT OF THE

PROVINCE OF THE

WESTERN CAPE

(HANSARD)

FOURTH SESSION – SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

The sign* indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same speech, indicates the original language

THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2023

6753

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

[Hybrid sitting held with some members present in the House and some in virtual attendance through Microsoft Teams]

The House met at 14:15.

The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLING AND COMMITTEE REPORTS - see p. 6803

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER: Good morning hon members, hon guests. Before we start the proceedings, I will allow for the rendering of the National Anthem. Ms Mahote, that will be rendering the National Anthem, has been an ICU-enrolled nurse at Groote Schuur Hospital since 2012 and, as you are no doubt aware, that Groote Schuur Hospital this year celebrated its 85th Anniversary. Members and guests, I request that you remain silent during the rendering of the National Anthem, and Ms Mahote, I warmly welcome you to the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.

[National Anthem rendered by Ms Mahote.] [Applause.] The SPEAKER: You may all be seated. Hon members, I have to announce that due to the resignation of Mr M Mnqasela, a vacancy occurred in the representation of the Democratic Alliance in the Western Cape Provincial Parliament. This vacancy has since been filled by the nomination of

Mr G Pretorius with effect from 15 December 2022 and due to the resignation of Mr M Xego and Ms N Makamba-Botya two vacancies occurred in the representation of the EFF. These vacancies have since been filled by the nomination of Mr T Klaas and Ms A Cassiem with effect from 3 February 2023 and that the members have taken the oath in the Speaker's Office.

I want to take this opportunity to welcome our esteemed guests and hon members to this very important day, but, before we get to the business of the day, allow me to highlight some of the important housekeeping Rules for this Sitting.

The quorum requirements for the Sitting of the House are provided for in the Constitution and the Standing Rules of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament. Members who are considered out of order by the Presiding Officer will have their microphones muted and called to order. The

Serjeant-at-Arms will record members' attendance and today's Sitting shall be governed by the Standing Rules, and in an instance where the Rules cannot be applied, the ruling by the Presiding Officer is final. Members should note that all microphones are muted. When a member wishes to rise on a point of order, such an hon member may address the Presiding Officer, as expected, but must mute their microphones when they have completed speaking. Hon members are requested to please ensure that their microphones are unmuted when the Presiding Officer recognises them, and when they are done speaking, to please mute their microphones. The media and members of the public have also been granted access via the MS Teams as guests of the WCPP. However, members of the press or public may not use the chat room or speak or activate their cameras or switch on while the sitting is in progress. If an individual, who is not a member of this House, activates their microphone and video camera such an individual will be removed from the Sitting immediately. I also request that all members and guests here today will respect the decorum of the House.

For the Sitting, Language Translation Services are available in the Chamber, as usual and on Microsoft Teams via the respective channels. Hon members, I would wish to remind you that no interjections are permitted during the Sitting and to this end I draw the hon members' attention to Rule 40 of our Standing Rules.

Hon members, I have to announce that in terms of Rule 14 of the Standing Rules, today, 16 February 2023 at 10:45 a.m. has been determined as the date and time for the Premier's State of the Province Address.

This Sitting is meant specifically for the purpose of affording the Premier an opportunity to deliver the State of the Province Address. On this occasion no business other than the address by the Premier will be entertained.

I also wish to remind members that the debate on the Address will take place tomorrow, 17 February 2023, where members will have an opportunity to fully engage and debate the Premier's Address, and the Premier will then have an opportunity to reply to the debate thereafter.

Once again I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our esteemed guests to the State of the Province Address. Hon members, I now afford the hon Premier an opportunity to address the House.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Can you please rise when you...

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you very much, Speaker. Speaker, the point of order that I would like to raise are twofold. Firstly, I think it is only correct that we as members once again congratulate you as the Speaker. This is your first State of the Province Address and we would also like to make an appeal that, unlike in the National Assembly where members of the EFF raised frivolous objections to stop and delay the President speaking, that we trust that no frivolous objections will be allowed to delay the Premier, as much as we might disagree with him... [Interjections.] We want to listen to him and we want to give him the respect and reply tomorrow, so we would like to support you, Speaker, and appeal to these new members of the EFF, who have just arrived, to not come with any frivolous points of order. [Interjections.]

Mr T KLAAS: A point of order, Speaker, a point of order. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, can I please, hon members, can I please call you to order. Hon members, there is a member on the floor. Hon Dugmore, thank you very much for the well wishes but that is not a point of order. I see the hon Klaas, is that a point of order?

Mr T KLAAS: Ja, it is a point of order. This Parliament... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, there is a member on the floor.

Mr T KLAAS: Now why are you asking me while I am... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Can I please, hon members!

Mr T KLAAS: You are not allowed to tell me what to say!

The SPEAKER: Hon Marran. [Interjection.]

Mr T KLAAS: You are not allowed to tell me! The Speaker must talk to me.

The SPEAKER: Hon Klaas, hon Klaas! [Interjections.] Members, can I please ask that you respect the decorum of the House. We have members in the gallery. We have citizens of this province wanting to hear the Premier's State of the Province Address. Can I please ask that you – hon Klaas, when I address the House can I please ask you to take your seat?

Hon members, can I please ask that you allow the Premier to deliver his State of the Province Address in the interest of the citizens that we are elected to serve. Hon members, I am now going to allow the Premier an opportunity to deliver his State of the Province Address.

Hon Premier, I see you.

Premier's State of the Province Address

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker, and perhaps also allow me to congratulate you on your position as elected last year, my first opportunity in this House. Hon members of my Cabinet, hon Leader of the Opposition, and I see we have another hon Leader of the National House Opposition, welcome. To the members of this House, welcome, and specifically we have new members elected to this House, I want to say to you, welcome to this House!

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

The PREMIER: I want to say to the special guests that are gathered here from our international colleagues, business colleagues, to Mayors, it is really nice to see you here in our Parliament. Most importantly, I want to say to the citizens of the Western Cape, I actually address you today.

It is my honour to present to you the 2023 State of the Province Address. Speaker, it is actually good to be back in this Parliament. A year ago we were still in the grips of the COVID-19. Remember, we were still dealing with red lists, new omicron variants and all that went with fighting this pandemic. [Interjections.]

It really has been a tough year of recovery since then. So many of us lost loved ones, so many of us lost jobs, businesses and livelihoods. In our own caucus, Speaker, we sadly lost our Chief Whip, Lorraine Botha, may her soul rest in peace.

Speaker, also in the last year the imperialist and colonising Russia invaded the Ukraine. This illegal senseless war led to a massive loss of life... [Interjections.] ...and has driven an energy crisis in Europe and massive food inflation even here on the other side of the world. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, please take your seat. Hon members, hon members, can I please ask that you will have an opportunity tomorrow to debate the Premier's State of the Province Address, can I please ask that you allow the Premier to deliver his State of the Province Address. Like you will have tomorrow, hon members, the protection of this House, allow the Premier, as a member of this House, to deliver his State of the Province Address. I see the hon Deputy Chief Whip of the ANC.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Hon members, please, there is a member on the floor.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Speaker, with due respect, and we do respect the protocol that we do want to listen to the Premier and we hear the

Premier, but... [Interjection.] No-no.

The SPEAKER: Speak to the Chair, hon.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Interjections and heckling are allowed in a Sitting, heckling is allowed. The last time I read the Rules there was nothing saying that you cannot heckle, so heckling is allowed, but not to the extent that we drown out the voice of the Premier. So we will not be doing that, but we can listen to the Premier. [Interjections.] There is, and I don't need to cite the Rule, when there is no Rule that prevents us... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, there is a member on the floor.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...that is exactly what I am saying, so member Bosman must just keep quiet, please.

The SPEAKER: Hon members! Heckling is allowed, but you cannot drown out the Speaker. The minute the Speaker cannot be heard then you are drowning out the Speaker. Hon Bakubaku-Vos, is that a point of order?

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: Thank you, Speaker, but Speaker, we just heard the public does not have to speak. He just spoke and he is interjecting. Do you want us to start, because we will follow suit if he wants that. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Alright, thank you, thank you, hon members. Can I please just use... [Interjections.]

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: He is not a member of this House. He is not a member of this House. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members! Hon members, hon Bakubaku-Vos, can you please take your seat. [Interjections.]

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: He is not a member of this House!

The SPEAKER: Members, members, hon members, can I please ask that you allow the proceedings to continue and that you respect the decorum of the House. Can I please appeal to the members in the gallery and the guests to not participate in the proceedings of the House. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Bakubaku-Vos, can I please ask that you rise when you address the Chair and I have noted your concern and I have addressed it. I now see the hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

Hon Speaker, allow me to also reflect on the terrible earthquake that took place last week in Turkey and Syria. We send our condolences to all the people of the region.

An HON MEMBER: [Interjections.] Syria.

The PREMIER: Exactly as I said, Turkey. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, in 1963 Martin Luther King Junior said, and I quote:

"We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action."

Hon Speaker, I feel that fierce urgency of now every time I speak to a citizen, a small business owner or a public servant. We are in desperate need of urgent action today for tomorrow.

As the Government of the Western Cape we are delivering a clear difference for our residents now, not confusion and platitudes, but recognisable, tangible action.

I am proud to be the Premier of this province, despite what we are all going through. Everywhere I go I see people taking action: citizens stepping up; entrepreneurs finding growth opportunities and volunteering. I see volunteers looking after those that are less fortunate in our province. Everybody is hustling.

Those of you who had driven here today would have noticed that even the traffic is back and as a government we recognise our important role in creating an environment where we all can thrive and take action.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: What is Geordin doing about [Inaudible]

The PREMIER: That is why I am gripped with the fierce urgency of now, not only for this province, but for all of South Africa. Hon Speaker, in this province we must continue to work hard in showcasing the difference between good governance and failure. We are the Cape of Good Hope, the Cape of Opportunity; South Africa's only hope for a better future. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker [Interjections.], this starts with how we [Interjections.] are approaching the energy crisis which, Speaker ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, hon members, hon members ...[Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: [Inaudible] you have not produced one megawatt yet.

The PREMIER: Which, hon Speaker, is in stark ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, hon Premier, can I please ask you to take your seat. I see the Chief Whip of the majority party. [Interjections.] Hon members, there is a member on the floor.

The CHIEF WHIP [DA]: Thank you very much, hon Speaker, I do draw your attention to Rule 40 in terms of a member may not be interrupted. Can you please rule. Thank you, hon Speaker. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Chief Whip [Interjections.]. Hon members! [Interjections.] Hon members, as I indicated earlier in a previous ruling, interjections are allowed, but you are not to drown out the speaker on the floor. [Interjections.] You will have an opportunity tomorrow to debate or reply to the Premier's State of the Province Address.

Can I please ask that you allow the Premier to deliver his State of the Province Address in the interest of the citizens of this province. Thank you. Hon Premier. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

Hon Speaker, I will say again, this starts with how we are approaching the energy crisis, which is in stark contrast to the National Government's approach.

The National Government started tackling loadshedding in 2008 [Interjections.], 5 500 days ago. As I said in the National Assembly earlier this week, 3 000 days ago the President was appointed to solve this problem, to head up the War Room and I heard the hon member there say not one megawatt. Well, that is exactly true. The President ...[Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: You!

The PREMIER: ... has not delivered one more megawatt [Interjections.].

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: That is a lie.

The PREMIER: Not one more. In actual fact we have less megawatts in the system today than we had 3 000 days ago. [Interjections.]

What we have also, hon Speaker, what we have also now got is three Ministers who are responsible [Interjections.] to get us out of this crisis, but not only three Ministers, the disaster has taken those three Ministers and put another super Minister in charge over and above them. [Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: But you supported the disaster [Indistinct] [Interjections.].

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker, we also have a Crisis Committee, who has not got a clear plan on the table. [Interjections.] In the plan they say, "We are going to put up to 8 000 megawatts into the system this year. There is no clear data showing those 8 000 megawatts. [Interjections.] In actual fact if you interrogate those 8 000 megawatts, hon Speaker, [Interjections.] ...

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, I am really sorry to do this, please take your seat. Hon members, can I please again urge you to please allow the Premier to deliver his State of the Province Address. You will have [Interjections.] ... Nono, I am not asking you to be silent. [Interjections.]

Hon member Sayed, if you want to address the Chair, can you please rise. [Interjections.] Hon Deputy Chief Whip? The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Hon Speaker, could you then please encourage the Premier to deliver the SOPA. We are here for the SOPA [Interjections.]. He had his opportunity to reply to SONA on Tuesday.

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Where he did not speak about the Western Cape by the way. So let him please speak to SOPA today, please, thank you.

The SPEAKER: Hon Deputy Chief Whip, that is not a point of order. I cannot from the Chair determine the content of a speech. Hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you, hon Speaker. I will remember that tomorrow when the hon member Sayed is addressing this House.

Hon Speaker, we also now have a state of disaster and I heard that jibe about the state of disaster ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: You asked for it.

The PREMIER: ... and we did ask for it.

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

The PREMIER: A ringfenced state of disaster that made it for electricity now only. We now have a broad state of disaster, and you know the citizens of this country when they heard the word "disaster" or "a state of disaster", they think of rampant looting. [Interjections.]

I think is this an election funding tool? [Interjections.] Is this an election funding tool brought to you by the ruling party? [Interjections.]

What we also see is increasing political centralisation. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, my apologies to do this again. [Interjections.] I see the hon Chief Whip.

The CHIEF WHIP [DA]: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, can you please again rule in terms of Rule 40? I believe that this is causing an interruption and also in terms of Rule 39, no loud conversion is allowed. Thank you, hon Speaker. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Alright. Hon members, there was a member on the floor that rose on a point of order. I have repeatedly asked that you please allow the Premier to deliver his State of the Province Address. [Interjections.] Interjections are allowed, but you are drowning out the speaker, and this is on both sides of the House. Can I please ask in the interest of the citizens of this province again that you please adhere to the Rules and the decorum of the House. Hon Bans.

Ms A P BANS: Thank you, hon Speaker.

Hon Speaker, earlier hon member Bakubaku-Vos raised a point of order. If there are going to be one-sided Rules it cannot happen here today because now the Chief Whip is rising and saying you must make a ruling. I am asking for consistency. If you are going to make a ruling let it be on both sides. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Bans. I have [Interjections.], I have just indicated to both sides of the House to please allow the Premier to deliver his State of the Province Address.

Hon member Marais, is that a point of order?

Mr P J MARAIS: No, sir. I want to appeal for sanity. We cannot try and be a copycat of SONA. This is the Western Cape, this is not a circus and I want to hear what the Premier has to say, otherwise I will not be on the speakers' list tomorrow because to what must I respond if I respond now already? If you want to respond, tomorrow is the time, hon members. [Interjections.]

So I ask that – my point is [Interjections.] if you do not want ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, there is a member on the floor.

Mr P J MARAIS: ... to hear what the Premier says, there are other members who want to hear.

†'n AGB LID: Hoor-hoor! [An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!]

Mr P J MARAIS: So let him speak, please. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Alright. Hon members, I am not going to entertain any further points of order – hon members! I am not going to entertain any further points of order on this matter. I have ruled.

Hon Premier, you can continue.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

The last thing I want to say is that I still do not see any real urgency and that really bothers me.

Hon Speaker, I also want to say to the President from this House that I really hope that the National Assembly puts in place transparency and accountability during this disaster.

I also want to say to this House that we need to follow what we followed during COVID-19 and I hope that we also appoint an ad hoc committee like we did before, that has true oversight of anything that happens in this province around the disaster and fixing our energy system. That we once again table all money spent to this committee, as well as publicly to the citizens of our province.

Hon Speaker, we in this province will tackle the energy crisis like we tackled COVID-19, with a similar transparency, determination, innovation and grit.

I am still filled with the immense pride when I think of how we tackled that pandemic. I think of the Hospital of Hope built in just six weeks, I think of medicine deliveries to people's homes, more than 2 million people's home deliveries received medicines. I think of the drive-thru vaccine sites, the high pressure nasal oxygen, I think of the dashboards, I think of the management of the full pandemic and I stand here thinking back on that time with pride.

Hon Speaker, the provision of electricity is not a Provincial Government mandate, but [Interjections.] we will not neglect our duty to make sure that we serve our citizens in this regard.

Since last year we have been formulating and actioning our own plan. Last year we had an energy bosberaad, we had energy workshops with not only our own internal officials, but specialists, university professors. We formed the Western Cape Energy Council.

At the start of this year Alwie Lester was appointed to – and I think he is here somewhere, there he is, thank you, Alwie. Alwie Lester was appointed to lead our council. It is really nice to be able to work with someone who has the expertise and knowledge of energy here in the Western Cape.

We set up short-term in my emergency responses. We are busy putting forward a provincial IRP for short emergency term actions for medium-term and longer term energy resilience and independence in this province.

Where the lights go out we are stepping in to ensure that the most basic needs of our citizens are met and those basic needs, hon Speaker, I think can be covered in water, WiFi or connectivity and communication, and health services. Those are the basic needs you need to get right when the power goes down and then of course you build layer upon layer. [Inaudible].

So first of all, hon Speaker, when it comes to water. You would have already seen this Government making an adjustment of R89 million [Inaudible] available to local authorities to make sure that we can fund generators to keep water flowing, whether it is water reticulation, water pumping, filling up reservoirs or also making sure that sewerage systems work. [Inaudible]. Water is critical. You cannot have the lights go out and the water fail the citizens.

And I hear that mumbling about planning. This has got nothing to do with planning. This is actually what we have done. [Inaudible] We did it. We did it. [Inaudible]

Hon Speaker I want to say to Minister Bredell and Minister Wenger, to our Treasury and Local Government teams and our disaster team, thank you. This whole festive season, in actual fact since the Level 4 to 6 really hit us last year, these teams have been out on the ground making sure that we are mitigating risk. I want to thank them on behalf of the citizens across this province for working through the season and making sure that we could keep water flowing.

Then I want to speak about what I said is connectivity communications. I remember last year when we had a power failure in the City, it was very evident that very quickly cellphone towers would go down and we would lose basic communications. I want to welcome a meeting that I had this week with the CEO of Vodacom. He is also the chairman of the Association of Communications and Technology Grouping in South Africa that brings all of the telcos together. We had a discussion on how we can mitigate risk, not only Government connectivity, but how can the private sector also help us make sure that our citizens remain connected when we get into blackout stages. I really want to thank the private sector for helping us in this regard. They have again already met with our disaster management team, making sure that we can keep connected even when we get to Levels 4 and 5.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: There is no [Inaudible].

The PREMIER: And hopefully not beyond. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, [Interjections.] ...

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore, can I please ask that you do not engage the Premier, you can have [Interjections.] – no, it is not.

The PREMIER: It is also critical during this time because we know that loadshedding is going to last at least the whole year. Eskom reporting last year told us the loadshedding this year was going to be worse than last year. [Interjections.] It was true, it is much worse [Interjections.] and at the same time we also need to make sure that not only emergency connectivity happens, but that our learners can keep their homework and their studies going. [Interjections.]

That [Interjections.] ...

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: There are thousands of learners [Inaudible]

The PREMIER: I will address that shortly.

An HON MEMBER: When? We want to know when?

The PREMIER: We need to know that small businesses can keep operating because the one thing that we do know is these extended blackouts and this loadshedding are really hurting the citizens of our province.

Hon Speaker, when it comes to communication, what I will also do is to keep the citizens updated on our Energy Council and what we are busy doing. I will re-enact our digicons every week so that we can actually bring in the specialists, we can bring in the teams that are busy finding solutions for this province.

Hon Speaker, I have also requested the Provincial Treasury to allocate around R1 billion for us to respond to this energy crisis in the upcoming three year

budget cycle. Hon Speaker [Applause.] ... [Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Your [Inaudible] fund? Is that your [Inaudible] fund? [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, can I please ask that you take your seat? Hon member Khalid, is that a point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Hon Speaker, while we do appreciate ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, there is a member on the floor. Can I please ask that you allow him an opportunity.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: We do encourage the public to show appreciation, but I think just a reminder that the public are not to participate in the sitting, even ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... through clapping of hands. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Sayed. Again I will ask the members of the public and members in the gallery to please not participate in the proceedings of the House.

Hon Premier. Hon member Dugmore, is that a point of order?

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: No, just for the – I think we, hon Speaker, we are gathering momentum now about the Rules and all of that, but hon member Sayed raised an important point about the members of the public, but can I ask, because I just saw, I do not know if he is still acting leader of the DA, but hon member Simmers, he was clapping. Are members themselves in the House allowed to clap? [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore, hon member Dugmore, that is not a [Interjections.] – hon members! [Interjections.] Hon members! Hon members! Hon members, can I please ask [Interjections.] – hon members! Hon member Nkondlo! Hon member Nkondlo ...

The SPEAKER: Hon members, can I please again ask you to respect the decorum of the House. We have guests in the gallery and citizens watching the State of the Province Address. Hon members are allowed to interject, and I have ruled on that previously. Can you please not drown out the hon Speaker. Hon Dugmore, that was not a point of order because the hon members of this House can participate in the proceedings of the House. Hon Bakubaku-Vos, is that point of order?

†Me N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: Baie dankie, agb Speaker ...[Tussenwerpsel.] Ja,

ek praat Afrikaans nou. Nee, agb Speaker, jy het gesê die members van die publiek, hulle moet nie hande klap nie. Hy het die hande geklap nou.

[Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. ...[Interjection.] Yes, I am speaking Afrikaans now. No, hon Speaker, you said the members of the public should not clap their hands. He clapped his hands now.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: Can you remove him?

The SPEAKER: Honourable ...[Interjection.]

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: He keeps on distracting. [Interjections.].

The SPEAKER: Hon members, there was a point of order. Hon members. [Interjections.] Hon members! There was a point of order. Hon Bakubaku-Vos[Interjections.] Hon Bakubaku-Vos, you raised a point of order and I have addressed that point of order because it is the same point of order raised by hon Khalid Sayed. Hon members, hon Deputy Chief Whip, is that a point of order? I recognise you. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Hon Speaker, I rise on Section 22 of the Provincial Constitution regarding permanent delegates' rights in the Provincial Parliament. [Interjections.] The hon members at the back are members for the Western Cape Provincial Parliament ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, there is an hon member on the floor. Hon Khalid! [Interjection.] Hon Khalid! [Interjections.] Hon members; hon Baartman?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker. The Section in the Constitution is that:

"The permanent delegates with the National Council of Provinces may attend and speak in the Provincial Parliament and its Committees but may not vote."

Where there is the difference.

"The Provincial Parliament may require a permanent delegate to even attend the Provincial Parliament or its Committees ...[Interjections.]"

And the members sitting at the back are members of the National Council of Provinces for the Western Cape and they have a right to clap in this House. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Alright. I think that clarified that. [Applause] Order, hon members. Thank you very much. Order, hon members. [Interjections.] Hon members. [Interjections.] Hon members, I mean, really? This is the State of the Province Address. You will have an opportunity tomorrow. There has been a request from the hon Leader of the Opposition that we allow the hon Premier to deliver his State of the Province Address. There was a request from hon

Marais to allow the hon Premier to deliver his State of the Province Address. Can I please ask that you allow the hon Premier to do so? You will have ample opportunity tomorrow, to debate the hon Premier's State of the Province Address. Hon Premier, hopefully, this is the last interjection. I now see you.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, that budget that I have requested, this is proposed to cover initial expenditure to make sure that we keep Government services running while loadshedding is happening; to make sure that we secure extra diesel to look after our power plants. We do not want to have a power failure when one of our citizens are in ICU or perhaps, on an operating theatre, anywhere where essential services are being delivered to the citizens of this province.

We also want to be able to help buffer schools from loadshedding. Our children's education must come first. We will also be asking for funding to provide poorer households with what I call 'power packs'. You know, in this country last year, citizens spent R30-billion on inverters and on those plugs to prevent surges destroying their appliances: R30-billion! But there are poor people in this province who suffer the most when loadshedding comes along [Interjections.] and we need to make sure that those households are looked after.

How do we make sure that those households with matric students can still study while there is loadshedding happening? We know that moms have to wake up an hour or two earlier in the morning, in the darkness, to be able to prepare the family for the school day and the workday ahead. We know that we must make sure that we protect the most vulnerable in our society. We must also make sure that we use this funding to help SMMEs with alternative energy options and support. In all things 'energy', we are gripped by the fierce urgency of now, hon Speaker.

Hon Speaker, it is also my pleasure to welcome an individual here today in our gallery, Akhona Winisi. There he is. Akhona Winisi is a lecturer at False Bay College in West Lake here in Cape Town. Some of you will remember that the Department of Economic Development came up with a skills training plan for 'solar heroes'. These are specialists who are going to be installing solar panels, servicing solar panels, and making sure that the solar panel industry and the protection of much of the people of our province through solar generation, can have the right skills to make sure that businesses can flourish and that we can invest and make sure that this industry flourishes.

So, I want to say thank you to Akhona for setting up the curriculum, for having a look at exactly the kind of skills that we need; create opportunities for young people to not only play a part but play a really important part in helping us in the province, mitigate this massive risk of loadshedding going forward. ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ...[Inaudible.] has a national code, did you know that? [Laughter.]

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker [Interjections.], municipal energy resilience is also

a major programme in our Department of Economic Development and Economic Opportunities. That programme links across all of our municipalities in this province and I want to specifically thank them, but also thank the Mayors that are here today. They have come from far and wide. I want to thank you and through you, your officials that are not only just waiting, they are stepping up to make a difference in all of our municipalities across this province where loadshedding is having such a negative impact.

You know that in this Government, for many years we have been working on the green economy. We set up GreenCape, which I am so proud of now, which plays a role not only in South Africa, not only advising the hon President in his speech, but internationally as well. We also rolled out tariff processes for our municipalities. Our MER programme has been there supporting this transition. They have been there through the energy game changer which initially, with the SSEG and the 1-megawatt space saw around 3 000 independent power producers at about 135 extra megawatts, hon Leader of the Opposition ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: But why does the City have such a big surcharge?

The PREMIER: ... in our energy system.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: But why does the City have such a big surcharge with ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: But you know what? That number has grown exponentially. The City already has 60 000 energy producers in the City. These are businesses and families who have got solar panels on their roofs. ...[Interjection.] The MER programme has approved and is busy with municipal applications for 6 756 PV programmes or installations across our municipalities, another 197 megawatts.

Hon Speaker, I also want to say that the Mayors that are here today and the programmes that are running across our province, the action that is already taking place in our province, I am really proud of. The City of Cape Town and the Mayor sitting there, he has already announced 'cash for power'. He will pay cash to citizens and businesses that help us get out of this mess. ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: What about the surcharge? [Interjections.] What about the surcharge?

The PREMIER: The City, as we know already, can mitigate two levels of loadshedding, already making a massive difference to the citizens just here in this region. They have also allocated R132-million to extra diesel and R25-million to diesel storage. They have already put 62 generators on water pumps, 26 generators on water pump stations, 110 generators on sewerage pumps. They have also announced and are busy with 70 megawatts of their own solar PV plants. They have already gone out to tender for a further 200 megawatts of power. That tender system has closed, and they are busy with due diligence.

...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: How much will it cost?

The PREMIER: For dispatchable power, 500 megawatts will be going out again in the City within the next month. [Interjections.] More than half of their traffic lights and intersections have got battery systems as backups. This is Local Government really stepping up and making a difference to the citizens of this province.

In George, for example, they are already busy with the wheeling framework, and they are busy with the pilot trading platform that once the proof of concept is finished, it will be able to be rolled out ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Busy with ...[intervenes]

The PREMIER: ...across other municipalities. [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: They are just busy.

The PREMIER: In Mossel Bay, the private sector are busy with the Municipality looking at waste to energy. They are also looking – if you drive past Mossel Bay and you see that flame from Mossgas – they are having a look at how they can even harness the energy coming out of that flame for electricity. ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Now you want to claim Mossgas as well.

The PREMIER: I am also very happy that we have seen the allocation of 3 000 megawatts of gas to energy in Mossel Bay, that was held back for so long from this province. We will work with the National Government to make sure that we can land those megawatts into our system as quickly as possible.

Stellenbosch is about to go out with its own IPP tenders for energy. Saldanha Bay is playing a major role in the green transition, green hydrogen and the corridor – I will say a bit more about that just now – but also the role that they play in the Freeport of Saldanha, the industrial area there plays, [Interjections.] linking it to green steel and the potential of the ArcelorMittal plant now getting into markets in Europe. These, amongst other things, are the actions that our municipalities are taking to mitigate our citizens from this loadshedding risk that we all feel every single day.

But do you know what, hon Speaker, all of these budgets, the diesel that they are procuring, has to come from service delivery and that is the real tragedy. We are stepping up to make the difference, but we have to take the money from other things because ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Why ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: ...of the failure of Eskom or the failure to rectify the system of energy provision in South Africa after so many years.

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Hon Speaker, while this Province is showing the fierce urgency of now and putting more megawatts on the grid, the National Government is not adding a single megawatt. In actual fact, less megawatts today that we had 3,000 days ago. All that they are adding is more bureaucracy, more Ministers, and slowing down the delivery system in our country. [Interjections.]

The Western Cape Government is on a drive to increase energy resilience to highlight the immense potential of the power generation sector, specifically the green economy as in being able to stimulate growth, attract investment and create employment. In the last ten years, hon Speaker, the green economy sector attracted nearly R18-billion in foreign direct investment in this province. This confirms the huge potential of our province's green economy going forward and how a continued focus on strengthening our energy resilience will not only relieve pressure created by the mass power cuts, but also contribute more investment and economic growth. This is a burgeoning market, one which we will harness to the fullest potential.

Hon Speaker, we also have a major responsibility as a province with regards to the Just Energy Transition and our role that we play on the planet, making sure that we are tackling climate change, understanding the pressure on us, understanding the pressure that our system currently is under, where coal power is providing some power to our agri-sector. But by 2030, if we have not enabled more and more green energy, that is going to affect our ability to sell our products, agricultural and agri-processed products, to say the least, into those global markets. Therefore, we take this very, very seriously.

I also want to say that a next area that we have to target is our Energy Council, our training systems for new skills, are we able to make sure that our grid is invested in, serviced and maintained and not only the national grid in this province, the Eskom grid, but also our Local Government grids. I really believe that we need to make sure that just as we build solar installer skills programmes, we need to be doing exactly the same thing on high voltage energy specialists, on people that are going to be able to deal with the expansion of our grid system. At the moment there are seven and half gigawatts of power that is a potential in South Africa, of green renewable energy, but it cannot enter the grid system because the grid system has not been invested in or upgraded. We have to make sure that we are playing our part there.

Hon Speaker, last year post my engagement in the EU, we came back to this Province, and signed an agreement with our neighbouring province. Premier Zamani Saul and I made sure that both our provinces have got green hydrogen strategies - the only two provinces in South Africa - and we signed an agreement to work together to make sure that we play our part in the Just Energy Transition, that we use the huge potential of green hydrogen demand for export to Europe as a pool factor of changing our green energy systems in our province, fixing our problem but at the same time, creating massive investment opportunities.

We then had the privilege of hosting the National Green Hydrogen Summit here and it was really exciting to see the number of international companies really interested in what we are doing and the effect that that is going to have on the Saldanha Bay Freeport. I have spoken already about how we are going to start producing green steel into the future. These are really exciting programmes for us here in the region and not only for South Africa, for the provinces of the Western Cape and the Northern Cape, but Namibia, too, engaging to build a green hydrogen corridor here in the southern part of Africa that will be able to compete and make sure that we play a part in the global demand of green hydrogen going forward.

We also have the work being done at the moment in the Atlantis green economic zone – I was just there the other day – massive opportunities of attracting more and more investment into our region. But also, I think, that when we are going out to tender now for more energy coming into the system, we can use our own land that we have got there right next to the Ankerlig Power Station and how we can enable other energy producers. I think this will fit in nicely with the hon Mayor's call for dispatchable power.

Speaker, this last year – moving from a green-economy energy – now to Education. This last year our education community rolled up its sleeves and dug deep to claw back the time lost in class and expand the province's schooling environment. Once more, our investment in infrastructure has proved to be essential.

Last year, I joined the Minister of Education, Minister Maynier, on his Rapid Build Programme. It was unbelievably impressive. He and I went to Delft where we walked around a physical school that had been in construction for only 60 days; 60 days later – it was not foundations, they were finishing off the ceilings and the WiFi connectivity inside the roof. They were doing the paving outside, a school for 500 learners with new innovation and technology and the ability to use the school hall differently, beam out education to citizens around the region. That was not the only school, Speaker. The Rapid Build was building many schools across this province. In actual fact, this year, this financial year, the target is 842 new classrooms, of which 662 classrooms have already been delivered, the rest between now and the end of the financial year in March. [Applause.]

Speaker, not only building classrooms and building schools four times faster than we have ever done so before, this Department has added more teachers than we have ever added before, 1 143 additional teachers added to the system. [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: I would like to see this in the poor areas. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: 1 143 additional teachers in the system, Speaker, and going forward this year, they are going to top that up again by another 430. In years gone by we were lucky if we had 300 to 500 new educators coming into the system every year. This has gone way beyond, Minister, well done, and thank you very much. [Applause.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: But why are you still on...

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[Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: Speaker, I also want to thank all of the officials, the Government partners, the contractors, the private sector who stepped in, the school staff for all of your hard work to bring this to reality. [Interjections.]

The speed and quality of work is inspiring, and I am really glad it has already been applauded. Speaker, every year for the last several years, this province has had to accommodate nearly 20 000 additional learners from other provinces every single year.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Just like Gauteng.

The PREMIER: This is never easy... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier... [Interjection.]

The PREMIER: It takes tremendous resources.

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, please take your seat. Hon Dugmore, when we started this session, you rose on a point of order and you asked that we please allow the Premier to deliver his State of the Province Address. Can I please remind you of those words and I understand that interjections are allowed, but you are having a dialogue with the Premier. You will have your opportunity tomorrow.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Hon Speaker, may I just address you. I think it was you that stopped the Premier. He is the Premier. He was not stopping. I said a few things, but you stopped him. He must continue, because we never stopped him [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, you are dialoguing, going into a dialogue with the Premier. Can I please ask that you allow the Premier to deliver his State of the Province Address, and you will have an opportunity tomorrow. Hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Speaker. Speaker, I am really impressed with the Department on how they are able to deal with not only building these extra classrooms, but making sure that we are placing learners. They have already placed – listen to this number. They will replace 120 000 unique Grade 1 and Grade 8 learners in this province and only 1 400 learners, as I stand here today, still need to be placed and these learners are coming to this province and have only arrived in January and February this year. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): They are from here. They are from here. [Interjections.] The PREMIER: Speaker... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: No, hon Premier, please take your seat.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): They are not from there, they are from here.

The SPEAKER: Hon Sayed, can I please ask you that you respect the decorum of the House and not engage with the Premier directly. Hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Speaker, so once again, I congratulate this Department going above and beyond. These numbers are truly remarkable. Speaker, I have already asked him my energy-ask, that we have extra funding for Education to keep the lights on, but I must say, and we all know that the loadshedding crisis impacts specifically our schools terribly. The Western Cape Education Department is really working hard to keep the lights on. So far, there are 41 schools that have entered into agreements with eight companies to install solar power solutions. In addition to this, the Department is helping schools replace traditional light fittings. 25 schools have received funding for this to fit LED light systems. The Department is also investigating installing solar PV panels on any new school that we build and on any upgrade or replacement.

Speaker, I must also say that despite the many challenges over the last year or should I say over the last few years, I am so proud of the matric class of 2022. Our pass rate increased to at 81,4%, while at the same time we achieved a retention rate and this is a critical number, a retention rate of nearly 70% resulting in 49 102 candidates passing matric this year. I would also like to congratulate and welcome the top achievers. I want to say that the top achievers in this province, Kelly Prowse from Rustenburg Girls High School was recognised as the top candidate in the entire country. Simone Louw from Bloemhof High School, also right up there. Kenneth Janson from Hoër Jongenskool Paarl, Athenkosi Khonzani, he is from the Centre of Science and Technology, Jason de Villiers from Rondebosch High. These are the absolute top performers in our education system and we congratulate them. [Applause.] Thank you, hon Leader of the Opposition.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Number four in matric results in the country.

An HON MEMBER: The best places... [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Speaker, the top overall candidate in the country has come from the Western Cape in five of the past six years, and the top candidate in mathematics has come from our province in the past four years, every year.

An HON MEMBER: He was not number 4.

The PREMIER: We are very proud of all our learners, many of whom have overcome all odds to achieve their goals. Speaker, among them is a marvellous learner. Luca Crouse, who is here today, who sits up there in the gallery. Speaker, Luca has or is living with apraxia of speech, a speech sound condition that prevents him from communicating verbally. He also needs help with moving his hands and a facilitator had to help him to write his exams. Sometimes he would sit for up to six hours to finish an exam. Speaker, Luca achieved 82% in this matric. Congratulations! [Applause.]

An HON MEMBER: Well done!

The PREMIER: Luca gives us inspiration. Tackling challenges that we have, after listening to that, you know, we can tackle just about anything. Speaker, I now need to move to jobs.

While we celebrate the successes of our matriculants, it is essential that they are able to enter a thriving economy filled with multiple job opportunities. [Interjections.]

Our country's energy woes also impact this key priority of our Government. Our province's economic growth is muted. Growth projections for this year is 0,5%. This is linked to rolling blackouts, bad national policy decisions and global pressures. I am encouraged through the incredible tourism season that this province has just experienced. Cape Town International Airport recorded over 266 000 international passengers and just short of 800 000 domestic passengers coming through that port. Speaker, this brought our overall passenger numbers coming through the airport to just over seven million this year. Our hotel occupancy in the Western Cape was also up on pre-pandemic numbers. Our recovery this year will be further augmented by a calendar full of events such as we are experiencing in our region right now. The Women's Cricket World Cup. Next week, the world's Battery Heads will all be here for the Formula E, the Cape Town Cycle Tour. Of course, I must mention something about cycling, Speaker, and maybe one day the Epic also taken place. The Netball World Cup, I was reading today that there's the World Championship Ice Hockey taking place here in the City. There is the Cape Town Carnival to come. There are our rural towns with Jazz Festivals, with Literary and Art Festivals. The Conventions and Indabas are also back. We have just had the Mining Indaba and the CTICC was bursting at the seams. Looking at our conferencing industry at their forward bookings, it really, really bodes well for economic recovery.

Speaker, recovery also comes through investment, and not only the Cape Town International investor investment with all of those passengers I have just spoken about, I saw in the audience here some investors that are going to be investing in a second airport here in Cape Town, the new Cape Winelands Airport. These are exciting things where people are prepared to dig deep, fund new projects that are going to make big differences to the economy going forward. The Amazon head office now really getting going, BPO and not only in the city, it is so nice to see BPO investing in Mitchells Plain, building call centres in Mitchells Plain, taking jobs closer to the people.

I must celebrate an entrepreneur, Marlon Parker, here, because our first Thursday took place in Mitchells Plain at his new office that he has built in that suburb, an unbelievable beacon of hope for people when a world class entrepreneur who operates in 23 or 24 countries around the world, being involved in training hundreds of thousands of people, helping hundreds of thousands of entrepreneurs and businesses with skills, set up shop back here at home in Mitchells Plain, really exciting.

On Saturday, I will be joining another entrepreneur who we are very proud of, Luvuyo Rani, someone who has really been recognised by the World Economic Forum as a social entrepreneur, someone who started here in Khayelitsha, but built businesses across South Africa.

I think of the Ashley Uys' of the world who really, prior to COVID-19, produced test kits, but he was the one during the pandemic that came up with a 15-second COVID-test kit and is now working with MIT and companies in the US building electronic and data-driven test kits for the health sector.

I think of the informal traders, and I am really happy that Rashida Mulla is here today, she is the person that really fights for our informal traders.

I know that sometimes I do not get to answer my phone every time, but I want to celebrate you and the passion that you drive the informal sector here in this region. We are accompanied by the Business Chambers, by Wesgro, by entrepreneurs. I believe that one of our jam manufacturers are here that takes agri-processing to market. It really is exciting, and an exciting time for business entrepreneurs and opportunity. But, you know, Speaker, when you come out of a pandemic or a crisis, you cannot just carry on and let the same old same old happen. So I want to say to Minister Wenger, thank you very much for all the work that you have put into our growth-for-jobs strategy, with a very short timeframe, dedication from our officials, bringing in other specialists from outside and producing an amazing document with some really nice ambitious goals for us as a region. [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: It is a nice document.

The PREMIER: This comprehensive ambitious goal for the Western Cape is to grow the provincial economy between 4% and 6% by 2035. The goal is to fuel and stimulate economic growth so that we achieve or we become a R1 trillion Provincial GDP Economy by 2035. This would require an annual growth rate of 3,8% and it will also need or translate into in excess of another 600 000 jobs. It is inspired by a vision of achieving an economy that is sustainable and diverse. A key component of the strategy is enabling private-sector led growth and the work of businesses, entrepreneurs, informal traders, whose competitiveness and job creation ability are dependent upon the services that we provide. I would also like to say also dependent on sometimes us just getting out of the way.

We are blessed with an abundance of talent that is well positioned to identify economic opportunities in this province. The urgency with which we need to address unemployment is real and need strong collaboration. We are not working in isolation or in silos. We are working together.

Speaker, in South Africa, we have the highest youth unemployment rate in the world and so we must be especially concerned about our youth, about young people and job opportunities for young people. If a young person loses hope in finding a job, the consequences are usually dire and often lead to a life of crime. There we must therefore say to residents, especially the youth, those opportunities, we must make sure that we are looking at the most vulnerable in our society and here I would like to speak to some of the interventions by our Social Development Department. There we are busy bolstering our Safety Plan with a development from social development to track and assist 1 800 families with support and we will also have over 3 000 parents, or 3 000 parents

receiving parenting programs. I have seen it myself. It is really an amazing program, watching the YeBo-naires busy delivering help and training to young parents in our region. We will also look for partnerships and...

The SPEAKER: Hon members. Hon Premier, please take a seat.

Hon members, you are bordering on no longer interjecting, you are now drowning out the speaker. Can I please ask that you leave all your comments for tomorrow.

An HON MEMBER: No, we must [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: There is no Safety Plan.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much.

We are also through our partnerships with the YES programme setting an initial target for 2023 of a further 3 000 work opportunities. This is how young people get opportunities and will add to our already 10 000 first work and youth service opportunities created in this Government over the last few years.

We are helping young people find and explore their passions through support of our After Schools Programme and there, Minister Marais, thank you very much, this is a great programme that really offers hope to our young people ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: You must [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: ... especially in areas that are under pressure.

We engage with passionate young people and are more likely to succeed in all aspects of life after going through this programme. We are committed to ensure every child is able to engage in physical activity, play sport and be creative. These programmes are designed to keep young people off the street and engaged.

Also linked to this programme I am really happy to see that through sports development this Department at present is busy with 739 individuals who are employed across various sub-directorates. These young people are offering sporting codes and are really managing the system across our province. [Interjections.]

Another intervention, hon Speaker, [Interjections.] is the Chrysalis Academy, something that every single person in this province can be super proud of. This is an initiative run by the Police Oversight and Community Safety Department. Thank you, Minister Allen, and those of you who have not had the opportunity to go to a passing-out parade of a class, it is something that you should do. I promise you it will make a difference in your soul when you see those young people, those young men and women, passing out after going through welding

programmes, cooking programmes, skills on computers, fitness training. This academy is really making us proud and every intake every three months takes 230 young people from our province and puts them through the system. [Interjections.]

No, they did not. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, the Chrysalis Academy has got a very strong brand and is also rolling out a new trial. They have launched the first ever community-based holistic programme in Atlantis. [Interjections.] 26 young Atlantis youths are going to be participating in this programme, they are matriculants, and I am really looking forward to the outcome of this programme because if it works we can see how we can roll it out even further.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: [Inaudible.] continue with Bambanani.

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker [Interjections.], I would like to now move to a part of our economy called agriculture.

Minister Meyer, agriculture. There is no better example of resilience than our farmers. [Interjections.] When most other sectors in the economy suffered during the pandemic, agriculture flourished. They made sure that they kept food security in check.

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier ...[Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Agriculture ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, there is a point of order, please take your seat. Hon Chief Whip.

The CHIEF WHIP [DA]: Thank you, hon Speaker.

Hon Speaker, I wish to rise on Rule 39 which does not allow for loud conversation.

Now, hon Speaker, we have got guests today, we have got the media here. One can understand that the Opposition members would like to be relevant with their three branches in the Western Cape. [Interjections.] Hon Speaker, this is not National Parliament ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, there is a member on the floor.

The CHIEF WHIP [DA]: Hon Speaker, you made mention ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: There is a member ...[Interjections.] The CHIEF WHIP [DA]: ... that the debate ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: ... hon Chief Whip, please take your seat. Hon members, there is a member on the floor on a point of order. Please allow the member to raise the point of order. [Interjections.] Hon Chief Whip.

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The CHIEF WHIP [DA]: Thank you, hon Speaker.

The debate is taking place tomorrow. We do look forward to the Opposition dissecting the SOPA. [Interjections.] We do look forward to innovative ideas and we do look forward, hon Speaker, as to what the rest of the country is doing. [Interjections.]

So we do look forward to the debate tomorrow because actually what is happening in the rest of the country, hon Speaker, is dollolo. Thank you, hon Speaker. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Chief Whip [Interjections.] – hon members! [Interjections.] Hon members! Hon Chief Whip, you started off with a point of order and went into a short speech. I am not going to entertain the last part of your contribution.

Hon members, hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, this agricultural sector in the last two years gave us double digit growth. Well done, Minister. [Interjections.] This province's agricultural sector is contributing to our growth and jobs creation. [Interjections.] It contributes around 11% to the province's GDP and 55% of South Africa's agricultural exports come from this province.

The Western Cape is blessed with abundant farmland, capable, resilient farming communities, who through rain, drought, heat and cold plough and harvest to keep us fed.

Hon Speaker, I also would like to welcome the opening of an investment into a dam called the Brandvlei Dam. [Interjections.] This – yes, yes. [Interjections.] Do you know how many years we had to push the Minister of Water Affairs to get the small project up and running? Which makes a massive difference. [Interjections.] 5 000 hectares.

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, can you speak to the Chair, please.

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The PREMIER: So I would like to say thank you to Minister Bredell for going along to the opening of that dam. [Interjections.] It really is great to see finality after long years of hard pushing. [Interjections.]

I did hear that the Clanwilliam Dam is back on the table and I welcome that absolutely. [Interjections.] What I do want to say is that we do have an election coming up. We have already had four sod turnings and big fanfares with tents and food to get that Clanwilliam Dam going with nothing happening. No more sod turnings, no more tents and food, no more big fanfare before an election. This time let us just build the dam and if National cannot build the dam, give it to us, give it to our new Infrastructure Department, we will build it. [Applause.]

[Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: We are building the dam, the contractors are on site. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Hon Speak, I also want to say that with regards to food security, I am worried. I spoke about the impact on food security because of what is happening in the Ukraine.

Right here loadshedding is having a similar impact and that was part of my letter to the President, not only asking for clarity on what is happening with new energy coming into the system, it was also to raise the alarm.

In this province 180 000 hectares of permanent crops are at risk because we do not have the energy for the irrigation systems. That is R60 billion potential loss, but the big problem is that that just adds to insecurity and food inflation.

We have seen that the maize production in our province where mealies that should be 1,5 metres high right now are 30 centimetres high. Maize is a staple diet, maize inflation price is going to skyrocket. That is going to hit the poorest of the poor.

The cheapest protein around is chicken. We have already seen 10-million-day old chicks die because of loadshedding. There is a massive risk going forward and we already feel it.

Before the loadshedding our Minister of Health in her systems in measurement already shows that malnutrition is an underlying problem when coming to our hospitals.

The Minister of Social Development, you would have seen in the last Adjustment Budget, has got another R25 million to mitigate this risk. This is an ongoing risk and really worries me going forward. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, and so to supplement our food system Minister Meyer continues to invest in food gardens. The current financial year the Department invested in 2 692 household food gardens, 185 community projects and 28 school food gardens. Our plan the coming year is to support a further 3 000 food gardens and do that year after year. A further 85 community and school food gardens. This is how we also mitigate risk, especially for the poorest of the poor.

The Department will continue investing in our transformation agenda. R119 697 000 was made available in the last year to the CASP programme, supporting emerging farmers, and that was topped up by another R58,9 million to give small producers support.

Hon Speaker, agriculture remains a key for our food security, but it is also a major area where we see huge investment coming into our province. You just have to drive across the province and see how many more areas are covered in nets or news packhouses are being built, and I really want to thank the sector for the resilience and the confidence that they keep on investing.

Hon Speaker, our province is a construction site. We are creating more jobs in

our province through infrastructure development, a critical economic lever, than anywhere else. The Western Cape continues to lead the country in the value of buildings that we have been completed, or that have been completed over the past year. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, in 2022, 27% more building plans were passed in this province as compared to the previous year. The Western Cape recorded R25 billion worth of completed buildings between January and November last year. This represents 40% of the total value of buildings in South Africa completed over this period. 40% of the total buildings in our whole country.

Between January and August 2022 the value of buildings completed in the Western Cape was R19,6 billion, representing a year-on-year growth of 42,1%, compared to R13,2 billion in Gauteng, with a year-on-year growth of 8,7%. Over the same period, the value of building plans passed in the province totalled R24,29 billion, representing a year-on-year growth of 25,2%. This is compared to the R23,3 billion in Gauteng, which is a negative year-on-year growth of minus 1,9%.

Hon Speaker, citizens are moving to this province. I wonder why.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Then why do you only address [Inaudible.] [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Complains about the Eastern Cape.

An HON MEMBER: Ja. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: No one complains about people moving to this province. [Interjections.]

To further attract investment in our province to better enable the private sector and to help stimulate jobs and create growth, we need to continue investing in infrastructure.

Hon Speaker, we need to develop our towns and cities to meet the demand of our growing population. This province's current population now sits at 7,2 million citizens and we are estimated to grow to 8 million citizens by 2030. However, if I look at the numbers last year and the year before, I am almost certain the 8 million will be reached a year earlier than 2030.

We are under pressure to dramatically expand our province's infrastructure to meet the needs of a growing population. [Interjections.] As you know this Government has established a dedicated Infrastructure Department [Interjections.] and I want to say ...[Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: It is called migration.

The PREMIER: And I want – yes, and I want to say thank you very much to the officials who are busy with the process of establishing this new department. I am also really happy, I am not sure what time, DG, you sent it to me. It was

probably about 5 o'clock this morning when I got the designation from the President. So that is really good news. [Applause.] [Interjections.]

As we established the Infrastructure Department, the aim is to further prioritize the importance of developing and maintaining critical infrastructure in our province. Here I want to recognise our municipalities as well. I want to recognise the Mayor of Cape Town and say to him thank you for also prioritising infrastructure. There we have seen the City growing infrastructure investment by 110% in the next three years and this year the City of Cape Town's infrastructure spend is now more than the City of Joburg's infrastructure spend. [Interjections.] R1 million more, but it is more and it keeps on growing. Well done, Mayor.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: But Dan Plato [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker, some key Western Cape infrastructure projects in this province include the upgrading of the refinery interchange on the N7 currently underway. If you drive there now you will see construction happening.

The construction of the bypass linking roads and intersections around Malmesbury. You will see the Stanford to Gansbaai rehabilitation programme. The Calitzdorp to Oudtshoorn rehabilitation programme of district road 1688. This investment as well as the investment in maintenance undertaken through our own road workers team across this province speak to the focus of mainstreaming infrastructure as we have [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, we always see that photograph of roads entering into our province where you see a line across the road. That is exactly how we visualise infrastructure in our province. [Interjections.] A tangible difference.

Let us also talk about other projects. The Cogmanskloof project. I see on the screen is a picture of the Ashton bridge. An award-winning construction. Our teams have won awards for that, the first time on the African continent that a bridge like that, a concrete tied arch bridge has been built separate to the road and moved into place. A construction like that gives our young people in our province hope that they can go and do engineering at our universities and that they will be taken seriously. There is a job for them into the future to design amazing infrastructure.

I also think of the Cogmanskloof project, the road, 2019 and opened last year, 2022. An amazing project, Minister Simmers, that really shows how important we take connectivity. That road and that bridge sits, Minister Meyer, in an area where the fruit industry is the biggest fruit industry in the Southern Hemisphere. It creates connectivity, it makes sure that we mitigate risk, it better not ever wash away.

Hon Speaker, moving on to social housing infrastructure and there again I want to say that our attempts to build better communities by delivering critical infrastructure and services are under attack from extortion mafias and syndicates. We now spend as much as R1,5 million a month beefing up security at our construction sites. This is totally unacceptable. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, the number of housing beneficiaries affected by extortion continues to rise and is currently sitting at about 21 000 residents in our province. Also noting that illegal occupation of sites in our province is taking away opportunities. I think here, Mayor, of the Helen Bowden site, or I think of the Woodstock Hospital site, but also think of our very own Helen Bowden, which are sites which are there to create housing opportunities in the middle of the City [Interjections.] and these are occupied illegally and are taking rights away from citizens.

This is where SAPS and other legal systems are failing us. The police cannot and would not act and the courts make it very difficult and sometimes even impossible. [Interjections.] I want to thank our partners in the City of Cape Town and its law enforcement agencies and community organisations for taking a stand against these criminal syndicates. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, I want to also say that in the year ahead the province has committed to creating another 9 395 housing opportunities. These opportunities spread across our province, and they are in different programmes. Some of these programmes like "Help Me Buy a Home" initiative, which has growing success, this programme has a target to deliver 2 000 units this year and in actual fact we have surpassed that programme and delivered 2 074.

In August I was privileged to accompany Minister Simmers to the handover of homes in De Hoop in Malmesbury. There it was the first phase of 395 houses. It will eventually have 3 468 homes.

The PREMIER: Construction has commenced at the Goodwood Station initiative consisting of a third of 1 055 units. We have also delivered at social housing level opportunities. I think of Maitland Mews, 204 units; Regent Villas, 60 units; Conradie Park, with 100 units – social housing units in Phase 1 – and the whole of Conradie Park Development will be delivering 3 500[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: ...units in total. Infrastructure, hon Speaker, is a huge job creator and I want to thank hon Minister Simmers for leading this portfolio and the Infrastructure team. ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: No more projects!

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker, I also want to speak about Health infrastructure. The poet, Virgin, once said:

'The greatest wealth is health.'

Delivering quality healthcare to our residents is vital to ensure their wellbeing so that they can be active, economic citizens. We are continually expanding our

health service to meet the needs of a growing population. You will have seen hon Minister Mbombo crisscrossing this Province, opening an upgraded clinic in Gansbaai or the new day clinic in Laingsburg. [Interjections.] The Observatory Forensic Pathology Institute is just about completed. Phase 1 of the new Emergency Centre at Victoria Hospital has been completed. Two new acute psychiatric wards – and this is really critical, we need more and more psychiatric wards in our system – two new wards have been opened in Hermanus and in Bredasdorp. The new casualty centre at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital was opened earlier this year and this is also showing an amazing partnership [Interjections.] and I must say to the powerful fundraising team at the Red Cross Hospital: they do amazing work. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker [Interjections.], it is not only about clinics and upgrades. We also have to build big hospitals. In the time that I have been in government, we have built a hospital in Mitchells Plain and a hospital in Khayelitsha. [Interjections.] We are now ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, please take your seat. Hon members ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker, it is fine. I can actually deal with him. ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members! Hon Premier, please take your seat. Hon members! Hon Sayed, is that a point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Yes.

The SPEAKER: Please, your point of order.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Speaker, it is unparliamentary, especially on the day of SOPA ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Nkondlo, there is a – hon Sayed, please take ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...for the hon Premier ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Sayed, I am ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...to mislead us ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Sayed! ...[Interjection.] The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): This is the second time he has misled the House.

The SPEAKER: Hon Sayed, what is your point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): That is my point of order. The hon Premier is misleading the House. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: The hon Speaker of the House.

The SPEAKER: Honourable ...[Interjections.] hon members, there is a point of order. [Interjections.] Hon member ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Hon member!

The SPEAKER: There is a point of order. Hon Deputy Chief Whip?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker. I rise on Rule 59, both subsection 1 and subsection 2 deliver: ...[Interjections.]

"Reflections upon members of the House.

If a member who wishes to bring any improper or unethical conduct on the part of another member of this House to the attention of this House, they must do so by way of a substantive motion."

A substantive motion has not been brought in this matter ...[Interjections.] and therefore, we must move on with the proceedings of the House. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Deputy Chief Whip. ...[Interjections.] Hon Sayed, is that a point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Speaker, please. If the hon Deputy Chief Whip wanted to be the Chief Whip, she should have lobbied for that a long time ago, ...[Interjections.] but let ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, there is a member on the floor!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...very sorry that you did not make it as the Chief Whip ...[Interjections.] but that is a – that is a spurious point. What I raised was not a substantive point of order or speaking about the character of the hon member. It is merely indicating that the hon Premier is misleading the House. Thank you. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon members. Hon members! [Interjections.] Hon members, we ...[Interjections.] Hon members! Hon Bans! Can I, on both sides of the House: hon members, can I please ask that you respect the decorum of this House. I mean, this – we are getting into dialogue. Hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ...conclusion.

The PREMIER: The redevelopment of the Tygerberg Hospital – and I want to congratulate the teams who have been really working hard. This is the second biggest hospital in South Africa and the biggest hospital in this Province. And that redevelopment, public-private partnership is well on its way. Thank you very much to the team for getting us there. ...[Interjection.]

I also want to say that the Klipfontein Regional Hospital, which is a crucial mega-project, is now in its planning stage and professional services ...[Interjections.] are being appointed. [Interjections.] This is also really good news, hon Speaker.

Hon Speaker, on an infrastructure of another sort ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: I want to recognise the HECTIS Programme. This is IT and Tech infrastructure. We knew this role of this product played in fighting COVID-19. You would have seen it on our dashboards. You would have seen it when Dr Cloete was presenting to the PCC or the country. This is a piece of technology that is really giving us unbelievable data. Helping us with the Safety Plan; helping us with trauma; helping us, obviously, in our hospital systems to understand trauma, but also playing its role in violence prevention. Thank you for now rolling it out to 41 of our health facilities. Data and evidence are actually how modern governments need to be making decisions and moving forward.

I also want to say, and I spoke of the Violence Prevention and Monitoring and hon Minister Mbombo, thank you very much for the role that you play there. I want to say that Gender-Based Violence and using that data, is really helping us move to a different level. ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: But you do not actually[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker, I also want to talk about mobility and as we said, the designation came through late last night or I got it very, very early this morning. We have got to make sure that just like any thriving modern society, mobility needs to be tackled head on ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: What is 'mobility'?

The PREMIER: Without public transport, specifically a passenger rail network, it ...[Interjections.] without the passenger rail network in ruins, the Mobility Department has an immense challenge ahead of it to find solutions of getting public transport back on track. ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: Mismanagement, incompetence and crime have driven our public transport system into the ground, instead of forward. Many people, particularly the working class, are hit the hardest by this public transport void. ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: You talk about a competent that is in there, while ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker, I want to say to you that public transport in South

Africa is in crisis because of how the National Government treats it. [Interjections.] We, between the City, the Province and other municipalities, need to take over the rail service. [Interjections.] We need to make sure that we are able to play a much stronger role in rolling out public transport. [Interjections.] I am happy to announce that the Mobility Department will now roll out Phase 4 of the Go George project.

Hon Speaker, I also want to say that I really look forward to announcing the new Minister of Mobility early next week. Hon Speaker ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Let ...[Interjection.] do both.

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker, while on mobility, I must reflect on the safety on our roads in this last holiday season. [Interjections.] This festive season, road fatality stats showed that we had a reduction of 36,7%[Interjections.] in fatalities on our roads. That is an unbelievable achievement. [Interjections.] And hon Speaker [Applause.] That definitely can [Applause.] [Interjections.] Hon Speaker [Interjections.] I want to say that I saw that for myself. I attended roadblocks. Hon Minister Meyer, the Acting Minister, was all over the Province on roadblocks, day and night. [Interjections.] But I want to say through this hon Minister: I met the new recruits, I met the traffic officers, men and women, who kept our roads safe. I would like to say, hon Minister, we need to really send you ...[Audio distortion.] a special gratitude on what they achieved, on making sure that we reduce fatalities and make our roads safe. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, while talking about safety [Interjections.] while talking about safety, I now want to talk about [Interjections.] improving Law Enforcement and Safety for our citizens in our Province. ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier. Hon Bans, this will be the last time. You are directly in conversation with somebody on the right. Whoever the person is that you are conversing with, can [Interjections.] Can I please ask that you do not get into a dialogue on both sides of the House. Hon Premier?

An HON MEMBER: He says I am interacting, but not ... [Inaudible].

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. By making communities safer, we can create an environment where people can realise their potential and flourish, free from fear and becoming another victim of crime. The Western Cape Safety Plan remains our overarching guide to fighting crime. Crime poses a major risk to our Province's prosperity. If people are too afraid to leave their homes to go to work and school, how can we expect progress? How are families and citizens and businesses expected to operate in gang-infested areas where violence is a daily reality. Given the severe under resourcing and hopeless national political leadership of the South African Police Services [Interjections.], the Western Cape Government has had to step in. One of our flagship interventions has been the Law Enforcement Advancement Plan or LEAP.

Hon Speaker, since its inception, LEAP has been a resounding success. The initiative has seen over 1 200 women and men, just like Assistant Chief Jason

Hamilton, who is here today [Interjections.] – there he is ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Cape Town.

An HON MEMBER: Cape Town.

An HON MEMBER: Which then are dying, too and are dying ...[Inaudible].

The PREMIER: Or just like Principal Inspector Ronel Londt who is also in the House. Thank you very much for being here. I would like to, through you, pass on to every man and woman in the LEAP programme, I want to say thank you very much for what you are doing to make it safer in our hotspot murder areas in this Province. [Applause.]

I also want to say to the hon Mayor that this only works because of a great partnership between the City and the Province. [Interjections.] I also want to say and perhaps here, I must recognise General Phathekile, [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: You may please speak to the Chair.

The PREMIER: I must recognise General Phathekile, our Provincial Commissioner. Thank you, sir, for being here. [Applause.] Thank you for the partnership. [Applause.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: We welcome ...[Inaudible.] you are attacking Police. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: You are attacking.

An HON MEMBER: Why are you attacking the Police? [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: I attack the Police management and hon Minister. [Interjections.]. Hon Speaker [Interjections.] hon Speaker, we have seen in the press that one of our police stations had to close in a real hotspot area. This Province will now explore the initiative of opening a LEAP station in one of these areas, one of these hotspot areas, that will offer services to our citizens, but also enable our LEAP officers to use as a base.

The City and Provincial partnership has achieved much, but you know, hon Speaker, I want to tell you about the environment in which these officials work: SAPS and our Law Enforcement officers. I want to tell you about the environment in which they work. I want to say to you why I said to the Leader of the Opposition now: it is not General Phathekile, it is the hon Minister and the management that sits in Pretoria that gets it wrong.

Hon MEMBERS: Ah! [Applause.]

The PREMIER: Let me give you some detail. ...[Interjection.] Hon Speaker, let me give you some detail. ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: With your LEAP services.

The PREMIER: Let me give you some detail. Let these citizens ...[Interjection.] these hon members listen. In the Eastern Cape – in the East ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Oh, we are not serious.

The PREMIER: We are not serious. Let us talk about serious. In the Eastern Cape, there were 4 407 murders last year.

An HON MEMBER: Talk about Western Cape now.

The PREMIER: I will get to the Western Cape now. [Interjections.] 4 407 murders ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Can you please – hon Premier, hon Premier, can you please address the Chair and not directly the hon members.

The PREMIER: Sorry, hon Speaker. I get a bit carried away when I think about how many citizens die in our country every year. [Interjections.] So hon Speaker, in the Eastern Cape, 4 407 citizens died and that is an increase of 18,7% in murders. In Gauteng, 5 570 citizens died, lost their lives. That is an increase of 18,9%. In KZN, 6 495 citizens lost their lives ...[Interjection.] That is a murder increase [Interjections.] that is a murder increase of 34,6%. The lowest increase of those three provinces ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: We are dying here.

An HON MEMBER: We are dying here.

The PREMIER: The lowest increase is 18,7%, nearly 20% increase in murders in the last year alone: 26 000 citizens in our country lost their lives. But you know ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: 18% increase ... [Interjection.]

The PREMIER: Do you know what, hon Speaker, in Western Cape we lost 4 109 citizens: 4 109 citizens of this Province were murdered last year. But, hon Speaker, that was a 6,8% increase. The only area in the country that is seeing declines in murder in the hotspot areas that we are focusing ...[Interjection.]. The only place in South Africa where murder comes down. [Interjections.] They make a lot of noise, but 26 000 people were murdered in this country on Bheki Cele's watch [Interjections.] and what does he do about it? Nothing! That is why we have to have a change.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: There were more ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: That is why we have to have a change.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ...initial stats ...[Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker, I want to reflect on some of those areas. Let us first think about Nyanga, which is no longer the murder capital of South Africa. [Interjections.] In actual fact, the Western Cape is no longer the murder capital by population of South Africa. That has changed. It has moved to other provinces, but in this Province because of this intervention [Interjections.] because of this intervention, we have results like Mfuleni with a minus 32,3%. A reduction of 32% in murders. [Interjections.] Kraaifontein down by 15,6%; Gugulethu down by 16,2%, Khayelitsha down by 9,4%, Harare down by 3,6%. Hon Speaker, that speaks volumes.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank General Phathekile.

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The PREMIER: Yes! Yes! The Law Enforcement officers along with SAPS, working together, bringing down the murder rate. The only place in South Africa. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, please take your seat. Hon Chief Whip.

†The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Ai, agb Speaker, die waarheid maak seer. Hon Speaker, in terms of Rule 39, it is very clear that the three branches are in contravention. Hon Speaker, can you please also rule in terms of Rule 40 and maintain the order, in order for us to hear the hon Premier of the Western Cape. [Interjections.] Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Hon members, there was a point of order. I have asked – hon Nkondlo! There was a point of order. There was a point of order raised by the Chief Whip in terms of conversation and drowning out the hon Speaker. We are nearing the end of the State of the Province Address. Can I please ask that you allow the hon Premier to do his speech and you will have an opportunity tomorrow to debate it. So, can I please ask [Interjections.] can I please ask both sides of the House to please ...[Interjection.] hon Bans! Can I please ask for your indulgence, hon members, on both sides of the House, to afford the hon Premier the opportunity that you all have and will have tomorrow. Hon Premier, hopefully this is really the last interjection.

The SPEAKER: Hon members, can I please again ask you to respect the decorum of the House. We have guests in the gallery and citizens watching the State of the Province. Hon members are allowed to interject, and I have ruled on that previously. Can you please not drown out the hon Speaker. Hon Dugmore, that was not a point of order because the hon members of this House can participate in the proceedings of the House. Hon Bakubaku-Vos, is that point of order?

†Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: Baie dankie, agb Speaker ...[Interjection.] Ja, ek praat Afrikaans nou. Nee, agb Speaker, jy het gesê die members van die publiek, hulle moet nie hande klap nie. Hy het die hande geklap nou. ...[Interjection.]

[Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Yes, I am speaking Afrikaans now. No,

hon Speaker, you said the members of the public should not clap their hands. He clapped his hands now.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: Can you remove him?

The SPEAKER: Honourable ...[Interjection.]

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: He keeps on distracting. [Interjections.].

The SPEAKER: Hon members, there was a point of order. Hon members. [Interjections.] Hon members! There was a point of order. Hon Bakubaku-Vos[Interjections.] Hon Bakubaku-Vos, you raised a point of order and I have addressed that point of order because it is the same point of order raised by hon Khalid Sayed. Hon members, hon Deputy Chief Whip, is that a point of order? I recognise you. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Hon Speaker, I rise on Section 22 of the Provincial Constitution regarding permanent delegates' rights in the Provincial Parliament. [Interjections.] The hon members at the back are members for the Western Cape Provincial Parliament ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, there is an hon member on the floor. Hon Khalid! [Interjection.] Hon Khalid! [Interjections.] Hon members; hon Baartman?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker. The Section in the Constitution is that:

"The permanent delegates with the National Council of Provinces may attend and speak in the Provincial Parliament and its Committees but may not vote."

Where there is the difference.

"The Provincial Parliament may require a permanent delegate to even attend the Provincial Parliament or its Committees ...[Interjections.]"

And the members sitting at the back are members of the National Council of Provinces for the Western Cape and they have a right to clap in this House. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Alright. I think that clarified that. [Applause] Order, hon members. Thank you very much. Order, hon members. [Interjections.] Hon members, I mean, really? This is the State of the Province Address. You will have an opportunity tomorrow. There has been a request from the hon Leader of the Opposition that we allow the hon Premier to deliver his State of the Province. There was a request from hon Marais to allow the hon Premier to deliver his State of the Province. Can I please ask that you allow the hon Premier to do so? You will have ample opportunity tomorrow, to debate the hon Premier's State of the Province. Hon Premier, hopefully, this is the last interjection. I now see you.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, that budget that I have requested, this is proposed to cover initial expenditure to make sure that we keep government services running while loadshedding is happening; to make sure that we secure extra diesel to look after our power plants. We do not want to have a power failure when one of our citizens are in ICU or perhaps, on an operating theatre, anywhere where essential services are being delivered to the citizens of this Province.

We also want to be able to help buffer schools from loadshedding. Our children's education must come first. We will also be asking for funding to provide poorer households with what I call 'power packs'. You know, in this country last year, citizens spent R30-billion on inverters and on those plugs to prevent surges destroying their appliances: R30-billion! But there are poor people in this Province who suffer the most when loadshedding comes along [Interjections.] and we need to make sure that those households are looked after.

How do we make sure that those households with matric students can still study while there is loadshedding happening? We know that moms have to wake up an hour or two earlier in the morning, in the darkness, to be able to prepare the family for the school day and the workday ahead. We know that we must make sure that we protect the most vulnerable in our society. We must also make sure that we use this funding to help SMMEs with alternative energy options and support. In all things 'energy', we are gripped by the fierce urgency of now, hon Speaker.

Hon Speaker, it is also my pleasure to welcome an individual here today in our gallery, Akhona Winisi. There he is. Akhona Winisi is a lecturer at False Bay College in West Lake here in Cape Town. Some of you will remember that the Department of Economic Development came up with a skills training plan for 'solar heroes'. These are specialists who are going to be installing solar panels, servicing solar panels, and making sure that the solar panel industry and the protection of much of the people of our Province through solar generation, can have the right skills to make sure that businesses can flourish and that we can invest and make sure that this industry flourishes.

So, I want to say thank you to Akhona for setting up the curriculum, for having a look at exactly the kind of skills that we need; create opportunities for young people to not only play a part but play a really important part in helping us in the Province, mitigate this massive risk of loadshedding going forward. ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ...[Inaudible.] has a national code, did you know that? [Laughter.]

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker [Interjections.], municipal energy resilience is also a major programme in our Department of Economic Development and Economic Opportunities. That programme links across all of our municipalities in this Province and I want to specifically thank them, but also thank the Mayors that are here today. They have come from far and wide. I want to thank you and through you, your officials that are not only just waiting, they are stepping up to make a difference in all of our municipalities across this Province where loadshedding is having such a negative impact.

You know that in this Government, for many years we have been working on the green economy. We set up GreenCape, which I am so proud of now, which plays a role not only in South Africa, not only advising the hon President in his speech, but internationally as well. We also rolled out tariff processes for our municipalities. Our MER programme has been there supporting this transition. They have been there through the energy game changer which initially, with the SSEG and the 1-megawatt space saw around 3 000 independent power producers at about 135 extra megawatts, hon Leader of the Opposition ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: But why does the City have such a big surcharge?

The PREMIER: ...in our energy system.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: But why does the City have such a big surcharge with ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: But you know what? That number has grown exponentially. The City already has 60 000 energy producers in the City. These are businesses and families who have got solar panels on their rooves. ...[Interjection.] The MER programme has approved and is busy with municipal applications for 6 756 PV programmes or installations across our municipalities, another 197 megawatts.

Hon Speaker, I also want to say that the Mayors that are here today and the programmes that are running across our Province, the action that is already taking place in our Province, I am really proud of. The City of Cape Town and the Mayor sitting there, he has already announced 'cash for power'. He will pay cash to citizens and businesses that help us get out of this mess. ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: What about the surcharge? [Interjections.] What about the surcharge?

The PREMIER: The City, as we know already, can mitigate two levels of loadshedding, already making a massive difference to the citizens just here in this region. They have also allocated R132-million to extra diesel and R25-million to diesel storage. They have already put 62 generators on water pumps, 26 generators on water pump stations, 110 generators on sewerage pumps. They have also announced and are busy with 70 megawatts of their own solar PV plants. They have already gone out to tender for a further 200 megawatts of power. That tender system has closed, and they are busy with due diligence. ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: How much will it cost?

The PREMIER: For dispatchable power, 500 megawatts will be going out again

in the City within the next month. [Interjections.] More than half of their traffic lights and intersections have got battery systems as backups. This is local government really stepping up and making a difference to the citizens of this Province.

In George, for example, they are already busy with the wheeling framework, and they are busy with the pilot trading platform that once the proof of concept is finished, it will be able to be rolled out ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Busy with ...[intervenes]

The PREMIER: ...across other municipalities. [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: They are just busy.

The PREMIER: In Mossel Bay, the private sector is busy with the Municipality looking at waste to energy. They are also looking – if you drive past Mossel Bay and you see that flame from Mossgas – they are having a look at how they can even harness the energy coming out of that flame for electricity. ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Now you want to claim Mossgas as well.

The PREMIER: I am also very happy that we have seen the allocation of 3 000 megawatts of gas to energy in Mossel Bay, that was held back for so long from this Province. We will work with the National Government to make sure that we can land those megawatts into our system as quickly as possible.

Stellenbosch is about to go out with its own IPP tenders for energy. Saldanha Bay is playing a major role in the green transition, green hydrogen and the corridor – I will say a bit more about that just now – but also the role that they play in the Freeport of Saldanha, the industrial area there plays, [Interjections.] linking it to green steel and the potential of the ArcelorMittal plant now getting into markets in Europe. These, amongst other things, are the actions that our municipalities are taking to mitigate our citizens from this loadshedding risk that we all feel every single day.

But do you know what, hon Speaker, all of these budgets, the diesel that they are procuring, has to come from service delivery and that is the real tragedy. We are stepping up to make the difference, but we have to take the money from other things because ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Why ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: ...of the failure of Eskom or the failure to rectify the system of energy provision in South Africa after so many years.

Hon Speaker, while this Province is showing the fierce urgency of now and putting more megawatts on the grid, the National Government is not adding a single megawatt. In actual fact, less megawatts today that we had 3,000 days

ago. All that they are adding is more bureaucracy, more Ministers, and slowing down the delivery system in our country. [Interjections.]

The Western Cape Government is on a drive to increase energy resilience to highlight the immense potential of the power generation sector, specifically the green economy as in being able to stimulate growth, attract investment and create employment. In the last ten years, hon Speaker, the green economy sector attracted nearly R18-billion in foreign direct investment in this Province. This confirms the huge potential of our Province's green economy going forward and how a continued focus on strengthening our energy resilience will not only relieve pressure created by the mass power cuts, but also contribute more investment and economic growth. This is a burgeoning market, one which we will harness to the fullest potential.

Hon Speaker, we also have a major responsibility as a Province with regards to the Just Energy Transition and our role that we play on the planet, making sure that we are tackling climate change, understanding the pressure on us, understanding the pressure that our system currently where coal power is providing some power to our agri-sector. But by 2030, if we have not enabled more and more green energy, that is going to affect our ability to sell our products, agricultural and agri-processed products, to say the least, into those global markets. Therefore, we take this very, very seriously.

I also want to say that a next area that we have to target our Energy Council, our training systems for new skills, are we able to make sure that our grid is invested in, serviced and maintained and not only the national grid in this Province, the Eskom grid, but also our local government grids. I really believe that we need to make sure that just as we build solar installer skills programmes, we need to be doing exactly the same thing on high voltage energy specialists, on people that are going to be able to deal with the expansion of our grid system. At the moment there are seven and half gigawatts of power that is a potential in South Africa, of green renewable energy, but it cannot enter the grid system because the grid system has not been invested in or upgraded. We have to make sure that we are playing our part there.

Hon Speaker, last year post my engagement in the EU, we came back to this Province, and signed an agreement with our neighbouring province. Premier Zamani Saul and I made sure that both our provinces have got green hydrogen strategies – the only two provinces in South Africa – and we signed an agreement to work together to make sure that we play our part in the Just Energy Transition, that we use the huge potential of green hydrogen demand for export to Europe as a pool factor of changing our green energy systems in our Province, fixing our problem but at the same time, creating massive investment opportunities.

We then had the privilege of hosting the National Green Hydrogen Summit here and it was really exciting to see the number of international companies really interested in what we are doing and the effect that that is going to have on the Saldanha Bay Freeport. I have spoken already about how we are going to start producing green steel into the future. These are really exciting programmes for us here in the region and not only for South Africa, for the provinces of the Western Cape and the Northern Cape, but Namibia, too, engaging to build a green hydrogen corridor here in the southern part of Africa that will be able to compete and make sure that we play a part in the global demand of green hydrogen going forward.

We also have the work being done at the moment in the Atlantis green economic zone – I was just there the other day – massive opportunities of attracting more and more investment into our region. But also, I think, that when we are going out to tender now for more energy coming into the system, we can use our own land that we have got there right next to the Ankerlig Power Station and how we can enable other energy producers. I think this will fit in nicely with the hon Mayor's call for dispatchable power.

The PREMIER: Thank you, Speaker. You indicated that this is nearly the end of the speech, but with all of these interjections it is a long way before the end of the speech. [Interjections.]

So, Speaker, these brave dedicated, women and men are also taking guns off our streets, every single day, hundreds of guns are coming off our streets.

I think about a gun removed, I think about a life saved. I think about a gun removed, I think about a life saved. In actual fact the gun removed or a knife removed means many lives saved, many of our children's lives saved, caught in crossfire, caught in gang violence. We really... [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ...guns in the Western Cape, guns removed... [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: We really want to thank these officers, day and night, out there deployed according to data and evidence, and it is making a difference. Now, Speaker, the interesting part about our Safety Plan, I call for devolution and a new model. [Interjections.]

The interesting part there is that the Gauteng Premier, Premier Lesufi, has now raised the issue of devolution and a new model in policing and, in actual fact, when you see the minutes of the Lekgotla come out, you will see that the President said based on what Gauteng and the Western Cape have said, we need to have a discussion on a new model of policing in South Africa. [Applause.] I will also say and it is interesting to see the other Premiers who also want to be part of this discussion. Speaker, there was a time last year where I was really disturbed. We saw a court ruling, Judge Thulare. Judge Thulare in a bail application ruled that the top table of police management is infiltrated by gangsters. Even the Leader of the Opposition nods his head, because we have a ruling in a court now, but go out into the public and citizens say that every single day. Now what I ask is the Police Ombudsman to do an investigation for me. I actually wondered whether we should hold a commission of inquiry, what should we do because this is the first real concrete tangible to the rumours that run rife every single day across our communities.

The Ombudsman did not recommend it and after discussion with him he was saying how are individuals going to come and give evidence in an open public forum to say the guy next door to me is the gangster linked to someone in the police, so what I have decided to do and I have already started engaging with real... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Premier, please take a seat, there is a point of order.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Speaker, and I do not want to be disruptive, but consistently the Premier is misleading the House, yet again on the issue of the crime stats he misled the House. It is a lie. The murder rate increased by 3,9% in the second quarter.

The SPEAKER: Alright, members.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Speaker, this is just too much. I think if we want order in the House, if we want order in the House, also the proper facts should be articulated... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, there is a member on the floor.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): If we want order in the House, we also need to make sure that proper facts are being articulated here, thank you.

The SPEAKER: Honourable...

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Because the public is here, the public will not all be here tomorrow.

The SPEAKER: Hon Sayed, that is not a point of order. You can raise or you can dispute the facts, as presented, tomorrow during the debate. Hon Premier, please continue.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Sayed, thank you for that detail, because I said the Western Cape, 4 109 was 6,8% but if you say it is three-point something percent, I will take that. I really will take it. It looks like we are doing even better in policing. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, please take your seat. Members, there is a member on the floor. Hon Sayed, is that a point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Yet again, this Premier is misleading the House, misleading the people of the Western Cape with his cheap spin. This is what he does all the time. That is why we have no leadership out there. It is cheap spin. I did not say that it has decreased, it has increased, but it is fine. Let him continue with this cheap spin. We will expose him tomorrow.

The SPEAKER: Hon Deputy Chief Whip, please take your seat. Hon Sayed, that is not a point of order. Can I please remind you that we are all hon members in this House, and can you please address the Premier as such. Hon Deputy Chief Whip, is that a point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP: You have covered my point of order, which was relating to Rule 59(1). Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Speaker. It is very hard not to react, so I will read it again. The Western Cape, 4 109 murders, up by 6,8%. If he says it is up by 3,6%, I again will say, I will take that. It looks like we are doing much better than what these stats say.

Speaker, I am actually speaking about something that is really serious. I am talking about, I am talking about the top table, the table with which General Patekile sits. These are very serious allegations. So, I am now in the process of establishing a panel of eminent persons. This will include local South Africans, but also people from South America who have really dealt with similar problems.

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, there is a point of order. Please take your seat. Hon Sayed, is that a new point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Yes, it is a brand-new point of order. The hon Maynier, MEC of Education, instead of focusing on unplaced learners, he is trying to have a conversation with me. He must listen to the Premier.

An HON MEMBER: The Speaker did not allow you. You did not allow him to speak... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): He is not allowed to have a conversation with me.

An HON MEMBER: Let him speak!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): I am not responding to him, but he is having a conversation with me. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Hon Sayed, that is not a point of order. Hon members, can I please ask that you calm down, settle down. [Interjections.] Hon members, can I please ask that you calm down and settle down. Hon Premier, over to you. Hon Maseko!

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Speaker. I will say again, so what I am doing is I am putting together, or I am establishing a panel of eminent persons. I have already spoken to people out of the EU who are prepared to serve on it. We found someone out of South America that deals with policing and gangs and success stories, but also local eminent persons to help us. The report that this team will put together will not be just for me. It will be for the President, the National Minister and the National Commissioner, because we have to deal with this problem. We cannot – we cannot have gangs involved in policing. What I am also going to do is, this province, in order to make sure that the top table, the Generals, the top brass that sits alongside General Patekile, what this Province is going to do, is we are going to fund lifestyle audits for the top brass in this province. [Applause.]

We need to make sure... [Interjections.] We need to make sure that policing is cleaned up so that we can deal with the crime levels of this province.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: And your DA funders... [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Speaker, in 2022 the Violence Prevention Unit was established under the auspices of the Provincial Health and Wellness Department. The unit is equipped to identify and design interventions to prevent violent crime in our communities. I spoke about gender-based violence, and Minister Fernandez taking the lead in our Government has produced a programme, a list of adverts and TV adverts and radio adverts.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: What about the HODs in the [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: This is a system where we are going to really try something new. Our data coming out of the Violence Prevention Unit tells us where the hotspots are, GIS mapped, where gender-based violence happens. We also know... [Interjections.]

We also know where, what time, who, the age, so we have identified that men between the ages of 24 and 34 are more likely to be an abuser if they themselves were abused. [Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Act against their [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: We have to make sure that we break the cycle, and so I want to thank the Department and the teams that have put together... [Interjection.] ...that have put together this programme, and you know I think about it a lot, and I want to say that I really welcome with a broken heart, the conviction of the perpetrator for murder and rape of the eight-year-old Tazne van Wyk.

We need more convictions like this, but unfortunately, generally, we do not see them.

Speaker, this new programme called Stop the Cycle, it really does have a hardhitting advert and I want to thank Minister Fernandez and her team,

I got to join them in one of the sessions with about forty young men where the advert was flighted and we had a great conversation on how we end the cycle. This advert really shows you that a young boy growing up in a household of abuse often becomes the abuser in the next generation. We are finding platforms and mechanisms that men can get help, that we can break this cycle, that we need to talk about these things because if we do that, and I am saying we are trying this, because we need to also try different things. Gender-based violence numbers in our country just keeps going up and up and up, just like the murder numbers, but this Province again is trying something new. I want to say to the partnership in Khayelitsha that we work with in FAMSA, I want to say thank you very much. I want to say to Chuma Mangxa, thank you very much, I listened to you when you said "We are killing this scourge at the root", and that is exactly what we are doing, we are finding ways to the causalities. That is what violence prevention is all about, use the data and science, and our medical

data and science are so useful in fighting crime. You use that data and science and using that in coming up with innovative ways to try to tackle the scourge. I really look forward to the rolling out of more and more of those conversations, and to monitor and see is this something that is going to work. The need, Speaker, for social services is sadly never ending. In a deeply unequal society too many people fall through the cracks. That is why we are also making further investment into more social workers and more health, mental health workers in our province in the year to come.

I also would like to use this opportunity to say, Speaker, thank you very much, to not only our social workers and our frontline workers and our nurses and our mental health care workers, I also want to say thank you to our partners, those NGOs, those NPOs, those volunteers out there, who are standing by our side, working day and night, to be that safety net for our citizens, to help us catch those most vulnerable, we are under a lot of pressure and I really value every single one of you in making the biggest difference that we can. [Applause.]

Speaker, in our Local Governments, we need to ensure there is stability which has been a challenge amid loadshedding and is critical in keeping our cities and towns functional and optimal. While we are tackling current challenges facing our Local Governments, we must also look at historical issues. Apartheid has left deep scars on many of our communities still evident today. Our towns and cities sadly still reflect the divisions created by Apartheid, and here, Speaker, I want to talk about the Regional Social Economic Project, the RSEP program. I am not sure if all of you know about it, you might have seen the initial stages of the VPUU, which was a partnership between ourselves here, the City of Cape Town and the KfW Development Bank.

That project morphed into continual VPUU, but RSEP across the rest of our province and in the RSEP space, Minister Bredell, thank you to you and your team for rolling this out across our local governments where we are joining up and breaking those barriers, breaking those boundaries and joining up communities.

I also want to say that I took the opportunity when I was in Europe to go to the KfW Bank, to say to them and the German Government, thank you very much for the support. They have given us over R360 million over the last few years in helping with this project. We really appreciate our partners, and thank you very much to them.

I want to thank Minister Bredell for leading the Western Cape

ground-breaking Inclusionary Housing Policy Framework that helps municipalities to facilitate and enhance inclusion and affordable homes in urban centres, bringing people closer to economic opportunities and services. The introduction of inclusionary housing is complex, and it involves numerous role players and stakeholders. It must, Speaker, incentivise and operationalise investments that give us the desired changes and outcomes. We cannot do this alone, we must do this together. I am looking forward to see how that policy starts to change the environment in which we live.

Speaker, while talking about Minister Bredell, I also would like to say a big thank

you through him to our dedicated professionals in the disaster management space.

These are men and women who are out there day and night making sure we tackle fires and floods, water services during loadshedding, moving generators around, dropping everything when a flood happens in KZN, they were the first to volunteer to go to Turkey. These are amazing men and women and I want to say thank you very much for what they do in this province. [Applause.]

Speaker, I will also say that the Disaster Management Centre was activated when we went into loadshedding Levels 4 to 6, and that centre will remain on high alert for as long as the loadshedding persists.

Speaker, while thinking of disasters, I must reflect on our dam levels. I see they have now reached 50% capacity across our province. [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Do not come with Day Zero.

The PREMIER: I want to encourage our citizens to start conserving water. We do not want another Day Zero scenario in our province. [Interjections.] Municipalities must also enact their Water Conservation and Restriction Policies now. We need to make sure that we are making those decisions now before it is too late. This Government will this year embark on a Water Resilience Plan.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: There is no more Day Zero.

The PREMIER: Electricity and blackouts must not cause us to take our eye off the ball. We know that water is the next crisis unless we focus on it now.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: What happened to the desalination plant?

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker, I also want to reflect on good governance. South Africa is still feeling the impact of the dark decade under the cloud of state capture and corruption. [Interjections.]

In the Western Cape Government we consistently and doggedly push back against those who have enabled corruption. We have built a government people can trust based on our values. We make sure that whistle-blowers are taken seriously and protected.

I am very grateful to all of our staff for ensuring that in the 2021/22 financial year, 100% Provincial Government departments received an unqualified audit. [Interjections.] Thank you very much, DG, and all of the HODs sitting here, we really value your dedication to getting the basics right. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, when you get the basics right you can then focus on the citizen. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, while talking about the citizen I want to say as a government that we are listening. Bryant McGill I says one of the sincerest forms of respect is actually listening to what others has to say or what another has to say.

Hon Speaker, I personally have crisscrossed this province listening to people as we do. The Ministers, the HODs, we go and listen. [Interjections.] I arrive at service delivery points unannounced because we do not want coffee and muffins, we do not want to place swept up, I want to arrive and go and sit in the queue along with a citizen waiting for their service, experiencing what it is like to be a citizen receiving service from this government.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: For someone who does not [Inaudible.] what [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker, for the upcoming financial year I have lobbied the Provincial Treasury to fund the project that focuses on improving the customer service experience and the face of our government. That face that we present to our citizens and through that listening programme [Interjections.] we will identify those spaces that need to be worked on. We need to make sure that those waiting rooms, that that frontline service, gets better and better.

Hon Speaker, I have also met the most remarkable people. I have met them in Prince Albert, the PACT Youth Centre, people that are arranging a jazz festival this May, and any of you who have not got your tickets yet you better do it quickly. It is not a big town, you do not want to drive hundreds of miles to get to that Jazz Festival, but what an amazing group of young people.

In Laingsburg I visited our safe house for women and children. Amazing people there as well that dedicate their time to look after the most vulnerable in our systems.

I have mentioned Mitchells Plain. Mitchells Plain walking with neighbourhood watches, Mitchells Plain walking with the LEAP offices.

Also going to Bishop Lavers, to other areas of our hotspots, walking with the neighbourhood watches, meeting with the police, meeting with our law enforcement and LEAP offices, making sure that I am also listening as we grow and build out the Safety Plan.

I was also in Matjiesfontein. There I met some workers producing mineral water. That was amazing to see and to see how that water is sent around our country. Also thinking about Matjiesfontein, I also, along with Minister Wenger, got to meet the team from NASA. That does not happen very often, but what are NASA doing here? They are investing in Matjiesfontein and they have built an observatory there to monitor space as NASA puts further people on the moon and continues with some of their expansion programmes. [Interjections.]

I have also visited places like Siki's Koffee in Khayelitsha and Siki is here today. Here is an amazing entrepreneur. [Applause.] Visiting his coffee shop, listening to his stories, meeting people in his coffee shop that are on their laptops, offering advisory services, linking on meetings to London. Really amazing, but then when I went a second time suddenly it is a roastery, the business is growing. Now he is supplying roasted coffee beans to a whole lot of other coffee shops and businesses, but more than that he has actually expanded his business very proudly as an entrepreneur and opened his second coffee shop in Claremont. [Applause.] Congratulations.

Hon Speaker, my team and I have listened to your ideas, suggestions. Most importantly your complaints at our First Thursdays. I mentioned the last First Thursday in Mitchells Plain. The amazing thing for me was having a look at how an investment in our labs and using First Thursdays is creating its own energy. How amazing to walk down the street around a cul-de-sac and there is a grand piano with one of our musicians playing music. [Interjections.] A garage turned into an open mic or a string quartet of food stalls or art on the walls where buyers from Switzerland are buying art to take back home. Really amazing when you see an entrepreneur start something, other entrepreneurs come along. We must celebrate our entrepreneurs in our region.

Hon Speaker, I also want to talk about listening and connectivity and that is our broadband connectivity. We are now at 1 366 Western Cape sites across this province. [Interjections.] Across this province.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: It is not public WiFi then.

An HON MEMBER: Countrywide.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: There is not.

The PREMIER: I also want to say that I will not ignore our citizens' complaints. We must listen and learn from the issues that they raise with us. The reality is that we are not perfect, hon Speaker, but we constantly strive to working harder and doing better. [Interjections.]

As much as you the citizen are at the centre of what we do, the Western Cape Government's culture and values also occupy the centre role in our work. We will continue to live these values in everything that we do so that we can give the impact to you, the citizen. We must inspire and aspire to be better as a government and better as a province.

Hon Speaker, the by-line in The Washington Post is:

"Democracy dies in the darkness."

I will not let our democracy flounder. Instead my commitment to the residents of the Western Cape is that our democracy and our economy will flourish. We will continue to work with the fierce urgency of now.

Many of our citizens are struggling and suffering. They look to us for help and action. You, the citizen, the people of this extraordinary province[Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: You ignore calls [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: ... are at the centre of everything ...[Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: You ignore calls [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: ... that we do. The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: You do not listen to them [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: Working today for tomorrow.

Hon Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the members of this Parliament, the role that you play, [Interjections.] you need to make sure that we have clear oversight specifically in this disaster[Interjections.] that comes.

I want to thank the Ministers [Interjections.] in each and every one of their portfolios. How they keep pushing the boundaries to do better and better for the citizens of our province. [Interjections.]

I would like to thank my family. I would like to thank them for the backup you give me even when I am not there.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Where is [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: I want to thank, I want to thank my office. You are not sitting here, but probably watching on that screen. [Interjections.] Every single one of you. Thank you very much for the support that you give me.

I want to thank the Administration. [Interjections.] None of this can happen without an administration. [Applause.] Dedicated, professional and amazing citizens that go to work every single day to make the biggest difference that they and their departments can.

Hon Speaker, this government is citizen obsessed. We are obsessed with doing our best for the people [Interjections.] to ensure all of our citizens can find the dignity and wellbeing that they deserve. By constantly innovating we can improve and modernize the way we do what we do.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Hollow those words sound. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: We are working with an acute sense of urgency given the challenges we need to overcome. [Interjections.] We are honoured by the faith and trust the people of the Western Cape have put in us and it is my firm duty to be seized by the fierce urgency of now and deliver.

Citizens of the Western Cape, as South Africa crumbles and breaks around us.

I want to assure you that this government will continue to grow and build a better future for you. We are the Cape of Good Hope. We are the hope for South Africa. I thank you. [Applause.]

An HON MEMBER: Well done, Premier! [Interjections.]

Hon SPEAKER: Order, order members! Thank you very much [Interjections.] – order members! Thank you very much, hon Premier. [Interjections.]

In terms – hon members, in terms of Rule 15 [Interjections.] – hon member Nkondlo. In terms of Rule 15 of the Standing Rules the Premier's address will be placed on the order paper for debate.

Members and guests are requested to remain standing in their places while the procession leaves the Chamber.

I also want to take this opportunity to invite all the guests and members to a luncheon after the adjournment of the House in the members' dining room area, which is on this floor, and just a reminder that Friday, 17 February, the proceedings will commence at 09:30.

Hon members, hon guests, that concludes the business for the day. The House is adjourned.

The House adjourned at 12:58.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLING AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

THURSDAY, 19 JANUARY 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Speaker:

- 1. W F Kaizer- Philander has been appointed as Chief Whip of the Majority Party (Democratic Alliance) with effect from 13 January 2023.
- Referral of document to committee in terms of section 54(1) and (2) of the Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act, 2009 (Act 10 of 2009), as amended: Parliamentary Oversight Committee Western Cape Provincial Parliament – In-year Monitoring Report as at 31 December 2022.

TABLING

The Speaker:

Tabling of document in terms of section 54(1) and (2) of the Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act, 2009 (Act 10 of 2009), as amended:

Western Cape Provincial Parliament – In-year Monitoring Report as at 31 December 2022.

TUESDAY, 24 JANUARY 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Speaker:

Referral of documents to committee in terms of section 17(2)(b) of the Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act, 2009 (Act 10 of 2009), as amended:

Parliamentary Oversight Committee

Western Cape Provincial Parliament: (a) Draft budget for 2023; and (b) Draft Annual Performance Plan for 2023/24.

TABLINGS

The Speaker:

Tabling of documents in terms of section 17(2)(b) of the Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act, 2009 (Act 10 of 2009), as amended:

Western Cape Provincial Parliament: (a) Draft budget for 2023; and (b) Draft Annual Performance Plan for 2023/24.

MONDAY, 30 JANUARY 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Speaker:

Change in Democratic Alliance membership of committees with effect from 26January 2023 (* denotes a change):

1. Rules Committee

Members: 10

DA (6)	ANC (2)	EFF (1)	GOOD (1)
Mitchell, D G* Schäfer, B A Maseko, L M Mackenzie, R D Baartman, D M Kaizer-Philander,W F *	Lekker, P Z Sayed, M K	Xego, M	August, S N
Alternate Member America, D Sileku, I	Alternate Members Lili, A Bakubaku-Vos,N G	Alternate Member Makamba-Botya, N	

Dugmore, C M	

2. Programme Authority

Members: 10

DA (6)	ANC (2)	EFF (1)	ALJAMA-AH (1)
Kaizer-Philander, W F* Baartman, D M Maseko, L M Bosman, G Van der Westhuizen, A P Mackenzie, R D	Lekker, P Z Sayed, M K	Xego, M	Brinkhuis, K
Alternate Members America, D Murray, C Sileku, I* Pretorius, G* Plato, D Fry, C	Alternate Member Dugmore, C M	Alternate Member Makamba-Botya, N	

3. Budget Committee

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	AL JAMA-AH(1)
Baartman, D M (C) Murray, C* Mackenzie, R D	Mvimbi, L L	Brinkhuis, G
Alternate Members	Alternate Members	
Fry, C*	Nkondlo, N D	
Plato, D*	Smith, D	
America, D		
Van der Westhuizen, A P		
Bosman, G*		
Maseko, L M		
Pretorius, G*		
Sileku, I		

4. Public Accounts Committee

Members:		5	
DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)	
America, D Sileku, I* Maseko, L M	Mvimbi, L L (C)	Xego, M	

Alternate Members	Alternate Members	Alternate Member
Baartman, D M*	Nkondlo, N D	Makamba-Botya, N
Murray, C*	Smith, D	
Bosman, G		
Fry, C*		
Mackenzie, RD		
Plato, D*		
Van der Westhuizen, AP		
Pretorius, G*		

5. Parliamentary Oversight Committee

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Kaizer-Philander, W F * Maseko, L M (C) Bosman, G	Lekker, P Z	Xego, M
Alternate Member Baartman, D M* Mackenzie, R D* Sileku, I	Alternate Members Dugmore, C M	Alternate Member Makamba-Botya, N

6. Standing Committee on Health (Health)*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Pretorius, G* Fry, C Plato, D	Windvogel, R	Xego, M
Alternate Members Bosman, G Baartman, D	Alternate Members Bakubaku-Vos, N G Bans, A P* Lekker, P Z*	Alternate Member Makamba-Botya, N

7. Standing Committee on Social Development (Social Development)*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Plato, D (C) Bosman, G Fry, C	Bakubaku-Vos, N G	Makamba-Botya, N
Alternate Members Baartman, D M Pretorius, G*	Alternate Members Lekker, P Z* Windvogel, R	Alternate Member Xego, M

Bans, A P*

8. Standing Committee on Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport (Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport) *

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF	FF PLUS (1)	ACDP (1)	AL JAMA- AH
Bosman,G (C) Baartman, D M Pretorius, G*	Community Safety Bans, A P	_	<u>Cultural</u> <u>Affairs and</u> <u>Sport</u> Marais, P J	Community Safety Christians, FC	
	<u>Cultural</u> <u>Affairs and</u> <u>Sport</u> Kama, M				
Alternate Members Fry, C Plato, D	Alternate Members <u>Community</u> <u>Safety</u> Lili, A Lekker, P Z	Alternate Member Xego, M			Alternate Member Brinkhuis, K
	<u>Cultural</u> <u>Affairs and</u> <u>Sport</u> Windvogel, R				

9. Standing Committee on the Premier and Constitutional Matters (Premier)*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Fry, C (C) Baartman, D M Pretorius, G*	Dugmore, C M	Xego, M
Alternate Members Bosman, G Plato, D	Alternate Member Lekker, P Z	Alternate Member Makamba-Botya, N

10. Standing Committee on Human Settlements

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	GOOD (1)	EFF
Maseko, L M (C) Sileku, I America, D*	Lili, A	August, S N	

Alternate Member Mackenzie, R D Murray, C	Alternate Members Marran, P Kama, M	Alternate Member Makamba-Botya,N
Van der Westhuizen, A P	Smith, D	

11. Standing Committee on Local Government (Local Government, Local Government Oversight and National Council of Provinces)*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
America, D (C) Maseko, L M Sileku, I *	Dugmore, C M	Makamba-Botya, N
Alternate Members Van der Westhuizen, A P Mackenzie, R D Murray, C*	Alternate Members Marran, P Lili, A*	Alternate Member Xego, M

12. Standing Committee on Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning)*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	GOOD (1)	FF PLUS (1)
Van der Westhuizen, A P (C) America, D Murray, C	Marran, P	Environmental Affairs and Development Planning	<u>Agriculture</u> Marais, PJ
Alternate Member	Alternate	August, S N	
Mackenzie, R D	Members	-	
Maseko, L M	Smith, D		
Sileku, I *	Lili, A*		

13. Petitions Committee*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Plato, D (C) Fry, C Bosman, G*	Sayed, M K	Makamba-Botya, N
Alternate Members Baartman, D M Pretorius, G*	Alternate Members Kama, M* Lili, A*	Alternate Member Xego, M

MONDAY, 30 JANUARY 2023

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker:

Resignation as a Member of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament

- 1. Mr M Xego has resigned as a Member of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament with effect from 28 January 2023.
- 2. Ms N Makamba-Botya has resigned as a Member of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament with effect from 28 January 2023.

MONDAY, 30 JANUARY 2023

TABLING

The Speaker: Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities

Report on the use of funds from provincial reserves in terms of section 25 of the PFMA for emergency and immediate response to the impact of prolonged load-shedding – local government: 2022/23 financial year.

WEDNESDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2023

TABLING

The Speaker:

Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities

Provincial Notice 8 of 2023: Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act. Quarterly consolidated statement: Quarter 2 ending 31 December 2022. Published in the Provincial Gazette Extraordinary 8707, dated 30 January 2023.

FRIDAY, 3 FEBRUARY 2023

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker:

1. Referral of document to committee in terms of section 52 of the Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act, 2009 (Act 10 of 2009), as amended:

Parliamentary Oversight Committee

Western Cape Provincial Parliament: Executive summary and third quarterly performance report for the period 1 October 2022 to 31 December 2022.

2. Election of a chairperson of the following standing committee (* denotes a change) in accordance with Standing Rule 82(2):

Standing Committee on Health*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Pretorius, G (C)* Fry, C Plato, D	Windvogel, R	Xego, M
Alternate Members Bosman, G Baartman, D	Alternate Members Bakubaku-Vos, N G Bans, A P Lekker, P Z	Alternate Member Makamba-Botya, N

TABLING

The Speaker:

Tabling of document in terms of section 52 of the Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act, 2009 (Act 10 of 2009), as amended:

Western Cape Provincial Parliament: Executive summary and third quarterly Performance report for the period 1 October 2022 to 31 December 2022.

MONDAY, 6 FEBRUARY 2023

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker:

1. Filling of vacancies and swearing-in of new Members

The vacancies, which occurred in the Western Cape Provincial Parliament owing to the resignation of Mr M Xego and Ms N Makamba-Botya, have been filled by the nomination of Mr M T Klaas and Ms A Cassiem with effect from 3 February 2023. The Members took the oath in the Speaker's office on

3 February 2023.

2. Publication of reviewed list of candidates

Provincial Notice 13 of 2023: Publication of the reviewed list of Economic

Freedom Fighters(EFF) candidates in the Provincial Gazette Extraordinary 8713, dated 6 February 2023

WEDNESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2023

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker:

1. The following Members (* denotes a change) have been appointed as whips:

Democratic Alliance

Ms W F Kaizer-Philander – Chief Whip of the Majority Party Ms D M Baartman – Deputy Chief Whip Ms L M Maseko – Whip* Mr G Bosman – Whip* Mr A P van der Westhuizen – Whip* Mr I Sileku – Whip*

2. Appointment of the Economic Freedom Fighters' caucus leader

Mr M T Klaas has been appointed as the EFF's caucus leader in the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.

TABLING

The Speaker: Document tabled in terms of section 126(4) of the Local Government:

Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003 (Act 56 of 2003) (MFMA):

West Coast District Municipality

Delay in the submission, adoption and approval of the Annual Report and the Oversight Report on the Annual Report 2021/22.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

[Hybrid sitting held with some members present in the House and some in virtual attendance through Microsoft Teams.]

The House met at 10:45

The Deputy Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLING AND COMMITTEE REPORTS - see p. 6876

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER: Please be seated. Order, hon members, please, settle down. Hon members, order. Firstly I want to take this opportunity again to welcome all our esteemed guests to the Sitting today but before we proceed, I would like to remind members of some of the logistical arrangements. The quorum requirements for the Sittings are provided for in the Constitution and the Standing Rules. Members who are considered out of order by the Presiding Officer will have their microphones muted and called to order.

The Serjeant-at-Arms will record members' attendance, and when a member in the Chamber wishes to raise a point of order, such hon member may address the Presiding Officer, as expected, but must mute their microphones when they have completed speaking.

Hon members are also requested to please ensure that their microphones are unmuted when the Presiding Officer recognises them and when they are done speaking to please mute their microphones. The media have also been granted access via the MS Teams as guests of the WCPP. However, the members of the press may not use the chat room or speak or activate their cameras while the Sitting is in progress. If an individual, who is not a member of this House, activates the microphone and video camera, such an individual will be removed from the Sitting immediately. I request that those that are here today, who are not members of the House, please observe the decorum of the House.

Hon members are also reminded that no interjections are permitted during hybrid Sittings. To this end I draw the hon members' attention to Rule 40 of our Standing Rules. For this Sitting, Language Translation Services are available in the Chamber, as usual, and on Microsoft Teams via the respective channels. Hon members participating in the Sitting of the House must please access the Language Translation Services via a second device, for example your cell phone and if you have earphones available, please use them for the Language Translation Services. That is the logistical arrangements, hon members.

I now recognise the Chief Whip.

(Motion)The CHIEF WHIP: Thank you very much, Speaker. I move: That, in terms of Section 62(5) of the National Constitution, read with Section 2(3) of the National Council of Provinces (Permanent Delegates Vacancies) Act, 1997 (Act 17 of 1997), the House resolves to appoint Mr Mbulelo Jonathan Magwala as a permanent delegate to the National Council of Provinces.

I so move. Thank you, Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Chief Whip. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion?

No objections? The motion agreed to.

The Secretary will now read the first Order of the Day.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

The SECRETARY: Debate on the Premier's State of the Province Address.

The SPEAKER: Hon members, I have received a copy of the Premier's State of the Province Address delivered in this House on Thursday, 16 February 2023. The Address is printed in the minutes of the proceedings, and I now place it before the House for debate.

I recognise the Leader of the Opposition, hon Dugmore.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear! [Applause.]

†'n AGBARE LID: Gooi kole! [An HON MEMBER: Throw coals!]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Thank you very much, hon Speaker, hon members of the House and hon guests. I want to start with some of the lyrics of a song by something that you might remember, those of you that are my age, by someone called Johnny Cash, and it is called "Man in black." Johnny Cash writes:

"Well, you wonder why I always dress in black Why you never see bright colours on my back And why does my appearance seem to have a sombre tone Well, there is a reason for the things that I have on I wear the black for the poor and the beaten down Living in the hopeless, hungry side of town I wear it for the prisoner who is long paid for his crime But is there because he is a victim of the times I wear the black for those who have never read or listened to the words that Jesus said... I wear it for the sick and lonely old For the reckless ones whose bad trip left them cold I wear the black in mourning for the lives that could have been Each week we lose a hundred fine young men And I wear it for the thousands who have died believing that the Lord was on their side..."

I am starting with those words because compared to what Johnny Cash was singing about there, those that died in the Vietnam War, there are hundreds of

young men mainly that we lose in our communities every week, every month, and from Hanover Park, talking to Avril Andrews, she mentions Elcardo, she mentions Tyrese, she mentions Byron. She mentions Rory, Nathaniel, Kyle, Monre, Devon, Ashram and Gesant as just some of the few that have died.

Yesterday, Speaker, the Premier focussed on 14 key issues in his speech and as is typical for this Premier, if one pays close attention, one can only notice in particular what he did not say in his speech. We have member Sayed, member Windvogel and our Chief Whip who will be speaking to some of these issues, the 14 issues that the Premier raised. It is worth noting that one of the key constitutional imperatives is the need for redress, in particular for those who have suffered unfair discrimination and even in a section of the Provincial Constitution which this Premier clearly has never read. It refers to the protection or advancement of persons or categories of persons disadvantaged by unfair discrimination.

†Nou wie is daai mense? Dit is die bruinmense van die Wes-Kaap. Dit is die swartmense van die Wes-Kaap. Dit is die plaaswerkers, [Now who are those people? It is the brown people of the Western Cape. It is the black people of the Western Cape. It is the farm workers,] but never in the last four speeches that this Premier has made, has he ever used the word "black, coloured, African" and I think that is where the problem with him, with due respect, Speaker, and his party remains. This might be seen at one level as classic race denialism, but in fact it is indeed exposed as racism, actually, in the cold light of day. It is Premier Winde and the DA's recipe to hang on to the apartheid and colonial legacy and to actually at all costs try and preserve the privileges of the wealthy and the minority. So it is actually racism, although one might say it is race denialism, but he says race does not exist.

Speaker, the DA is panicking. They are losing votes by the thousands to the Freedom Front. They have lost the City of Johannesburg. They are about to lose Tshwane as a result of their corrupt Mayor, who they actually protected for years. Ekurhuleni will be next. In by-elections in our province and across our country... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members... [Interjections.]

†Die LEIER VAN DIE OPPOSISIE: Ekurhuleni, julle gaan verloor daar, julle gaan verloor. [Tussenwerpsels.]

[The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Ekurhuleni, you are going to lose there, you are going to lose.] [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, members.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I am coming there. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Across the country in by-elections they are bleeding support. On Wednesday, on Wednesday, Speaker, we saw the DA

connive in Cederberg with certain farmers, not all farmers, and Mr Van der Westhuizen, you know about the conniving. [Interjections.]

†Jy was betrokke daarby. Jy weet. Moenie lieg nie. [You were involved with that. You know. Don't lie.]

An HON MEMBER: Exactly!

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: To lock the gates, what they did, Speaker, they locked... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members, order!

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: They locked the gates of certain farms so that ANC voters could not go and vote. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, hon Dugmore, please take your seat. Order, members, there is a member on the floor. Hon Bredell, is that a point of order? Hon members, there is a member on the floor for a point of order. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Labour referred to [Inaudible.] [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: We informed you.

An HON MEMBER: What point was it? [Interjections.] Listening to him, what point is it?

The SPEAKER: Honourable... [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Cederberg. As I recall you are not allowed to say that members lie in this Parliament. It is unparliamentary.

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, have you referred directly to a member?

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Speaker, I hope that this time is not being wasted, but what I want to say is that that honourable member who I am pointing to, member Van der Westhuizen, †hy is bewus van die geknoeiery wat daar plaasgevind het. [he is aware of the conniving that took place there.] He is aware of it. That is why – †kyk hoe bloos hy. Kyk hoe bloos hy. [Tussenwerpsels.] [look how he blushes. Look how he blushes.] [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, can I ask, did you refer... [Interjections.] Hon members! Hon Dugmore, I will recognise you now, hon Sayed. Hon Dugmore, did you refer to hon Van der Westhuizen as lying?

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: No. †Ek het gesê hy moenie lieg nie, want hy is bewus van die knoeiery. [I said he must not lie, because he is aware of the conniving.]

The SPEAKER: Alright, that is not a point of order. Hon Sayed?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Speaker, thank you very much. Both hon

Bredell and the hon Deputy Chief Whip of the Democratic Alliance have stood up first before you could recognise them to raise a point of order. That is not allowed. You sit down. When the Speaker recognises you, you have your hand up and then you stand up. Thank you. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Sayed, that is not a point of order. In fact it is the other way around. [Interjections.] Hon members, order members! In fact it is the other way around. You stand up and you switch on your microphone when I recognise you. Hon Dugmore, you can proceed.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I had 16 minutes. I am probably on 14 minutes now. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, you are on 11 minutes. Hon Dugmore, just for your time, you have 11 minutes and one second.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Okay, they colluded with certain farmers to lock the gates and deny farm workers the right to vote. Speaker, MEC Bredell witnessed this with his own eyes and was a willing accomplice. [Interjections.] Even worse was the DA complicity in the Cederberg Eerste, Cederberg First Strategy to commit fraud by registering voters for a special vote without their permission, and that is something that hon Van der Westhuizen knows about and that is why the ANC, Speaker, that is why... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, can you please take your seat. Hon Deputy Chief Whip, is that a point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP: Thank you, Speaker, I rise in terms of Rule 59(1), member Dugmore specifically mentioned Minister Bredell's name and inferred that he was involved in fraud and I would like you to rule on whether or not the member has imputed improper motives regarding Minister Bredell. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Alright, I will study the Hansard and revert back to the House to the content of that statement. Hon Dugmore, you may proceed.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: That is why the ANC will today before five o'clock this afternoon in terms of the IEC Regulations, lodge an objection with the IEC in regard to the Ward 6 by-election Wupperthal and despite all of this, Speaker, the ANC grew from 24% to 32%. This was never our ward. [Applause.]

In Struisbaai, in Struisbaai the DA lost again hundreds of votes to the Freedom Front Plus while the ANC held its support amongst the fishing communities of Struisbaai † en ons het eintlik gegroei met 4%. [and we actually grew by 4%.] The DA, Speaker, has an identity crisis. Helen Zille has pushed the DA further and further to the right, but it is not working. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Murray, is that a point of order? Members, there is a member on the floor, can I please ask that you allow the member to raise her point of order.

Ms C MURRAY: My point of order is that it appears that hon Dugmore is

speaking to a branch meeting as opposed to engaging in a SOPA debate. We are here for a SOPA debate. Thank you, Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Hon Murray, that is not a point of order. [Interjections.] Hon Dugmore, you may proceed. [Interjections.] Order, members.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Speaker, could I...

The SPEAKER: Members, there is a member on the floor. Can I please ask that you allow the member an opportunity?

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Speaker, could I just address you?

†Ons praat eintlik met tak-lede, want hulle luister, hulle kyk na die debat, so ja, ons praat met hulle. Ons praat met die delegates en die tak members ook. [Tussenwerpsels.]

[We actually speak to branch members, because they listen, they are looking at the debate, yes, we are speaking to them. We speak to the delegates and the branch members as well.] [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, members!

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: So they have an identity crisis. They are supporting... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, hon Dugmore, can I please ask that you do not directly engage the members, but that you speak through the Chair.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Okay. The DA has a crisis, they are supporting Cape Exit in their attempt to break away from South Africa and form a separate republic of the Western Cape, and, as the ANC, we want to say it directly. We want to place on record that this attempt of a Western Cape Volkstaat is a pipe-dream.

†Dit sal nooit gebeur nie. [It will never happen.]

And we want to say that. It is never going to happen. This reveals the fundamental flaw with the Democratic Alliance and the Premier. The motivation is not informed by the need to transform our society. National oppression of black South Africans in our province, African, Coloured and Indian, as well as the systematic attempt to wipe out the first nation people of this province, has left scars and the impact of colonial dispossession and economic exclusion over decades. So when Premier's frame of reference deliberately ignores this, one can clearly see that his agenda and that of the DA is to preserve the privileges of the wealthy and protect those who actually benefited from colonialism and actually to perpetuate inequality.

I find it interesting that the Premier broke from his prepared speech towards the end and wax lyrical about the so-called Cape of Good Hope. I would like to ask the Premier, whether he has any understanding about the colonial origins of that term? What? Whose hope was he referring to? This is a colonial construct referring to the hope of colonisers who saw hope for themselves of taking land, of generating wealth and mistreating and oppressing the indigenous minority. That is the "Good Hope" that he talks about.

I want to – the President addressed the nation last week and on Energy, I want to say to this House, in November 2020 over two and a half years ago the Premier then announced the Municipal Energy Resilience Project. Millions have been invested in five municipalities and to date, Speaker, not a single megawatt of power has been produced.

The other 25 municipalities – the other 25 municipalities, they do not know how to access the MER. Premier Winde refused to talk about financing. How much will this energy cost, Premier? Not a single municipality has even produced a project preparatory plan, after two and a half years and over R100 million. Ja, they have not. Premier Winde remained silent about the unlawful surcharge imposed by the City of Eskom... [Interjection.]

The PREMIER: Imposed by the City of Eskom?

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: No-no, imposed by the City of Cape Town on Eskom power. This surcharge has never been approved by NERSA, yet the poor are suffering because of that surcharge.

An HON MEMBER: Exactly!

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: And we must remember, hon Speaker, that while this is happening – †arm mense wie agterstallig is op hulle rekeninge byvoorbeeld vir water; hulle gaan om krag te koop met R100.00. Hulle betaal daai R100 en hulle kry net R10 daaruit, [poor people who are behind on their accounts for example for water; they go to buy power with R100.00. They pay that R100 and they get just R10 out of that,] and now you want to come and talk about energy, whereas your municipalities are basically exploiting the poor. That is what you are doing. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: You go with the R100.00. You get R10.00 and MEC Bredell who is sitting there smugly, for years in out Standing Committee he has never once said that he will get a legal opinion about whether this is lawful or not. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Untouchable.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: That is what he does, because he is untouchable... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: He is untouchable. ...(intervenes)

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: ...because he is your boss and that is why you – through the Speaker – this Premier is the weakest Premier because his senior Bredell is here, Helen Zille gives me instructions and all he can do is shine, but have no substance. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Exactly!

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: We welcome the announcement by President Ramaphosa. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, members!

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: And this is important that President Ramaphosa said yesterday that the finance Minister will announce in the Budget next week, a National Plan to subsidise rooftop solar across the country and that is going to be mentioned in the Budget speech, so renewable, Speaker, are part of our energy mix. They are important... [Interjection.]

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: That has always been. That has always been.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: So is nuclear, so is hydro, so is thermal, so is natural gas...

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: That has always been.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: And we ask through you, Speaker, that the Premier must stop the spin. What we want, as the ANC in this province is to build a genuine inter-governmental initiative and a partnership with the private sector to actually resolve the energy crisis, not to come here and play politics. The Premier refers to a country in chaos. Perhaps the President referred to the Premier yesterday, when he described the critics as the merchants of despair and he mentions their dishonest and self-serving rhetoric. That is this Premier, dishonest and self-serving rhetoric. The President said, the President said ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, members! Hon Bakubaku-Vos, you have a member on the floor and you are conversing in dialogue on the other side. Can I please ask that both sides of the House please afford hon Dugmore the opportunity. He is on the floor.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Ja. The President, Mr Speaker, said that they – referring to people like Premier Winde – have determined that their political fortunes are best served by depicting a country in chaos, instead of being parties that acknowledge the challenges, and that are determined to work together to find solutions, so that we leave no one behind. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: You should look after the Post Office. [Unclear.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Last year the Premier boasted about the following in his speech and member Windvogel will say more. He says: "Last year, in addition, we have already completed Helderberg, Laingsburg, Victoria Hospital Emergency Care."

Yesterday he mentions the very same facilities, hoping we did not notice that they are already completed projects. Premier, you do not get to double-dip on your claims. When it comes to energy, Mossel Bay Natural Gas has got nothing to do with you. It is a national initiative so do not claim things in the way that you

do. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, speak to the Chair. [Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Sorry?

The SPEAKER: Speak to the Chair.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Ja. Our spokesperson of Education will deal with the education issue. When it comes to jobs we have made the point that in an economy that is not growing, the impact of COVID, the national recession from 2008, you have to focus on public employment. Our President has ensured that over 1 million people have been employed in the schools, but you do not believe that public employment from provincial funds can have any work. You talk about let us just let the businesses do what they are doing. Come and tell me what provincial money, besides your 1000 LEAP safety officers, which by the way, the reduction in those areas and you should have asked Patekile because he told me yesterday, they deliberately deployed more police members to the very areas that... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Ja, that is it.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: So do not mislead this House. Do not tell lies to this House. [Interjections.] So the presidential youth, †en ons moet besef, daai presidensiële projekte kom van die President, maar dit baat mense in die Wes-Kaap. Dit kom nie van Premier Winde nie. Dit kom direk van die President. [and we have to realise, those presidential projects come from the President, but it's to the benefit of the people of the Western Cape. It does not come from Premier Winde. It comes directly from the President.]

†'n AGBARE LID: Ja, ja! [An HON MEMBER: Yes, yes!]

†Die LEIER VAN DIE OPPOSISIE: En ons mense moet dit besef dat die DA... [Tussenwerpsels.] [The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: And our people have to realise that the DA.]...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, speak to the Chair please. [Interjections.] Hon members, there is a member on the floor. Please allow hon Dugmore an opportunity to... [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: The Premier lauds new policies related to this matter of GBV but we are reminded that a former member of his Cabinet resigned for allegations of sexual misconduct. Farrel Payne, who has allegations in court of rape, remains in his position in this Department.

I want to go further. Yesterday you invited John Steenhuisen, the very person who described his ex-wife as a victim of road-kill. That is the attitude that you do not want to address, the inherent sexism and patriarchy that you ignore and that is why I want to ask, I want to ask you directly, and in terms of the Code of

Good Practice and elimination of harassment in the workplace, are you aware of any allegations of sexual harassment that have been made against any of the Heads of Departments of this province, within the Western Cape from 1 January 2019 to date? Please tell us the truth. Do not spin. Just tell us if you are aware and what has happened. [Interjections.]

If yes, please provide the details of these allegations which have been made and how these allegations were investigated and what were the outcomes of these investigations? You say you want – you are serious about GBV. The first thing you should do is just suspend Farrel Payne whether he is guilty or not, he is charged in a court of law. Just suspend him until – over the... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore... [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Can you not do that?

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, can I please again remind you to speak through the Chair.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Now when we come to the issue of mobility, I have with me, this morning there is a crisis in this province with taxis' learner transport. The Khayelitsha Development Forum sent a WhatsApp to this Premier this morning. If he was at all serious he just would not say: "Oh, I cannot make two o'clock." I saw your response. [Interjection.]

The PREMIER: Not this morning!

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: If he could not make two o'clock he could easily have said: "This is a crisis, I am going to come at four." But no, this Premier is the Cape of Good Hope.

†Hy gee nie om vir Khayelitsha se mense nie. Hy sal nie uitgaan saam met sy waarnemende Minister van Mobility nie, [He does not care about Khayelitsha's people. He will not go out with his acting Minister of Mobility,] and that is shocking. It just shows that you are a Premier of glamour and spin and you will not go to where the crisis is actually affecting people. If an organisation like KDF invites you, you make a plan! You say: † "Ek kan nie tweeuur hier wees nie..." [Tussenwerpsel.] ["I cannot be here two o'clock]..."[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, can I ask that you conclude?

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Okay. I will, I will. I will conclude by saying that the reason and I have a document here from Krause [Interjection.] The reason that Central Line is not open is because in 2021 they applied, as the City advised them, for land. Then two years later the City says "No, we should not have told you, apply for emergency..." The DA is responsible totally that the Central Line is not working. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Dugmore. Your time has expired.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Because I have the evidence. I have the

evidence right here.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: That is what they do, so they... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, hon members, hon members, hon Dugmore, your time has expired. Please take your seat.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: So I want to thank...

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I want to thank the Speaker... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Members! Hon Dugmore, please take your seat. Your time has expired.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I just want to conclude with Johnny Cash... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, please take your seat. Your time has expired. [Applause.] Hon Fry, I recognise you. [Applause.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

Mr T FRY: Hon Speaker, Premier and hon members of this House. Today we are debating and replying to the Premier's State of the Province Address.

I firstly want to express my gratitude to the Premier of the Western Cape for giving an address that inspires hope among the Western Cape residents and demonstrates the urgency with which our Provincial Government is committed to providing all elements of services.

Hon members, Premier Alan Winde opened his speech with a quote from Martin Luther King Junior on the occasion of the march in Washington in August of 1963. The quote was:

"We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilising drug of gradualism."

That speech was the embodiment of the struggle for justice and equality in America and it was one of the fulcrums that eventually led to the abolishment of racist legislation and segregation. The Premier was correct in using this quote because we are now a nation in crisis. The national power utility cannot keep the lights on. The police service is dysfunctional. The South African Post Office is on the verge of collapse. The Department of Home Affairs is in a state of despair. Many of our municipalities are crippled by inept governance and corruption continues unabated. Because of these and a plethora of other factors, our people, especially women and children, are not safe. Our people are struggling to find work and those who have their own businesses have either had to close the doors or are desperately close to doing so. Our people have been denied the dignity that they are entitled to. They have lost hope and confidence in the National Government, in Eskom, the South African Police Service and countless government services that have been hollowed out by the ANC National Government, but yesterday Premier Alan Winde, however, gave residents of the Western Cape and indeed the country a reason to have hope in the Government during his speech yesterday. As Dr King said:

"Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy."

Hon Speaker, while the President seeks to throw more bureaucracy at the electricity crisis by adding yet another Minister to his already bloated Cabinet and further cementing a super presidency or what is the beginnings of a state-centre in the office of the presidency, this Government chooses to act and act now.

Energy security is without doubt currently South Africa's biggest existential threat. It constitutes an existential threat because it has an impact on every aspect of society, including jobs, food security, access to clean water, safety, and education.

As we have previously observed, rolling blackouts has had a negative effect on our economy. Due to a lack of power one dairy farm in KwaZulu Natal had to destroy approximately 12 000 litres of milk in a single day. Furthermore, the price of goods has spiked due to a considerable rise in input prices across all industries, which has raised inflationary pressures and eventually making the cost of living more difficult to afford, especially for the most vulnerable in our society.

Hon Speaker, we see water and sewage systems buckle under the pressure of being constantly switched off and putting our entire water system at risk. Children are being forced to study in darkness, both in the classroom and at home, placing their education at risk. It is not only the darkness but the lack of connectivity during loadshedding that threatens the quality of education they receive. The Department of the Premier has invested billions around the province in the Cape Access Programmes, which are unavailable during loadshedding periods and thus deny young people access to free internet where they can apply for employment and education opportunities. It is a wellknown fact that in all our neighbourhoods, the risk of crime escalates dramatically during night-time blackouts, again, with the poorer households bearing the brunt of this phenomenon. These households do not have the means to pursue alternative forms of generation and hence are susceptible to robbery, assault, and the most heinous of circumstances, murder. But, in the Western Cape there is hope. It is not a cowardly ineffectual hope. No, this hope is deep-rooted in the desire to continue being the Government for the people of the Western Cape. This help is founded on the values of being caring, competent, accountable, having integrity, being innovative and responsive. The LEAP programme has demonstrated its efficacy, and in fact given our residents hope, after they had seen and experienced the differences in our Community Safety. The most recent Crime Statistics have shown a reduction in contact crime in Gugulethu, Delft, Harare and Khavelitsha.

Hon Speaker, R1 billion has been requested from Provincial Treasury to respond to the energy crisis and keep Government services running. This is why an Energy Resilience Council has been constituted and is already working to mitigate the dangers posed by rolling blackouts. This is why R88 million has been allocated to municipalities to support their efforts in combating loadshedding. This is why the City of Cape Town now seeks to allow independent power producers to sell energy back to the City and add more capacity to the grid.

Hon Speaker, this is the hope we speak of realistic and practical solutions. We are already seeing the effects that good government has on society. Tourists, both local and international are returning in their numbers to the Western Cape, thereby facilitating a solid recovery in that sector. Further to that more and more events are taking place in our province, both of national and international importance. This collaboration with the private sector is providing opportunities, which enhances the potential for job creations and with every new job created there is hope.

Hon Speaker, the Cape Access Centres continue to provide communities across the province with vital broadband access. This initiative allows our people to access job, study and bursary opportunities and the chance to upskill themselves in information and computer technology to ready themselves for the fourth industrial revolution. We look forward to an even greater rollout of this initiative to all areas where they are most needed. Another such initiative, the Premier's Advancement for Youth Programme has a stellar record of preparing our young people to enter the workplace. 7 704 people have benefited from this programme since its inception in 2013 2014 and currently there are 496 people completing the programme this year. I am excited to see what yields the upcoming year will bring and Mr Speaker, might I add that hon Dugmore has come to quote figures and facts about the elections, the by-elections that just took place. I would like to remind him of the figure that the ANC has already said they are 40%. That is what they are going to get next year in the National Election.

An HON MEMBER: Ah, come-on!

Mr T FRY: 40%. In conclusion, hon Speaker, we know that our nation is in crisis. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order members! [Interjections.] Order, members! Order members, there is a member on the floor, please allow the member to conclude.

Mr T FRY: In conclusion, hon Speaker, we know that our nation is in crisis and that many of our people are writhing in despair with no hope of finding a job, being safe or learning in peace, but like Dr King said on that sunny august day in 1963: "Out of a mountain of despair, a stone of hope."

Our of the mountain of despair that is South Africa, the Western Cape is the stone of hope. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. [Applause.] Thank you, hon

members. I now see the Minister, Minister Allen.

The MINISTER FOR POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: Hon Speaker, hon Premier, Cabinet colleagues, hon members, to those in the gallery, our guests, thank you so much for your attendance.

Today is a political speech. However, I would want to from the onset state that I would like to commence today by paying homage to the six SAPS officers who have sadly lost their lives since January to December of 2022. May they continue to rest in peace, and may their loved ones also find comfort.

Every day, Speaker, our men and women in blue leave their properties, leave their families, not knowing if they will ever return home. We know that we have dedicated SAPS officers in our provinces and in our province here, but particularly, they are dealing with extreme and difficult circumstances where criminality is constantly on the increase.

Furthermore, my thoughts are also with three LEAP officers who have sadly lost their lives: 23-year old officer Alessandro Heyns, was cowardly killed last year; as well as 26-year old officer Sixolile Maram, and 29-year old officer Simphiwe Ntsham, who tragically lost their lives a month ago.

Speaker, it will be remiss of me to also not highlight that one of those officers that was killed, was killed by a person – a person that personifies evil, a person that has consistently showed that he is not suitable to walk our streets and he was out on parole, and he was killed in Parkwood.

We would be remiss to also not highlight Tazne van Wyk who was brutally kidnapped, murdered and assaulted, and her perpetrator was also out on parole for similar offences. So when we consider that National Government, Speaker, under Correctional Services has highlighted via a parliamentary reply, that we have 29 000 parolees that Correctional Services is unable to locate. 29 000. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order, order members! Hon Minister Allen, please take your seat. Hon member, is that a point of order?

Mr M KAMA: Thank you very much, Speaker, I wanted to call a point of order, Speaker, on the Premier, who is conversing aloud, and he is disrupting the MEC that is on the podium and at least making some sense about the issue of crime. Can you please protect him from the Premier?

The SPEAKER: Alright, hon members, if there is a member on the floor, can I please ask that you allow the member to do their presentation and I am speaking to both sides of the House to please not drown out the speaker on the floor. Hon Mackenzie, is that a point of order?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, Speaker. I follow on my colleague, if perhaps if Minister Allen can then repeat that information, it will help so we can hear him. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: That is not a point of order. [Interjections.] Hon members! [Interjections.] Hon members! Minister Allen, you may proceed.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: Speaker, thank you so much and, through you, thank you to member Kama for requesting the protection and I trust that he will continue to support us because we want to protect the residents of the Western Cape. So let me repeat, Speaker, 29,000 parolees were not located by the Department of Correctional Services in our country. 29 000. 21 899 is in the Western Cape. 29 000 across our country, but 21 000 not located by the Department of Correctional Services here in the Western Cape.

Tazne van Wyk's killer who personifies evil, out on parole twice already; an eight-year-old had to be buried. We would not want similar instances to be repeated, so let me say, may their souls rest in peace, and may their families find comfort during the very difficult times.

Speaker, I am reminded of my late mom that used to tell me in Rocklands, Mitchells Plain, and she used to tell me: "Do not withhold good or good things from those who deserve it when it is in your power to act."

We have always remained consistent that as a Government, we are wanting to act because across religious texts, if I look at the Quran, there is also information with regards to "do not withhold good from people that deserve it. Do not do bad unto others." It is a universal undertaking that reverberates through our country, and as a government, we are wanting to commit that we would always want to act in that regard, because, Speaker, it is no secret that many communities across our country and province is plagued by gang violence, criminality and lawlessness. For residents of these communities every day can be a struggle to keep themselves and their loved ones safe. So allow me to re-emphasise the words of Premier Alan Winde during his State of the Province Address, and I quote:

"As leaders, we feel a deep sense of responsibility to our citizens".

I have said many times in this House, if any person wants to accuse us of being biased, yes, we are biased towards people and regardless of whether those people are in Khayelitsha, Mitchells Plain, Swellendam or here in the CBD, we will remain biased towards people, that is why we want to reduce and make sure that crime is reduced year-on-year."

But Speaker, during the State of the Nation Address by President Ramaphosa, the President stated:

"We will also use data driven methods in a more sophisticated way to identify and target crime hotspots."

Let me repeat, the hon, His Excellency, the President of our country stated: "We will also use data driven methods in a more sophisticated way to identify and target crime hotspots."

Speaker, that is exactly what we have been doing. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: No, no, no.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: That is exactly what we have been doing through the Western Cape Safety Plan, because since the President is taking a leaf out of the book here in the Western Cape, and that is Premier Alan Winde's Safety Plan, because we knew we needed real time data to not only guide our deployments based on past incidents, but also to anticipate where new hotspots may appear so that we can deploy the necessary resources before lives are lost. The Safety Plan which we have consistently stated, it is a two-pronged approach law enforcement, because there is under-resourcing in the South African Police Service, we are 20 years behind... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order members, order members! There is a member on the floor. [Interjections.] Order members! Order members! Premier and hon Bans, there is a member on the floor. Hon Minister Allen, you can continue.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: Thank you so much. The Safety Plan, like I have said, is a two pronged approach, law enforcement, because it is needed. We are 20 years behind resourcing in our country; that has been confirmed, but also the violence prevention, because we all know those root causes that affect our young people, and that is something that this Government is tackling to work across each and every Department, the ward safety is in our Safety Plan, and I am saddened that we are often asked where is the Safety Plan, when we have communicated the Safety Plan. There is something called electronic mail that we have sent on to you, so we have sent that on.

But, this leads me, Speaker, to the Minister in the Presidency, Hon Mondli Gungubele, who is a committed and stance and disciplined member of the ANC. He is a fearless defender of his party. Well, that was probably until last week, Speaker, when he concurred with us in the Western Cape that police stations in this province are in a dire state. That is a fact that we have consistently raised via our Policing Needs and Priorities, which is never taken into account by National Government. If I had known, Speaker, and through you to the Premier, Premier, if I had known we had an ally in the Presidency, I would have reached out to him a long time ago, as I have no doubt that we are on the same page, because, Speaker, that page is that SAPS should be immediately devolved to a capable provincial government such as ours, and that the New Policing Model must not only be adopted but immediately be implemented. But, let me also state for the record, Speaker, we are not... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order members, order! There is a member on the floor.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: And I want this to... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order members!

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: If there is one thing that my colleagues across the aisle should remember from this

speech it is probably just this one line, we are not and never have been interested in separating from South Africa. Never! We believe in our national team. We support the Springboks. We love South Africa. We have family members in Joburg, in Northern Cape. We would never want to separate from our beautiful country, South Africa, so when we talk about devolution, we know that federalism can work, it makes sense to bring policing closer to the people, Speaker, so that choices are not made in Pretoria 1 500 kilometres away from where we are, and I have also [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order, order members!

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: Speaker, I have engaged the Provincial Minister of Infrastructure, the hon Tertuis Simmers about us initiating a process to get a property where Browns Farm Satellite Substation is, to get it up and running again. This property is owned by PRASA, a national competency, and leased by the National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure.

Speaker, in August 2021, while I was still the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Community Safety, I inquired about the state of the satellite station, and on 7 February 2023, the Western Cape branch of the South African Policing Union issued a press release. In it they stated:

"The satellite station has been disqualified by three different reports including crime intelligence, declaring the place an unsafe place to operate from."

And this is exactly what I have highlighted in 2021 already. The National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, whose minister is Patricia de Lille, is tasked with the maintenance of that particular station, and in August 2021, I have it on record the PC's indicated that they were waiting for Patricia de Lille's office to attend to the various issues at this particular satellite station. It has still not been done, even as of this minute. So as the Western Cape Government, we cannot allow National Government and its alliance partners to continue playing with the safety of our residents, and that of SAPS members in our province, and as mentioned by the Premier, our aim is now to place a LEAP station at this site where both LEAP and SAPS officers can be based and deployed from.

The National Government is just incapable and inept of doing their duty. The National Commissioner is on record to say that they are unable to fulfil their mandate, so we have a National Minister that in 2020 also took funding away from SAPS during the Midterm Budget Policy Statement from the NPA, from Correctional Services, to bail out this failing state-owned enterprise in 2020, so we have seen it has no appetite to keep our residents safe, but let me go on, Speaker, we understand ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, can I ask that you conclude. [Interjection.] Hon members, hon members!

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: As I conclude... [Interjection.] As I conclude... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, allow the Minister to conclude.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: As I conclude I place it on the record that my speech will be circulated to Office, to the Table staff as well to be circulated, because I would not want my colleagues to miss out, because we are needing everyone in this House, Speaker, to play a role towards making our community safer.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Thank you, hon Minister, please take your seat.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: I have a firm belief that... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister, please take your seat. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Alright, I see the hon Nkondlo, is that a point of order?

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Speaker. Can you please ask member Mackenzie, the incoming MEC of Mobility, not to record us here in the House.

The SPEAKER: That is not a point of order. Hon members, I now see the hon Klaas, and, as is custom in the House, this is the hon... [Interjections.] Hon members! As is custom in the House, this is the hon member's maiden speech and I trust that you will allow him to deliver his maiden speech. Hon Klaas, I now see you. Can I please ask that you speak to the Chair.

Mr T KLAAS: Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr T KLAAS: Speaker, yesterday people of this province, listening attentively hoping to hear the Western Cape State of the Province Address delivered to them. However, I am sure they were equally shocked, as I was, to hear the Premier of the Province standing up to reply to the State of the Nation Address, which took place in the National Parliament last week. [Interjections.] Speaker, now seeing that there is a vacuum, let me take this opportunity to offer Western Cape residents a real State of the Province Address. As we know here today that the Economic Freedom Fighters is the vanguard of the community and the worker struggle and the poor and it will always be on the side of the people. Speaker, the EFF is governed by the seven non-cardinal pillars which must be implemented without fail and they include, but not limited to, the expropriation of land without compensation for equitable redistribution; building state capacity and government capacity, massive investment in the development of Africa economy and nationalisation of mines, bank and the other key strategic sectors of the economy are very much integral for the achievement. [Interjections.]

Now it is not lost. [Interjections.] No, it is not, it is not the computer. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, members, please! Order, members!

Mr T KLAAS: I am coming, I am coming. Speaker, Provincial Government should be playing an international leading role when it comes to job creation and not folding arms with the expectation that the private sector will do such work for them. Do not depend on the private sector. The people of the Western Cape need real sustainable jobs that will improve their lives and that of the families and certainly not internships, which only offer stipends that will be exhausted in transport cost alone. Our people are not slaves with the sole purpose of improving business owned by the whites in an economy run by their Stellenbosch mafias. [Interjections.]

Speaker, the majority of black people and the people of colour still remain poor. The so-called catch for power initiative can only be afforded by rich households who will make millions out of it, whilst the whole process, which drives the cost of electricity up, and make sure that the affordability of electricity is out of reach of the majority of our people.

Speaker, as things stand, the municipality buy the electricity from Eskom and add their own tariffs on top. They buy, people buy electricity from Eskom in order to support again also the municipality. According to the 2022 statistics, South Africa's Census reported title improving lives to data ecosystem. Between 2020 and 2021 municipalities such as Langeberg generated the majority of their total annual revolution count from electric territory ... [Inaudible, speaking simultaneously.] [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Klaas, can I please ask that you conclude, hon Klaas...

Mr T KLAAS: ... of the poorest of the poor processes... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Klaas, can I please ask that you conclude.

Mr T KLAAS: Yes, I will conclude. My conclusion is that †Agbare Speaker, die meerderheid arm mense in hierdie provinsie is werkloos en kan nie basiese lewensnoodsaaklikhede soos elektrisiteit bekostig nie. [Hon Speaker, the majority of poor people in this province are jobless and cannot afford basic life essentials such as electricity.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Klaas, please take your seat. Thank you very much. [Applause.] Thank you, hon member. I now see the hon Windvogel. [Interjections.]

HON MEMBERS: Hear, hear! [Applause.] [Interjections.]

†'n AGBARE LID: Praat net die waarheid, nè. [An HON MEMBER: Just speak the truth, hey.] An HON MEMBER: Hi Rachel. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, order! There is a member on the floor.

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Hon Speaker...

The SPEAKER: Order members! [Interjections.] Order, members! Ms R WINDVOGEL: Hon Speaker, hon Premier, hon members, Comrade Faeez Jacobs, our IPC member, †die mense van die Wes-Kaap, goeie môre, [the people of the Western Cape, good morning,] molweni.

Speaker, a member of the public, after reading the Premier's speech, responded, and I quote:

"Winde must be talking about a province in some other country. Bring him back home."

I concur with this sentiment. The Premier's Address was truly uninspiring, out of touch with reality and in a serious battle with the truth. So, Premier, let me bring you back home. It is clear in your Address that you have never set a foot in a community like Hermon in the DA-run Drakenstein Municipality. Hermon is in the... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Hermon.

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Hermon... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, members!

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Hermon is in the grip... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Oh, you know Hermon.

The SPEAKER: Order, members! Members, there is a member on the floor. Hon Windvogel, you may continue.

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Hermon is in the grip of unemployment, abject poverty and drug abuse. There is poor service delivery, no development, no local clinic, no transportation, people literally struggle to live and to survive.

†Premier, kom net huis toe, nie Leeuwenhof daar in die skaduwee van Tafelberg nie. Kom huis toe. Kom grond toe. Kom af. [Premier, just come home, not to Leeuwenhof, there in the shade of Tafelberg. Come home. Come down. Come back to earth. Come down.]

†'n AGBARE LID: Ja, sê vir hom, kom grond toe. [An HON MEMBER: Yes, tell him, come down to earth.]

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Speaker, to access healthcare service, people of Hermon have to travel to another town, to other towns.

†Waar kom die geld vandaan, Premier? Hierdie is 'n gemeenskap wat sukkel. [Where is the money coming from, Premier? This is a community that is struggling.]

Hiking spots are far from their homes. As a result the people have been robbed,

attacked and even raped. The community is desperate.

†Hier in u sogenaamde best-run province, Premier, kom af grond toe. [Here in your so-called best-run province, Premier, come down to earth.]

†Hon Speaker, as die Premier sy voet gesit het op Hermon sou hy geweet het van mnr Martin Thomas, 'n pensioenaris, [Hon Speaker, if the Premier had come to Hermon he would have known about Mr Martin Thomas, a pensioner,] who has to visit Tygerberg Hospital every month. He is forced to wake up very, very early and travel for tens of kilometres to get the transport that will take him to a hospital.

†Daar is geen genade nie. Hy moet daai selfde lang rit weer doen terug huis toe. Hy het nie die Premier se chauffeur en lyfwagte nie. Die Premier klim in sy groot kar, blou ligte en alles, verlaat Waalstraat nommer 7. In minder as vyf minute is hy by die huis, terwyl mnr Thomas sukkel en stoei om by sy bestemming te kom.

[There is no mercy. He has to do that same long journey back home. He does not have the Premier's chauffeur and bodyguards. The Premier gets into his big car, blue lights and all, leaves Wale Street number 7. In less than five minutes he's home, while Mr Thomas is struggling and wrestling to get to his destination.]

†Die PREMIER: Want hy loop. [The PREMIER: Because he's walking.]

†Me R WINDVOGEL: Daai is die realiteit daar buite, Premier. [Ms R WINDVOGEL: That is the reality out there, Premier.]

†'n AGBARE LID: In die Wes-Kaap.

[An HON MEMBER: In the Western Cape.]

†Me R WINDVOGEL: Kom af. Kom huis toe. Kom grond toe. Mnr Thomas se storie is nie ons mense se storie nie.

[Ms R WINDVOGEL: Come down. Come home. Come back to earth. Mr Thomas' story is not our people's story.]

This is but one sample of life experiences of our people across working-class communities. Often it is worse in rural areas where you find the healthcare facilities with no doctors, medical emergency transportation, as a serious challenge.

†Ons mense slaap op die vloere, op banke in afwagting vir 'n ambulans. Premier, word wakker. Kom huis toe. Kom grond toe.

[Our people sleep on floors, on benches waiting for an ambulance. Premier, wake up. Come home. Come down to earth.]

†Hon Speaker, die Premier moet huis toe kom. Dié is sy en die DA se rekord in die Wes-Kaap. Wat maak hulle verder?

[Hon Speaker, the Premier must come home. It is his and the DA's record in the Western Cape. What are they doing further?]

Because of their ideological differences they block poor children from the

Western Cape from benefiting from a once in a lifetime opportunity to study medical medicine in Cuba. They further refuse to allow medical doctors trained in Cuba to work in the Western Cape. These doctors are willing to work in poor struggling communities. These doctors are willing to work in the rural communities. Why do you deny our people the healthcare? Why do you deny our people dignity? [Interjection.]

You, hon Premier, have the benefit of private hospitals and do not have to wait on an ambulance that might not even pitch.

†U is 'n Netcare chappy. Moenie dit aan ons mense doen nie. Stop. [You are a Netcare chappy. Don't do this to our people. Stop.]

Like you, they deserve dignity, irrespective of colour, class, sex or faith.

†Kom huis toe. Kom af grond toe. Los die verneukspul. Ons mense loer u en is wys. Kom af huis toe. Word wakker. [Come home. Come back to earth. Leave the crooked lot. Our people are looking at you and are wise. Come down home. Wake up.]

Surely the Premier did not have the poor people of Hermon, Khayelitsha, Mitchells Plain, Athlone, Heideveld, Philippi, Manenberg, Swellendam, Murraysburg, Beaufort-Wes, in mind when he claimed in his SOPA, 2022 SOPA that every person in our province deserved the dignity of healthcare, no matter who they are, no matter where they live, and no matter what they earn. Yesterday the Premier quoted the poor Virgil, saying, "the greatest wealth is health." Indeed, the poor people of the province are poor for they are subjected to substandard healthcare services. In the Western Cape, dignified and quality healthcare is reserved for the wealthy, who are predominantly white.

†Speaker, as oplossing vir hierdie situasie motiveer en druk die ANC vir die finalisering van die National Health Insurance Bill, want dit sal verseker dat alle Suid-Afrikaners toegang het tot gelyke gesondheidsdienste wat basies gebaseer word op nood en nie op bekostigbaarheid om te betaal of op algehele sosio-ekonomiese situasies nie. Daar is geweldige ondersteuning van die publiek vir die NHI Bill. Daar is ook konsensus onder ons mense dat die status quo van die land se twee-vlak onbillike gesondheidsisteem nie langer 'n opsie is nie, en integrasie moet plaasvind. 'n Voorbeeld daarvan is in Calitzdorp. Vier dae 'n week het daai gemeenskap dokters onder die pilot van die NHI. Die ANC ondersteun ondubbelsinnig die NHI Bill. Dis 'n kanaal van transformasie om sodoende die gebroke, gefragmenteerde en ongelyke National Health sisteem na 'n eenledige en gelyke geen-rassistiese toegangbare en goeie kwaliteit gesondheidsisteem vir alle Suid-Afrikaners te bring. Premier Winde se Regering ondersteun nie hierdie Bill nie, en dit is nie omdat dit nie transformasie sal voortbring nie, maar omdat hy die private gesondheidsdienste se belange wil beskerm. In sy afkeuring van die NHI Bill in SOPA 2021 het die Premier aangehaal:

[Speaker, as solution to this situation the ANC is pushing for the finalisation of the National Health Insurance Bill, because it will ensure that all South Africans have access to equal health services that basically are based on need and not affordability to pay or on total socio-economic situations. There is tremendous support from the public for the NHI Bill. There is also consensus amongst our people that the status quo of the country's two-level unfair health system no longer is an option, and integration should take place. An example of this is in Calitzdorp. Four days a week that community has doctors under the pilot of the NHI. The ANC unequivocally supports the NHI Bill. It's a channel of transformation to thus bring the broken fragmented and unequal National Health system to a single and equal non-racial accessible and good quality health system for all South Africans. Premier Winde's Government does not support this Bill, and it's not because it will not bring forth transformation, but because he wants to protect the private health services' interests. In his rejection of the NHI Bill in SOPA 2021, the Premier quoted:]

"It will also end private healthcare in its current form, potentially [Inaudible.] hospitals like Melomed, this is why we do not support the unworkable and unfundable NHI Bill."

†Dis die waarheid, Premier. Hierdie is 'n klassieke boek-geval van die Premier wat nie omgee vir sy mense nie. Aan die armes van die Wes-Kaap, dit is duidelik dat julle op julle eie is. Hierdie swak en onverskillige Premier het julle verlaat. Geagte Speaker, wat vir my uitstaan in die Premier se aanhaling na Dr Martin Luther King gister was die sin:

"This is no time for empathy or complacency."

Vandag merk ek 1 367 dae sedert die Alan Winde Administrasie en hy ingesweer was as die Premier in hierdie provinsie op 22 Mei 2019. Die Premier se 1 367 dae word ten beste gekarakteriseer deur dieselfde empatie en selfvoldaanheid wat hy aanhaal. Die selfvoldaanheid word geïdentifiseer deur sy Regering se gebrek om voldoende aan die belofte gestand te doen, die Prevention die Wes-Kaap Violence Unit en se Departement van Gesondheidsdienste. Dis ten spyte van seksuele oortredings wat oor 23% toegeneem het in hierdie provinsie, hierdie regering het nie die begroting vermeerder nie. Die oor R60 miljoen uitgawes rondom die Victims Empowerment Programme is nie genoeg nie. Die begroting moet vermeerder word. Die ANC versoek dat die Regering die slagoffers van GBV prioritiseer vir behuisingsubsidies dat hulle sodoende nie kan teruggaan na hul aanranders toe wanneer hulle uit die Victim Empowerment Centres kom nie.

[That's the truth, Premier. This is a classic book case of the Premier who does not care about his people. To the poor of the Western Cape, it is clear that you are on your own. This weak and uncaring Premier has left you. Hon Speaker, what stands out for me in the Premier's quote of Dr Martin Luther King yesterday was the sentence:

"This is no time for empathy or complacency."

Today I notice 1 367 days since the Alan Winde Administration and he as the Premier were sworn in, in this province on 22 May 2019. The Premier's 1 367 days are best characterised by the same empathy and complacency that he quotes. The complacency is identified by his Government's failure to honour the promise, the Violence Prevention Unit and the Western Cape's Department of Health Services, that despite sexual offences that increased by more than 23% in this province, this Government has not increased the budget. The more than R60 million expenditures around the Victims Empowerment Programme is not enough. The budget must be increased. The ANC requests that the Government prioritises the victims of GBV for housing subsidies so that they don't have to return to their assailants when they come out of the Victim

Empowerment Centres.]

The complacency of Premier Winde's Government has allowed Farrel Payne to remain in his job while his victim is at home without receiving any support from this Provincial Government. You failed our people.

The complacency of Premier Winde's Government was also exposed when he ended the Youth Safety Ambassador Programme a year after it was launched in 2021. As a result of this a thousand young people lost their jobs and remain at home to this day. You failed the young people. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, the DA Government decommissioned the G F Jooste Hospital. This Provincial Government has not spent a cent in the rebuilding process of the New Klipfontein Hospital.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

Ms R WINDVOGEL: This week I visited the old hospital site and were together with my colleagues. We got a chance to interact with local community members. The people say the closure of that hospital is morally unjustified. They feel that your Government, Premier, has failed them once again... [Interjection.]

†'n AGBARE LID: Ja. [An HON MEMBER: Yes.]

Ms R WINDVOGEL: ...due to complacency when a Government closes a hospital with no plan to rebuild another one. In 2032, if this Government meets that said date, the people would wait for 18 years for the rebuilding of their hospital. We are aware of the ongoing dispute between the construction companies over a contract. Premier, your MEC owes the people an explanation why the contract was cancelled and readvertised after it was already awarded. Hon Premier, the people of the Klipfontein region are not happy that G F Jooste was closed. The people complained about the long distance travelled to Heideveld CDC. Your Government misled the people of Manenberg to believe the Heideveld Clinic was the new G F Jooste.

Hon Speaker, while we welcome the Premier's meeting with the CEO of Vodacom around WiFi and connectivity matters, one hopes that after the said meeting all libraries in the rural regions will be connected to the internet. Many libraries in the rural regions are neglected and do not have any internet access.

In closing, Speaker, I am disappointed with the Youth Intervention announced by the Premier. These do not come close to dealing with the crises of youth unemployment, drugs and substance-abuse, involvement of youth in criminal activities, especially violent crimes. This is what you get when you do not have a Youth Intervention... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Windvogel, can I please ask that you conclude.

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Youth Development is threatened as the sub-project in the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport. Hon Premier, we call on you to protect

... [Inaudible, speaking simultaneously.] [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Windvogel, your time has expired. Hon Windvogel, please take your seat. [Applause.] Thank you, hon members. Order, hon members, thank you. [Interjections.] Hon members, thank you. Order! Order members, I now see the Minister, Minister Wenger.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Thank you, hon Speaker. Yesterday Premier Alan Winde detailed that here in the Western Cape we do things differently. We are accountable, and we are transparent. We are responsive and we take action to deliver the very best that we can so that our citizens can live a life that they value... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, members, there is a member on the floor.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: And because this Government is doing all of these things, we give hope to the residents of this beautiful province. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, can you please take your seat. Hon Chief Whip, is that a point of order?

The CHIEF WHIP: Yes, Speaker, I rise in terms of Rule 39 about conversing aloud. Speaker, I think it is bitterly unfair that we gave the previous speaker the opportunity to make her speech and now the Minister has not even started yet, and the conversing starts. Can you please just maintain the order, Speaker. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Chief Whip. Members, there is a member on the floor. We allow everyone to make their contributions. Interjections are allowed but please do not drown out the speaker. Hon Dugmore, is that a point of order?

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Yes, it is a point of order. I would like to address you about the following that every time the Chief Whip of the majority party tries to do your job, she tries to do your job, I was interrupted repeatedly. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, order! There is a member on the floor.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: This is a point of order.

The SPEAKER: There is a point of order. Hon Dugmore, just hold on. Hon members, hon members, there is a member on the floor.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Thank you. Speaker, my point is this: that in the House yesterday, the hon Chief Whip of the majority party stood up at least five times on the same point of order, whereas you are the Speaker, and you are chairing this House. That actually interrupts other speakers so I would like to ask that you do not entertain frivolous points of order, which we are seeing from the Chief Whip. [Interjections.] The SPEAKER: Hon members, the determination whether a point of order is frivolous or not is for me to make. Points of order are allowed as per the Standing Rules, and I also do so, but I want to appeal to all members on both sides of the House to please allow the member on the floor to make their submissions. This is a political debate and I have been a bit lenient on both sides, and interjections are allowed, but please do not drown out the speaker. Hon Minister, my apologies. I now see you.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Thank you, Speaker. Premier Winde is demonstrating that we are moving with urgency so that the Western Cape remains a shining beacon of hope for the rest of the country and while the National ANC Government is failing us, where the National Government power utility is completely incapable of providing a stable power supply to the nation, we have moved urgently to release much needed funds of almost R89 million to municipalities in most need to procure backup generators to make sure that we can keep water flowing and to make sure that water is safe.

CNN reporter, Richard Quest, in his recent visit to South Africa said:

"The moment you call it loadshedding you are dressing it up with a nice bow and giving it a cutesy name. This is a power-cut, the sort of thing that should not happen in an advanced economy, period."

So shame on you! The ANC Government was warned and did nothing. You were warned, and you did nothing and you were warned again, and you did absolutely nothing. Now we are in crises and the ANC Government cannot get us out of it. So we are going to do it ourselves and so our Premier is investing R1 billion rand to get this province independent from Eskom as quickly as possible. [Applause.] And we applaud him for taking this bold step. This is real leadership, forging the way ahead to a brighter future to respond to the short-term impact of loadshedding, to secure diesel fuel, to buffer schools from loadshedding, to alleviate the impact on poor households, and to assist SMMEs to assess and implement alternative energy options. This is the difference that this Government brings. It is the action we are taking and this is why there is hope in the Western Cape. The hon Dugmore criticises the Municipal Energy Resilience Programme and he says there is no project preparation, no project preparation support. [Interjections.]

Well, let me tell this House – thanks to this program, Stellenbosch completed an integrated resource plan. [Interjections.] Mossel Bay, Overstrand, Bitou completed their cost-of-supply studies, while two further are in progress. George, Witzenberg, Cape Agulhas, Bitou, Swartland, Stellenbosch... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, please take your seat.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: ...have all been able to update their Electricity Master Plans. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, please take your seat.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: And prefeasibility work of five municipal IPP Projects has been done... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, there is a point of order!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: How is that for project preparation, Mr Speaker. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Please take your seat. [Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Thank you. Speaker, my point of order... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order members, there is a point of order.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: My point of order is to ask, through you, whether the hon MEC will take a question. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, are you prepared to take a question?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: No, hon Speaker, I have got lots to say. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Alright, the hon Minister is not prepared to take a question [Interjections.]. Hon members, order!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Oh, okay I ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Alright. So[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon ...[Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: ... according to hon member Dugmore there is no project preparation support, so let me tell this House again, thanks to the MER Programme Stellenbosch completed [Interjections.] an integrated resource plan, Mossel Bay, Overstrand, Bito completed cost of supply studies, while a further two are in progress. George, Witzenberg, Cape Agulhas, Bito, Swartland, Stellenbosch have been able to update their electricity master plans and pre-feasibility feasibility work has been done for five municipal IPP projects. How is that for project preparation? [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, members! [Applause.]

The MINSTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: But the failures [Interjections.] of the ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: ... National Government to invest in infrastructure ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: ... do not [Interjections.] only extend to electricity supply, National Government failures extend everywhere we look [Interjections.] and affect almost everything that we do. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: The Port of Cape Town, for example, is a critical hub that processes proudly Western Cape products [Interjections.] and make sure that we can get to market, supporting thousands of businesses and hundreds of thousands of jobs across the entire port logistics value chain and most notably jobs in rural areas.

However, the Port of Cape Town's performance is one of the worst in the world, languishing at number 365 out of 370 ports [Interjections.], at the very bottom of world rankings and it means that ships have stopped calling because of these inefficiencies. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: This has severely affected our fruit growers and thousands of jobs in the agriculture sector, [Interjections.] which is why we have been working very closely with all stakeholders to improve efficiency at the port because if our port works our economy works [Interjections.] and we have achieved some notable successes in increasing efficiency in the Port of Cape Town, but more needs to be done urgently.

Our research shows that an efficient Port of Cape Town with sufficient supply and capacity and key investment and infrastructure has the potential to contribute an additional R6 billion in exports; 20 000 direct and indirect jobs over; R1,6 billion in additional taxes by 2026 and an additional 0,7% contribution to the Western Cape's GDP, but to do this we need the private sector.

However, yet again any mention of private sector participation at the Port of Cape Town, which has been included for the ports of Durban and Ngqura, but was distinctly absent in the President's State of the Nation Address last week. Why? Because the ANC is anti-jobs and just as irrationally the National Government continues to deny economic growth [Interjections.] and job creation by failing again to introduce the remote working visa and by making it nearly ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: ...

impossible for [Interjections.] companies to secure ...[Interjections.] The SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: ... investment and critical skills visas. We are inundated by complaints from companies wanting to create jobs by bringing in trainers or critical skills that we do not have and that we need to open factories and businesses. [Interjections.]

According to a recent article by the Daily Maverick, Professor Roy, Wits University, 90% of critical skills visa applications have been rejected by the Department of Home Affairs, 90%, [Interjections.] and we are inundated with complaints from people who want to come as tourists, most notably from other African countries, but who cannot because the eVisa system does not work. [Interjections.] In fact the Home Affairs backlog for visas [Interjections.] stands at 57 000 and it is going to take two years to deal with, to clear. [Interjections.] It cannot be that the National Government continues to deny the contributions these applicants would bring to our country or the benefits that a remote working visa and investment visa will bring. [Interjections.]

In fact ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: ... President Ramaphosa in SONA of 2022 promised the remote working visa would be introduced. One year later we still do not have it. Where is it? And our visa regime overall remains a significant obstacle to attracting investment to our country and our province. [Interjections.]

Just this week an entrepreneur who has created 1 000 South African jobs and who wants to grow their business, was denied a visa renewal. How is this rational?

The ANC says it wants to create jobs, but then does everything possible to make sure that no jobs are created.

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Why? Because the ANC is anti-jobs. We need urgency, not empty promises. [Interjections.]

So I have called for a clear timeline for the implementation of these visas as a priority. We need to push hard for the introduction of this visa as well as making it much easier for investment visas so that we can grow our economy.

I have to say I have been absolutely elated to see that our expectations for a bumper tourism season were not only reached, but in some cases exceeded. Hotel occupancy is surpassing 2019 levels and this is due in no small part to the excellent work being done by the Cape Town Access Team powered by Wesgro.

This team, between April and December last year, secured four new air routes and three new airlines into the Western Cape ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister ...[Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: ... bringing in an estimated ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: ... can I please ask that you conclude. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Thank you very much.

An HON MEMBER: Thank you [Inaudible.] [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Alright. [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, allow the Minister to conclude.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: To conclude ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Under this Government under this Premier we are delivering what the ANC cannot, a better life, which is why South Africans of all races and all classes are moving here because as experts will tell you service delivery is simply better here. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Hon members, before I allow the next speaker, can I please ask, we are nearly halfway through the speakers' list and I know there are lots of emotions and lots of inputs, but can I please ask that your interjections do not drown out the speakers and allow everyone an opportunity to make their submission in order for the Premier to reply to those submissions later today.

I now see the hon member August.

Mr S N AUGUST: Hon Speaker, in his 2022 State of the Province Address the Premier said:

"Government must be judged on how we treat our vulnerable citizens."

And today I am here just to do that. How the Western Cape Government treats the poor is shocking. Your handling of the homeless crisis is disgusting [Interjections.]. Your land reform programmes remain wanting and your promises towards a better Western Cape for all are empty.

Hon Speaker, the people of the Western Cape are being held hostage by drugs, crime, violence and killings. Hon Winde, through you, hon Speaker, said yesterday he is a proud Premier. Proud of what I ask? [Interjections.] Proud of

the Western Cape having some of the world's highest crime statistics? Are you proud of some of the areas of this province where people must plough through sewage, faeces and waste and that is considered normal? Proud of that some public entities of the Western Cape Government has no persons with disabilities in the employment? Are you proud that the province's land reform programme is in a state of disaster? Proud that since 2019 your inner-city social housing projects were all lip service? Proud of your Government making R730 000 available to fight crime in the rural Western Cape in comparison to giving the City of Cape Town hundreds of millions for LEAP? I ask again, hon Premier, proud of what exactly?

Hon Speaker, Premier Winde is more concerned about a war that is being waged thousands of kilometres away from here, but they are wars taking place in our own backyard where sons, daughters, wives, husbands, grandmothers, grandfathers and entire communities are killed daily, and he remains quiet. [Interjections.] He is more concerned with the affairs of failings of the National Government when his DA is guilty ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

Mr S N AUGUST: ... of a perpetual state of poverty and crime they subject people to.

The Premier is well-versed in matters outside the province but is quiet about the 5 000 learners who was stopped from going to school by the taxi association because of the disagreements between his Government and his [Inaudible.].

The SOPA 2023 was devoid of vision and a real plan for people of this province. What we needed to hear was how they [Inaudible.] aggregate cultural muscle in the wake of our changing environment.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: There is no environment.

Mr S N AUGUST: Hon Speaker, I have said this before and I will say it again, simply locking up our young people as a solution to crime is not enough. We need a coordinated initiative between Departments of Social Development, Education and Health. Social ills require social interventions to fix our broken families and communities. We call on you, Premier, to recognise this. Treating addiction as a health-related issue as opposed to deserving criminal consequences would be a start. Homelessness is getting worse by the day and Social Development is throwing millions down the black hole. Solutions for homelessness are not shelters and the concentration camps the City manages. It is transitional housing reintegration programmes, mental health and social interventions.

Hon Speaker, school dropouts, community programmes, retention of school learners, absence of sustainable job creation, the 28% spike in safety and security in rural areas, the absence of support mechanisms for black emerging farmers, black people being locked out of the agricultural sector and the growing divide between the rich and the poor.

Hon Premier, scrap the pipe levy in the City of Cape Town that we pay R116 for. Scrap the electricity that we are paying R140 for in the City of Cape Town.

If all of this was a measurement to go by the Government failed dismally, but we know the poor are not the point of focus for the Democratic Alliance and in extension this Government keeps the rich man rich, and the expense of the poor is what we stand for.

Hon Speaker, now I would like to raise an issue that touches many people in this province. It is the abuse of farmworkers by farmers. We hear the stories, we see the article. I want to speak about Riaan van Wyk, a farm worker in De Doorns.

He was born on this farm, worked [Inaudible.] for almost 15 years as an assistant manager and lived on the land. Recently his post was declared redundant and therefore Riaan must vacate his home at the end of February 2023. It is not the first time we hear such stories, and it certainly will not be the last. What is this Government doing to protect citizens such as Riaan against the abuse of farmers?

We know that farmers enjoy a great deal of protection from the Department of Agriculture, even in the face of the ESTA which should be applied without fear or favour. What is quite evident is that your Government is fearful of the agricultural elite.

Hon Speaker, in closing, SOPA lacked the vision and plans desperately needed for the Premier to take us into his confidence. Instead, using his podium to bemoan the affairs of the National Government was more important than being captain of his own ship. Thank you. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member August.

Hon Murray. [Interjections.]

Ms C MURRAY: Thank you, hon Speaker.

Hon Speaker, yesterday Premier delivered his State of the Province Address where he spoke on the importance of instilling hope and acting with urgency. Today I want to add to this potent message and state that nobody except for the Democratic Alliance can do this [Interjections.] and I say this confidently, hon Speaker, because today I have not heard anything that has inspired hope from the Opposition or that has shown urgency.

Hon Speaker, our businessowners are struggling to keep the lights on and to keep their employees in their jobs. Entrepreneurs are also deterred from starting and from growing their businesses because of cumbersome red tape. Families find themselves having more month than money with the interest rate continuing to increase and the cost of living becoming unbearable, with the food inflation also reaching 13,4% year-on-year in January. Our young jobseekers are struggling to find gainful employment, hon Speaker.

Across the province, whether you are in Struisbaai ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Murray, please take your seat. Hon member Sayed, is that a point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: No, it is not a point of order. Is the hon member Murray willing to take a question on job seekers? [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Can you please take your seat, hon member Sayed.

Hon Murray, are you prepared to take a question?

Ms C MURRAY: Hon Speaker, I note that the hon member often likes to ask me questions, but in this case I also have a lot to say, thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Murray, you can continue. [Interjections.] Order, hon members!

Ms C MURRAY: Across the province, whether you are in Struisbaai, whether you are in Lamberts Bay or whether you are in Bothasig, residents are struggling to keep their heads above water and that is why the same residents outright refuse to vote for the ANC in recent by-elections. [Interjections.] People have had enough and they know, they know that no one but the DA can tackle the energy crisis, reverse joblessness and cut red tape. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

Ms C MURRAY: ... why do residents have ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members, there is a member on the floor. [Interjections.] Hon member Murray.

Ms C MURRAY: Hon Speaker, why do residents have such hope in the DA? The answer is that we have achieved so much right here in the Western Cape.

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

Ms C MURRAY: The Western Cape has the lowest expanded unemployment rate in the country at 29,5% compared to 43,1%. 43,1%, you should be ashamed nationally.

The 2022 PERO further highlights that in the Western Cape the finance sector contributed a whopping 31,3% to the provincial GDP, which is well ahead, well ahead of the 25,2% contribution that Finance makes to the national economy.

We are a developed and more service-oriented economy in the Western Cape, so it is really no surprise that residents feel that no one but the DA can address the urgent issues that our province and also our country face nationally daily.

The DA-led Western Cape Government will be taking job creation and

economic development to the next level with its growth for jobs strategy which was announced by the Premier yesterday. [Interjections.] This will be implemented ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

Ms C MURRAY: ... under the strategic leadership of Minister Wenger. [Interjections.]

By ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

Ms C MURRAY: ... 2035 [Interjections.] ...

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members. There – order, hon members! Hon Premier and hon member Nkondlo.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: It is difficult for her to talk [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: No [Interjections.] – hon members, hon member Dugmore, [Interjections.] please allow the member the opportunity to make a submission.

Hon Murray, I see you.

Ms C MURRAY: Thank you. By 2035 this much-needed and exciting strategy aims to achieve growth [Interjections.] ...

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore, please. [Interjections.]

Ms C MURRAY: I believe the hon member is projecting his own concerns onto the Democratic Alliance and I do feel sorry for him.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Murray, can you please continue with your speech.

Ms C MURRAY: By 2035 [Interjections.] ... by 2035 this much-needed and exciting strategy aims to achieve growth in the Western Cape with up to 6% a year in real terms and I think it is important to note because it is not Government's job to create jobs and the ANC has stolen whatever money is left to create any further bureaucracy and any further jobs that are needed.

So please pay attention, please do not create extra red tape where it is not necessary [Interjections.], but having said that, again by 2035 the target is to achieve a R1 trillion provincial GDP that will create 600 000 new jobs [Interjections.] and it will prioritise investment, exports, energy, tech innovation, infrastructure, as well as access to opportunities.

Hon Speaker, this is because no one but the DA is asking the tough questions about unemployment in this country and no one but the DA is doing anything to support job seekers and to empower our entrepreneurs. [Interjections.] While the ANC often argues that the DA is not supporting the township economy I would like to remind them of the phenomenal work that has already been done through the SMME Booster Fund which was founded in 2019. The fund grows SMMEs in the Western Cape, particularly those that are township and rural-based, and that are owned by women, by young residents and by those who are differently abled. It has supported 700 SMMEs and is continuing to support 243 businesses this year.

Hon Speaker, what is essential about this programme and what is really moving about this programme is the effect that it has on those who have been undermined previously. This year it is supporting seven projects which are currently in their implementation phase and is also collaborating with RLabs to support 100 township businesses, which are predominantly located within our townships and particularly in communities such as Mitchells Plain, Khayelitsha, Hanover Park, Mfuleni and Delft. [Interjections.]

Yes, I definitely ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Murray, please speak to the Chair. [Interjections.]

Ms C MURRAY: Hon Speaker, I would like to focus a little bit more on Reasons For Hope and there is good news and that of course comes from the Democratic Alliance.

Just yesterday the Premier mentioned that it was confirmed that the Western Cape had passed more building plans than any other province in 2022, at the value of R37 billion and also completed more buildings by value than any other province, with a value of R27 billion. [Interjections.]

The Investment Promotion Team within Wesgro has recorded an impressive R3 billion in new investments facilitated between April and December 2022, as well as R2,5 billion in new export declarations reached.

The Cape Town and Western Cape Convention Bureau has secured 29 conference bids for the Western Cape, which will attract an estimated 20 000 delegates and an economic impact of up to R393,4 million between 2022/2023, as well as 2024/2025 financial years.

Next weekend Cape Town will play an important part in hosting the Formula E and the world's first fully electric street racing series. This will bring a whopping R2,13 billion in direct and indirect economic impact to our province. [Interjections.]

In the coming months what we will further see and I think it is important for the ANC to note this. [Interjections.] People are coming to our province because of the confidence that they have in the Western Cape and the DA-led Government because no one but the DA can deliver this.

In the next coming months you will see Absa Cape Epic in Hermanus, you will see Rocking the Daisies in Darling, you will see Journey to Jazz in Prince Albert and you will see the Karoo Gravel Grinder. These are just a few that I can

name. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, no one but the DA can instil hope and do this with the necessary urgency to uplift our residents.

During the Premier's address last year he committed the Western Cape Government ramping up its efforts to cut red tape and he achieved exactly that. Red tape reduction and the ease of doing business interventions play a critical role in helping our businesses to grow by eradicating unnecessary red tape.

From April 2022 to date the unit has logged 488 cases of which 436 have already been closed. That means that their resolution rate is 89% and I think this is very important to note because their target was 85%. They are just excellent.

Hon Speaker, among those cases resolved by the unit is the support provided to a steel manufacturing plant from Atlantis. The unit encountered problems with application for coordination for the atmospheric emission certificate and it was not able to operate its business successfully. The unit then worked with various Government departments concluding the matter in just three weeks.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Murray, can I please ask that you conclude.

Ms C MURRAY: Yes, hon Speaker. [Interjections.]

They concluded the matter in three weeks and created 300 jobs. [Interjections.] Atlantis, Atlantis, but hon Speaker, hon Speaker to conclude[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members. [Interjections.] Order, hon members! [Interjections.]

Ms C MURRAY: To conclude ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Allow the member to conclude. [Interjections.]

Ms C MURRAY: To conclude, hon Speaker, it is abundantly clear to the people of this province that no one except the DA can instil hope and act with the necessary urgency that residents so desperately need to tackle the energy crisis, to reverse joblessness and to cut red tape ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Murray ...[Interjections.]

Ms C MURRAY: ... and we will do so ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: ... please take your seat ...[Interjections.]

Ms C MURRAY: ... nationally when we take ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: ... your time has expired.

Ms C MURRAY: ... the buildings in ...

The SPEAKER: [Interjections.] Thank you, hon members. [Applause.]

I now see the hon member Sayed. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Hon Speaker, hon Leader of the Opposition, Cameron Dugmore, our guests in the gallery, [Interjections.] including selfless activists and the leadership of my school of thought, the African National Congress Youth League, comrades Insaaf Isaacs and Beulah Hewu, I greet you. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: What about [Inaudible.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Before we commence with the input, I think we need to echo the sentiments of the broader Western Cape society and all progressive forces in expressing our condolences to the family of the black consciousness movements, Peter Jones and his sad passing. The African National Congress in this House supports the calls by the movement known as AZAPO for a state funeral for Peter Jones.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Yes!

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: The State of the Province Address, hon Speaker, is an opportunity for the Premier to present his plans to address the province's pressing challenges. Unfortunately the Premier failed to do this. He chose to mislead this august House. In line with the DA's open opportunity neoliberal ideology, the Premier perpetuated a minimalist approach of the state to addressing social challenges. [Interjections.]

It is dishonest to claim that the Western Cape is showing an improvement in crime reduction. According to the crime stats for the second quarter of the 2022/2023 financial year, the murder rate in the province has increased by 3,9%, while sexual offences have increased by over 23%. [Interjections.]

More concerning is that Nyanga Police Station recorded the highest increase for the reported murders. This coincides with the relentless efforts by Premier Winde's administration to sabotage, undermine, underfund and weaken our community policing forums, or CPFs, in line with DA ideology. [Interjections.]

The ANC at its 55th National Conference and at our recent Lekgotla, reaffirmed the importance of CPFs as well as that of partnerships between SAPS and communities to combat crime. The DA's elitist posture of course negates the role of communities in fighting crime.

In his address at the Opening of Parliament in 2003, Comrade President Thabo Mbeki said, and I open quotes"

"Our ability to combat crime effectively lies within the ambit of mobilising communities to be driving forces [Interjections.] with the police to create a greater awareness about crime in our communities."

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Our former Community Safety MEC, Leonard Ramatlakane ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... heeded this call ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: ... can I please ask that you take your seat.

Hon member Murray, is that a point of order? [Interjections.]

Ms C MURRAY: Hon Speaker, it is not a point of order ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members!

Ms C MURRAY: ... I would like to ask ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members!

Ms C MURRAY: ... the hon member a question, would he take a question? [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! There is a point of order. Hon member Murray?

Ms C MURRAY: Hon Speaker, it is not a point of order. I would like to ask if the hon member would like to take a question? [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed, are you prepared to take the question? [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: No, we are dealing here with ideological debates [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Yes or no ...[Interjections.] The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... at a totally different level? I cannot take those type ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: The hon member is not prepared ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Thank you. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed – order, hon members! Hon members, order. Hon member Sayed [Interjections.] ... hon members [Interjections.] ... order, hon members, there is a member on the floor.

Hon Premier.

The PREMIER: [Inaudible] Speaker ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Can you just please put on your microphone. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

Would the hon member Sayed take a question from me? [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed?

The PREMIER: Or is he scared? [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order hon members! [Interjections.]

Hon member Sayed, are you prepared to take a question? [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: No, clearly I have hit the neoliberal nerve. Thank you. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed is not prepared to take a question.

Hon member Sayed, you can continue.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Can I continue? [Interjections.]

Our former Community Safety MEC, Leonard Ramatlakane, heeded this call by President Mbeki when he launched the Bambanani Against Crime strategy in 2003, with the endorsement of the 25 000 community members. [Interjections.] The achievements of the Bambanani Against Crime ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... initiative [Interjections.] with the backing of the strong and capable Premier Ebrahim Rasool ...[Interjections.] An HON MEMBER: Ja!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... speaks for itself.

An HON MEMBER: Yes! Yes! [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: The ANC calls for the reinstatement of ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... the community Bambanani volunteers ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... who act as both the eyes, ears and as the first line of defence of the communities.

An HON MEMBER: Ja-ja!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Towards the end of his tenure as the Cape Town Mayor, hon Dan Plato attempted to reintroduce certain aspects of Bambanani in the City and he must be commended for that, hon Plato.

An HON MEMBER: Ja! [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: But hon Plato sadly was blocked by the DA administration and DA establishment.

An HON MEMBER: Ja!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Even his Walking Bus Programme has now been scrapped as the DA crushes any semblance of community empowerment.

Hon Speaker, the Premier repeats frivolous calls to devolve policing functions to the province. This is part of the broader agenda of the Cape exit which the DA has now joined, [Interjections.] which hon Leader of the Opposition has spoken to.

Premier Winde's Government has failed to ensure that there is accessibility, adequate lighting and sufficient CCTV cameras in crime hotspot areas, yet the Premier wants more policing powers. [Interjections.]

In his maiden speech as the Premier he said that we have put R5 million in funding for CCTV technology. The Premier must come clean on what has happened to that promise. [Interjections.]

The crime stats shared earlier exposes the failures of the Premier's so-called Safety Plan.

An HON MEMBER: Ja!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: He has put my friend, hon member Allen, at risk ...[Interjections.] An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... and setting him up for failure. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Ja! [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: We always maintain that the plan will fail[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Ja!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... as long as it does not address the causative factors of crime and the need to address the environmental design.

MEC Bredell, as the MEC for Local Government, has failed to ensure that there is lighting in townships, that municipalities are doing that, that there is more CCTV cameras. Yet the weak Premier Winde takes no action against Bredell.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Never!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: The Safety Plan is non-existent in rural areas. [Interjections.] It was confirmed to us by provincial community safety officials on our oversight visit in Calitzdorp two weeks ago. [Interjections.] Instead millions of rands are allocated to J P Smit for parallel activities which are not even accounted for in this House.

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Hon Speaker, yesterday the Premier conveniently tried to find scapegoats for his Government's failure to deal[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... with the extortion Mafia syndicate that is tormenting the province. He resorts to scapegoating because he knows full well that this DA-led City of Cape Town promotes these syndicates by awarding lucrative tenders to companies linked to known gang bosses. We all know who is linked to those companies. [Interjections.]

It is also alleged that MEC Maynier's Education Department awarded three security tenders in Delft to companies linked to a known gang leader. [Interjections.]

It is the same DA whose councillors in the City depose affidavits in courts pleading for lenient sentences for known gangsters. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, when security tenders for schools are allegedly awarded to gangsters, then naturally schools will be unsafe [Interjections.] breeding grounds for criminals.

As the Premier left the podium yesterday, we saw footage of a learner at Cedar High School in Mitchells Plain being attacked by gangsters inside of the school premises. [Interjections.] Instead of supporting gangsters the Premier's Government ought to involve communities in school safety.

Hon Speaker, the Premier showered my good friend Education MEC with praises for learner placements and matric results. The weak Premier Winde is not in sync with reality.

An HON MEMBER: Yes, so true! [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Whilst I have appreciated the transparency of MEC Maynier, it is important to note that our province recorded the lowest increase of 0,2% from 81,2% in 2021 to 81,4% in 2022 and thereby dropping to the fourth place. This was never seen when hon Dugmore was MEC

[Interjections.], when hon member Yusuf Gabru was MEC. [Interjections.]

With four districts obtaining a pass rate ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... below 80%. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: The situation at Heathfield High School where the pass rate decreased from 84% in 2020 to 61,1% in 2022 is a cause for concern. [Interjections.] The school has descended into chaos since WCED unfairly dismissed our hero ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... principal Wesley Newman and continues to waste millions of public funds on his persecution.

Colleen Titus of the Action Committee is present here in the audience. Whilst millions are spent to prosecute principal Newman ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Ja!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... the Department is protecting the acting principal of De Kruin Secondary School in Touwsrivier who is accused of mismanagement and nepotism. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, over 1 400 and possibly more learners are not yet placed in our schools. Contrary to the Premier's assertion most parents of these learners applied correctly and timeously and were rejected at numerous schools. [Interjections.] Contrary to the Premier's secessionist and racist assertion, many of these learners are born in the Western Cape and not the Eastern Cape. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes, yes!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: The WCED is yet to account for the placement of over 8 500 learners who requested transfers to other schools for Grades 2 to Grade 7 and Grade 9 to Grade 12. The fact that Premier Winde and MEC Maynier maintain that this is not a crisis, further illustrates the DA scant regard for the development of the poor and working class in our province.

Whilst MEC Maynier claims to have placed 98% of learners, [Interjections.] his Department does not say where these learners are placed. It is in the already overcrowded schools in our disadvantaged communities.

An HON MEMBER: Jôh!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: This is while former model C schools enjoy

the DA's protection to keep learners from disadvantaged backgrounds out of schools and to keep class sizes well below the ratio of 1:35.

- 78 learners are crammed into a classroom in Calitzdorp High.
- At Excelsior Primary we have got 58 learners in a class.
- At Kayamandi Primary in Stellenbosch we have got 60 learners in a class and the list goes on.

We do not see this at Rustenburg Girls, [Interjections.] we do not see this at Westerford.

An HON MEMBER: Ja!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: We reiterate that no public school in the province should be allowed to have classes below 35. The Premier must direct MEC Maynier to instruct all former model C schools with 20 learners in a class to increase class sizes so that they can take more learners.

We reiterate our demand for a uniform admissions policy in the province to prevent elitist SGBs from randomly rejecting learners. This is what the BELA Bill, which the DA and its right-wing partners of Afriforum are opposing.

An HON MEMBER: Ja!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: This is what is currently happening at Hoërskool Oudtshoorn where the principal and governing body refused to enrol African learners who come from feeder primary schools. Hon Mvimbi has highlighted this issue, and sadly political pressure is allegedly being placed on senior WCED officials to allow the principal to do as he pleases. Officials want to do the right thing, but they are being misdirected.

Hon Speaker, the learner transport crisis both in the Metro and rural areas has been allowed to blow out of proportion by the weak Premier. We see no meaningful engagement with stakeholders. Critical meetings are postponed on the eleventh hour. We know if maybe the Speaker was still there as the MEC the situation may have been different.

This Government is aware of the challenge since last year and has failed to act because these are the lives of the poor and the working class.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed, can I please ask that you conclude.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: An amicable solution needs to be found. It is the Premier's fault that learners of Mfuleni and Khayelitsha cannot attend school. As I conclude ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Sayed, please take your seat.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... as we approach 2024 let us unite [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed, please take your seat, your time has

expired. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

Hon member Sayed, please take [Interjections.] ... Can I just ask that the hon member [Interjections.] – hon members [Interjections.] ... hon members, hon members, there is a member on the floor.

Hon Chief Whip, is that a point of order?

The CHIEF WHIP [DA]: Yes, thank you very much, Hon Speaker. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, may I please ask that you [Interjections.] advise Hansard, because whilst Minister, or rather hon member Sayed [Interjections.] was doing his address, the hon member Windvogel was contravening, I believe, Rule 59 by saying that, "You are criminals." [Interjections.]

So will you kindly revert to the House in that regard, please, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: I will study Hansard and revert back to the House.

Can I just appeal to the members in the gallery and our guests to not participate in the sitting of the House. If we can please ask for your indulgence. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

Thank you hon members. Order, members! I [Interjections.] ... order, hon members.

I now see the Minister, Minister Meyer.

†Die MINISTER VAN LANDBOU: Agb Speaker, agb lede van hierdie Huis, inwoners van die Wes-Kaap, kollegas in hierdie Kabinet.

[The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Speaker, hon members of this House, residents of the Western Cape, colleagues in this Cabinet.]

Firstly I want to greet two outstanding public representatives in Mitchells Plain. Thank you for your presence here, DA councillors from the City of Cape Town.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

†Die MINISTER VAN LANDBOU: Agb Speaker, hoop is magteloos [Tussenwerpsels.] – agb Speaker, hoop is magteloos, kragteloos [Tussenwerpsels.] as dit nie op dade en aksie ...[Tussenwerpsels.] [The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Speaker, hope is helpless [Interjections.] – hon Speaker, hope is helpless, powerless [Interjections.] if it is not built... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister ...[Interjections.]

†Die MINISTER VAN LANDBOU: ... gebou is nie. [The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... on deeds and action.]

The SPEAKER: ... please take your seat. [Interjections.]

Hon ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: No, he knew I was going to stand up.

The SPEAKER: ... Mackenzie, is that a point of order?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Yes, it is. Hon Speaker, my colleague there, Khalid Sayed, referred to my colleagues as gangsters. He must withdraw that immediately and apologise. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members! Hon members [Interjections.] ... hon members, there is a point of order.

Hon member Sayed, did you refer to any member in this House as a gangster?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: I did not refer to any member in this House as a gangster, nor did I refer to anyone in the gallery as a gangster. You can listen to Hansard.

The hon member Mackenzie must not get too excited here. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed, please take your seat.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: We know that he wants to prove a point. Let him rather [Interjections.] just listen, please, man.

The SPEAKER: Alright.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: I think that would be best. He is speaking[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Sayed, please take your seat. [Interjections.]

Hon Minister, I see you.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Speaker, I am proud and deeply proud of those two members of the Democratic Alliance in Mitchells Plain.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: They are hon people, they are my friends, but more importantly, they are servants of the people. [Interjections.]

†Agb Speaker:

"Hoop is magteloos, dit is kragteloos as dit nie op dade en aksie gebou is nie, nie 'n werkwoord is nie, nie 'n vierletter kragwoord is nie. Dade is soos sade en hoop is die lote. Werp jou brood op die water en die hoop beskaam nie."

So skryf die joernalis Susan Booysen onlangs.

Geagte Speaker, landbou is die hoop en dit is nie magteloos nie en dit is ook nie kragteloos nie, want landbou is veerkragtig want 'n boer maak 'n plan. [Hon Speaker:

"Hope is helpless, it is powerless if it is not built on deeds and action, is not a verb, not a four-letter power word. Deeds are like seeds and hope is the sprouts. Cast your bread on the waters for after many days you will find it again."

Such wrote the journalist Susan Booysen recently.

Hon Speaker, agriculture is the hope and it is not helpless and it is also not powerless, because agriculture is resilient because "n boer maak 'n plan".]

Hon Speaker, this misguided belief by some that they can hoodwink our people into holding onto an elusive, intangible idea vaguely described as hope will be shattered in 2024. In the Western Cape hope is more than a wish. [Interjections.] It is a power capable of steering our destiny and yesterday the Premier steered our destiny in the Western Cape. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, agriculture likewise is steering the destiny of the Western Cape and if there are matters that are concerning to members of Parliament, I will be taking that matter up as per the hon member of the GOOD party. Nothing of that sort must happen under my watch. [Interjections.]

The resourcefulness of the agricultural sector backs this up. COVID-19 demonstrated that what lies behind the success of the agricultural sector are the workers, the producers, our commodity organisations and our partners. They are the warriors of hope in the Western Cape and by the way "hope", hon members from the EFF, stands for higher opportunities for people to excel. It only happens in the Western Cape.

Hon Speaker, let me address you now directly. That is the point he wants to raise. [Interjections.] Sorry, I apologise ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon ...[Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... I will now direct you directly.

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister .. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Speaker ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... the resourcefulness ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, [Interjections.] please take your seat. [Interjections.]

Hon Deputy Chief Whip, is that a point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: No, no, I am glad that hon Doctor [Interjections.] has noted that what he has done is wrong. Mine was to put that on record. [Interjections.] He cannot speak directly to the members of the EFF, that is condescending. He must speak through you. [Interjections.] The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Chief Whip.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Speaker ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, can I please remind you to speak through the Chair.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Speaker, I now speak through you.

I want to thank the EFF for catching out ANC Ministers sleeping in Parliament in the National Assembly.

An HON MEMBER: Well done!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Thank you to them.

An HON MEMBER: Well done!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Speaker, the Western Cape [Interjections.] is a place of hope. It is a place of resourcefulness.

During COVID-19, the outbreak in March 2020 in South Africa ...[Interjections.] The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... it resulted [Interjections.] in significant economic disruptions. The lockdown measures [Interjections.] halted economic operations and the movement of people.

In addition, hon Speaker, the pandemic exposed also the vulnerability of the international supply chains and the domestic food systems. Throughout this period the agricultural sector continued to create optimism. Optimism fuelled with enthusiasm and inspired men and women within the industry to spread the message of hope across 129 000 square kilometres in the Western Cape.

Our worries of hope challenges the pessimists amongst us on becoming optimist. They dared us to maintain a gentle determination that will allow us to focus on potential alternatives and find solutions to adversity, but yesterday the Premier gave new momentum. [Interjections.] He put in urgency into that suggestions of finding possible alternatives.

There must be urgency. You cannot sleep in Parliament when the lights are off. [Interjections.] People want urgency in the National Assembly, but the Ministers are sleeping. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, allow me to demonstrate ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... the power of hope when it is backed by resourcefulness, resilience and respect. What have we done?

We gave a stipend to restore the dignity and brought much relief during COVID-19, specifically to the wine industry agri-tourism because this is a vibrant sector, the third most exported products from the Western Cape. [Interjections.]

In the words of my Head of the Department, Dr Mogale Sebopetsa, and I quote [Interjections.], he said:

"We recognise that the major portion of the industry's revenue is generated from domestic wine sales. In addition, smaller and black-owned wineries and brands heavily rely on sales channels such as tasting rooms and the extended hospitality offering. For this reason we deemed it critical to support the industry tangibly."

In response from the industry and its partners, wine tourism and agriculture in the Western Cape, we allocated R12 million for wine tourism worker stipend so that the workers can have an income for the three months and so[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... we welcome this suggestion that has happened because we protected 1 362 jobs in this industry.

In addition, hon Speaker, we helped 254 wineries to survive the financial restraints caused by this lockdown and other trade restrictions.

So we gave R3 000 stipend for those people working in the wine industry, in the distilleries, for three months R3 000 and that saved jobs specifically during the festive, bleak season. [Interjections.]

The difference the wine tourism stipend made to the sector has become even more apparent over time as the world gradually exited from the pandemic.

When other tourism industries have battled crippling staff shortages in the wake of COVID-19, our wineries were able to retain most of their permanent wine tourism workers and why is this important, hon Speaker? Because in the Western Cape we are the home of 98% of South Africa's wine, it is what you find, the wine cellars here in the Western Cape, employing 40 000 people, impacting on 250 000 people in terms of personal livelihoods, but Hon speaker, I have also introduced, as you know, a one home, one garden project.

People who have never went hungry must not shout here in this room. Another consequence of this pandemic and the various levels of lockdown was temporary and permanent jobs, sometimes leaving households without an income and therefore with no food on the table. I had raised this idea of a one home, one garden campaign to address food insecurity in the province even before COVID-19. We made funds available for about 1 800 gardens per year. Hon Speaker, you will be pleased to know that we are now expanding it more to

about 5 000 a year. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

In addition to having access to healthy, boosting vegetables, it is also evident that home gardening was also relaxing, stimulating during that difficult period. During my visit to these home gardens I have witnessed teamwork, [Interjections.] joy and enthusiasm and moments of absolute fun in the families.

In addition, through these gardens ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... we saw the motto ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... "For the Love of Agriculture" in action. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Communities ...

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Speaker, this period we also gave support and lend a hand to small black-owned wineries.

Hon Speaker, Wendy Peterson, the operations manager at the South African Wine Industry Transformation Unit, highlighted the industry went into saving mode to save businesses and people when the lockdown struck.

Hon Speaker, Pat Marran knows that black-owned brands and farm owners had worked hard over the years to stay abreast and sustainable in an ever challenging industry. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, [Interjections.] – hon member Sayed ...[Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: He knows that.

The SPEAKER: [Interjections.] Please take your seat, hon Minister. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Hon Chairperson, it is the hon Pat Marran, not "Pat Marran".

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: The hon Pat Marran ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: He must [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... knows how great work that we are

doing in this Department ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: He does not know! [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... hon Pat Marran is on record that he appreciates that this Department is the only one that injects hope in South Africa. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... hope is real here in the Western Cape, [Interjections.] that is why we have also allocated R13,5 million available to save the wine industries during COVID-19.

Hon Speaker, I have just yesterday spoken...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Speaker, we are already now the only province that provides hope for agri workers. The only province with an agri worker competition. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, one of our leading people in the province in agriculture is called Nigel Claassen. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon ...[Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Nigel Claassen ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, can I please ask that you conclude? [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Speaker, I think I must conclude. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: And I think I must conclude ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: I think I want to conclude, hon Speaker, because people must know what is the situation. [Interjections.]

The ANC incompetence ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister ...[Interjections.] The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... the ANC ideology ...[Interjections.] The SPEAKER: ... please take your seat.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... and the ANC corruption ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister, you time has expired.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: ... is the reason the loadshedding in South Africa. [Interjections.] This is the corruption ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, please take your seat. [Interjections.] Hon Minister, please take your seat, your time has expired. [Interjections.]

Hon Minister, your time has expired. [Interjections.] Hon Minister, please take your seat, your time has expired. [Interjections.]

Hon Deputy Chief Whip.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Hon Speaker, thank you for recognising me, despite the fact that the hon Doctor did not want to sit down.

Just to indicate, hon Speaker, I am not sure whether you were keeping [Interjections.] ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members, there is a member on the floor, there is a point of order. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Ja. Hon Speaker, so clearly they are impatient. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed, can you please raise your point of order. The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Yes, Chair, I would like to continue.

Two issues here. The one issue is I do not know whether [Interjections.] our timekeeping was wrong or yours ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed, please take your seat. [Interjections.] Hon member Sayed, please take your seat.

Hon member Nkondlo, that is crossing the line. [Interjections.] Can you please adhere to the process of parliamentary process. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: You crossed the line, ja. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members! Order, hon members!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Chair ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed, hon member Sayed, I was addressing the House.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: I want to just conclude.

The SPEAKER: Alright. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Hon Chair, thank you.

The time that was allocated to the Doctor was nine minutes, [Interjections.] but he spoke for 13 minutes. That is number one, but that is fine, but more importantly on the basis of precedence, on the basis of precedence [Interjections.] and I may be corrected on the first one, it just an issue that I have raised ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Okay, what is your point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... the second one, the second ...[Interjections.]

The CHIEF WHIP [DA]: Hon Speaker ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... point of order is on the basis ...[Interjections.]

The CHIEF WHIP [DA]: Hon Speaker, on which – that is not a point of order, hon Speaker.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... of precedence. In this particular House...can the Chief Whip sit down, I am busy...[Interjections.]

The CHIEF WHIP [DA]: This is not a point of order. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members! The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Not while I am busy. We never interrupt[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members! [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... when they are doing a point of ...[Interjections.]

The CHIEF WHIP: Can they not tell that is not a point of order?

The SPEAKER: Hon ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: You are not the Speaker, this is ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: ... Chief Whip, please take your seat. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... the Speaker, respect the Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed, can you please ...[Interjections.] The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Ja, can I conclude? The SPEAKER: Yes, can you please conclude ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Can I conclude? [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order members!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: But I cannot conclude if members are...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Members! [Interjections.] Hon member Bakubaku-Vos and the members on my right, can you please [Interjections.], there is a member on the floor on a point of order. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: The hon Minister Meyer has stood up with a poster ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: He is the Speaker not you.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: ... in this particular House just after the MEC Fritz debacle. ANC MPLs also had posters and it was deemed to be incorrect. Can you please rule on that matter?

An HON MEMBER: Now you are allowing it. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: When the Hon Minister stood up his time has expired and I have then at that point muted the mic of the Minister.

So Hansard will reflect that. I see the hon member Marais. Mr P J MARAIS: Thank you, hon Speaker.

Hon members, it is your right. Hon Speaker, I want you to rule on this. Do those who speak have more rights to those who demand to listen? Are we going to protect the rights of people to speak here, shout and not respect the rights of those who came here to listen so that we can respond? How do you weigh up these two rights? Must I sit here and waste my time, hon Speaker?

You are a new Speaker and in this House new members are given the privilege of speaking uninterrupted if it is a maiden speech. You are a maiden Speaker [Interjections.] and they should give you that same right. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Marais. [Interjections.] Thank you very much, hon member Marais, for that.

Hon members, can I please ask that you respect the decorum of the House. We have members in the gallery and we have citizens listening to these replies. Can I please ask for your indulgence. I have in the beginning stated that interjections are allowed, but please do so respectfully. That is the nature of the beast of Parliament and we come here with different opinions and different suggestions, but do so respectfully.

Can I please that we now continue with the business of the day. I now see hon member Cassim and hon ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: Can you please rise when you want to raise a point of order. Can you stand, please.

An HON MEMBER: No, I thought maybe the Rule is I must lift my hands and then you give me a permission to stand up, then I stand up. I do not want to just stand up without you ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: No, can you please stand up in order for me to recognise you.

An HON MEMBER: Okay, no. Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

I must actually thank you for being so much very fair, hon Speaker, because for the first time I had a Speaker saying, actually being able to call both sides of the House without any form of discrimination that if we are wrong that must be called on both sides, but one issue I wanted to raise, hon Speaker, I thought that you are going to speak on or rule on the issue of this poster.

We know in previous sittings we were told in no uncertain terms that posters are not allowed into the House [Interjections.] and then that was actually referred to members of the Provincial Legislature of the African National Congress.

We have now seen the Minister taking out a poster in the House. We would like to actually get a ruling in that regard.

The SPEAKER: Hon member, thank you very much. [Interjections.] I have already, I have already made a comment or ruling on that. The Minister's time has expired. I have asked the Minister to take his seat at that point. So everything thereafter will not be recorded. Can we please continue with the

So everything thereafter will not be recorded. Can we please continue v business of the day.

I now see hon member Cassim. This is hon member Cassim's maiden speech and as is custom in this House we will allow the hon member to deliver her maiden speech.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Cassim. Hon member Bakubaku-Vos – my apologies, hon member Cassim.

Hon member Bakubaku-Vos, is that a point of order?

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: Yes, but I want a clarity from the Speaker.

You are saying you mute his mic. So you are giving us a permission to bring our posters as long as we are quiet if you are doing that?

The SPEAKER: Hon[Interjections.]

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: We will bring our posters and we would not speak. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Bakubaku-Vos, I have already given my ruling on the point of order raised. That is not a point of order. We have a member that is about to deliver her maiden speech. Can we please allow the member to continue.

Hon member Cassim, I now see you.

Hon member Klaas, is that a point of order? [Interjections.]

Mr T KLAAS: We ask you that we are here to deliver the speech for the province. Please give us a chance. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Klaas. Your point is well noted. Hon member Cassim, let us see for the third time. [Interjections.]

I now see the hon Cassim for her maiden speech.

Ms A CASSIM: Thank you, hon Speaker.

Hon Speaker, there was no true account given during yesterday's State of the Province Address of what is actually happening here in the Western Cape and he spoke lots of grandstanding and blaming, the usual mentality of the DA here in the Western Cape.

So it is very sad to know that almost 15 years later this DA-led Government still fails to properly address some of the most critical challenges faced by our people here in the Western Cape.

So let the EFF give you, hon Premier, a true account of what is actually happening here in this province. Let the EFF address the state of landlessness, homelessness and joblessness of the poor and the working class, among other critical issues that this DA-led Government continuously failed to address.

So, hon Premier, grandstanding on 2 000 housing units will not have any impact on the challenges of housing and that is of hundreds of thousands of other poor people who are still homeless, landless and more so on the housing waiting list in the Western Cape. Housing should have been priority number one, but we need to continuously remind ourselves why this DA has failed to deliver and why they have not improved on the living conditions of the people in the Western Cape, because, hon Speaker, they have never really prioritised housing for the poor to ensure both black and even poor white people in this province are given lives of dignity.

Informal settlements will continue to mushroom under this DA administration as the poor are desperate for shelter, but are continuously faced with bullets and evictions instead of deliverance of houses, which is not prioritised once again here in this DA-led Government in the Western Cape province.

Hon Premier, you said that police are not always doing their job and removing the so-called illegal occupants. We all know majority of the poor people are black people and you said that they are stealing land and the rights of others, as you said yesterday which, by the way, is a very rich word coming from a colonist descendant, but it is obvious that many of these policemen and women themselves, as well as their families, are landless and on a housing waiting list themselves because of the original illegal occupants who showed up on SA shores in the 1600s to colonise it.

But as the EFF we will no longer wait for the lacklustre DA to address the issue of land and to respond to the housing backlog of this province and therefore the EFF in the Western Cape will embark on its own programmes to identify vacant land to ensure that this Provincial Government starts taking housing seriously and they should also release a list of all vacant land which is suitable for housing purposes, because land is available, lots of it, all across the province. There are housing vouchers as well and there is no reason for any delay and there is no reason for our poor people to be waiting on housing waiting lists.

There is also absolutely no need to only speak about housing opportunities when it comes to election time. In the Western Cape we are also continuously hampered with apartheid spatial divide where the apartheid philosophy of separate development still prevails. Land should be made available in more affluent suburbs like Constantia, Stellenbosch and other fancy areas, instead of sending our poor people to underprivileged areas like Mitchells Plain and Philippi where people are already suffering, so which means you are sending them to an area where they will suffer much more than what they already are.

This is evident that there is a continuous apartheid spatial divide that seeks to keep the poor blacks as far from wealthier and more affluent suburbs in the Western Cape.

So in conclusion, hon Speaker, we know that housing and land will never be prioritised here in the Western Cape, not under this DA administration, and that it is only a government led by the progressive party like the EFF that will restore the dignity of our people, but, hon Speaker, while they are at it and currently useless in this province, let us remind them to start manning up and stop blaming other parties for the failure of this province. [Interjections.]

Our people are suffering. It is simple, hon Speaker, it is simple, hon Premier, just give them the service that they need. Thank you. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Cassim.

Thank you, hon members. Order, hon members.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: That is from the ANC.

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members. I now see the hon Minister [Interjections.] – order, hon members! Hon Marran.

I now see the hon Minister Fernandez. [Interjections.] Hon member Marran, there is a member on the floor. [Interjections.] The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Hon Speaker, hon Premier and Cabinet colleagues, hon members of the Provincial Parliament, distinguished guests, members of the media, citizens of the Western Cape, good morning, goeiemôre, molweni nonke, asalamalekun, shalom.

In his State of the Province Address yesterday, Premier Winde delivered a message of hope and the fierce urgency of now.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: She has got no disability.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Amidst the announcement of the highest food inflation in South Africa in 14 years, the continuous devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and wave upon wave of rolling blackouts, many citizens are in need of hope now more than ever before.

Hope and urgency also prevails within the Department of Social Development. We are resolute in our commitment to serving the most vulnerable despite the limited resources and budgetary constraints so prevalent in all Government sectors across the board.

Hon Speaker, there is an ever-increasing need for food relief services provided by the Department. Our current budget allocation of about R50 million is disbursed across community nutrition and development centres and communitybased organisations. 68 CNDCs and 512 CBOs benefit from this budget which provides food relief to nearly 183 000 beneficiaries every quarter.

An additional allocation of R25 million has been provisioned to the communitybased kitchens and CNDCs for the period of January to March 2023.

Provincial Treasury has allocated R18 million in the coming financial year for capital works on a new shelter in the Cape Town CBD. This project is in partnership with the City of Cape Town to address the urgent need for accommodation for those living on the streets. DSD currently funds 2 398 bed spaces in homeless shelters per day. The New Hope Shelter will bring the total number of DSD sponsored bed spaces to its COVID recovery plan target of 2 500.

Hon Speaker, as the lead Minister on gender-based violence I remain committed to fighting the scourge, both within Government and civil society. I was in Swartland last year with the Premier where the municipality launched a GBV ambassador programme during the 16 Days of Activism campaign. Each one of the 12 ward committees has a trained GBV ambassador, working in a specific ward. Several Mayors who attended the event expressed an interest in establishing similar programmes in the municipalities. This whole of government and whole of society approach are what is needed to bolster the fight against gender-based violence.

There are eight Thuthuzela Care Centres across the province with the centre at Victoria Hospital being expanded. The Thuthuzela Care Centres are in the domain of the National Prosecuting Authority I might add. The expansion of the Stellenbosch centre is underway. There are 26 GBV shelters across the

province and a planned one coming to the Overberg region soon.

To date approximately 18 000 individuals have sought and received psychosocial support from the Thuthuzela Care Centres and DSD supported GBV shelters.

In his address Premier Winde mentioned the Western Cape Government's Break the Cycle campaign. I believe it is the start of an important movement where boys and men feel comfortable in seeking help should they have unprocessed trauma from their childhood, to avoid them expressing their trauma through violence.

We are taking this campaign to Delft and other GBV hotspots, as well as schools, libraries, NPOs, communities, municipalities, amongst others. [Interjections.] There is still a lot to improve on in our attempts to combat gender-based violence and femicide in our province and in South Africa. We must be intentional and act with urgency to arrest the scourge.

Over the next few months it is envisaged that crime statistics on gender-based violence and femicide, data from the Thuthuzela care centres, protection order data and DSD victim support data, will be collated to generate more complete datasets on GBV prevalence and rates in hotspots and across this province, and in this way we will be able to implement targeted data-driven interventions to break the cycle. [Interjections.]

Our Government is trying to assist cash strapped NGOs in the sector, but the saving grace for these institutions has and will be the private sector. Recently the Department was able to allocate an additional R1.6 million in addition to the R62 million already allocated to the Victim Empowerment Programme for the 2022/2023 financial year. This is one of the only programmes in the Department that did not experience budget cuts.

Hon Speaker, it is sad that the South African Social Security Agency, which is legislated to render social relief of distress, is completely dysfunctional.

An HON MEMBER: Shocking! [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Where SASSA fails DSD steps in to assist where it can with limited resources. [Interjections.] This whilst fulfilling its statutory requirements. We are constantly requested to provide answers to grant beneficiaries who have found no joy in SASSA. Answers that we do not have despite our best efforts in drawing it out of National Social Development, Minister Lindiwe Zulu. [Interjections.]

[The Deputy Speaker takes the Chair.]

Hon Deputy Speaker, may I ask for protection, please? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, order please. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: [Interjections.] Hon Deputy Speaker, I have recently ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: ... I have recently conducted unannounced visits to SASSA offices in different areas to see what is happening on the ground and what I found was disturbing.

However, what is more disturbing is what is playing out at the South African Post Office and the Postbank and as a Provincial Government we continuously have to stand in the ever-widening gap left by our national counterparts, in an effort to support the most vulnerable in our province.

Entities such as Eskom, Home Affairs and SASSA and so the list continues.

An HON MEMBER: Jôh!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Hon Deputy Speaker, however there is hope as a government. We have a recovery plan that instils hope and is being rolled out with urgency.

Departments work transversely to leverage synergies and optimise resources. The well-being workstream comprising of health, education, agriculture, DCAS and DSD is such an example.

Where corruption in the highest echelons of National Government has led to widespread disillusionment exacerbated by rolling blackouts, many are looking to the Western Cape as a beacon of hope and light. We are deeply grateful to civil society, all stakeholders ...[Interjections.] The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: ... and all concerned citizens who have joined us to create a Western Cape that prioritises the well-being and dignity of its citizens. [Interjections.]

A province that epitomises good governance, a province that is responsive, caring and works for you. I thank you. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister.

I now recognise the hon member Christians.

Mr C F CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

In the State of the Province Address the Premier spoke about the energy crisis that this country ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

Mr C F CHRISTIANS: ... and the province are facing. [Interjections.] Now this is a crisis. So the Premier has mentioned that this is a national competency, but, Premier, if we are going to leave this to the ANC we are going to have blackouts all the time.

An HON MEMBER: Yes! [Interjections.]

Mr C F CHRISTIANS: The ANC has been declared redundant. [Interjections.] The ANC ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr C F CHRISTIANS: ... has [Interjections.] ... The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members! Take your seat, please, hon member Christians. [Interjections.] Please stop the clock.

Hon members [Interjections.] – hon members on my left side here [Interjections.] – hon member Bans, hon member Windvogel, hon member – no, it is not you, my apologies, it is your colleague. [Interjections.]

Hon members, hon member Christians is right at the back of the room and I struggle to hear him. If we could please just afford him his short period, he has only got a short amount of time [Interjections.] and he has to get through his speech.

You may proceed, hon member Christians.

Mr C F CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

As I said the ANC has failed this country in everything they have touched and the voter next year will give them, according to polls, only 39%. [Interjections.] So the ANC has been declared redundant and will be absolute ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr C F CHRISTIANS: ... next year. [Interjections.]

Now, hon Premier ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

Mr C F CHRISTIANS: Now [Interjections.] ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may proceed ...[Interjections.] Mr C F CHRISTIANS: Now, hon Premier [Interjections.] ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat, hon member Christians.

Hon members, you know what, we are getting quite close to lunchtime. So we are going to be delayed and we have people that have to observe their faith. Please, hon members, let us get through this debate. [Interjections.] As you have all had your – hon members, I am addressing the House.

As you have all had an opportunity to debate please allow the ACDP their right.

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[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may proceed, hon Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. As I said, the ANC has failed this country in everything they have touched and the voter, next year, will give them, according to the polls, only 39%. [Interjections.] So, the ANC has been declared redundant and will be ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): ...obsolete next year. Our hon Premier. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members! [Interjections.]

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Now ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may proceed. [Interjections.]

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Now, hon Premier ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat, hon Christians. Hon members, you know what? We are getting quite close to lunchtime, so we are going to be delayed and we have people that have to observe their faith. Please, hon members, let us get through this debate. [Interjections.] As you have all had you ...[Interjection.] Hon members, I am addressing the House. As you have all had an opportunity to debate, please allow the ACDP their right. [Interjections.] You may proceed, hon Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, now, my question to the hon Premier is: the hon Premier referred to the Energy Resilience Council that is busy finding solutions to respond to the energy crisis. Now, hon Deputy Speaker, what the ACDP would like to know is the timeframes. When will the Western Cape be free of loadshedding? When will the Western Cape be free of the ANC's Eskom? So, as we know, hon Deputy Speaker ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): ...that small businesses had to close down. [Interjections.] Small businesses are struggling. What is this Government doing in order to assist small business?

Hon Deputy Speaker ...[Interjections.] the criminals also now have a timetable of loadshedding, so they know when communities are most vulnerable, and break-ins occur. So, I am asking the hon Premier, at least can we have the lights, the streetlights, on and vacant fields – because that is where people go to work, come back from work and they are robbed, and houses are being burgled. So, is that maybe an option that we look at, at least street lighting in the most vulnerable communities, to stay on?

Hon Deputy Speaker, our province: education is still unequal. It is still unequal. I just want to give the hon Premier an example. There are success stories, but there are communities that are still struggling when it comes to education. Just on Tuesday, we were on an oversight visit in Retreat. There were 109 children who entered matric. Only 99 wrote, but out of that only 58 were promoted, meaning 41 were not promoted. A pass rate of 58%. But what is most shocking is that of the 15 people in the class sat down for Mathematics, none of them got 50%. The same with Accounting. Accounting: 17 entered the exam, only 15 wrote and nobody got over 50%.

So, that is why I say that education is still, in disadvantaged communities, still a major factor. [Interjections.] But, hon Deputy Speaker, I want to say the following ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): We know that the HOD of Education appoints principals, but there is nepotism and there is favouritism when it comes to the appointment of deputy principals and HODs. That is a major, major problem ...[Applause.] and I will bring it to the attention of the hon MEC who was helpful in the past. I will bring it to the hon MEC to investigate these matters. [Interjections.] So, hon Deputy Speaker ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): ...another problem that we have as the ACDP are the SGBs that write down the policies for admissions. Just yesterday, I was again with parents ...[Interjections.] on the phone. They cannot get into schools. Manenberg learners cannot get to Wynberg schools. Bonteheuwel learners cannot get there because the subject choices are not there. We want our learners to thrive, but they cannot thrive because the opportunities are not there. So, I want that at least to be addressed, hon Deputy Speaker, that the admissions policies at schools be altered to accommodate those parents that want to give their children a better future.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the ACDP also calls. Now, SAPS is a problem because the Province is giving millions and millions of rands for the safety of our people, but the ACDP yet again, is on record and I am calling for the devolution of powers to the provinces. [Applause.] We are calling for the devolution of powers. This is not politics. This is the ANC playing with peoples' lives. [Interjections.] This is not about politics. [Interjections.] This is about the safety of our people ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): ...in the Western Cape. [Interjections.] The ACDP still believes that the solution to the problem is ...[Interjections.] and I want to know from the hon Premier: what are they doing to help our Neighbourhood Watches? [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Stop the clock, please. Take a seat, hon member.

Over to you, hon Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Is hon Christians willing to take a question on the coalition, right-wing coalition?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Sayed, through me. [Interjections.] Over to you?

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Hon Deputy Speaker, I do not take questions from the kindergarten of the ANC. [Interjections.] I do not take questions.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may proceed. [Interjections.] Proceed – stop the clock. Stop the clock! [Interjections.] Stop the clock. [Interjections.] Hon members, one minute. [Interjections.] Hon members! Hon members, we have guests in the gallery. One minute; one minute. I just want to – I just made sure the clock was stopped. Hon Sayed, what is your point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Deputy Speaker, on a point of order: that is ageism. The last man in this House to come up with that type of statement on ageism ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Sayed, that is not a point of order. The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...was hon MEC Fritz.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no, that is not a point of order ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): We all saw what happened to hon MEC Fritz ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit, hon Sayed. That is not a point of order.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...after he made that statement to me in terms of age. This is ageism. It is this ageism ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sit down, hon Sayed! That is not a point of order.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...that is declining the leadership we have.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): He must withdraw that statement of ageism.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat! [Interjections.] Alright. Hon Christians, you may proceed. Your time is ticking. [Interjections.] You may proceed.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Minutes? How many minutes do I have left?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Proceed. [Interjections.] Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): How many minutes? How many minutes do I have left? [Interjections.] The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have got 46-seconds left.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Okay. Okay, hon Deputy Speaker. His mommy will come and fetch him now.

Hon MEMBERS: No! [Interjections.] An HON MEMBER: Boo!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Christians, proceed. [Interjections.] Hon Christians, your time is ticking. [Interjections.]

† 'n AGBARE LID: Jy moet na jou ouetehuis toe gaan! [An HON MEMBER: You must go to your old age home!]

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Hon Deputy Speaker, hon Deputy Speaker. [Interjections.]

† 'n AGBARE LID: Jy behoort in die ouetehuis! Jy behoort in die ouetehuis!

[An HON MEMBER: You belong in the old age home! You belong in the old age home!]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Christians, take your seat. [Interjections.]

† 'n AGBARE LID: Jy behoort in die ouetehuis! [An HON MEMBER: You belong in the old age home!]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Stop the clock! [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Go and retire; go and retire. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members. Hon members! [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: That is what you need to do.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: One minute. I cannot recognise the hon Leader of the Opposition if you are making so much noise. [Interjections.] An HON MEMBER: In the old age home. The Mugabes must go and retire, †klaar! [finished!] [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Sayed, your – hon Dugmore's hand is up. Hon Dugmore, I am going to recognise you because you are the only one who has put your hand up.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Hon Deputy Speaker ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Hon Deputy Speaker, just on a point of order. Would it be in order for me to propose that you investigate the

ageist comments of the hon member Christians and report back to this House, in whether they contravene a discrimination ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I certainly will do that.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ...anti-discrimination provisions in our Constitution.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will certainly check if it basically goes against the Rules, but again, I would like hon Christians to complete his speech. Hon Christians, focus on your speech, then we can have more order in the House.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. You may proceed.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Just the hon Premier has mentioned that 300 guns were confiscated in the Western Cape, but we look nationally: there are 3-million guns in the hands of criminals. So, there must be a more concentrated plan to get guns out of the hands of criminals because we know those are the guns that kill. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Christians. [Applause.] I now recognise the hon Minister Mbombo.

†The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you. Sekela somlomo, the hon Premier of the Western Cape, the Leader of the Opposition, residents and media.

†Molweni. Masiyibulele Inkulumbuso yaseNtshona Kolini ngentetho yakhe egxininise kudanyadanya cimicimi izolo, apho osithwaxa khona wonke umzantzi, ngakumbi oosomashishini, eshiya ikati ilele eziko kumakhaya ngamakhaya.

[Good day. Let us thank the Deputy Speaker's speech yesterday with regard to loadshedding, a situation that has affected the whole of South Africa, especially how it has affected businesses and income in households.]

The hon Premier's Address reminded us that the Western Cape Government is the only hope for South Africa under the circumstances. [Interjections.] Under the circumstances of high unemployment ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: ...inequality, poverty aggravated by corruption, by blackouts and other pandemics, [Interjections.] such as GBV, the hon Premier reminded us to treat this with urgency ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: ...or else we may have no country left under the circumstances. The country is under the autopilot leadership: no compass, no direction. [Interjections.] South Africa is despondent; South Africa is hopeless. But here in the Western Cape, we refuse to be tagged along this potential State

crash created by the National Government. We will ensure we rise above, [Interjections.] do as much as we can †ukuzisa ithemba kubantu abaseNtssona Koloni, [Interjections.]

[To bring hope to the people of the Western Cape.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: The Province of hope, the Province that will remain hopeful even when there is no hope. †Somlomo sekela. [In Health,] when the taps were running dry during the drought, we already had mitigation plans implemented. When COVID-19 came our way, we already had mitigation plans implemented. Now, the lights are out and guess what? We already have it covered. We have got this! This is done by having all hands-on-deck for all the Government departments, using the whole-of-government approach.

Sekela somlomo. Having an unreliable electricity supply is a disaster for the health system. When a patient is seeking admittance to an ICU on mechanical ventilation, sure death will occur if the electricity supply is interrupted. A patient that is in the middle of a surgical intervention can die when the electricity supply is interrupted. The various instruments and machinery, for example the scans, the ultrasound, the X-rays, the nuclear medicine, all of those instruments in healthcare are very sensitive to operational changes and cannot be switched on and off like one does with a light bulb. Therefore, hon Deputy Speaker, there are many lives which are quite literally dependent on an uninterrupted supply of electricity.

Noting that, we are in the process as well of creating patient records and patient encounters that need to be digitalised. And patients will not be able to have access to treatment when we have got these issues around this electricity. Hon Deputy Speaker, when we are confronted with situations of extreme stress and crisis, we innovate and deliver. We never rest on our laurels. [Interjections.] I need not remind this House of the 830 Hospital of Hope beds being built in a record time of only a month. [Interjections.] Our COVID-19 vaccination programme ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: ...our award-winning COVID-19 dashboard and let us not forget the boreholes that were built in healthcare which are currently even being used now for irrigation purposes.

For the longest time, we have identified the risk that loadshedding poses and have already implemented [Inaudible.] strategies to ensure we continue to provide the best healthcare. We have requested about 19 of our hospitals to be exempted from loadshedding, besides the three central hospitals that were exempted in 2018, which are Red Cross, Groote Schuur and Tygerberg, which have already been implemented. but it is only up to Stage 6. It means if there is Stage 7, the whole of the health facility is gone, gone, gone! We only received exemption for a further five facilities which is the New Somerset, Mitchells Plain, Carl Bremer, Victoria Hospital and George Hospital.

Noting that electricity is a scarce resource. Back in 2015, hon Deputy Speaker, the Department joined the Global Green Hospital initiative where we pledged to reduce our carbon footprint by 10% through the reduction of energy consumption and a further reduction of 20% by 2030. As we know that globally, the health sector is the contributor of carbon and is the one that will actually have a huge impact contributing to the matters of climate change. The 2020 target has already been reached through making changes to the HVAC systems. In 2020 also, sorry, hon Deputy Speaker, the lighting, the heat pumps and the chillers, the digital metering and the ...[Inaudible.] changes by the users of electricity. All those have actually already been implemented. At the Red Cross Hospital alone, we have saved at least R17-million because of this. We remain powerful, even when there is no power.

Furthermore, hon Deputy Speaker, we have been installing UPSes, which is an uninterrupted power supply system, as well as installing and maintaining diesel generators at our hospitals and clinics to ensure we do have power. We have installed electronic systems for staff to log in, reporting on ten levels of diesel within our generators each and every time after loadshedding. Staff are empowered, even when there is no power.

Unfortunately, hon Deputy Speaker, acquiring diesel comes at a huge cost to the Department. Just to highlight it: between 2015/2016 up till now, the 2022 financial year, the Department spent close to R57-million on capital costs for backup supply systems, which needs about R2,4-million every year for maintenance. Additionally, hon Deputy Speaker, in the past year we spent millions on diesel to keep our generators running during the periods of power outages. We are forced to use money that was earmarked for care, to buy diesel. Yes, Aunty Sarah will not get her knee replacement because we need to buy diesel.

Hon Deputy Speaker, this year we have prioritised 12 hospitals, including Beaufort West, Khayelitsha, Mitchells Plain and Worcester, to be fitted with photovoltaic plants which will reduce the load by 5-megawatts on the grid. For primary healthcare facilities specifically, we are installing hybrid inverters in about 71 rural clinics. That will cost us about R7-million. By installing these, including the UPSes and strengthening the photovoltaic capacity together with various alternative energy sources, hon Deputy Speaker, we will continue to ensure that every patient receives the care they deserve. Patients must be empowered, even if there is no power.

In conclusion, hon Deputy Speaker, I need to note that in the Government when we see a crisis, it becomes an opportunity. The vision cannot be realised only through the work of the Health Department. It needs the whole of Government. It needs everyone. Health is everybody's business. There are many challenges as is, with increased population, reduced budget, and ...[Inaudible.] burden of disease. We are not perfect. We are not perfect because we are the health sector that works 24-hours, seven days, 365 days in the year. There is no space that we do not work. There is still more to do. There is still more that can be done, but things are improving, and we are bringing hope so that we leave no-one behind. So that we remain powerful ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Finish off, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: ...even when there is no power. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I wanted to also respond about Cuba, but probably, I will do it during the other speeches.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Ja, thank you very much.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I now recognise the hon Marais.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Hon Deputy Speaker, ...[Inaudible.]. I also want to greet the Metro councillors of the Freedom Front Plus, councillor Paul Jacobson sitting in the gallery and my son, Grant Marais, also a Metro councillor of whom I am very proud. [Applause.]

†Vir die afgelope twee dae het ek aandagtig geluister na die oor en weer woordewisseling in die Huis. Dit het my met weemoed en mismoedigheid gevul en toe vanoggend het ek weereens, soos altyd, my Bybel geneem vir wysheid en ek kom af op Psalm 127. Dit het my oog gevang en dit sê:

"As die Here die huis nie bou nie, tevergeefs werk dié wat daaraan bou; as die Here die stad nie bewaar nie, tevergeefs waak die wagter."

[For the past two days I listened attentively to the to and fro exchange of words in the House. It filled me with sadness and despondency and then as always took my Bible this morning for wisdom and I found Psalm 127. It caught my eye and it says:

"Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.."]

The SONA was a disastrous non-event because the South African's State itself is a total disaster. If SOPA means State of National Anarchy, then we must be careful that this Province's SOPA does not mean State of Provincial Anarchy. I was hoping and wishing that the hon Premier would take centre stage and inspire us by communicating his vision that would arouse us into action in 2023. I hoped that he was going to give us hope, but his speech was more of a report of a very good handyman who fixes and repairs National mistakes. [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): He told us a lot of things about what he did with COVID-19, what he did with this, what he did with that, and he did an excellent job, but that is repair work. You were not repairing the Western Cape faults, we did. You were repairing the mismanagement that happened somewhere else. We want vision.

The ANC was an organisation created by strong, competent leaders, visionary, to serve the people, but it has become an obstacle to anything the people had hoped for. [Interjections.] In 1976 I was at UWC, a law student, and the only thing we heard was ANC, Walter Sisulu, Mandela, and if they come, it will be

heaven on earth. We believed that. We were disappointed. We looked at the ANC as our Messiah and even the EFF is disappointed. Do not blame the EFF. They come out of the ANC's Youth League. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): They were taught what they now know [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: [Inaudible] Messiah.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon member ...[Interjection.]

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Malema said he grew up in the ANC ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marais, take your seat ...[Interjection.]

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): ...as a 9-year-old.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Take your seat, hon Marais. There is a point of order. [Interjections.] Take your seat, hon Marais. Stop the clock. Hon member, what is your point of order?

Mr M KLAAS (EFF): Yes, the EFF was not in the State of Provincial Address.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay, hon member. Thank you very much for clarity, but that is not a point of order.

Mr M KLAAS (EFF): Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marais, you may proceed.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Do not worry, he is still new. He is learning. [Laughter.] Hon Deputy Speaker ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please proceed. [Interjections.] Hon Marais, your time is ticking.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): A leader should surround himself with people with high intelligence and more skills than he himself has, but our President has surrounded himself with incompetent weak men and women. How can we expect leaders to ...[Interjections.] Hon Deputy Speaker, how can a R350 ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Hon member, hon member Marais, where are we?

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): ...grant be freedom for poor blacks?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! An HON MEMBER: Where are we in ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): How can shacks be freedom ...[Interjection.] An HON MEMBER: Are we in the Western Cape ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order hon members!

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): ... for blacks? How can non-water [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order hon members!

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): ...no electricity ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Where are we?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marais [Interjections.] please? Hon Marais – hon Marais, take your seat. Take your seat. [Interjections.] Please stop the clock.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Hon Deputy Speaker, in this House ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marais? Honourable ...[Interjection.]

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): ...red overalls will not protect you ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marais, please take your seat! [Interjections.] Hon members, first of all – first of all, hon Marais, please do not talk to your fellow hon members in the House. So, you must ...[Interjection.]

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): They are talking to me!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I understand. And then, to the ANC [Interjections.] who are talking to you [Interjections.] and to the EFF, hon members [Interjections.] Hon members! [Interjections.] Hon members! Please, we are in the debate of words, not of any further action. Hon Marais, please focus on me. You are at the end of the Chamber, and I have to get ...[Interjection.]

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: ...your eye here.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just, you may proceed.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): At least the National Party, they were wrong, but they looked after their white voters. [Interjections.] Yes, the whites became rich,[Interjections.] but the ANC[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): ...do not look after their own black voters. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sit down, hon ...[Interjection.] † 'n AGBARE LID: Hulle het ons doodgemaak. [An HON MEMBER: They killed us.]

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Yes! [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: In our pram.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members. [Interjections.]

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): I have to speak so you know what you are saying. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marais! Hon Marais, take your seat. Please stop the clock. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: ...who kill our forefathers! The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marais! Hon Marais, take your seat! [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Who kill our parents!

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Hon Deputy Speaker! [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marais, take your seat. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: You kill us!

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Let us fight fire with fire! [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: You kill us!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marais, take your seat please. [Interjections.] Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Ja! [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: They kill us!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marais! [Interjections.]

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): They are stupid, that man. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: They kill us.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marais, I [Interjections.] I cannot talk to them. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Point of order, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. [Interjections.] Just sit. First, sit down everybody. I will recognise you. One second, just one. [Interjections.] Settle down. One minute. You are not the only one. Put your hand down. I will – okay. [Interjections.] Hon Marais, sit down. Down!

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Ja, I will fight you back. Ja! [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members. [Interjections.] Hon members, can I have your attention please! Can you all turn around and look here. So, hon Marais, please do not further incite and I do not want you getting that angry. You are an esteemed politician with many years of experience. You know how to handle conflict. I will begin by recognising the hon Sayed if there is a point of order. It went a bit haywire there, but please, hon Sayed, could we just? I will hear you.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): No, thank you. Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker.

An HON MEMBER: Jesus! The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): I do not want to go ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no, no, no, no! Just one minute, one minute. Hon member, please: we cannot have those profanities in the Chambers. Please? You cannot be saying words like that. I am sorry. There are people who are Christian here.

An HON MEMBER: Which words?

An HON MEMBER: Jesus. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: You know exactly what you are saying.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no, no. That was – no, we do not do that because you know, there are people who are religious. [Interjections.] I will go back to the Hansard and review it. [Interjections.] Hon members. Hon members, I am trying to listen to hon Sayed ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: You cannot do it ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: ...and I would like everyone else to keep quiet. Please. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Deputy Speaker, okay. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Deputy Speaker, look, hon Deputy Speaker ...[Interjection.] Hon Deputy Speaker, look, we respect hon Marais as the father of the House ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: An elder.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...and as an elder, and I think, possibly he got a little bit emotional and said certain things which deep down, he perhaps does not mean. So, I think let us also give him – but I just want to say, maybe in future and he was – we saw the hon Marais, as a point of order. Hon Marais pointed to the hon Klaas [Interjections.] and hon Cassim of the EFF and called

them stupid. That, he needs to withdraw. We do not want to fight with him. He is the elder, but maybe just to withdraw that so that we can have progress and we say that ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...with the utmost of respect ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Ja.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...for the hon Marais.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Sayed for your very calm words. Hon Marais, I did not hear it at the time. [Interjections.] Wait! Hon members. [Interjections.] Hon members! Hon Marais, did you say that? I did not hear it from here and if you did, would you be willing to withdraw, please?

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): I did say he is stupid, yes. The DEPUTY SPEAKER: And will withdraw it?

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): And I withdraw the word 'stupid'. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon member, okay? Any further points of order?

Mr M KLAAS (EFF): Ja, I want just to give him a word that she (sic) is old. She (sic) must not let the sugar [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. Mr M KLAAS (EFF): Sorry, he. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is fine.

Mr M KLAAS (EFF): He must not let the sugar go ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Thank you for your indulgence. [Interjections.] Hon Marais, are you finally at the end of your speech? I have got 50 ...[Interjection.]

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): No, I am not. But, you know, if a man cannot know I am a 'he', then what is he? [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay, hon Marais, please may I ask that you do the rest of your speech calmly, without enticing further reaction. Thank you. Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Okay, thank you. The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. You may proceed.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Former President Bush once said, and I want to quote him:

"We abuse our power when we utilise it for self-gain."

The Zondo Commission confirmed there is self-gain at play in this country. So now, hon Premier, your national leader is now prepared to co-govern not only at national level, but obviously, he will be prepared to throw in the Western Cape and some Gauteng metros, I suppose, in order to co-govern at a national level. I would like to know if you reply: how do you see your role as being Premier in 2024 if your national leader, Steenhuisen, said he is prepared to form a coalition with the ANC at national level. The ANC are hardened negotiators. They beat Roelf Meyer at Codesa at the negotiating table. They will play child's play with you. They would say, if you want to co-govern at national level ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Finish off.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): ...we want to govern ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Finish off, hon member.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): ...in Gauteng metros and the Western Cape. What will you do?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Will you still be the wolf that marries a sheep, and a sheep thinks his flock is safe?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. Your time is up.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): No ways.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: We now recognise the hon Minister Maynier. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Alright. Thank you, hon Marais. Either you may leave the Chambers or thank you very much.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): You will see the ANC and I just ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you very much ... [Laughter.] I am

very happy to hear that. [Applause.] Hon Maynier, hon Minister Maynier, you may proceed. [Interjections.] Order!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. [Interjections.] The hon Premier is, indeed, correct when he refers to the[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...fierce urgency of 'now' because as we debate in the House today, thousands of learners are being prevented from attending school by a minibus taxi mafia, attempting to muscle in on transport contracts. Parents now find themselves with the terrible choice between keeping their children safe and making sure their education can continue. [Interjection.]

Mr M KLAAS (EFF): Taxis are ...[Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: They should never have had to choose between those two. I share the anger of many parents that are expressed towards the taxi associations with protests being planned ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...against the blockade. Already, in Mfuleni there are reports that parents are stopping the taxis ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Where are [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...from operating [Interjections.] until they end the blockade.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: And I agree with them that such lawlessness[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...by the taxi mafia simply cannot be allowed to continue. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: We have had – we have had very productive meetings with the South African Police Service and they are putting plans of action into place to end this criminality. [Interjections.] Yesterday, I laid a criminal complaint with the SAPS ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...against the minibus taxi associations currently preventing our children from getting to school so that this matter can be investigated, so that the persons responsible can be arrested and so that they can be prosecuted and jailed. [Interjections.] The Western Cape Education Department ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...will not meet with any minibus taxi associations until they end the blockade and stop terrorising our children and our parents. Our Government is united. We do not and indeed, we will not negotiate with a gun to our head. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Haibo, where are the busses?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: I want to thank [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No! Hon members!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: I want to ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Maynier ... [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: I want to thank our schools [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Wait! Hon Minister, please take your seat. [Interjections.] Hon Marran, hon Nkondlo, hon Marran, please? [Interjections.] Hon members ...[Interjection.]

Mr P MARRAN: Why do you [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Because the hon Minister is further down the chambers, it is very difficult to hear him. [Interjections.]

Mr P MARRAN: Why do you not put him ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am trying to hear him, but you are having a conversation across the way. So, please can first [Interjections.] But you were speaking.

Mr P MARRAN: I did not [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Oh, hon Premier, if I caught the Premier, but you were speaking across. [Interjections.] Okay, alright. I did not hear him, but I – no, you were not.

Mr P MARRAN: You can hear him.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members [Interjections.] please! Let us just get

through hon Minister Maynier's speech. ...[Interjection.]

Mr P MARRAN: No, I will ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. Hon Minister, over to you.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I want to thank our schools for the work that they have been doing to cope with the blockade. Earlier this week, I visited Academia Primary School in Khayelitsha where 90% of the learners were absent. The school has been producing work-packs for parents to collect and distribute to keep some semblance of learning going. In one Grade 4 class, half had been absent for the past week. The teachers I spoke to, explained how when learners return, they will need to split them into groups ...[Interjections.] because some of the learners will be ahead of others. [Interjections.] Serious damage has already been done and the blame lands squarely with the minibus taxi associations, no matter what disinformation they spread. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: What is needed, needed [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Hon Deputy Speaker, nothing – nothing, absolutely nothing [Interjections.] can possibly ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ... justify the taxi mafia preventing children from attending school. [Interjections.] And nothing, nothing, absolutely nothing can justify ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...criminal extortion and intimidation. [Interjections.] And it is for that reason, hon Deputy Speaker [Interjections.] it is for that reason that I find it extraordinary, extraordinary, [Interjections.] extraordinary that when a bus is stopped ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members. Hon members ...[Interjection.] I think the hon Premier got – the hon Premier got caught in this one too, but I still see two of our ANC members talking to the hon Premier. Hon Premier, you are not allowed to answer them while he is speaking ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: ...otherwise, I cannot hear anybody. [Interjections.] Hon members, please! I am waiting. [Interjections.] Hon members on the left side. We are ticking quite closely to lunchtime, and we have to get through our debate. So, please may I ask that we have some indulgence? Over to you, hon Minister.

An HON MEMBER: We gave them ...[Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

[Interjections.] What I find extraordinary – extraordinary – is that when a bus is stopped, when a bus is stopped and children are offloaded, what is the Official Opposition's response? [Interjections.] Silence! [Interjections.] When a parent[Interjections.] When a parent is prevented[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Hon Sayed, what is your point of order?

An HON MEMBER: We want [Interjections.] The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): On a point of order. The hon Maynier is misleading the House. I have personally. I have got WhatsApps where when

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Sayed ...[Interjection.]

these incidents started to happen ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ... I have sent it to his HOD and to everyone in his Department.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I understand, but that is not for me to rule on here and that is not a point of order. You may proceed. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Hon Deputy Speaker, I find it extraordinary ...[Interjections.] I find it extraordinary that what the hon member says is that when a bus is stopped and children are offloaded, his response is to send a WhatsApp. What is that? [Interjections.] What I find ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: What I find extraordinary ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...when a parent [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon Minister [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: A parent ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...is prevented from driving a child to school [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon Minister. Please take your seat. [Interjections.] Hon members [Interjections.] Hon members! Hon member, hon Bakubaku-Vos, can I have your attention. Can I just not have the constant interjection so that we can all just hear everything that the hon Minister is saying. Again, time is ticking. Over to you, hon Minister. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. When a parent is prevented from driving their child to school, what is the Official

Opposition's response? [Interjections.] Silence! [Interjections.] When a bus driver is threatened ...[Interjections.] when a bus driver is threatened [Interjections.] what is the Official Opposition's response? [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Silence! [Interjections.] When a teacher [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister ...[Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...a teacher has half of her class absent [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: ...take your seat, please. [Interjections.] Hon Deputy Chief Whip, what is your point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Hon Deputy Speaker, I rise in terms of Rule 40 ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, there is someone that is addressing me. Please, hon Nkondlo and hon Mvimbi. Hon Mvimbi? Constant running. Just one minute, please. Over to you, hon Baartman.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. [Interjections.] I rise in terms of Rule 40 as well as Rule 42 [Interjections.] I cannot even hear the hon Minister of Education in terms of interruption and the maintenance of order of this House. [Interjections.] We are dealing with a very important topic. There are parents who are listening in ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marran!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): ...who want to know what the Education Department is doing, and I cannot even hear the hon Minister.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): So, I am not sure if the people on the screen [Interjections.] can even hear the hon Minister. Thank you. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members. Hon Sayed, what is your point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Deputy Speaker, can the almost – almost Chief Whip of the Democratic Alliance [Interjections.] maybe shed some more light on what, where exactly ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ... is the issue because we can hear the hon MEC.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Sayed ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): There is no disruption to the hon MEC speaking [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. [Interjections.] Hon Sayed, I must admit – thank you very much, hon members. Can I just have your attention, please? I am struggling to hear being right at the end on this side and the hon Minister on that side. And remember, hon Mvimbi, I know you have got a constant running commentary, but that is fine. You can have interjections, but not to the point that I cannot hear the hon Minister. If I can just ask for your indulgence. Hon Minister, you may proceed. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. When a teacher has half her class absent because of a taxi blockade, what is the Opposition's response? Again [Interjections.]: silence! [Interjections.] Even worse, when a learner ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, please take your seat. Hon member Cassim (sic), what is your point of order?

Mr M KLAAS (EFF): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please put your microphone. [Interjections.]

Mr M KLAAS (EFF): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I am confused what is being discussed here. Why do you ask a question [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no!

Mr M KLAAS (EFF): The point of order is that you cannot ask a question while you are supposed to deliver the work. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Cassim (sic), that is not [Interjections.] hon Cassiem (sic), that is not a point of order. You may proceed, hon Minister. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: The hon member obviously thinks he is part of the Official Opposition, which he is not. [Interjections.] The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Over to you, hon Minister. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Let me come back to my point ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members! [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: I come back to my point, hon Deputy Speaker. [Interjections.] When a learner ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...is hiding in a footwell [Interjections.] when a learner is hiding in a footwell to avoid being seen by criminals and thugs in the taxi association, what is the Opposition's response? [Interjections.] Silence! [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Every hon member. [Interjections.] Every hon member of this House should loudly proclaim that the rule of law must be enforced in our province ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...and call for and support an immediate end to the illegal blockade. [Interjections.] Any deviation from this call will indicate their tacit support for the thugs and criminals in the taxi associations. [Interjections.] And it will indicate their support ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...to the taxi associations' reign of terror and indeed, their terrorism of learners and parents in the Western Cape. [Interjections.] The learners of Khayelitsha ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marran!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ... are suffering at the hands of the minibus taxi associations and parents are fed up ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ...with their illegal actions. It is time for the Official Opposition to break their silence and for them to be clear where they stand. [Interjections.] Do they stand with the rule of law or with the taxi mafia? [Interjections.] The Leader of the Opposition was absolutely right: [Interjections.] this is a crisis. So, how do you explain his absolute silence on this issue? [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Hon Deputy Speaker. The DEPUTY SPEAKER: 30 seconds left. Are you done? [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. [Interjections.] Order, hon members! Alright, thank you very much. I now recognise the hon Brinkhuis. [Interjections.]

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, hon Premier!

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): Al Jama-ah questions where this SOPA serves to advance white rule and paving the way for whites to come from all corners of South Africa, to establish a laager in the Western Cape and in the City of Cape Town and in other municipalities, like Stellenbosch and Drakenstein. We call on the Province [Interjections.] we call on the Province and its municipalities to take heed of the City of Johannesburg's new model of governance which is capturing the imagination ...[Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): ...which is capturing the imagination of many South Africans. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): The new co-governance structure embraces the manifesto promises of the minority block of parties and the three parties with numbers. [Interjections.] Al Jama-ah invites the hon Premier to take the lead by introducing co-governance in the Western Cape and its municipalities. [Interjections.]

The model of co-governance benefits. The model of co-governance will also give all voters a taste of some of the benefits promised by the members of Legislatures and councillors in power. There must be a soft issue for co-governance, but for the DA it is a matter of the winner takes it all. [Interjections.] This province needs real and good leadership ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): ...from the hon Premier. [Laughter.] There is no reason why the DA and the ANC and Al Jama-ah, and other parties together, can get devolution of powers in positions held as MEC, Mayor or committee members and members and chairpersons of standing and portfolio committees, and subcouncil chairpersons.

Al Jama-ah says 'thank you' to the hon Premier. [Interjections.] Al Jama-ah says 'thank you' to the hon Premier for calling on the presidency to declare a State of Disaster on loadshedding. This will urgently bring a new generator to the grid [Applause.] and it looks like the President is listening. It looks like the President is listening. [Interjections.] The President must devolve the emergency powers to the hon Premier, to the Western Cape so the Western Cape can take the lead to put an end to loadshedding. [Applause.] Hon Premier ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): Hon Premier, the compliments will stop there

now. [Laughter.] Hon Premier, you have failed. Yes, you have failed to give hope to the citizens of the Western Cape that constructive plans are in place to deal with crime, housing and the crisis in education. Yes, the crisis in education.

For the past five years, the province has seen a massive increase in the number of learners in the Western Cape. We find no consolation in you stating that you are in the process of placing 1 400 learners in schools. We are almost into the third month of the school year and thousands of learners, yes, thousands of learners are still waiting to be placed in schools. There are some schools where the classrooms are overflowing with 80 learners. Our schools are not safe for learning. This is not the way to maintain a high standard of education.

The Western Cape Education Department is wasting millions, wasting millions on a disciplinary hearing against Heathfield High School's principal, Mr Wesley Neumann. The Department is hellbent on using the old apartheid tactics of banishing him from the school. We need principals and educators like him to maintain the high standard of education the school once enjoyed while he was the principal. Al Jama-ah calls – Al Jama-ah calls on the Department to drop all charges against Mr Neumann and that he returns to Heathfield High School.

Hon Premier, you are removed from reality in our townships on the Cape Flats. Crime, gangsterism and drug peddling have never declined. There is no political will from the Province to effectively address these matters. You understand shebeens are hotspots for all criminal activities, yet our townships have more shebeens than recreational facilities. You have failed to give any plan on how to eradicate crime, no plan on how to act on the high unemployment. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): Hon Premier, you should take the lead from President Ramaphosa who has rolled out plans to create employment ...[Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): ...and sustainability of small businesses. In conclusion, Al Jama-ah reminds the hon Premier of Israel's illegal occupation of Palestine, its apartheid policy, its genocide of Palestinians, destroying Palestinians' livelihoods, torture and detention of Palestinians, including that of young children. I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. I now recognise the hon Baartman. [Interjections.]

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): Agb Adjunkspeaker, mede-inwoners van die Wes-Kaap Provinsie. Ek het vandag saam met my 'n ryp puur protea gebring [Tussenwerpsels.] wat ek vanoggend ...[Tussenwerpsel.]

[The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Hon Deputy Speaker, fellow residents of the

Western Cape Province. Today I brought with me a ripe, pure protea [Interjections.] that this morning I]...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): ...van my eie tuin afgepluk het. Hierdie protea kom van 'n bos vanaf my tuin wat ek drie jaar gelede geplant het. Daardie bos was miskien nie eens groter as die lengte van 'n gewone waterbottel nie en hierdie protea is nou langer as my eie lengte, die bos wat nou in die tuin is. En gewoonlik, agb Adjunkspeaker, wanneer ek in die tuin is, is ek verskriklik gelukkig, maar vanoggend was ek nogal hartseer gewees want as ek na hierdie blom kyk, agb Adjunkspeaker, sien ek sweet, bloed en trane, maar ek sien ook hoop, ek sien geleentheid, ek sien harde werk, vasberadenheid en liefde.

Maar agb Adjunkspeaker, wat kos hoop? Wanneer daar vir ons gesê word dat die Wes-Kaap Onderwysdepartment 'n versnelde bouprogram gaan implementeer om 842 nuwe klaskamers te bou, dat 662 van daardie al klaar reeds gebou is en dat hulle met die konstruksie-industrie moes onderhandel om regdeur Desember te werk. Dit is getuienis van harde werk en dit gee my hoop. Wanneer daar vir ons gesê word dat amper 99% van ons leerders al klaar geplaas is en dat die meerderheid van die laaste 1% eers in Januarie opgedaag het as laat aansoek om te vra vir 'n plek in 'n skool, dit is getuienis van vasberadenheid en dit gee vir my hoop. Ek is bly dat die Sekretaris-generaal van die Departement 'n belofte gemaak het dat elke leerder geplaas sal word, insluitend diegene wat laat in Januarie hierdie jaar eers vir 'n plekkie gevra het.

Agb Adjunkspeaker, daar is 1,1 miljoen leerders in die Wes-Kaap. Van die 1 476 aansoeke wat nog geplaas moet word, is 1 325 na die 2023 jaar gekry. Daar is 48 dae in hierdie jaar sover. Die meerderheid van daardie laat ansoeke het in Januarie 2023 opgedaag. Agb Adjunkspeaker, dit kan nie wees verder dat in 2023, dat ons met afpersers in die taxi-sektor moet onderhandel ...[Tussenwerpsel.]

[The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): ...from my own garden. This protea comes from a bush in my garden that I planted three years ago. That bush was probably not even higher than the height of a normal water bottle and this protea is now taller than my own height, the bush that is now in my garden. And usually, hon Deputy Speaker, when I'm in the garden I'm extremely happy, but this morning I was quite sad because when I look at that flower, hon Deputy Speaker, I see sweat, blood and tears, but I see also hope, I see opportunity, I see hard work, determination and love.

But hon Deputy Speaker, what is the cost of hope? When we are told that the Western Cape Education Department is going to implement a fast-tracked building programme to build 842 new classrooms, that 662 of those are already completed and that they had to negotiate with the construction industry to work throughout December. That is testimony of hard work and it gives me hope. When we are told that almost 99% of our learners have already been placed and that the majority of the last 1% only arrived in January as late applications to ask for a place in a school, that is testimony of determination, and it gives me

hope. I'm glad that the Secretary-General of the Department made the promise that every learner will be placed, including those who only asked late in January this year for a place.

Hon Deputy Speaker, there are 1,1 million learners in the Western Cape. Of the 1 476 applications that still have to be placed, 1 325 were received after the 2023 year. There were 48 days so far this year. The majority of those late applications arrived in January 2023. Hon Deputy Speaker, it cannot further be that in 2023, we have to negotiate with blackmailers in the taxi sector]...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member, take your seat, please. Hon Sayed, what is your point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Deputy Speaker, is it parliamentary for the hon former Acting Chief Whip to mislead the House on when learners applied?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, I cannot ...

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Is it parliamentary to mislead the House?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot rule on that. That is not a point of order, hon Sayed. You may proceed.

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): Agb Adjunkspeaker, indien die mense van die Parlement in hierdie Huis nie weet nie ...[Tussenwerpsel.]

[The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Hon Deputy Speaker, in case the people of the Parliament in this House do not know]...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): ...ek het van die persentasie wat voor ons Komitee was deur die Departement van Onderwys ge-quote. So, as hy nie weet om te lees nie, is dit nie my probleem nie ...[Tussenwerpsel.]

[The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): ...I quoted from the percentage that was in front of our Committee from the Department of Education. So, if he does not know how to read, it is not my problem] [Interjection.].

An HON MEMBER: Exactly! Ja.

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): ...agb Adjunkspeaker. Agb Adjunkspeaker, agb Adjunkspeaker, dit kan nie wees in 2023 dat ons moet afpersing aan die taxi-sektor moet onderhandel sodat ons kinders kan skool toe gaan nie, dat ouers hulle kinders agter in hulle motors moet wegsteek sodat hulle skool toe kan ry nie. Ek moet die agb Minister en die Departement bedank vir die vinnige inspring in die situasie, asook Gemeenskapsveiligheid en Mobiliteit, agb Ministers en hulle departemente vir hulle samewerking. Elke kind moet in die skool wees.

[The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): ...hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy

Speaker, hon Deputy Speaker, it cannot be that in 2023 we have to negotiate blackmailing with the taxi sector so that our children can go to school, that parents have to hide their children in the back of their cars so that they can drive to school. I have to thank the hon Minister and the Department for the quick intervention in the situation, as well as Community Safety and Mobility, hon Ministers and their departments for their cooperation. Every child must be in school.]

An HON MEMBER: Ja!

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): En julle plaas die hoop in gevaar wanneer 'n mens 'n kind uit die skool uithou. En die ouers in Wes-Kaap en ons gemeenskappe in die Wes-Kaap, ons kan dit nie duld nie.

Agb Adjunkspeaker, wanneer daar vir ons gesê word dat 41 skole al klaar ooreenkomste aangegaan het met maatskappye om sonkragoplossings te installeer, die Departement skole gaan help met lig ...[onduidelik.] diodegloeilampe te installeer en dat die Departement photovoltaic sonkragpanele ondersoek vir nuwe en vervangbare skole, is 'n getuienis van die liefde van die Wes-Kaap se Regering en dit gee vir my hoop.

Agb Adjunkspeaker, hoop is deur om 70% meer klaskamers as die Gautengprovinsie te bou, om 'n ekstra 26 leerders te akkommodeer terwyl ons provinsie met 17 000 leerders per jaar groei gemiddeld, en kos 'n ekstra R830 miljoen. Ons kry maar 'n klein bedraggie vanaf die Nasionale Regering in die vorm van die onderwys ...[Tussenwerpsel.]

[The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): And you put the hope in danger when one keeps a child out of school. And the parents in the Western Cape and our communities in the Western Cape, we cannot tolerate that.

Hon Deputy Speaker, when we are told that 41 schools have already concluded agreements with companies to install solar power, the Department is going to assist schools with light [Inaudible.] to install diode bulbs and that the Department is investigating photovoltaic solar power panels for new and replacement schools, it is testimony of the love of the Western Cape's Government and that gives me hope.

Hon Deputy Speaker, hope is to build 70% more classrooms than the Gauteng Province, to accommodate an extra 26 learners while our province is growing by 17 000 learners per year on average, and it costs and extra R830 million. We only receive a small amount from the National Government in the form of the education] ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): ...infrastruktuur-toelaag. [The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): ...infrastructure grant.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): Die res moet ons vanuit ons billike aandeel-

formula.

formule uitneem.

In 2019, agb Adjunkspeaker, het President Ramaphosa aangekondig dat korrupsie ons land omtrent R1 triljoen kos. As ons die hele Onderwysdepartement-begroting van die Wes-Kaap neem en ons maal dit met 100, sal dit nog altyd nie by R1 triljoen uitkom nie. [Tussenwerpsel.] As ons die hele Departementsbegroting van Gesondheid in die Wes-Kaap neem en ons maal dit met 100, gaan ons nog altyd nie by R1 triljoen uitkom nie, agb Adjunkspeaker. As die Nasionale Regering vir ons net daardie ekstra R1,5 biljoen kan gee, dan kan ons dit op 'n Veiligheidsplan spandeer, 'n mandaat wat eintlik nie vir provinsies is nie. [Tussenwerpsel.] As die Nasionale Regering vir ons net die ekstra R1 biljoen gee, dan kan ons dit ...[Tussenwerpsel.] [The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): The rest must come from our equitable share

In 2019, hon Deputy Speaker, President Ramaphosa announced that corruption is costing our country about R1 trillion. If we take the whole of the Education budget of the Western Cape, and we multiply it by 100, it will still not come to R1 trillion. [Interjection.] If we take the whole of the Departmental budget of Health in the Western Cape and we multiply it by 100, we will still not get to R1 trillion, hon Deputy Speaker. If the National Government can just give us that extra R1,5 billion, then we can spend it on a Safety Plan, a mandate that is actually not for provinces. [Interjection.] If the National Government can only give us just the extra R1 billion, then we can] ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): ...op 'n energiekrisis spandeer, wat ook nie die mandaat is van die provinsies nie. Maar daar is bitter min hoop in ons land. So, iemand moet die uitdaging, die hoop bied. [Tussenwerpsel.] Nieteenstaande, agb Adjunkspeaker, die Wes-Kaap Provinsie is die enigste provinsie met 100% ongekwalifiseerde oudits vir ons departemente. [Tussenwerpsel.] En ons is die enigste provinsie wat elke sent van sy COVID-19 uitgawes publiek gemaak het. En as 'n provinsie moet ons weer seker maak dat elke sent wat ons op die energiekrisis spandeer, gedokumenteer word en publiek gemaak word want dit is nie ons geld nie. Dit is die mense se geld. ...[Tussenwerpsel.]

[The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): ...spend it on an energy crisis, which is also not the mandate of the provinces. But there is very little hope in our country. So, someone has to meet the challenge, offer the hope. [Interjection.] Nevertheless, hon Deputy Speaker, the Western Cape Province is the only province with 100% unqualified audits for our departments. [Interjection.] And we are the only province that made public every cent of its COVID-19 expenditures. And as a province we must make sure again that every cent we spend on the energy crisis, is documented and made public because it's not our money. It is the people's money]. ...[Interjection.]

† 'n AGBARE LID: Dit is die waarheid! Hulle steel in die land. [An HON MEMBER: It is the truth! They steal in the country.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): [Tussenwerpsels.] ...leeg te steel want hulle glo ...[Tussenwerpsel.]

[The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): [Interjections.] ...steal it empty because they believe] ...[Interjection.]

† 'n AGBARE LID: Dit is deel van die Kaapstad Munisipaliteit se geld.

[An HON MEMBER: It is part of the Cape Municipality's money]

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): ...dit is nie hulle geld nie. Die ANC glo dat hulle geregtig is ...[Tussenwerpsel.]

[The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): ...it is not their money. The ANC believes that they are entitled] ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

† 'n AGBARE LID: Hulle is skelm! [An HON MEMBER: They are dishonest!]

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): ...aan die mense se geld, maar dit is nie hulle geld nie. Dit is nie eers ons geld nie. Dit is die mense se geld. [Tussenwerpsels.] Dit is die mense se geld wat die beste op die mense gespandeer word. [Tussenwerpsels.]

[The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): ...to the people's money, but it's not their money. It's not even our money. It is the people's money. [Interjections.] It is the people's money that is spent best on the people.] [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): [Tussenwerpsels.] en regeer, agb Adjunkspeaker. [Tussenwerpsels.]

[The DEPUTYCHIEF WHIP (DA): [Interjections.] and govern, hon Deputy Speaker.] [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Windvogel. [Interjections.] Hon Windvogel! [Interjections.] Hon Windvogel [Interjections.] Hon Bans, I cannot hear. [Interjections.] Hon Windvogel [Interjections.] Hon Windvogel, I am talking to you. That is about the fifth time. Can I please have your attention? Can we allow – I am very mindful of people who have to observe their faith at 1 o'clock. Please, hon members. I would really like to get through this debate. Over to you, hon Baartman. [Interjections.]

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): Dankie, agb Adjunkspeaker. [Tussenwerpsels.] [The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.] [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no, stop, please. [Interjections.]

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): Die mense se geld moet die beste gespandeer – op die beste manier gespandeer word op die mense. In hierdie provinsie, as Laingsburg kiesafdelingshoof, R6-miljoen was vir die vervanging

van die Matjiesfontein Kliniek in Laingsburg gespandeer. [Tussenwerpsels.] R3,3-miljoen in my kiesafdeling vir die Laingsburg Hoop kos geld. ambulansstasie-opgradering: hoop kos geld. [Tussenwerpsel.] Die Departement van Ekonomiese Ontwikkeling het informele handel op in Lainsburg ge ...[onduidelik] vir oor R1 miljoen, want hoop kos geld. R31,8 miljoen was vir 2 067 kommersiële en 656 kleinskaalboere in landbou ramp risikobestuursprogram gebruik want hoop kos geld. R500 000 was vir Laingsburg Munisipaliteit vir diensteleweringvoertuie gegee. [Tussenwerpsel.] Die Departement van Plaaslike Regering, want hoop kos geld om te kan regeer, agb Adjunkspeaker. Dit kos sweet, bloed en trane. Maar ons benodig 'n regering wat glo ... [Tussenwerpsel.]

[The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): The people's money should be spent the best – in the best manner, on the people. In this province, speaking as Laingsburg constituency head, R6 million was spent on the replacement of the Matjiesfontein Clinic in Laingsburg. [Interjections.] Hope costs money. R3,3-million in my constituency for the Laingsburg ambulance station upgrade: hope costs money. [Interjection.] The Department of Economic Development has [Inaudible.] informal trade in Lainsburg for more than R1 million, because hope costs money. R31,8 million was for 2 067 commercial and 656 small scale farmers in the agriculture disaster risk management programme because hope costs money. R500 000 was given to Laingsburg Municipality for service delivery vehicles. [Interjection.] The Department of Local Government, because hope costs money to be able to govern, hon Deputy Speaker. It costs sweat, blood and tears. But we need a government that believes] ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): ...is. Die nodige regering wat 'n geleentheid kan sien. [Tussenwerpsel.] 'n Regering wat hard werk, wat vasberade is en wat lief is vir die mense van die provinsie. Ons kort 'n regering wat die koste van hoop verstaan en elke sent twee, nee, drie keer sal omdraai voordat hulle dit spandeer. Agb Adjunkspeaker, geld groei ongelukkig nie op proteas nie. Hoop kos geld en ons vra die mense van die Wes-Kaap, ons is nie perfek nie, maar as 'n regering, moet ons kan belowe dat ons die beste sal doen ...[Tussenwerpsel.] om seker te maak dat die mense se geld op die mense gespandeer word ...[Tussenwerpsel.]

[The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): ...is. The necessary government that can see an opportunity. [Interjection.] A government that works hard, that is determined and loves the people of the province. We need a government that understands the cost of hope and will turn over every cent twice, no, three times before they spend it. Hon Deputy Speaker, money unfortunately does not grow on proteas. Hope costs money and we ask the people of the Western Cape, we are not perfect but as a government we must be able to promise that we will do the best ...[Interjection.] to ensure that the people's money is spent on the people] ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

†Die ADJUNKHOOFSWEEP (DA): Maar ons vra asseblief van die mense van die Wes-Kaap dat hulle opstaan vir hulle reg tot 'n billike provinsiale aandeel vanaf die Nasionale Regering in terme van Artikel 214 van die Nasionale Grondwet, ...[Tussenwerpsel.] want dit is nie die ANC se geld nie, dit is die mense se geld. [Tussenwerpsel.] Agb Adjunkspeaker, ek dank u. [Applous.] [The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): But we please ask the people of the Western Cape that they stand up for their right to an equitable provincial share from the National Government in terms of Section 214 of the National Constitution, ...[Interjection.] because it's not the ANC's money, it is the people's money ...[Interjection.] Hon Deputy Speaker, I thank you.] [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. [Applause.] I now recognise the hon Lekker, but maybe hon Lekker, you have to get your colleagues to keep quiet before you start. [Interjections.] Hon Marran, you have one of your colleagues waiting to speak. [Interjections.] Hon Bakubaku-Vos. Hon Bakubaku-Vos. [Interjections.] Hon Bakubaku-Vos! [Interjections.] Hon Bakubaku-Vos, that is the fourth time. Hon Lekker is waiting to speak. Alright. Alright, you may begin. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. [Interjections.] The ANC and the people of the Western Cape will be fools if they took the State of the Province Address by hon Premier weak-Winde, seriously. Let us remind hon Marais that the ANC does not govern in this province. ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Ja.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): It is not our job to inspire. ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Ja.;

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): If the hon Marais wants inspiration, we can sympathise with her (sic). The hon Christians, if he has not yet realised, the DA governs in the Western Cape and not the ANC. ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): If he wants to hold the ANC accountable, he must ask his party to go to the National Assembly ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...but then again, his party leadership does not want him there or his party does not have enough seats. This hon Premier, as weak as he is, has presided over a four-year term of popcorn programmes. The hon Premier must stop hopping in the air, he must come down to ground and he must come home ...[Interjection.] An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...because as soon as he pops up an idea and a programme, that is how soon the idea, the programme ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...collapses again. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): If only the hon Premier took the economy of this province seriously and not treat it as one of his failed ten businesses. Pick n Pay was the hon Premier's silver bullet to the township economy, as announced by him in his 2019 SOPA. Yesterday, in the gallery, we had Ms Pumla Rudah who owned Nozinga Market and who is one of the pioneers in this Provincial Government's failed Pick n Pay Market Store project. [Interjections.] She came to hear what the hon Premier was going to say to address the limping state of the township economy and they applied specifically. I hope hon Marais is listening. Today, Ms Rudah and her colleagues, who trusted their Provincial Government in this project, sit with failed businesses and debt running into hundreds of thousands, if not millions. [Interjections.] This is what ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): This is what the popcorn projects of the hon Premier produces. [Interjections.] The jobs for Growth Strategy was another[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...popcorn idea. [Interjections.] For the last 13 quarters that this popcorn Premier has run our province, 68 000 people have lost their jobs. [Interjections.] The hon Marais has obviously not read the unemployment statistics of the Western Cape before 2009. The hon Premier quotes King on:

"I open the fierce urgency of now."

Close quote. But plans for 4% to 6% growth and R1 trillion GDP 12 years from now. Twelve years? Where is the fierce urgency for now? Popcorn ideas.

If only the hon Wenger stuck to her portfolio instead of propping up a popcorn Premier. The hon Premier was given 10 minutes to speak this week in the National Parliament in the SONA debate. [Interjections.] His faction in the DA gave him 10 minutes for him to campaign for the DA, but they should have realised just how weak he is. For 10 whole minutes, not once – not once could he mention a single ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...achievement of the DA in the Western Cape. Not once for the whole 10 minutes. Why? Because he is a popcorn Premier. [Interjections.]

The hon Fry worries about our people that are not safe. Well, he just needs to ask hon Marais near him about how unsafe employees in this Provincial Government feel because the hon Premier refuses to have a transversal GBV policy.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just take your seat, hon Lekker. Hon Marais, what is your point of order?

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): I think this is sexual harassment, mentioning my name all the time.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no, hon Marais. [Applause.] Hon Marais, that is not a point of order. [Interjections.] [Laughter.] Hon members, can we please have some order? Over to you, hon Lekker, you may proceed.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. By the way, two DA councillors from Mitchells Plain must tell Eddie Andrews we are waiting for him in this House to come and play his alleged involvement in the fruit saga. We will not let that go. [Interjections.]

In his first SOPA in 2019, the hon Premier welcomed the deployment of SANDF onto the Cape Flats. Three years later, the hon Premier still does not get it. Crime is not solved by more boots on the ground. When the army intervention failed, he pushed for the popcorn idea of the Safety Plan. The reality is, LEAP is a complete failure. The hon Fry wants to claim SAPS achievements when they happen, such as the reduction of crime in hotspots, but they refuse to take the responsibility for crime in our communities. The hon Allen must make available the raw data of the effectiveness of the Safety Plan. The raw data shows what an utter failure the Safety Plan has been. [Interjections.]

Another popcorn idea was the Youth Safety Ambassadors ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ... Programme.

Two years ago, the Provincial Administration announced it with great fanfare and today, it is dead in the water. In 2020, the hon Premier and his Cabinet members stood up and announced their own private, separate from National Government, procurement of vaccines. Another popcorn idea. In the 2019 SOPA ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...the hon Premier announced an economic war room, supported by no less than Harvard University, nogal, [Interjections.] not that he, himself ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...not that he, himself, has seen the inside of a university and that popcorn idea was stillborn. Yesterday, we heard another nothing on the war room or the Jobs Cabinet, but instead, yesterday, we had to hear of Energy Council popcorn. [Interjections.]

In 2019, he stood up and announced Government's commitment to the Ministerial Handbook. Well, since then, he has had to get rid of two MECs for misconduct. One MEC left with a cloud hanging over her head while another

MEC has more Public Protector report findings against him and there are Red Dot taxis on the road today. [Interjections.] Red Dot, Blue Dot popcorn, an idea, up and running. Then, it has to close down. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): In 2021, we had to hear of the Single Transport Authority for the greater City of Cape Town. Two years later, we have no idea where this has been established. Another popcorn announcement. Four years ago, we heard of the solar [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...uptake, while in 2020 we heard that 23 [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members. Order, hon members!

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Deputy Speaker, can I continue?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just one minute. Order, hon members. Alright, over to you. [Interjections.] Order, hon members. I am trying to [Interjections.] Hon members, it is 10 to 1. Please! [Interjections.] I am asking your indulgence, all of you, because I am watching the time and I am watching hon Lekker. So, please, can I have your indulgence on both sides? You may proceed.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I will repeat. Four years ago, we heard of the solar PV uptake while in 2020, we heard that 23 of the municipalities in the Western Cape support the small-scale embedded energy. The hon Premier has yet to tell us how many megawatts this programme has produced. He spoke of applications, but nothing on the amount of megawatts produced by this project. Not well produced.

In 2021, he announced the Municipal Energy Resilience Project and two or more than 1 000 days later and after spending over R100-million, the hon MEC for Finance stands up and lists municipalities in project planning. Two years later, not a single megawatt has been produced by the map. He requests R1billion for energy over R3-million. Listen carefully: three years, but that is ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...the tip of his speech ...[Interjection.] The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is up.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...disappears urgency of now. We think the hon Premier got Dr King wrong. I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Lekker. [Applause.] Hon members [Applause.] thank you. Hon members, if I can just have your indulgence, please. [Interjections.] If I can just have your indulgence, please.

Hon Premier, would it be inconvenient if I ask that we adjourn now to observe, for those who need to observe their faith. We come back half an hour earlier for the last two speakers. The hon Premier can do his work during the break and then we finish off with the last two speakers and then hon Premier, would that be an inconvenience? I do not want to disrupt our arrangement with our Muslim community. [Interjections.] So, can I just be clear now. We will break until 13:30. No, until 2. Until 2, correct. We will break till 2. There is lunch, as far as I understand. We will come back slightly earlier to listen to the last two speakers. The House is now suspended. Suspended. Thank you very much.

House suspended at 12:30

The House resumed at 14:07

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon members. We are going to go straight with the resumption of the debate. I now see the hon Minister, Minister Simmers.

An HON MEMBER: Yes. Hear, hear!

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE: Hon Speaker, the Premier, my colleagues in the Cabinet, hon members, but also our guests who are in the gallery. Speaker, I would love to begin my address with a quote from Stephen R Covey, a very famous American businessman, who said:

"The key is not spending time, but investing in it."

As the Western Cape Government, we do not make empty promises, but rather make lasting commitments and that is exactly what the Premier of this province demonstrated yesterday in his speech as part of his State of the Province Address, a province that delivers and what it will deliver in the current financial year. Unlike the ANC, our colleagues on the other side of the table, which is riddled in factionalism battles and they have the inability to change. In this province under this Premier, together with our colleagues, we are leading the change in innovation that is needed to actually revolutionise the economy of our province, which is something sadly that will never happen in this country while the ANC is still in government. [Interjections.]

Last September, the National Minister of Transport Mr Raz Mataz, announced the launch of Operation Vala Zonke, a campaign, wait for it, a campaign to rehabilitate potholes across the country. [Interjection.]

Added to this the first glimmer of innovation from the ANC, I must say, an app where you could log where these potholes are, but I must be quite honest, hon Speaker, I was not quite sure if the hon National Minister was actually making a joke when he announced this because it became evident that while in our province, it is a basic service and requirement of transport and public works to maintain its infrastructure. The fact that an operation Vala Zonke had to be pronounced, tells us exactly what is busy happening in the other eight ANCgoverned provinces. They show no appreciation for assets. In contrast, they lack showing that appreciation, hence the country is in the state which it is in, in those eight provinces, but in the Western Cape, this is a norm, a norm of our Provincial Department of Transport and Public Works, which is the only province which has received its ten clean, consecutive audits on all levels... [Applause.] ...a Department that leads by example, but hon Premier, because, and Speaker, we want to save South Africa as well. We want to save the last remaining few good assets we might still have left in those eight provinces. I have actually requested the incumbent HOD to send an invitation to the eight provinces officials to come and learn from this Provincial Department, from this Provincial Government and, if needs be, we will even provide them training, training to show what can happen if you make decisions based on data, not by which faction you are in the ANC in one of those other eight provinces.

Hon Speaker, we will take them to one of our many roads projects that are either completed or on track to be completed on time, unlike in the other eight provinces. We plan possibly to show them the world acclaimed and multi-award winning... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, members! Order, there is a member on the floor.

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE: Cogmanskloof Pass, and the Ashton Bridge Project or if there is enough time in their busy schedules, I must say, the R66 million Van Breede Bridge over the Dwars River in Ceres, which is set to be complete by the end of this year, or even perhaps the R67 million Gwaiing Bridge in George, which commenced in January and to date has already created 44 job opportunities. Clearly you can see what the Premier announced is a vision of urgency, that we are doing. We are implementing, but, Speaker, to adequately position the province for the future, we need to ensure that we invest in the infrastructure that ultimately will create the leaders and engineers of the future for this province, which is why among others, a very good example is the construction of the school which we completed in Morreesburg on time within budget, which opened for school on the first day of school this year, a Government in action under the leadership of Premier Alan Winde. [Interjections.]

Then we will continue to demonstrate this excellence in service delivery, by restoring the hope to our people, ensuring that among others, we will be launching the R17,9 million new clinic to replace the existing Gouda Clinic in the Cape Winelands district and I can bet you we will do it on time and within budget as well. [Applause.]

Hon Speaker, but we cannot build if we cannot keep the lights on, to be quite honest, so where we differ as a provincial government from any of the other provinces and even the National Government is that that when we are faced with a crisis as Cabinet or as the leading party that governs this province, we get our hands dirty and we fix the problem. †Ons maak nie net feëverhale die heeltyd op nie. [We are not making up fairy tales the whole time.]

The President announced the appointment of the Minister for Electricity, and I must say when I asked some of the members on that side, hon Speaker, but even they could not tell me what that Minister was actually going to do. †So hulle is nog net so in die bos soos die res van die land. [Tussenwerpsels.] [So they are still just as much in the bush as the rest of the country] [Interjections.]

But here in the Western Cape, hon Speaker, we do not have a Minister of Electricity, nor do we need a Provincial Minister of Electricity, but we have, as announced, by the Premier, we have allocated R1 billion on short and medium-term solutions on the energy crisis. That is what an accountable and developmental government does. We do not have wish lists. We actually execute and implement what we announce within that financial year, but, with all of this and this province seen as a safe haven for a lot of our people that migrate to our province, and we welcome them with open arms, which is why the latest emigration reports, state the following on the Western Cape and I would love to quote Andrew Golding, who is the Chief Executive of the Pam Golding Property Group and he said:

"Based on the Ratings Africa Rankings of Municipalities, there is an obvious reason to relocate to the Western Cape as our municipalities are more financially robust and therefore more likely to be able to continue to deliver services."

An HON MEMBER: That is not in the Western Cape. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE: Hon Speaker, it is clear from this and all the data and the influx of new students to our schools and so forth, a lot of the citizens of beyond our borders are realizing this is the only province that can still give hope. This is the only province that is still functional, where we ensure that we actually deliver to our people and above all this, we do not squander the public purse. We can account for every cent that we spend. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, members, order!

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE: We can provide this House with data. We provide the citizens with data – †want ons weet wat ons doen. Ons weet wat ons doen [because we know what we are doing. We know what we are doing.] And part of this testament, hon Speaker, we can see through the lens of the social infrastructure component, of what will be in the Department of Infrastructure because over the course of this financial year, which we are currently in, within record time, within 18 months after doing a

a sod-turning in some of our projects, relative to having completed these projects, we have started handing over housing opportunities to qualifying beneficiaries and I shall give you some examples, because surely some of the members of the Opposition just do not like to read these reports, so I am just giving them a refresher course on what we have done.

In the Garden Route District Municipality in Melkhoutfontein, we did a sodturning in September 2021 and on 17 December 2022, the first 50 beneficiaries received their house keys and got to spend their first Christmas ever in their lives in a house of brick and mortar, made possible by this DA-led Provincial Government, and do not take my word for it, 85-year old Ms Daisy Simon, who is a former farm worker, I must say, she could not contain her emotions when she told me, "I have finally achieved a lifelong dream of being a home owner."

That is something very few people in the ANC-governed provinces can say... [Interjections.] But, Dysselsdorp, in Oudtshoorn, once again, this is a project where for the first time in 27 years they finally got where we could actually give them a housing project. The first 150 beneficiaries received their homes within less than a year from me doing the sod-turning.

Hon members of the House, through you, Speaker, I think you must agree with me, we are restoring hope. We are delivering to our citizens brick-by-brick, and we are doing this at a rapid pace in the province, no other province can actually say that... [Interjections.]

But, once again, I was baffled when the President in his SONA chose to speak of, among others, the backlog of processing more than a million title deeds.

†Baie, baie ironies! [Very, very ironic!]

Because it is a member of his Cabinet that announced that they decided to discontinue the Title Deed Restorations Grant. †Praat van hypocrisy. [Speak of hypocrisy.]

Much obviously to our dismay as a province, but also to the many, many citizens across our province, we were waiting for the title deeds, but what we did, we did not sit to the back, we said: "How can we ensure that we deliver, to ensure that our people get title deeds in this province?" And yes, you can proudly call me Mr Title Deeds, I am happy to take that title.

†Baie dankie. Gee my sommer die naamplaat. [Thank you, just give me the name plate.]

Through our Asset Finance Reserve Fund, once again unique to the Department of Human Settlements, we have ensured through innovative ways that we generate an income that can ensure there is funding that we can continue giving our people their title deeds, something the President must actually learn from, from a provincial government.

Now, hon Speaker, for the current financial year, the last time I was in this House, we projected a revenue income of R10,47 million, for 2022/23 and up until 8 February our own income as confirmed in Provincial Treasury that we have collected, is over R257 million, and I can tell you a fair portion of that funding is going to be committed to ensuring the people of the Western Cape who are waiting for their title deeds, will get title deeds. We are giving them hope, by showing them the urgency of a government that cares... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, can you please conclude? [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE: Hon Speaker, in conclusion, much has been said here about this alleged allegation that this Provincial Government does not commit to land reform, and I can tell you the contrary. During the 2022 we have transferred land to George in Thembalethu... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister, please take your seat. Thank you, Minister.

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE: ...a clear sign that we are committed to land reform. [Time expired.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister. Please take your seat. [Applause.] Thank you very much, hon Minister. I now see hon Mackenzie.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, hon Speaker, and welcome to your first SONA reply. Thank you, Premier Alan Winde, for providing a vision, hope and urgency for the people of this province yesterday. I extend my warmest welcome to the people of the Western Cape, including my constituency for Mitchells Plain, who are joining us today, including my councillors, who are joining us today, and starting from one of our councillors, we must give credit to one of our councillors, councillor, the sub-council Chairperson, Elton Jantjies. While the bullies, the thugs and the gangsters of PRASA tried to dump people in Mitchells Plain. The ANC consistently treats people with disdain and disgust. To bring people from Philippi, put them in Mitchells Plain, where there is no school, no police station, no water infrastructure, it has to be the lowest form of humanity one can get, because Hon Sayed, Khalid will rightfully come next year and ask: "Where are the schools?" [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order members, order!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Hon Kama will rightfully come next year and say: "Where are the police stations?" So hon Nkondlo should have thanked us for stopping PRASA in their tracks... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order members!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: ...to stop them from dumping communities without consulting other communities, so, well done to my councillors for standing up to those bullies at PRASA. [Applause.]

Hon Speaker, I want to take us back to a week ago... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order members!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: ...where the President delivered the State of the Nation Address, less than a kilometre from where we are standing today. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: For hours the President stood at the podium and said nothing of consequence. He announced non-solutions to problems that his own party has created. He pledged to do things that he promised for years with no result. [Interjections.] His words carried no substance and await a nebulous political fog of platitudes and in a rhetoric, yet the President himself bought a house in Cape Town, so, hon Windvogel, †hy moet huis toe kom [he must come home.] He is in Cape Town. The ANC is Mr †Handjies-gevou [Hands folded]... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order, members!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: ... while our electrical grid, our security cluster in our economy is collapsing, the President and his party sat †handjies gevou [hands folded.] After the President's State of the Nation Address, his Ministers and his Chairpersons stood and downplayed the crisis and the problems in this country. To quote the respected journalist Andisiwe Makinana:

"If we were to believe those speeches, everything in this country is working and working accordingly, we are imagining all these problems South Africa encounter on a daily basis."

That is what happened at the State of the Nation Address. They are delusional. They do not know the problems of the country and they do not know nothing. They are †bewusteloosheid [unconsciousness] epitomised, which brings me to a comment my hon Reagen Allen made... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order members!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: The hon Minister said it is a disgrace that in this country... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order members! Hon member Mackenzie, my apologies, please take your seat. Hon members, please allow hon Mackenzie to make his contribution. We have allowed you all, hon members, to make your contributions throughout the day. Hon member Mackenzie, I see you.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you. I am going to respond to the honourable's point that she made. That is not about race. It has to do with the incompetent National Government that destroyed the trains in the country, that is not consulting with the receiving community. They do not build a school for the individuals; they do not build a police station; they do not build infrastructure, and then they expect the DA-led Government... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order members!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: ...as they always do, to take control of things, to provide school security and infrastructure. That is what it is about. Their failures must become our problem. We are tired of you. †Ons is tot hierso, [We are up to here,] they must sort out their own stuff. [Interjections.] Hon members, the contrast between the speech that the President delivered...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Mackenzie, please take your seat. Hon members on my left, you are in dialogue with the member on the floor. Can I please – interjections are allowed, but you are drowning out the speaker. We are at the end of the debate. [Interjection.]

Hon members! Hon members! The member is on the floor. [Interjection.] Hon members on my left! The hon member is on the floor. Hon Kama, I am addressing the House. Can I please ask that you respect the decorum of the House. There are guests in the gallery, and allow the hon member to make his submission. We are at the end of the debate. Hon August, is that a point of order?

Mr S AUGUST: Yes. Thank you, Speaker. You and many others have mentioned, and again you have mentioned: "Members on my left." Now we are very well disciplined at the back here. Name them. Say "ANC", do not say all or do not include all of us to your left. Say "ANC", because GOOD is a disciplined member in this House. Thank you, Chairperson.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. [Applause.] Thank you. Thank you very much, hon August. My apologies and I will do so. I will do so. I will do so. I will do so. Hon Mackenzie?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, the contrast between what the Premier delivered yesterday and what the President delivered last week can be heard far from here, to Table Mountain and beyond. Yesterday, the residents of the Western Cape heard the Premier's report-back on real results and knew that this Government will hold firm against the National Government's tide of corruption and incompetence.

Hon Speaker, just yesterday, the Premier announced again and committed to R2,5 billion on fixing problems caused by the ANC, while Pretoria †sit handjies gevou [sits hands folfed,] and honestly, hon Speaker, I love it if they call us popcorn, because popcorn is the most beautiful thing you can ever eat. [Interjection.] You cook it. It explodes. It melts in your mouth, unlike the ANC Government who just stays bitter. Hon Speaker ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order members, order!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: ...the Premier announced a R1 billion allocation towards electricity, failure caused by the ANC. Further to the R1,5 billion that my Minister Reagen spent on safety and security. These are not our mandates, but because unlike the ANC, we do not sit †handjies gevou [hands folded,] we actually get things done. That is the DA difference.

Hon Speaker, the hon Windvogel waxed lyrical about the NHI via you. We know why they want the NHI. We saw during the hard lockdown last year, the National ANC Government used the criminal state of disaster to steal, so much so their Minister of Health had his hands in the whole cookie jar, so we know why they want the National Health (NHI). They want to use the NHI to steal. That is what they want.

Hon Speaker, this Government wants to build accessible transport, pleasant walkable neighbourhoods, neighbourhoods connected to each other via affordable, efficient public transport. That is one of the many reasons why we want the devolution of rail, which brings us to what is happening in the taxi industry. Let me respond to the hon Marran. What happened in the taxi industry in the last few weeks, hon Speaker, was disgusting, it was horrible, and all members of this House should cry out and call out to gangster elements... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order members!.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: ...in the taxi industry ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order!.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: ...the thugs, the criminals who are invoking terrorism against children of this province. Instead of sending WhatsApps, the ANC members should write to the National Minister of Justice to prosecute them... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member, please take your seat, hon member Mackenzie.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: ...for the criminal element in the taxi industry belong in jail. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Mackenzie, please take your seat. Hon Mvimbi. Hon Mvimbi, can I please ask that you respect the decorum of the House, you are drowning out the speaker. [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: You are drowning out. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order members, order! [Interjections.] Order, members, order! [Interjections.] Order, members, members! Can I please ask that you allow the hon member to conclude or to continue with his contribution. Interjections are allowed but you are drowning out the speaker. Hon Mackenzie, and can I please ask that you speak to me and not to the members in the House?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, Speaker. I will speak directly to you. Hon Speaker, that is the difference between us. This Government take action, believes in the rule of law and so there are elements in the taxi industry that are acting with criminal intent, that are there to hurt the economy, that are there to hurt the public transport infrastructure, and the commuters and our fellows on the other side of the bench should write to the Minister of Justice and say: "Prosecute them, prosecute the elements in the taxi industry, they are causing mayhem in this province", and that is the solution – not them being quiet.

Hon member, their Government in fact in the Presidency said this morning, they said the infrastructure in this country is collapsing. This is the President of this country, his Presidency lamenting the collapse of infrastructure. They are in charge. He should take action, so, hon member, the ANC members can stop talking and write to their colleagues and ask them. Yesterday the Premier spoke of urgency, and I could not agree more with their sentiments. Every job lost and business closed due to loadshedding is an urgent problem. Every drop of water lost is an urgent problem. Every commuter that cannot go to work is an urgent problem. Every family that cannot make ends meet in this province is an urgent problem. Every life lost is an urgent problem. That is why this Government has used our own money to allocate R2,5 billion to fix problems created by that side of the House. They are the problem in this country. Our country is swathed with problems because of the ANC.

Ms R WINDVOGEL: You failed the people of the Western Cape.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: So under the DA Government, we are solving these problems. We are going forward. They are going backwards. We are building. They are stealing. We are solving problems. They are creating problems. The contrast between us could not be more obvious. We are making real problems, thulle sit handjies gevou [they sit with hands folded.] Neither the ANC or any party in this House has the capacity to fix the country's problems. Yesterday SOPA proved that the DA does. Speaker, after yesterday's events, I feel more confident in my Government that I can tell you, next year our people will not vote for ideologists, Gucci communists, Fabiani Marxists. [Interjections.] They will vote for a real government. They will vote for electricity. They will vote to end crime and corruption ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order, order members!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: They will vote for good governance, quality schools and true leadership. They will vote for a South African future, that we this side of the House believe in. They will vote DA. I thank you. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Mackenzie. Hon members, order! [Interjections.] Order, members! Members, are you done now, or you still want to engage? [Interjections.]

Alright, so are you finished engaging one another now? Hon Marais, I see you, was that a point of order?

Mr P J MARAIS: Yes, Speaker, I think the hon Mvimbi must be called to account for disrespecting the Chair and the whole House by his continuous interaction when he knows it is not in the Rules for him to do so. You must put him out. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order members! [Interjections.] Hon members, hon members, it has been a long day and a half, with hon Mackenzie concluding the debate, that concludes the debate on the Premier. I am now going to ask the Secretary to read the second Order of the Day.

†Die SEKRETARIS: Repliek van die Premier op die Debat oor die Premiersrede.

[The SECRETARY: Reply of the Premier on the Debate on the Premier's Address.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

The SPEAKER: I will now afford the hon, the Premier, an opportunity to reply to the debate. Hon Premier, I see you.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Speaker. I know that I have not got a full day to prepare, but I want to start off by saying that I thank every single person who took part in this debate. I want to say I was hoping that I was going

to hear a little bit more suggestion of other ideas or alternative ideas from the Opposition members, because obviously we are all elected representatives here. Every one of us represents the community, the citizens of this province and I will still say it and I said it on the very first day and I will say it again, if anybody that represents our citizens has a great idea or something that they think we should try or something else, please bring it to us.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I sent you [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore. [Interjections.] Hon Dugmore. [Interjections.] Hon Dugmore, you have just entered the House. Can I please ask that you allow the Premier. You had an opportunity this morning. It is now the Premier's opportunity to reply.

The PREMIER: Perhaps I should reply to that comment, hon Speaker, where he says, "I did bring it to you and you did not respond," and he knows that that is not true because I did respond.

Quite a few backwards and forwards, meeting with officials in the Education Department, meeting with the developers, etcetera. Unfortunately the school governing body and those developers could not come up with a model ...[Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: They did!

The PREMIER: ... that is going to work. No, they did not. [Interjections.] No, they did not. So he was actually ...[Interjections.]

So he was actually ...[interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Speak to me.

The PREMIER: ... misleading this House when he was talking there.

An HON MEMBER: Jôh!

The PREMIER: Something that his Opposition within his own party seems to speak about quite often.

I also want to say to all of those members that in everything that we do we base it on evidence, we base it on data ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, please take your seat.

Hon member Sayed, is that a point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: No, it is a – is the Premier willing to take a question. [Interjections.] I did not know about Opposition. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed, please do not pose your question. The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Can he take a question? The SPEAKER: Please do not pose your question. Take your seat.

Hon Premier, are you prepared to take a question?

The PREMIER: Yes, I will take a question. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Can the hon Premier please indicate to us what is known by Opposition within a party? I understand that there is Opposition [Interjections.], there is the Opposition and then there is the governing party [Interjections.]. You do not get Opposition in a party. I mean, really? [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Alright. [Interjections.] Thank you, hon member Sayed.

Hon Premier, over to you.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker, and I know exactly why the hon Sayed asked me that question to explain what opposition within opposition are because this is the Opposition and within this Opposition you have got someone behind the Leader of the Opposition contesting for a position.

So he is the Opposition to the Leader of the Opposition. [Interjections.] [Applause.] And ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The PREMIER: And that is classic opposition within the Opposition. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: It is called democracy.

The SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.] Order, hon members! [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: At least we do not get told by Helen Zille what to do.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed, you had an opportunity to pose your question. The Premier has responded to your question. [Interjections.] Can I now please ask that you all settle down and, hon Premier, you can continue.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. [Interjections.] Hon Speaker, what I want to say is that whatever we do we base it on evidence, on data, we base it on listening to citizens, we pick up what is happening on the ground and I heard in the debate and I think specifically here I want to reflect on

the hon Marais who said he wanted to see these big broad visions. Well, I was not going to come here and talk about bullet trains and travel to the moon, etcetera. What I really want to talk about is what is hurting our citizens right now, what are they feeling? I could hear it in the hon Mackenzie's speech at the at the end there of this debate. What do the citizens feel at the moment and if anybody criss-crosses this province you will know.

I have been to Atlantis, Mossel Bay, Kwanokuthula, Saldanha, Klaarstroom, Die Lap, Lingelethu, Prince Alfred Hamlet, De Doorns, Calitzdorp, Montagu, Matjiesfontein, [Interjections.], Swellendam, Cederberg, Clanwilliam, Graafwater, Lamberts Bay, Piketberg, Velddrif, should I carry on?

But across this province wherever you go and you listen to the citizens you will know the most important thing that you have to deal with right now, wherever you are is you have got to make sure that you fix energy.

People cannot live lives that they value in the loadshedding environment that we find ourselves right now. [Interjections.] Energy number one, through and through wherever you go, and I am talking about the province. Exactly the same thing is in the rest of our country.

Then it comes to crime and crime, and specifically the levers of dealing with crime, and of course that is why we have a Safety Plan. [Interjections.]

Both of those areas, when it comes to energy, it is not a provincial mandate. It is not our mandate in the Constitution. [Interjections.] When it comes to policing, or the criminal justice system, or our prisons, that is not in the mandate of a province.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: You have got power [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: It is a national mandate.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: You just do not use it.

The PREMIER: So that is why those two issues are the top issues that we deal with in this province. We will overstep the mark, we will push the boundaries, we will work as hard as we can because those are the things that affect our citizens the most and if you ask the citizens what is number three, you will see it will be jobs, and what is number four, you will see it will be basic services.

That is why you would have already seen a budget allocation this year, before the Minister is going to table the budget, of another nearly R90 million to make sure that even during this time of loadshedding citizens can get water. If you cannot get the basic rights of water right, and I mean that is in this province.

You hear they are weeks without water and even months without water in ANCrun provinces, but let us not go there, let us remain within this province.

And so, hon Speaker, that is why you heard me speak about a R1 billion plan for energy. [Interjections.] That is why you heard me speak about water, WiFi, about basic services. [Interjections.] That is why the basic health system has to be protected. You heard in the debate from Minister Mbombo what she was talking about. About the basic needs of our citizens. We have got to focus on those needs.

I will come back to crime just now.

Hon Speaker, I want to start off by saying many people spoke about youth and about some of our youth programmes within our Government and specifically the Leader of the Opposition and that was quite interesting.

He was saying, "This province spends not one cent on these programmes that help young people on the EPWP programmes, we do not spend any money on this ..." ...[Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Of your own money.

The PREMIER: Of our own money. He just said it again, we do not spend one cent of our own money. Do you know that over the next three years and if the hon member who has actually been a member in this Legislature, [Interjections.] probably the second longest out of all members in this House, probably the second longest, because he and I were here at the same time, but of course he went off to the Planning Commission, and I will get back to that just now because people refer to Rasool and Ramatlakane. [Interjections.] He was here at the same time. That was when a whole lot of people in the ANC were fired, but I will come back to that just now. [Interjections.]

I will say again, he says, "You do not spend one cent of your own money." I would like to refer him to page 493 of the Blue Book, something that you should know about by now as a member of this [Interjections.] ...

And so if you go and have a look at the Blue Book you will see of our own money R316 372 000 for this coming year [Interjections.] and R310 828 000 [Interjections.] – this is our money. [Interjections.] This province ...[Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: For what?

The PREMIER: For the EPWP programme.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: It comes from National [Inaudible.]

Am HON MEMBER: No! [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: No-no-no. So the ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore, this [Interjections.] – hon member Dugmore and hon Premier, can I please ask that you not have a dialogue and, hon Premier, can you please speak to me. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: I apologise, hon Speaker, I will speak through you and through you.

So if I look at the year to come, R316 million of our own money going into this programme and the hon member is correct. I mean most of our budget comes

through an allocation that comes from National which actually comes from taxes raised. [Interjections.]

We can have a long debate on whether this province gets its fair share of the taxes raised in South Africa. [Interjections.] It does not. We should get far more, but the total spend is another billion rand. An HON MEMBER: Sjôh!

The PREMIER: Another billion rand. [Interjections.]

So R1.335 billion gets spent in this province on EPWP. That is not[Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: That has been earmarked [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: That is not including the following half a billion that also gets put to youth programmes in this province. R553 182 000 for this coming financial year. [Interjections.]

So that takes it to nearly R2 billion in these programmes.

So the hon Leader of the Opposition, who has been here for a very long time, comes here in his speech and actually, in the words of his opposition within the Opposition, [Interjections.] comes and is very, very limited with the truth, in actual fact misleading the House on the kind of statements that he is making. Unacceptable. Even his own party should be pulling him up on that.

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: It is not true [Inaudible.] your own money.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore, I have asked that you and the hon Premier not engage each other directly. [Interjections.] Interjections are allowed, but this running commentary is disturbing the decorum of this House. There are other members that want to hear the reply by the hon Premier.

Can I please ask that you allow the Premier to reply. Both sides of the House had an opportunity to engage during the debate and it is now the opportunity of the hon Premier.

Hon Premier, can I please again remind you to please speak to the Chair and not directly to the members.

The PREMIER: Thank you, thank you very much, hon Speaker, I shall do, I will try not to speak to the members of this House.

A couple of other issues raised in this debate. The War Room, the reference to the War Room and again I would very much like to ask the members to before they come and make these statements, at least attend the Standing Committees, at least listen to the programmes that are delivered by the departments and they will know and they would have – well, they obviously did not listen to what I have said previously in the House because they are raising this issue about the War Room.

They will know that the War Room four years ago, in partnership with Harvard University, will know that that programme is now developed into the only place in the world where the model or the mechanism of dealing with difficult conundrums within government, is now an embedded programme in our government. It is what we use as a programme coming out of that War Room, not just a War Room that disappeared, a War Room that produces programmes that get used not only in this province now in the Provincial Government, but is now also being used as it is rolled out into local governments as well.

So at our PCFs reports come back from departments on how they are using the PDI methodology that came out of the War Room [Interjections.] and also in Local Governments too, which is very, very nice to see.

Hon Speaker, then perhaps one other item that was mentioned a couple of times, but specifically I think out of the EFF, which talks about policy issues and of course this is where policy should be debated and discussed, but I do want to say that the policy, as put forward by the EFF, that talks about nationalisation, we are living in a time where a national run electricity system with Eskom not able to deliver to the energy needs of our country, or any of these other state-owned entities.

If we actually believe that that is the solution and the way to go forward I want to say that we are on the wrong path and I would suggest to the members of the EFF that they actually go and do a study tour to Venezuela and go and see how those kinds of policies actually work. How they turn into actions and how they really fail the people.

If I think about just energy and of course everything is focused on energy at the moment in our system, and if I think on energy where the citizens of this country are now facing an 18% electricity increase because there is one big single centralised government-run entity, thanks to the ANC, supposed to deliver electricity, an 18% increase.

Electricity over the next few years is going to become tremendously expensive, unless you can privatize it, unless you can enable competition in the system. [Interjections.]

At the Green Hydrogen Summit it was amazing to listen to the big investors that are coming in, where they are delivering in the Northern Cape now solar power at 7 cents a kilowatt hour; 7 cents a kilowatt hour. That is unbelievable.

Now that is what opening your economy, that is what privatization actually does because it creates competition from investment, you will get much better pricing through that.

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, please take your seat.

Hon member Klaas, is that a point of order?

Mr T KLAAS: Yes.

The SPEAKER: Point of order?

Mr T KLAAS: Nationalization is not what we have discussed as it explained. [Interjections.] So that we did not discuss that what he is explaining ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Klaas, that is not a point of order.

Hon Premier, you can continue. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! [Interjections.] Members! [Interjections.]

Hon Premier, you can continue. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

Hon Speaker, I have to react to the hon August from the GOOD party and what I want to say to him, I wrote down Tent City here because his Minister and the Minister of Home Affairs are clearly responsible for a place where foreigners have been put into a tent city. That is absolutely unacceptable, but I also want to point out to him that in a municipality where his party is part of the governing party, or part of the governing coalition of a municipality in this very province where he talks about land invasions, he talks about homeless people. Well, quite frankly I think Knoflokskraal and the GOOD initiated stealing of that land, is totally unacceptable and it is his Minister, who sits in the National Government, a coalition partner of the ANC, who actually orchestrated the whole process. [Interjections.]

I mean if you were there prior to the election you would have seen almost every household with a GOOD T-shirt on ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier ...[Interjections.]

The PREMIER: ... it was a land expropriation ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, please take your seat.

The PREMIER: ... of note.

The SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

Hon member August, is that a point of order? Mr S N AUGUST: Yes, thank you, hon Speaker.

Perhaps the Premier is not aware that the Minister has taken this matter to court and this matter ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon ...[Interjections.]

Mr S N AUGUST: ... is being dealt with in court and he is making

...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon ... [Interjections.]

Mr S N AUGUST: ... false claims ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member August ...[Interjections.]

Mr S N AUGUST: ... [Interjections.] ... to say that the Minister is ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: ... what is your point of order?

Mr S N AUGUST: ... is orchestrating this. [Interjections.]

Secondly also he has misled the House by saying that ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: What is the point of order, hon member August?

Mr S N AUGUST: He has misled the House by saying Tent City in Kensington where the land, which is Public Works, was given to the City ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member August, that is not a point of order.

Mr S N AUGUST: ... and it is the City's tent ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon ...[Interjections.]

Mr S N AUGUST: ... that is on there. Thank you. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member August, that is not a point of order. [Interjections.] That is a statement. That is not a point of order.

An HON MEMBER: Why must [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, you may continue. [Interjections.] You may continue.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Obviously that hurts the hon member.

I also need to raise an issue, it was not raised from the other side of the House, but it was something said by one of the members on this House that spoke about cutting red tape and, you know, it reminds me of visas or remote working visas as well as setting up Red Tape Reduction Units.

So the President a year ago spoke about remote working visas and now once again we have to speak about it and nothing happens between one State of the Nation Address and the next State of the Nation Address, [Interjections.] and of course Minister Wenger has spoken about that, but red tape reduction. Can I tell you the biggest joke of all is that on the day that the President is supposed to make the State of the Nation Address because he knows now he has got to talk about red tape, and he made a big thing of it, of setting up this Red Tape Reduction Unit at the National, in the Presidency. [Interjections.]

The most interesting thing for me was I get an email, I get an email from the Presidency saying, "Can we please set up an urgent meeting with you because we want to discuss red tape," and I thought, "Jeepers, this is trying to cover your back," but we have agreed to set up this meeting ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! [Interjections.] Order! [Interjections.] Order!

The PREMIER: We have agreed to set up this meeting [Interjections.] ...

The SPEAKER: Order! Hon member Marais. [Interjections.]

Hon Premier, please take your seat. Hon Marais, is that a point of order?

Mr P J MARAIS: Thank you, hon Speaker.

No, I want to ask the Premier would he be kind enough ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Marais ...[Interjections.]

Mr P J MARAIS: ... to let me ask him a question?

The SPEAKER: Hon member Marais, is that – do you want to ask the hon Premier a question?

Mr P J MARAIS: Yes.

The SPEAKER: Alright. Hon Premier, are you prepared to take the question?

The PREMIER: Yes.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Marais.

Mr P J MARAIS: Thank you.

Hon Premier, do you still see it as part of the DA's vision, there should be devolution of powers to provinces, that the province should have more powers in terms of the Constitution's provision for subsidiarity and what have you done to pursue this matter that powers must come down from the top to the provinces, and from the provinces to local authorities? Thank you. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Marais. Hon Premier. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker, and thank you very much, through you, to the hon member Marais. [Interjections.]

Absolutely the answer is yes. In actual fact that is in line with our Constitution which says powers should be devolved closer to the people where there are competent governments at Local Government level, Provincial Government level. We should be devolving all or as many powers as possible, and of course I think the hon member is clear on our position on policing [Interjections.]. That should be devolved.

I think the hon member is clear that our position is devolving the rail system because that is a total failure under the National Government. [Interjections.] We are always stepping into the arena of failed National Government. He said it in his contribution to this debate was that it seems like a problem because we always seem to be fixing the broken ANC, but unfortunately those are the things that are hurting the citizens of this province and as a responsible government you have to step in when people are being absolutely failed by the ANC at a National Government level.

So the answer is absolutely and yes.

So again it is interesting. So a year later or just before the President is about to give his answer, or give his State of the Nation Address, the Red Tape Reduction Unit in the Presidency wakes up and now sends letters to the provinces to say, "We need to talk about red tape." [Interjections.]

He also knows that I had actually personally asked three times in the last year can we engage. In actual fact I really would suggest we have a retired member of our government, a retired member who actually set up our Red Tape Reduction Unit, Raybin Windvogel, who for many years led our programme.

We have had a Red Tape Reduction Unit in our government for seven years now. Seven years. [Interjections.] And yes, it saved billions and billions and you actually heard in the debate today how it helps thousands of jobs all the time.

So, hon Chair, absolutely and we will engage [Interjections.] and I look forward to that engagement and seeing how we can help. I actually think that it would be a good idea to use Raybin even as a consultant in the setup.

Before I get to the three last things that I really want to talk about. One of the members raised Ebrahim Rasool. Now it is quite interesting when – not only Ebrahim Rasool, also Leonard Ramatlakane.

It is quite interesting [Interjections.] ... it is quite interesting [Interjections.], hon Speaker, in this House when you know, hon members, raise from the ANC [Interjections.], from the ANC raise ...[Interjections.] The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The PREMIER: ... their own members ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The PREMIER: ... and of course referring to the then Premier Rasool, who was actually standing in this very seat that I stand in now, but it is his party that fired

him. His party that chucked him out, but we got to remember why. Why did his party chuck him out? [Interjections.] Did he forget about the brown envelopes [Interjections.] and all the funny business that went on? It was the right thing to do was to fire him and then let us think about Leonard Ramatlakane. [Interjections.]

Do you know Leonard Ramatlakane, that was also a really interesting time to be in this House. [Interjections.] When I was in this House and I was on that side of the table ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, please take your seat.

Hon Sayed, is that a point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: Hon Chair, on a point of order, hon Chair. Is that part of the Premier's notebook or is it showing a poster? [Interjections.] The Premier showing a poster. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: He is showing us a poster like the hon Doctor did, but he is still within his speaking time [Interjections.], although we do agree with the poster. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Alright. Hon member Sayed, that is not [Interjections.] – hon members!

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP [ANC]: [Inaudible.] to apply to the province. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, that is not a point of order. Hon member Dugmore? [Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: Hon Speaker, you are the Speaker of this House and earlier on when the MEC, who is often absent, was holding up his little poster, it was very clear.

Now the Premier is being disingenuous here. I think he knows that the DA is going to get 40% or less and he is holding up a poster there ...[Interjections.] The SPEAKER: What is your point of order, hon Dugmore?

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: ... because the latest polls indicate that ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore, what ...[Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: ... the ANC will get more than 50%, but you are allowing that to happen. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore, I ... [Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: You are allowing that to happen.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore, firstly – hon members, let me address this.

I did not make a ruling about a poster earlier on. The ruling I made was that the time of the Minister at that particular point had expired. [Interjections.] So at that point whatever the Minister read or said was not considered.

Hon Premier, I see you.

The PREMIER: Thank you ...[Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: [Inaudible.] he is holding it up again. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore. [Interjections.] Hon member Dugmore, I do not see a poster being held up in this House. [Interjections.] Hon member Dugmore, what is your point of order?

The LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: [Inaudible.] see it, there he is holding up a poster. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon [Interjections.] ... Alright, so ... okay. Please take your seat, hon member Dugmore. [Interjections.]

Can I please ask that the hon member standing please take your seat. I have already ruled on that matter. I said the reason why the Minister earlier on, I did not allow that because his time expired. I made no ruling on the fact that there are posters.

The posters, there is no Rule that says you cannot have a poster. The Rule does say [Interjections.], the Rule, however, does say once [Interjections.] ... I am still on the floor. [Interjections.]

What I need to say is that once a poster affects the decorum of this House that is a completely different discussion. [Interjections.]

Myself as the Presiding Officer.

Hon Premier, you may continue. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker, and obviously, I mean this is my, these are my notes and the back page of my notes happens to be looking like that and I, and if it does offend people I will take it off [Interjections.] and there we go.

An HON MEMBER: Ja.

The PREMIER: And if it does offend people, I will take it off ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): For the province.

The PREMIER: And there we go.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: For the province? Who said for the province?

The PREMIER: And I believe those numbers are wrong anyway because now it has dropped from 40% to 37%. [Interjections.] But hon Speaker, so I was speaking about Rasool being removed by the ANC because of brown envelopes and if we remember in that time with Ramatlakane who was also raised in this House. He was an hon member of this House. He sat a little bit further down on this Government side. But if you remember the reason that he was removed is that he drove an ML Mercedes Benz. It was his own car and he used to claim mileage every single month and it was amazing. I think he paid his car off three times in one year from the amount of money that he claimed.

One thing that was good, I mean, he was fired, so that was great, but the one thing that came out of it was the change of policy in this Government. So, we do not allow people to buy fancy cars and claim it back from the Government. That is not allowed. It is removed from our Handbook. So, that was at least one good thing that came about or came from it. But the interesting thing, it was again, the ANC that fired him. Not necessarily directly so, but it was the ANC that gave us all of the information on their colleagues who were abusing the taxpayers' money.

So, hon Speaker, I want to then move on to the hon Dugmore. The hon Dugmore was raising issues, first of all yesterday, about [Interjections.] Thank you very much. I have just heard an hon members say, 'please speak about the issues.' I am speaking about an issue that was raised by the Leader of the Opposition yesterday, a specific issue of connectivity. He said again, 'no connection in Oudtshoorn. No WiFi hotspots in Oudtshoorn.' ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: It is true.

The PREMIER: So, let me tell him that there are 34 WiFi hotspots in Oudtshoorn ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: I am not talking about the municipality when I said ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: There are 54 (sic) WiFi hotspots in Oudtshoorn. I have got a list of every single one of those hotspots in Oudtshoorn. [Interjections.] I have also got a GIS map of all of the hotspots. You can go onto the website, hon Speaker, and you can go and have a look at where those hotspots are. [Interjections.] You can go and see which street they are in 34. He says there is not one! ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: I said the municipalities.

The PREMIER: I said 34.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Is it municipality

...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: This Government – this Government rolls out [Interjections.] WiFi hotspots across our province to every single municipality and we are there for the citizens of this province. We now have ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Hon Speaker?

The SPEAKER: Hon members! Order, hon members. Hon Dugmore, I have asked you previously to not get into a dialogue with the hon Premier. The hon Premier is replying to input delivered by hon members of this House. Whether you like the response or not, there will be another opportunity for you to rebut that. [Interjections.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Hon Speaker, could I ask whether the hon Premier will accept a question?

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, are you prepared to accept a question[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): On Speaker, on a point of order?

The SPEAKER: ...but before you do so, I see the hon Deputy Chief Whip. Is that a point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you. In terms of Rule 66 (3)(a), I want to know whether it is parliamentary practice to allow a political party logo in the Western Cape Provincial Parliament House. [Laughter.]

The SPEAKER: That is ... [Laughter.] That is not allowed. [Interjections.]

Hon MEMBERS: Tear off! [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Deputy Chief Whip.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker, because on every page, so far I have seen, there are printed logos and while you have allowed process in the House, my understanding is that logos of political parties are not allowed in this House. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: That is absolutely correct. Hon members, can I please ask that no display of party political is displayed within the House. [Interjections.] Thank you very much. Hon Premier, hon Dugmore is going to pose a question to you.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you, hon Speaker. In the light of my interjection yesterday which said that there is no WiFi at the Oudtshoorn Municipality and at the Cederberg Municipality. [Interjections.] I would like to ask the hon Premier: ...[Interjections.] is the Oudtshoorn Municipality ...[Interjections.] I would like to ask the hon Premier: ...[Interjections.] is the Oudtshoorn Municipality ...[Interjections.] I would like to ask the hon Premier ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! [Interjections.] The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Can he give ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, order!

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Can he give this House the assurance that when a member of the public goes into the Oudtshoorn Municipality or the Cederberg Municipality, that there is public WiFi. Can he tell this House 'yes' or 'no'? [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier? [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Thank you, thank you very much. I was just quickly looking here, but I mean, I saw the Oudtshoorn Traffic Department has got, the Oudtshoorn – I mean, I will give this to the hon member, but it has got all of these things. I am not going to sit down and go through each and every one. But also remember, this is Western Cape Government WiFi that we roll out to the 1 440 spots, but where the hon member is talking about in a local government space, I would need to go and have a look at that. I want to – but then he did say yesterday that there are no WiFi hotspots in Oudtshoorn, which is absolutely untrue. There are 34. [Interjections.]

Then, I would like to address this House on crime. I would like to address this House who have lots to say, especially from the Opposition, when we talk about the Safety Plan, when we talk about data, when we talk about evidence, but also and perhaps where I will start off with: criminal activity that takes place that we have to address in our country. People in our country are embedding criminal behaviour, extortion in everything that we do, and it is interesting to see how that gets supported from this side of the House. But perhaps, before I get there, it was quite interesting when you ruled about 'no political logos'. I do not know how a political party feels when people sitting in the House start ripping up their political logos ...[Interjections.] but I saw them doing it on that side of the House. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members. Order, hon members. [Interjections.] The PREMIER: But I want to, I want [Interjections.] Hon Speaker, I want to address, and it was not raised in the debate, but it was part of the interjections that heard, specifically when hon Minister Maynier was talking about the thuggery that is happening at the moment and the extortion, and the abuse of school children. The abuse of learners in a space where learners are hiding in footwells of vehicles, where parents are too scared that the taxi industries are going to rip people out of the car or the bus. That is unacceptable. That is thuggery. That is a mafia style doing of business. And I heard from this side of the House at that time, that said ...[Interjections.] that said, and I wrote it down, 'but these are business people.' Well, that is not how you do business, definitely not how you do business.

When you do business and you have a process of saying [Interjections.] we are opening a tender process on school transport ...[Interjections.], then business people can make application and can be awarded tenders to transport people. That is how you do business. You do not use our children as hostages

...[Interjections.] because you did not get a contract, because you did not get a tender. That is totally unacceptable! The hon Maynier is not here right now ...[Interjections.] because he is in court getting an interdict against these thugs from playing mafia-style business ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: You call them mafia ...[Audio distortion.] terrible the mafia. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier.

The PREMIER: He is getting an interdict against these thugs ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

The PREMIER: ...in the taxi industry ...[Interjections.] and the taxi industry themselves should actually step away and stand up and say whether they are part of this thuggery or not ...[Interjections.] because that is not the way to do business at all. And, of course, that is about extortion, corruption ...[Interjections.] that we see in our country, this rot that moves through across the country. This is the crime that citizens talk about when you crisscross this province, and you talk to them and you listen to them. They say, 'to help us with loadshedding' and then they say, 'help us with crime.' And that is why the hon member's question ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Honourable ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: ...about devolution is so very, very important. ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, please take your seat. Hon Mvimbi, is that a point of order?

Mr L L MVIMBI: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Ja, I do not know. Is the hon Premier willing to take a question?

The PREMIER: Not this time. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Mvimbi ...[Interjections.] hon Mvimbi, please. Hon members, the hon Premier is not prepared to take a question. Hon Premier, you can continue. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Thank you, hon Speaker. I have a lot to say from interjections. I am just sorry that their Whippery did not give them a chance to speak in this debate. They obviously wanted to say something. [Interjections.]

But it is the second most raised issue in our region, in our province. It is called crime and we have to address it. That is why I believe in devolution of power. That is why we put a Safety Plan together and you know, it is interesting ...[Interjections.] it is interesting when you hear the most objection from the ANC is where things are really hurting them or where the ANC ...[Interjections.] where the ANC knows that this Government is perhaps stepping into their mandate because they are failing so badly, and that is the Safety Plan. That is the Safety Plan which is the only ...[Interjections.] the only provincial

intervention in this country where we are seeing the start of a reduction in murder. [Interjections.] The only intervention!

But it is interesting. I do not know how many times I have heard in the last day and a half, people in this House going, 'what Safety Plan? Where is the Safety Plan?' And I do not know how many years they have been in this House. There is a poster there that says: where is your Safety Plan? Can I ask the Table to please deliver that to the hon member? There is the Safety Plan. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members. Order! [Interjections.] Order. [Interjections.] Order, hon members. Hon Premier, you can continue.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much. Hon Speaker ...[Interjections.] Hon Speaker, the Safety Plan was implemented in this province because we do not have sufficient powers to really make the difference, and we had to step above and beyond. We had to work out what should we be doing differently to turn the murder rate around. Yesterday, I spent a lot of time talking about how the murder rate continues to grow and in actual fact, it is really shocking when you talk about 26 000 people murdered in this country ...[Interjections.] 26 000 people, through you, hon Speaker ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, please take your seat. [Interjections.] Hon Kama? [Interjections.] Hon Kama and hon Bosman, can I please ask you to allow the hon Premier to reply and respect the decorum of the House. [Interjections.] Hon members, are you done? [Interjections.] Clearly not. [Interjections.] Hon members of the ANC, hon members on my left, are you done conversing? [Interjections.] Thank you, hon Premier, I see you.

The PREMIER: Thank you. Can you just listen to the last few minutes of the comments coming from the ANC. They do not take seriously 26 000 murders a year in our country. They do not take it seriously at all. [Interjections.] More than double digit increases every single year in murder ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Please, do not work with that. Western Cape ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, please take your seat. Hon Kama, is that a point of order?

Mr M KAMA: No, hon Speaker, it is not a point of order. I want to check if the hon Premier is willing to take a question. [Interjections.] No. No, thank you.

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, can you speak through the Chair not directly to the hon member.

Mr M KAMA: Yes. No, thank you very much, hon Speaker and it is actually shocking that we still have a working document. Now, I want to understand from the hon Premier because when he made this pronouncement about the Safety Plan, he spoke of an integrated approach which is what the ANC would have been calling for all the time, and he said that communities would need to be involved. Now, the understanding was that the Government is going to support communities to be involved.

Now, I want the hon Premier to explain how does it now work that immediately after the Safety Plan, we had Community Policing Forums that were no longer funded by the Department and even to this date, they are no longer funded. Only the DA-volunteers in the Neighbourhood Watch are receiving money. How does he then think that the community will be able to fully participate in fighting crime? Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Alright. Thank you, hon Kama. [Applause.] Hon Premier?

The PREMIER: Thank you very much and thank you for that question. But as a member of the Standing Committee on Community Safety, you know that that is not true that you have just said ...[Interjections.] because the Policing Forum do get money from this Government. Does that answer the question ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Honourable Premier, please take your seat. [Interjections.] Hon members, you have an hon member on the floor. There is a point of order.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Speaker, can the hon Premier please – he was doing well at the beginning – can he continue and speak directly to the Chairperson, not speak to our hon member here.

The SPEAKER: Can I please ask hon members ...[Interjections.] can I please ask that you respect the decorum of the House. I cannot ...[Interjections.] even count how many times I have appealed to you. Can you please – hon Sayed!

Hon members, we are nearing the end of this reply of a long one and a half days. There are other hon members in this House that also want to hear the reply. There are citizens that are waiting to hear the reply. You had an opportunity to engage the input of SOPA and it is only fair and right that the hon Premier be allowed to reply in whichever form or format that he chooses as an hon member of this House. I am not going to entertain any more frivolous points of orders that will break the reply of the hon Premier. Hon Premier?

The PREMIER: Thank you, hon Speaker and the hon member knows if he just goes and has a look, that that is totally untrue, that there is budget that goes to Community Policing Forums ...[Interjections.] and he will also know that there is also budget that goes to Neighbourhood Watches. But in both cases, they have to be registered and they have to make sure that they hold their AGMs, and that they have got their books in order because we do not just like Bambanani, pay political activists and using State and public money.

But coming back to another side comment which really is an interesting one that comes from the ANC because they made a comment on the working document and now obviously, they did not listen from day one. Because if you have a fixed plan and you do not change it ...[Interjections.] and you do not change it as the environment changes. [Interjections.] So, in actual fact, you would have seen changes in this document year on year as we revise and as we change how we spend money on safety of our citizens in this province, over and above the job that we are supposed to do, which is an oversight job. And that brings

me to this document, hon Speaker, and that is the P&P document.

By far, the best oversight document that exists in South Africa. No other province puts a document together like this. No other province has oversight of police stations, like this province does, of police stations in this province. And so much so, it was interesting that the hon Minister in the Presidency does not even know that the Philippi Police Station is actually under management of Public Works and under management of SAPS. He does not even know that. [Interjections.]

But the other thing that came to light in those debates, but also in these debates, it will be interesting to know how many cameras because I hear the[Interjections.] the hon Minister of Police talking about cameras and cameras in Khayelitsha. Where are the cameras in Khayelitsha? Is that not what I hear so often? It will be interesting to know if the hon members in this House know how many cameras are in Khayelitsha? How many cameras are in Khayelitsha? There are 36 cameras in Khayelitsha. In the control room, and this is the report that came from the control room yesterday, and there are cameras that are off.

And the interesting thing is the cameras that are not operational are where there is a fibre break, where there are stolen cables and generally, it is on the PRASA property where that problem exists. And that is because there is zero management of PRASA of their property, of their assets. [Interjections.] That is why the trains do not work, that is why there are 13 000 people living in a rail reserve and that is why the promise of – I mean, the previous or the current, he is still the current Minister of Transport, soon to be deployed to Luthuli House. But he made a promise that this would be fixed by October last year. Quite frankly, what has happened? Nothing. The best they could do is hand out some food parcels to people that are living on the rail reserve. Totally unacceptable.

But let us get back to policing and comments that were coming from this side of the House when I spoke about the 1 200 LEAP officers deployed in this province. [Interjections.] Over and above those 1 200 police officers, what I heard was, 'but hang on a second, we are getting another 1 000 police officers coming into the system. SAPS are redeploying.' The one mistake that is made every single time by the Police Minister, who takes no responsibility for the 26 000 people who were murdered last year or the 4 000 people who were murdered in this province, that very same Police Minister who were the actual responsibility lies of deployment of police officers to police stations. And the police stations that hon members raise on this side of the House year after year, still do not get the deployment.

In 2018, we used to have 1:345 police officers in this -1 police officer to every 345 citizens. Right now, we have got 1 to every 378. So, since 2018 it has gotten worse and not better. So, they come along with selective numbers, an extra 1 000 policemen, but they do not talk about the 2 000 policemen who were retired, left the service, are not involved in crime fighting anymore. We lose more people in policing than we put back in again. And what happens as well? The ANC keep cutting the budget for Policing.

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They keep cutting the budget and that is why we have to make sure we get the devolution of power because if this Province had the power to decide where police officers get deployed to, we would deploy the police officers to Harare where the ratio is not 1:378, which is the norm in our province, it is now 1:879. That is where we will be deploying. We would deploy to Gugulethu where it is 1:773 or Samora Machel. Samora Machel was 1:778; Khayelitsha 1:628. That is totally unacceptable. I want to say to you, hon Chief Whip, exactly! That is shameful.

They do not care about how many people get murdered in this country ...[Interjections.] and what plans to do to turn that around. Every quarter, the numbers get worse. The increase keeps going up, except where this Plan is being enacted. [Interjections.] Now listen to them again. They have got no answer to 26 000 murders! Nothing, zero! They should hang their heads in shame. People in this country are getting murdered and they are doing nothing about it. [Interjections.]

I also heard a lot about rural areas from citizens here. You know, the most amazing thing is in Cloetesville in Stellenbosch. The police to population ratio is 1:1118. How shocking is that? And whose responsibility is it to allocate police officers where crime happens? The ANC and they are failing the people of this province. [Interjections.] They are failing the people of this country. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker ...[Interjections.] hon Speaker, I want to say that the one thing is evident in this province ...[Interjections.] and that is we put our money where our mouths are. We make choices based on what citizens tell us and what we pick up from the citizens. We make choices based on what we can do to make the biggest difference for citizens, to build a better province. To make sure that it gets better and better and not worse and worse. And that is why newspaper headline after newspaper headline, report after report comes out that shows a better government in this province than anywhere else in South Africa. [Interjections.] That is also why so many citizens of South Africa vote with their feet and move to this province, to our municipalities that are blue, to a province that is blue [Interjections.].The reason they do it is simple: they know that when they come to this province, they will get a better government ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

The PREMIER: They will get a more caring government. They will get a responsive government. They will get a government that makes a difference. They will get a government that gives them hope! [Applause.] That is why people come here in mass. That is why people leave the ANC.

So, next year, hon Speaker, when people have the choice again, in those provinces where the DA does not govern, they must vote the ANC out because do you see what happens when they voted the ANC out in this province, it made the biggest difference for the citizens ever. They need to do the same in every other province. [Applause.] Turn them into opposition. [Applause.] Thank you, hon Speaker. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you [Applause.] Thank you, hon Premier. [Interjections.] Hon members ...[Interjections.] hon members, hon Nkondlo! Hon members, ...[Interjections.] hon Chief Whip, that concludes the reply by the hon Premier on the State of the Province Address.

But before we adjourn, after the commencement of the Sitting yesterday, I announced the new hon members that have been sworn in during the recess. In this regard, I erroneously announced that a vacancy occurred due to the resignation of Mr M Mnqasela. This is incorrect, as he ceased to be a member of the WCPP due to the loss of his party membership. The record will thus reflect this correction. That concludes the business of the day. The House is adjourned.

House adjourned at 14:51

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLING AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

TUESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Speaker:

Change in membership of committees with effect from 21 February 2023 (*denotes a change):

1. Rules Committee*

Members: 10

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)	GOOD(1)
Mitchell, D G (C)	Lekker. P Z	Klaas, T M*	August, SN
Schäfer, B A	Sayed, M K		
Maseko, L M			
Baartman, D M			
Kaizer-Philander, W F			
Vacant			
Alternate Member	Alternate Members	Alternate Member	
America, D	Lili, A	Cassiem, A*	
Sileku, I	Bakubaku-Vos, N G		
	Dugmore, C M		

2. Programming Authority*

DA (6)	ANC (2)	EFF (1)	AL JAMA-AH
Kaizer-Philander, W F	Lekker, P Z	Cassiem, A*	Brinkhuis, K
Baartman, D M	Sayed, M K		

Maseko, L M Bosman, G Van der Westhuizen, A P Vacant			
Alternate Members America, D Murray, C Sileku, I Pretorius, G Plato, D Fry, C	Alternate Member Dugmore, C M	Alternate Member Klaas, T M	

3. Budget Committee

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	AL JAMA-AH (1)
Baartman, D M (C)	Mvimbi, L L	Brinkhuis, K
Murray, C		
Vacant		
Alternate Members	Alternate Members	
Fry, C	Nkondlo, N D	
Plato, D	Smith, D	
America, D		
Van der Westhuizen, A P		
Bosman, G		
Maseko, L M		
Pretorius, G		
Sileku, I		

4. Public Accounts Committee*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
America, D	Mvimbi, L L (C) Cassiem, A*
Sileku, I		
Maseko, L M		
Alternate Members	Alternate Members	Alternate Member
Baartman, D M	Nkondlo, N D	Klaas, T M*
Murray, C	Smith, D	
Bosman, G		
Fry, C		
Plato, D		
Van der Westhuizen, A P		
Pretorius, G		
Vacant		

5. Parliamentary Oversight Committee*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Kaizer-Philander, W F	Lekker, P Z	Cassiem, A*
Maseko, L M (C)	
Bosman, G		
Alternate Member	Alternate Members	Alternate Member
Baartman D M	Dugmore, C M	Klaas, TM*
Sileku, I		
Vacant		

6. Standing Committee on Health (Health)*

Members: 5

DA (3)		ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Pretorius, G	(C) *	Windvogel, R	Klaas, T M*
Fry, C			
Plato, D			
Alternate Members		Alternate Members	Alternate Member
Bosman, G		Bakubaku-Vos, N G	Cassiem, A*
Baartman, D M		Bans, A P	
		Lekker, P Z	

7. Standing Committee on Education (Education)

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	ACDP (1)	AL JAMA-AH
Baartman, D M (C)	Sayed, M K	Christians, F C	
Fry, C			
Plato, D			
Alternate Members	Alternate Member		Alternate Member
Bosman, G	Kama, M		Brinkhuis, K
Kaizer-Philander, W F			
Schäfer, B A			

8. Standing Committee on Social Development (Social Development)*

DA (3)		ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Plato, D	(C)	Bakubaku-Vos, N G	Cassiem, A*
Bosman, G			
Fry, C			
Alternate Members		Alternate Members	Alternate Member
Baartman, D M		Lekker, P Z	Klaas, T M*
Pretorius, G		Windvogel, R	
		Bans, A P	

9. Standing Committee on Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport (Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport) *

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF	FF PLUS (1)	ACDP (1)	ALJAMA-AH
Bosman, G C) Baartman, D M Pretorius, G	Community Safety Bans, A P	_		Community Safety Christians, F C	
	Cultural Affairs and Sport Kama, M		Cultural Affairs and Sport Marais, P J		
Alternate Members Fry, C Plato, D	Alternate Members Community Safety Lekker, P Z Windvogel, R Kama, M	Alternate Member Cassiem, A*			Alternate Member Brinkhuis, K
	Cultural Affairs and Sport Windvogel, R Lekker, PZ Bans, A				

10. Standing Committee on the Premier and Constitutional Matters (*Premier*)*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Fry, C (C) Baartman, D M Pretorius, G	Dugmore, C M	Klaas, T M*
Alternate Members Bosman, G Plato, D	Alternate Member Lekker, P Z	Alternate Member Cassiem, A*

11. Standing Committee on Human Settlements *

DA (3)	ANC (1)	GOOD (1)	EFF
Maseko, L M (C) Sileku, I Plato, D	Lili, A	August, S N	_

Alternate Members	Alternate Members	Alternate Member
Murray, C	Marran, P	Klaas, TM*
Van der Westhuizen, AP	Smith, D	
Schäfer, BA	Kama, M	
Vacant		

12. Standing Committee on Finance, Economic Opportunities and Tourism

(Provincial Treasury, Economic Development and Tourism)

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	AL JAMA-AH	EFF
Murray, C (C)	Nkondlo, N D	(1) Brinkhuis, K	
Van der Westhuizen, A P Vacant		Difficilities, R	
Alternate Members America, D Maseko, L M Schäfer, B A	Alternate Members Mvimbi, L L Bans, A P		Alternate Member

13. Standing Committee on Local Government (Local Government, Local Government Oversight and National Council of Provinces)*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
America, D (C) Maseko, L M Sileku, I	Dugmore, C M	Klaas, TM*
Alternate Members Van der Westhuizen, A P Murray, C Vacant	Alternate Members Marran, P Lili, A	Alternate Member Cassiem, A*

14. Standing Committee on Transport and Public Works (Transport and Public Works)*

DA (3)	ANC (1)	GOOD(1)
Van der Westhuizen, A P	Mvimbi, L L	August, S N
Sileku I		
America, D*		
Alternate Members	Alternate Members	
Maseko, L M	Nkondlo, N D	
Murray, C	Dugmore, C M	
	_	

15. Standing Committee on Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning)

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	GOOD (1)	FF PLUS (1)
Van der Westhuizen, A P	Marran, P	Environmental	Agriculture
(C)		Affairs and	Marais, PJ
America, D		Development	
Murray, C		Planning	
		August, S N	
Alternate Member	Alternate		
Maseko, L M	Members		
Sileku, I	Smith, D		
Vacant	Lili, A		

16. Conduct Committee*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	AL JAMA-AH	EFF(1)
Kaizer-Philander, W F (C) Baartman, D M	Lekker, P Z		Klaas, TM*
America, D Alternate Member	Alternate Member	Alternate Member	
Alternate Member	Alternate Member		
Bosman, G	Bans A P	Brinkhuis, K	

17. Petitions Committee*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Plato, D (C)	Sayed, M K	Cassiem, A*
Fry, C		
Bosman, G		
Alternate Members	Alternate Members	Alternate Member
Baartman, D M	Kama, M	Klaas, T M*
Pretorius, G	Lili, A	

TUESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2023

TABLING

The Speaker:

1. Tabling of document in terms of section 121(2) of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, 2003 (Act 56 of 2003):

Stellenbosch Municipality:

Draft Annual Report for 2021/22.

TUESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Speaker:

Referral of document to committee in terms of section 54(1) and (2) of the Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act, 2009 (Act 10 of 2009), as amended:

Parliamentary Oversight Committee

Western Cape Provincial Parliament – In-year Monitoring Report as at 31 January 2023.

TABLINGS

The Speaker:

Tabling of document in terms of section 54(1) and (2) of the Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act, 2009 (Act 10 of 2009), as amended:

Western Cape Provincial Parliament – In-year Monitoring Report as at 31 January 2023.

THURSDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Speaker:

Change in membership of committees with effect from 23 February 2023 (* denotes a change):

Standing Committee on Local Government (Local Government, Local Government Oversight and National Council of Provinces)* Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Sileku, I	Dugmore, C M	Klaas, T M
Maseko, L M	-	
Murray, C*		
Alternate Members	Alternate Members	Alternate Member
Van der Westhuizen, A P	Marran, P	Cassiem, A
America, D*	Lili, A	

FRIDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Speaker:

Referral of bills to committees in accordance with Rule 217:

1. Standing Committee on Transport and Public Works and Standing Committee on Human Settlements

Expropriation Bill [B 23B–2020], NCOP (proposed section 76(1) Bill).

2. Standing Committee on Social Development

Fund-Raising Amendment Bill [B 29B–2020], NCOP (proposed section 76(1) Bill).

TABLING

The Speaker:

Bills received from the National Council of Provinces and tabled in accordance with Rule 217:

1. Expropriation Bill [B 23B–2020], NCOP (proposed section 76(1) Bill)

2. Fund-Raising Amendment Bill [B 29B–2020], NCOP (proposed section 76(1) Bill)

MONDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Speaker:

Substitution of designations of the Western Cape provincial departments and the heads thereof

Publication of the designations of the Western Cape provincial departments and the heads thereof in the *Government Gazette* No 48103, dated 23 February 2023.

TABLING

Minister of Social Development

Correction to the 2021/22 Annual Report

Erratum in the Annual Report of the Department of Social Development: Onpage29, in Annexure A, the subtotal for Subprogramme 5.4 Sub-Dir:

Sustainable Livelihood, under the column named "Amount transferred (BAS)", is replaced with the following: R57 261 636.

MONDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Speaker:

Change in membership of committees with effect from 27 February 2023 (* denotes a change):

1. Rules Committee*

Members: 10

DA (6)	ANC (2)	EFF (1)	GOOD (1)
Mitchell, DG (C)	Lekker, P Z	Klaas, T M	August, S N
Schäfer, B A	Sayed, M K		
Maseko, L M			
Baartman, D M			
Kaizer-Philander, W F			
Bosman, G*			
Alternate Member	Alternate Members	Alternate Member	
America, D	Lili, A	Cassiem, A	
Sileku, I	Bakubaku-Vos, N G		
Van der Westhuizen A P*	Dugmore, C M		

2. **Programming Authority***

Members: 10

DA (6)	ANC (2)	EFF (1)	AL JAMA-AH (1)
Kaizer-Philander, W F (C) Baartman, D M Maseko, L M Bosman, G Van der Westhuizen, A P Sileku, I*	Lekker, P Z Sayed, M K	Cassiem, A	Brinkhuis, K
Alternate Members America, D Murray, C Pretorius, G Plato, D Fry, C	Alternate Member Dugmore, C M	Alternate Member Klaas, T M	

3. Budget Committee*

DA (3) ANC (1) AL JAMA-AH (1)

Baartman, D M (C)	Mvimbi, L L	Brinkhuis, K
Murray, C		
America, D*		
Alternate Members	Alternate Members	
Fry, C	Nkondlo, N D	
Plato, D	Smith, D	
Van der Westhuizen, A P		
Bosman, G		
Maseko, L M		
Pretorius, G		
Sileku, I		

4. Public Accounts Committee

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
America, D	Mvimbi, L L (C)	Cassiem, A
Sileku, I		
Maseko, L M		
Alternate Members	Alternate Members	Alternate Member
Baartman, D M	Nkondlo, N D	Klaas, T M
Murray, C	Smith, D	
Bosman, G		
Fry, C		
Plato, D		
Van der Westhuizen, A P		
Pretorius, G		

5. Parliamentary Oversight Committee*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Kaizer-Philander, W F Maseko, L M (C) Bosman, G	Lekker, P Z	Cassiem, A
Alternate Members Baartman D M Sileku, I Van der Westhuizen, A P*	Alternate Member Dugmore, C M	Alternate Member Klaas, T M

6. Standing Committee on Health (Health)*

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Pretorius, G (C) Fry, C Plato, D	Windvogel, R	Klaas, T M

Alternate Members	Alternate Members	Alternate Member
Bosman, G	Bakubaku-Vos, N G	Cassiem, A
Baartman, D M	Bans, A P	
	Lekker, P Z	

7. Standing Committee on Education (Education)*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	ACDP (1)	AL JAMA-AH
Baartman, D M (C) Fry, C Plato, D	Sayed, M K	Christians, F C	
Alternate Members Bosman, G Pretorius, G*	Alternate Member Kama, M		Alternate Member Brinkhuis, K

8. Standing Committee on Social Development (Social Development)*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Plato, D (C)	Bakubaku-Vos, N G	Cassiem, A
Bosman, G		
Fry, C		
Alternate Members	Alternate Members	Alternate Member
Baartman, D M	Lekker, P Z	Klaas, T M
Pretorius, G	Windvogel, R	
	Bans, A P	

9. Standing Committee on Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport (Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport)*

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF	FF PLUS (1)	ACDP (1)	AL JAMA- AH
Bosman, G (C) Baartman, D M Pretorius, G	Community Safety Bans, A P Cultural Affairs and Sport Kama, M		Cultural Affairs and Sport Marais, P J	Community Safety Christians, F C	
Alternate Members Fry, C Plato, D	Alternate Members Community Safety Lekker, P Z	Alternate Member Cassiem, A	—		Alternate Member Brinkhuis, K

Windvogel, R Kama, M		
Cultural Affairs and Sport		
Windvogel, R Lekker, P Z Bans, A P		

10. Standing Committee on the Premier and Constitutional Matters (*Premier*)*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Fry, C (C) Baartman, D M Pretorius, G	Dugmore, C M	Klaas, T M
Alternate Members Bosman, G Plato, D	Alternate Member Lekker, P Z	Alternate Member Cassiem, A

11. Standing Committee on Human Settlements*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	GOOD (1)	EFF
Maseko, L M (C)	Lili, A	August, S N	
Sileku, I			
Murray, C*			
Alternate Members	Alternate Members		Alternate Member
Van der Westhuizen, A P	Marran, P		Klaas, T M
America, D*	Smith, D		
	Kama, M		

12. Standing Committee on Finance, Economic Opportunities and Tourism (*Provincial Treasury, Economic Development and Tourism*)

DA (3)	ANC (1)	AL JAMA- AH (1)	EFF
Murray, C (C) Van der Westhuizen, A P Sileku, I*	Nkondlo, N D	Brinkhuis, K	
Alternate Members America, D Maseko, L M	Alternate Members Mvimbi, L L Bans, A P		Alternate Member

13. Standing Committee on Local Government (Local Government, Local Government Oversight and National Council of Provinces)*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Sileku, I (C)*	Dugmore, C M	Klaas, T M
Maseko, L M		
Murray, C*		
Alternate Members	Alternate Members	Alternate Member
Van der Westhuizen, A P	Marran, P	Cassiem, A
America, D	Lili, A	

14. Standing Committee on Transport and Public Works (*Transport and Public Works*)*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	GOOD (1)
America, D (C) *	Mvimbi, L L	August, S N
Van der Westhuizen, A P		
Sileku I		
Alternate Members	Alternate Members	
Maseko, L M	Nkondlo, N D	
Murray, C	Dugmore, C M	

15. Standing Committee on Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning (Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning)

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	GOOD (1)	FF PLUS (1)
Van der Westhuizen, A P	Marran, P	Environmental	Agriculture
(C)		Affairs and	Marais, P J
America, D		Development	
Murray, C		Planning	
	Alternate	August, S N	
Alternate Members	Members		
Maseko, L M	Smith, D		
Sileku, I	Lili, A		
Vacant			

16. Conduct Committee*

DA (3)	ANC (1)	AL JAMA-AH	EFF (1)
Kaizer-Philander, W F (C)	Lekker, P Z		Klaas, T M
Baartman, D M			
America, D			

Alternate Member	Alternate Member	Alternate Member
Bosman, G	Bans, A P	Brinkhuis, K

17. Petitions Committee*

Members: 5

DA (3)	ANC (1)	EFF (1)
Plato, D (C)	Sayed, M K	Cassiem, A
Fry, C		
Bosman, G		
Alternate Members	Alternate Members	Alternate Member
Baartman, D M	Kama, M	Klaas, T M
Pretorius, G	Lili, A	

18. Ad-hoc Committee – TB-related matters *

Kaizer-Philander, WFWindvogel, RKlaas, TAugust, SNChristians, FCMarais, P JBrinkhuis, K(C) Baartman, DM Pretorius, G* Plato, D Fry, C Murray, C Van der Westhuizen, A P Bosman, GMarais, NMarais, KBrinkhuis, K	Members: 15 DA (8)	ANC (2)	EFF (1)	GOOD (1)	ACDP (1)	FF PLUS (1)	AL JAMAAH (1)
Alternate Members America, D	WF (C) Baartman, DM Pretorius, G* Plato, D Fry, C Murray, C Van der Westhuizen, A P Bosman, G Alternate Members	R	Т			,	,

INTERPELLATIONS,

QUESTIONS AND REPLIES

INTERPELLATIONS

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN REPLY

Disposal of confiscated fauna and flora

1. Mr A P van der Westhuizen to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:

(a) What is his Department's position on the disposal of confiscated fauna and flora, particularly the auctioning of abalone as confiscated by the South African Police Service, and (b) what has his Department done, or what is it planning to do, to influence and possibly convince other role players of the Department's position on the auctioning of confiscated wildlife or wildlife products?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING:

a. CapeNature deals with seized items (excluding abalone and other marine species) in term of the Nature Conservation Ordinance and follows an approved Standard Operating Procedure: Handling and Disposal of goods originating from Criminal Enforcement Actions (2018). Goods/items seized by CapeNature during criminal enforcement actions fall into three broad categories namely: (1) perishable goods, (2) non-perishable goods, and (3) live animals, and includes items (excluding abalone and other marine species) seized by SAPS, which are handed to CapeNature for disposal.

The following methods of disposal are considered and used to dispose of seized goods:

- Permanent placement of (live) plants or wild animals at an appropriate facility, subject to permit conditions.
- Donation to appropriate facilities, subject to permit conditions (SANBI Kirstenbosch).
- Sale by offers to purchase.
- Permanent storage [non-perishable goods, (rhino horns)]; and
- Euthanasia /destruction.

Seized abalone is dealt with in terms of the Marine Living Resources Act and is solely a national competency. When abalone is seized, typically by an investigating officer, SAPS signs over the seized products to the relevant branch at the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE): Oceans and Coasts, for their disposal). Where CapeNature have seized abalone, it is handed over to SAPS.

b. CapeNature's position is to not sell any seized wildlife, except for where large amounts of fresh products that cannot be placed in storge, are sold. Examples: CapeNature seized 88 000 fresh Protea repens flowers or in hunting cases where CapeNature seized large amounts of animal carcasses (17 eland carcasses). These goods are then sold by soliciting offers to purchase from businesses trading with the product.

Impact of load-shedding on the Agricultural sector

2. Mr A P van der Westhuizen to ask Dr I H Meyer, Minister of Agriculture:

(a) What has been the impact of load-shedding on the agricultural sector in the province,

(b) what support is available to affected farmers from the (i) national government and (ii) Western Cape Government to overcome the effects of load-shedding and (c) what will be the impact on food security and food prices if load-shedding continues at (i) the current high levels or (ii) stages higher than stage 6?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) One of the key ingredients of the international competitiveness of the Western Cape Agricultural Sector is the sanctity of the cold chain for fresh produce. Once the product has been received in the packing facility, the temperature of the product is not allowed to move beyond very specific tolerance levels until it is purchased by the consumer. Indeed, temperatures are monitored and recorded throughout the value chain and is available to all participants throughout the process. Any discrepancy will lead to the rejection of a whole consignment. It follows that loadshedding does not only lead to physical disruptions and inconveniencies during value adding (e.g. stopping sorting machines, interrupting processes, cleaning jam pots, time to stop or start processes, etc.), but will inevitably undermine the quality of products and international competitiveness of the Sector.

The impact is not only limited to agri-processing and value adding, but also on food production itself. Of concern is that irrigation systems will not be able to cope with water demand needs of plants during summer months given loadshedding at levels four and above. Irrigation systems were just not designed to provide enough water to plants when daytime temperatures approach 40°C and loadshedding means that the system cannot operate for eight or more hours per day. Hence, the implication is that, other than during Covid-19, the very resources (i.e. orchards, vineyards, etc.) of production may be damaged as a result of loadshedding. Keep in mind that there are currently 181 233 hectares planted to permanent crops in the Western Cape Province and that the replacement value of these permanent plantings can conservatively calculated at R60,8 billion (i.e. to replace something we already have).

It follows that:

- The destruction of the production capacity will lead to food shortages. This, in turn, will lead to higher prices, household food insecurity and social unrest.
- The Western Cape is now in the summer months and the highest temperatures are expected in January and February. If the summer of the Northern Hemisphere is anything to go by, then record temperatures will probably be recorded.

- The harvesting season for stone fruit is in full swing and that for pome fruit and grapes are just starting. It follows that any disruption in energy supply will have a major impact on the quality of the harvest as well as the whole cold chain.
- At an agri processing facility the downtime is not only equal to the load shedding period, but certain processes have to be completed in totality. For instance, a pot of jam or a batch of bread has to completed without interruption with the result that the time between scheduled load shedding events determine the production schedule. Hence, if there are only four hours between load shedding events, the maximum process which can be implemented (including start-up and cleaning afterwards) cannot exceed four hours.
- (i) Up do date no support has been forthcoming from National Government (ii) Although no financial interventions have been provided at provincial level, the Western Cape Department of Agriculture did engage the Sector in order to identify the true impact of load shedding on the Sector. As a result of this engagement two research projects is in the process of being commissioned with the one focussing on macro level impacts and the other on the on-farm implications of load shedding. The results from these projects will be used to engage Eskom and other spheres of government to create a more manageable energy environment for the Sector.
- (i) During the engagements with representatives from the Agricultural and Agri-Processing Sector, industry role-players indicated that farming could continue up to stage 3 of load shedding, but not after that. On the value adding side packaging and cold storage cannot continue after level 1. Although on-farm electricity generation (by using diesel generators) is possible, its cost is prohibitive; whereas the average Ceres farm has an electricity bill of R400 000 per month, the energy bill is over R1 million per month at stage 2 load shedding if diesel is to be used to generate electricity.

(ii) From the above it can be deducted that continuous load shedding at stages 6 and higher will have a devastating effect on farming and that it will undermine the competitiveness and the long-term sustainability of the Sector.

Arrivals at the Cape Town International Airport (CTIA)

3. Ms C Murray to ask Ms M M Wenger, Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities:

- How does the number of (a) international and (b) domestic arrivals at the Cape Town International Airport (CTIA) in (i) November and (ii) December 2022 compare with the number of arrivals in the same period in (aa) 2019 and (bb) 2021;
- (2) (a) which factors contributed significantly to any increase or decrease in the number of arrivals, (b) what efforts have been made by the Western Cape Government to support the CTIA in ensuring first-time visitors have a seamless and pleasant travel experience and (c) of those international visitors, (i) how many

are projected to be

(3) returning or (ii) are recurring visitors compared with first-time visitors and (iii) how does this compare with the same period in (aa) 2019 and (bb) 2021?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES:

(a) According to data published by the Airports Company of South Africa (ACSA), Cape Town International Airport (CTIA) received 100,959 and 131,599 international arrivals in November and December 2022 respectively. This was 87% and 98% of arrivals when compared to the same period in 2019. In December 2021 there were 38,792 arrivals and in November 2021, 47,413 arrivals. This means that December 2022 saw a 339% increase on 2021 arrivals and November 2022 an increase of 213% on 2021 arrivals. Fig.1 below provides a summary of arrivals, highlighting the positive recovery in international arrivals.

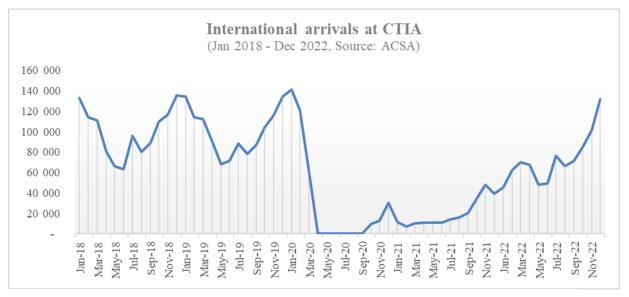


Fig 1. International arrivals at CTIA (Source: ACSA)

In terms of domestic arrivals, CTIA received 253,477 and 294,749 domestic arrivals in November and December 2022 respectively. The figures represent a 74% and 72% recovery rate on 2019 figures for November and December respectively and a 95% and 109% recovery on 2021 figures. Recovery in domestic arrivals has been slower than recovery in international arrivals due to factors including supply constraints and the resulting price pressures.

Fig. 2 provides a summary of domestic arrivals at CTIA between 2018 and 2022.

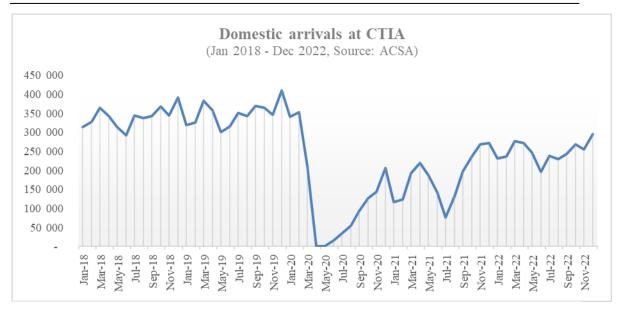


Fig 2. Domestic arrivals at CTIA (Source: ACSA)

- a. International recovery continues to be driven by positive demand from the Western Cape's traditional European and North American markets on the back of the easing of COVID-19 travel restrictions. In addition, Wesgro and its partners, through Cape Town Air Access (CTAA), have worked hard to re-establish air links and expand air connectivity to new destinations. This work continues to yield results. For example, in the current financial year to date, CTAA has secured four new air routes and three new airlines to the Western Cape. In the case of domestic recovery, recovery is dampened by supply constraints in the South African domestic market. We are likely to see noticeable improvements as airlines add more capacity to routes.
- b. To assist first-time travellers, ground staff of ACSA and Cape Town Tourism are on hand to assist with gueries. Support provided by the Western Cape Government to ACSA includes the deployment of 42 learners (28 learners have already been placed with a further 14 learners to be deployed in February) funded by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, who have been placed at CTIA to assist with general tasks in and around the airport. Furthermore, DEDAT's Artisan Development Programme is also working with ACSA to place apprenticeship candidates at CTIA to provide work experience to these beneficiaries. DEDAT also works closely with the National Department of Tourism to coordinate the deployment of tourism safety monitors at the airport. In addition, Cape Town Air Access works closely with ACSA to support airlines through marketing activations and other events. DEDAT also continues to monitor the roll out of the electronic gates (e-gates) for South African passport holders at CTIA. These gates were first piloted in 2019 but have experienced some operational challenges in recent months. DEDAT has and will continue to actively engage the

Department of Home Affairs on these concerns and will continue to follow-up when required.

c. Data on repeat visitation is not yet available for 2022 as this is reported on by South African Tourism. In 2021, 41.5% of visitors to the Western Cape were first-time visitors, 10.8% had visited between 2 and 3 times, 6% had visited more than 10 times and 5.8% have visited between 6 and 9 times (Wesgro, 2022).

Diep River Estuary Management Plan

4. Ms C Murray to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:

With regard to the Diep River Estuary Management Plan adopted by the City of Cape Town Council last year:

Whether the plan has been submitted to his office; if so, (a) what steps have been and will be taken to ensure its approval in accordance with part 9 of the National Estuarine Management Protocol and (b) what are the associated timelines?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING:

• The Diep River Estuary Management Plan (EMP) has been submitted to the Department.

(a) The Department has supported the City of Cape Town in the development of the EMP and has commented on the published draft. The Department has acknowledged receipt of the EMP which was submitted by the City of Cape Town on 17th January 2023 and is evaluating the submission in terms of the technical requirements of the National Estuarine Management Protocol (2021) (NEMP) and more specifically, as set out in section 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the NEMP.

(b) In terms of the NEMP, section 9(1) "(a) Where an EMP has been developed by a Provincial Lead Agency for the ICM Act, a provincial conservation agency, a provincial environmental department, municipality by agreement with the province, the EMP must be submitted to the MEC responsible for environmental affairs in the relevant Province for approval;" . Should the Diep River EMP meet all the requirements as set out in sections 5-8, the MEC will approve the EMP and hand over the approved document to the City of Cape Town for the integration into their Spatial Plans and Integrated Development Plan. The expected timeframe for approval by Minister Bredell is within this financial year.

5. Ms C Murray to ask Mr A R Winde, Premier:

With regard to the current electricity crisis:

(a) What has been the effect of load-shedding on service delivery in each department of the Western Cape Government in (i) 2020, (ii) 2021, (iii) 2022 and (iv) 2023 to date and (b)(i) what mitigation measures have been taken by the departments of the Western Cape Government to minimise these effects and (ii) what successes have these measures had to date?

The PRIEMIER:

The Western Cape Government has been affected by loadshedding like all the sectors and communities across the province. The response below shows a picture of how individual departments have been affected and what measures have been taken to mitigate the impact of load-shedding:

1. Agriculture

(i)2020	(ii) 2021	(iii) 2022	(iv) 2023
The two biggest	The biggest	The major	The challenges
challenges were:	challenge was the	challenges	of 2022
a. The unusual	failure of generators	were generator	continue.
frequency of	which impacted	failures and	Worse,
generator failure	negatively on service	cable theft. This	however, is that
b. Cable theft	delivery. Being a	resulted in our	the Elsenburg
precipitated by the	research farm, there	infrastructure	main building
frequent power	are elements in our	and our	(Head Office)
outages. This	operations that	operations	generator is out
impacted negatively	cannot go without	being	of commission
on our operations.	electricity, eg. the	compromised,	since 16
More frequent	milking of cows	unplanned	January 2023
failure of electrical	cannot be delayed,	closure of	with the result
equipment.	and the milk storage	offices and staff	that during load
Worcester Field	facilities must	working from	shedding there
Reserve for	maintain the set	home (not all	is no electricity
example reported	temperatures. We	can work from	at the main
that the intermittent	have - 80 degrees	home), and	building except
power cuts caused	fridges that contain	water shortages	one block that

damage and	test samples that	due to a zero-	is already on
disruption to their electronic	span over periods of time and if these	water supply vs	solar battery
		a constant demand. We	backup power.
equipment and that three (3) inverters	fridges switch off the tests may be	also had regular	
and a UPS were	compromised.	main line pipe	The cost of
irreparably	compromised.	bursts which	diesel is
damaged, and the		could be	exorbitant. At
server and printers	Solar PV Phase 1 -	because of the	the beginning of
were at risk of being	B.E.S.S – Battery	intermittent	the 2022/23
damaged.	Energy Storage	water flow in	financial year
	System installation	the old	the Department
	520 kWh battery	asbestos pipes.	budgeted
365 kWp Solar PV	capacity – Elsenburg	The cellar uses	R454 000 for
Panels and Inverters	Main Building – Blocks A & E	a reefer as a	the purchase of diesel. As a
have been Installed	sustainable via.	chill storage	result of running
for the Elsenburg Main Buildings.	B.E.S.S.	facility for the	the generators
Main Buluings.	D.L.0.0.	wine grapes.	to continue with
		During load	service delivery,
		shedding the	this budget was
		electric cable	depleted by the
		on the reefer	end of the
		was stolen and	year. To date,
		the power	the Department
		supply and the	has spent R2,2
		compressor	million on diesel
		were damaged,	at the
		and it had to be	Elsenburg farm
		repaired by	alone and it is
		DTPW before	expected to
		the first grapes	amount to R2,9
		arrived.	for the full
			twelve months.
		Solar PV phase	By Adding the
		2: 630kWp	R2,4 million
		Solar PV and	extra spent on
		Inverters	diesel for the
		installed at the	generation of
		Dairy Solar	electricity on
		Farm to assist	the research

	add to Elsenburg's Grid.	farms, the implication is that the Department will spend an additional R5,3 million on diesel in the 2022/23 financial year. This is money that could have been spent on service delivery.
		In the meantime, the outside offices of the Department remain without electricity during load shedding which has a major negative impact on service delivery by the
		Department. New Generator Project for the Elsenburg Precinct to be implemented as a B.CP. and a cost-effective measure in place of future Solar PV initiatives,

	mainly due to
	the high-cost
	factor of
	Solarisation
	equipment. The
	Generator
	Project will also
	assist as a BCP
	and a
	contingency for
	Elsenburg's
	critical Water
	Infrastructure
	(Boreholes) and
	the Elsenburg
	critical Business
	locations.

(i) Mitigation measures to minimise	(ii) what successes have these
effects of loadshedding	measures had to date
a. The installation of a rooftop (365	a. Cost savings to the Elsenburg
kWp) and canopy (630kWp) Solar	Utilities and Business Continuity
PV system and the installation of	Plan for our Critical Components of
Solar PV Battery and Inverter for	the Department.
block A of the main building. This	 b. Since the creation of the energy
means that the staff in block A can	masterplan, and with the aid of the
function uninterrupted when	Department of Public Works and
Eskom and the generator are	Transport, the Department has
down (Also see the response to	installed 520kWh battery capacity
part a of the question).	and 630kWp Solar.
 b. Pro Active thinking to create an 	c. The Masterplan calls for a 5 000
Energy Masterplan to establish the	kWp Solar system. Therefore, to
load requirement for Elsenburg,	date, the Department has installed
thereby working on a plan to	12, 6% of the required Solar.
amortise Solarisation costs year on	d. The masterplan calls for 3MWh
year, in an effort of meeting the	battery Storage system. Therefore,
load requirement in stages, due to	the Department has installed 17,
budget constraints.	3% of the battery capacity to date.
 Due to the cost implications for 	e. The Department has therefore
Solarisation implementations to	implemented approximately 10%
date, a project was devised for the	of the Solarisation work required in
utilization of Generators as a	terms of the Energy Masterplan.
contingency for our critical	f. Storage of surplus energy via the
business locations was identified.	battery system and reduction of

d. With the utilisation of the Department's existing generator infrastructure, and that of newly acquired Gensets, these are to be strategically placed to accommodate the Elsenburg energy load requirement for B.C.P, thereby also reducing the financial burden on sustainable initiative implementation.	the carbon footprint. g. Setting an example to the Agricultural Sector by building a reputation of the Department as supporter of resource efficiency.
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2. Community Safety

(1)			
(I) 2020	(ii) 2021	(iii) 2022	(iv) 2023
Engagements with	Engagements with	Engagements with	Engagements with
stakeholders and	stakeholders and	stakeholders and	stakeholders and
citizens were	citizens were	citizens were	citizens were
impacted at times.	impacted at times.	impacted at times.	impacted at times.
Scheduled South African Police Service (SAPS) and/or Court visits were impacted and/or due to the system being offline.	Scheduled SAPS and/or Court visits were impacted and/or due to the system being offline.	Scheduled SAPS and/or Court visits were impacted and/or due to system being offline.	Scheduled SAPS and/or Court visits were impacted and/or due to system being offline.
Community Training impacted where electronic visuals were used.	Community Training impacted where electronic visuals were used.	Community Training impacted where electronic visuals were used.	Community Training impacted where electronic visuals were used.
High-level engagements impacted and/or delayed when electronic visuals/presentations were in use.	High-level engagements impacted and/or delayed when electronic visuals/presentations were in use.	High-level engagements impacted and/or delayed when electronic visuals/presentations were in use.	High-level engagements impacted and/or delayed when electronic visuals/ presentations were in use.
Staff with desktop computers were unable to perform daily tasks and meet deadlines.	Staff with desktop computers were unable to perform daily tasks and meet deadlines.	Staff with desktop computers were unable to perform daily tasks and meet deadlines.	Staff with desktop computers were unable to perform daily tasks and meet deadlines.
Staff working from home and/or rotation due to COVID-19	Staff working from home and/or rotation due to COVID-19	The Department is accommodated in a leased building.	The Department is accommodated in a leased building.

Negative impact on the well-being of staff.	Negative impact on the well-being of staff.	Electricity supply only provided for the common areas (lifts, stairwells, toilets, foyers), however, this does not alleviate the issue of electricity supply on the floors to ensure that work continues – the floors do not have power during loadshedding.	Electricity supply only provided for the common areas (lifts, stairwells, toilets, foyers), however this does not alleviate the issue of electricity supply on the floors to ensure that work continues – the floors do not have power during loadshedding.
		Negative impact on the well-being of staff.	Access Control Systems are malfunctioning more frequently as the systems are not shut down correctly.
			When the power comes back online the equipment experiences a spike which renders some equipment faulty.
			Batteries are being used as a backup to power the system and unable to recharge timeously. This results in access doors being open which poses a huge risk for unauthorized entry.
			The CCTV cameras are off during loadshedding resulting in no footage being recorded should an incident occur.
			Negative impact on the well-being of staff.

(i) Mitigation measures to minimise effects of loadshedding	(ii) what successes have these measures had to date
Generator procured to power common areas in the workplace.	The procurement of the UPS devices allows connectivity to telephone systems and Wi-Fi to staff who have laptops.
Procurement of rechargeable lights. Procurement of laptops (dependent on budget availability).	The generator provides electricity to common areas occupied by the Dept such as lifts and foyer lights.
Meetings and engagements schedule around loadshedding schedule.	Less impact on meetings and engagements.
The procurement of UPS units allowing staff to remain connected to the Western Cape Government (WCG) Wi-Fi and telephone systems during loadshedding.	Access Control System operational but the use of back-up batteries is only a solution for the short term, not practical in the long term.
Developed an Electricity Disruption Plan. Conducted Business Impact Analysis, within prioritised business units.	Staff work remotely during pro-longed loadshedding periods with approval from managers.
Continuous review and update of Contingency and Business Continuity Plan (emergency, staff contact lists updated). Procurement of back-up batteries for the Access Control System.	
OHS Reps conduct monthly Health and Safety Risk Assessments as per existing monthly checklist.	
Regular Communication with staff using newsflashes.	
Working Arrangements Policy in place to allow for remote working in instances where there are pro-longed loadshedding.	

3. Cultural Affairs and Sport

(i)2020	(ii) 2021	(iii) 2022	(iv) 2023
The Provincial	The back-up	Faulty backup	The regional offices
Archives Building	generator at the	generator towards	(libraries,
located in the CBD	Provincial Archives	the end of 2022 led	museums, and
affected by	was upgraded to	to service	sport) which do not

loadshedding as the backup generator covered certain areas and the bulk of offices were left dark. During this period, staff would not have access to their computers, and in most instances the offices are too dark to work in, which had a negative impact on production, as well as on services to clients. The online database of archives collection could not be accessed. For the regional offices (libraries, museums, and sport) which do not have generators were affected due the lack of light which also has an effect on internet connectivity which resulted in service delivery being affected for the period of load- shedding.	connect the whole building and services were continued without disruption. For the regional offices (libraries, museums, and sport) which do not have generators were affected due the lack of light which also has an effect on internet connectivity which resulted in service delivery being affected for the period of load- shedding.	disruptions Systems a databases staff were accessible regional of (libraries, museums, sport) which have gene were affect the lack of which also effect on in connectivit resulted in delivery be affected fo period of lo shedding.

ptions. have generators ems and were affected due bases used by to the lack of light were not which also has an ssible. For the effect on internet nal offices connectivity which resulted in service delivery being eums, and) which do not affected for the period of loadgenerators affected due shedding. ick of light n also has an High levels of loadshedding (and t on internet ectivity which the threat of ted in service potential blackout) ery being caused museum ted for the security systems to d of loadfail. The museum security systems (CCTV and Armed Response) batteries cannot cope with the frequent loadshedding which places the museum collections and staff the online scheduled committee

at risk of theft and other crime. High levels of loadshedding also negatively effects meetings of Heritage Western Cape. These meetings are needed to process the various application submitted to the entity. Frequent loadshedding has caused unnecessary interruptions or caused additional costs as unplanned in-person meetings have to be held

when necessitated

by loadshedding.

(i) Mitigation measures to minimise	(ii) what successes have these
effects of loadshedding	measures had to date
As the CBD is excluded from load- shedding for all DCAS offices located in the CBD no mitigating measures are required as it is business as usual. For the regional offices where load-shedding is present generators were procured where necessary and or rechargeable lighting was procured to provide light where lamination is required. A request was made to upgrade the backup generator to cover the whole Provincial Archives building and this assisted in mitigating the service disruptions.	All regional offices are operational during periods of load-shedding although it might from time to time be required to make alternative arrangements to overcome a period of load-shedding due to measures beyond the control of the Department. Load-shedding does not incapacitate the Department's service delivery and is regarded as more of an inconvenience. Provision of services continues, and staff and researchers can access to systems and databases.

4. Economic Development and Tourism

(i) 2020	(ii) 2021	(iii) 2022	(iv) 2023
Loadshedding has	Loadshedding has	The occupation	The situation with
not significantly	not significantly	levels of the office	the Waldorf building
impacted on the	impacted the	have steadily	remains. While the
operations of the	Department as the	increased, hence	higher levels of
Department of	Waldorf building	there is less WFH	loadshedding are
Economic	where Department	and work from the	impacting on
Development and	of Economic	Waldorf building	officials working
Tourism (DEDAT).	Development and	where Department	from home, officials
There are two key	Tourism is housed	of Economic	are now very
factors: a) to date,	has not been	Development and	familiar with how to
the Waldorf	significantly	Tourism is not	operate in this
Building (80 St	affected by	affected by the	environment, and
Georges Mall) has	loadshedding.	loadshedding	utilize the devices
experienced no			at their personal
load shedding as,			disposal to continue
per the Department			effective service
of Transport and			delivery e.g.
Public Works the			laptops, UPSs,
building is on a grid			inverters, hot spots
that is not part of			etc.
the load shedding			
scheme, and b) in			
response to the			
COVID crisis and			

the shift of having		
to implementing		
alternative work		
arrangements (work		
from home),		
DEDAT made a		
wholesale change		
to officials using		
laptops (with inbuilt		
batteries) rather		
than desktop		
computers.		

(i) Mitigation measures to minimise effects of loadshedding	(ii) what successes have these measures had to date
The Department has a Business Continuity Plan in place to ensure that Service Delivery is not hampered. The Department embarked on a process to ensure that all critical service delivery systems are accessible remotely. Where staff are working from home the Department has remote working arrangement which makes provision for alternative work arrangements without affecting coalface service delivery.	As mentioned above, implementation of the Alternative Work Arrangement policy, access to laptop devices, increased experience of WFH, effective management have all contributed to a climate and culture where DEDAT's work has continued unabated. Hence, the success of providing uninterrupted service delivery.

5. Education

(a) What has been the effect of load-shedding on service delivery in each department of the Western Cape Government in (i) 2020, (ii) 2021, (iii) 2022 and (iv) 2023 to date

In relation to WCED the effect of loadshedding on service delivery is as follows (this is year on year since 2020 to date):

a. NSC Examinations

One of the biggest risks is the disruption to the National Senior Certificate Examinations. This is particularly the case for the writing of the Computer Applications Technology and Information Technology practical exams. If loadshedding occurs on the date of these examinations, then access to the technology required to complete the examination may be limited as it is electricity dependent.

While USP and generators have been installed at some of the schools, it does not cover the whole cohort. The WCED mitigated the risk at affected sites by communicating with schools that would be affected due to the Eskom loadshedding schedule and isolating learners until their devices

were operational. This was successfully done in 2022.

Load shedding is less of an issue for the written exams, as venues are required to have natural light. If there are any problems, learners can be shifted to another venue to write. Our districts monitor the situation closely and deal with any problems that arise on a case-by-case basis.

Loadshedding also affects the ability to print examination papers timeously, as it can lead to printing stoppages, which also affects workflow and the equipment settings. Overtime is required to ensure that these papers are printed and secured – to ensure the integrity of the examinations.

The capturing of NSC results in the marking centres can be affected as this requires uploading marks onto devices. However, ensuring that all devices are fully charged before loadshedding, mitigates this risk.

One of the biggest impacts is on our matrics' ability to study in the evenings. The NSC exams are already stressful enough for them, without having to worry about whether they will be able to put a light on to study.

Districts also reported that loadshedding is posing a serious challenge to the implementation of Winter School revision programmes during the 2022 June/July school holidays.

The challenges include students arriving late, because it is not safe to walk to their transport when there is loadshedding where they live. The power cuts have left classrooms dark, with students having to shift around to venues with enough natural light. Teachers and facilitators could use overhead projection or eLearning tools during certain times, and streamed lessons to some schools have had to be cancelled as they had no power to receive them.

In addition, students accessing our ePortal resources from home are affected, with power cuts leaving both website servers and student's homes without electricity. Online tutors must move from place to place to ensure that they are in an area not scheduled for a blackout when they hold their tutoring sessions. Even cell phone reception dips in some areas because loadshedding affects cell towers.

b. Learner admissions

While there was no loadshedding during the learner admission process, the current loadshedding schedule has affected the capturing of late applications at district offices. Hard copy submissions are being submitted which are later uploaded.

c. Administration at schools

Loadshedding can interrupt certain activities in the classroom. Many of our educators use electronic smartboards or other devices for teaching and

learning. Teachers therefore must adapt classroom plans depending on the loadshedding schedule.

Computer Applications Technology, Information Technology, and even computer classes in all grades can be affected.

Daily administrative work is also affected. For example, the capturing of absenteeism rates, or sick leave. Some schools have purchased USPs at their own cost, however, the numbers have yet to be determined.

d. Workshops, meetings, and training

A lot of our workshops, meetings and training is done online. Loadshedding can interrupt these sessions or meetings.

The Cape Teaching and Leadership Institute, which has a full programme of training for staff during the 2022 June/July holidays, was significantly affected – particularly the ICT and online courses.

However, we can record the presentation/discussion and distribute it thereafter. This does affect the ability to interact with the material and the presenter.

(i) Mitigation measures to minimise effects of loadshedding	(ii) what successes have these measures had to date
District administration	Efforts by schools to reduce energy consumption:
While our Head Office has generator capacity, our district offices and other satellite offices are affected by loadshedding times and schedules. This interrupts the day-to-day administrative tasks required to ensure service delivery to schools.	Our schools have been taking steps to ensure that they have a more reliable power supply. The Department has received 41 applications from schools thus far seeking approval for the installation of solar panels. Others are making plans to have emergency
In order to mitigate this risk, the WCED arranged for the distribution of approximately 1 300 laptops to officials	lighting and battery power in place during loadshedding.
to increase mobility and access to emails and documents. This would require that the laptop is charged.	To reduce demand on the grid, the LED lighting project in partnership with the University of Stellenbosch – which sees the replacement of outdated
USP's are being procured for some of our offices. For example, 4 USPs are in the process of being delivered to Edumedia to cover their needs during loadshedding periods	fluorescent lights with LED lights – has projected savings of 11 742kWh per year per school, while reducing their electricity bills.
	We will continue to do everything we

can to support schools in managing the impact of loadshedding, to ensure that no matter what stage the country finds itself in, quality education can continue
in the Western Cape

6. Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

(i) 2020	(ii) 2021	(iii) 2022	(iv) 2023
The Department's	In general, the	In general, the	In general, the
service delivery	Department's	Department's	Department's
was not affected by	service delivery	service delivery	service delivery
loadshedding	was not affected by	was not affected by	was and is not
(Cape Town office	loadshedding.	loadshedding.	affected by
building was not			loadshedding.
affected by	Cape Town office	Cape Town office	g.
loadshedding and	building was not	building was not	Cape Town office
George office	affected by	affected by	building was not
loadshedding	loadshedding; and	loadshedding; and	and should not be
covered by onsite	0.	0,	affected by
generator).	George office	George office	loadshedding; and
	loadshedding	loadshedding	
Air Quality:	covered by onsite	covered by onsite	George office
	generator.	generator.	loadshedding
During 2020,			covered by onsite
analyser failures	However,	However,	generator.
associated with	departmental	departmental	
loadshedding was	officials conducting	officials conducting	However,
experienced at all	fieldwork e.g.	fieldwork e.g.	departmental
stations across the	investigations,	investigations,	officials conducting
WCG AAQM	inspections, events,	inspections, events,	fieldwork e.g.
Network. All criteria	etc. was more at	etc. may be more at	investigations,
pollutant	risk and when	risk and when	inspections, events,
measurements	travelling by motor	travelling by motor	etc. may be more at
(SO2, NO2, CO,	car to the	car to the	risk and when
O3, PM) were	destination. Traffic	destination. Traffic	travelling by motor
affected while all	light and street	light and street	car to the
H2S and CO2	outages put the	outages put the	destination. Traffic
analysers also	officials travel at	officials travel at	light and street
experienced restart	more risk. Also, the	more risk. Also, the	outages put the
and component failures. Where	potential extended	potential extended	officials travel at
	loadshedding	loadshedding	more risk. Also, the potential extended
budget allowed,	period, reported of	period, reported of	-
analysers were sent for repairs, however	up to 2 years, must cause frustration	up to 2 years, must cause frustration	loadshedding
repeated load	with the public and	with the public and	period, reported of up to 2 years, must
shedding often	they may vent	they may vent	cause frustration
caused problems	frustrations with	frustrations with	with the public and
again.	protests e.g.	protests e.g.	they may vent
	burning of tires,	burning of tires,	frustrations with
The minimum 75%	stoning of vehicles,	stoning of vehicles,	protests e.g.
			p. 510010 0.g.

data requirement,	etc. putting our	etc. putting our	burning of tires,
as set out by DFFE,	officials at risk.	officials at risk.	stoning of vehicles,
was difficult to	Business affected	Business affected	etc. putting our
obtain at many of	by loadshedding	by loadshedding	officials at risk.
the stations. Data	may also delay the	may also delay the	Business affected
capture of less than	fieldwork resulting	fieldwork resulting	by loadshedding
75% for any period	in time wasted.	in time wasted.	may also delay the
is not considered			fieldwork resulting
representative and	Air Quality:	Air Quality:	in time wasted.
cannot be reported			
as hourly or daily	During 2021, similar	During 2022,	Air Quality:
averages for	analyser failures as	analyser failures	
comparison against	experienced in	associated with	During 2023,
National Ambient	2020 were linked to	load shedding was	loadshedding with
Air Quality	load shedding, at all	experienced at all	relation to stages 5
Standards.	stations across the	stations across the	and 6 has become
	WCG AAQM	WCG AAQM	more frequent since
Load shedding	network. All criteria	network. All criteria	2022, which has
resulted in reduced	pollutant	pollutant	had a greater
air quality data	measurements	measurements	impact on the
measurements and	(SO2, NO2, CO,	(SO2, NO2, CO,	"down-time" of the
reporting on air	O3, PM) were	O3, PM) were	stations. The aged
quality parameters,	affected while all	affected as well as	and new analysers,
given that the	H2S and CO2	H2S and CO2	which experienced
analysers were not	analysers also	analysers. Although	repeated load
able to operate and	experienced restart	the recapitalisation	shedding events in
could not measure	and component	of the network	the previous years,
air quality.	failures.	improved the data	have now become
		recovery; the	more susceptible to
In addition, the load	The average data	impacts of	problems as the
shedding further	recovery across the	loadshedding	components have
impacted on	WCG network	continued to reduce	been degraded
analyser lifespan	during 2021 was	data recovery.	over time due to the
being reduced due	approximately 65%,		increased
to the continuous	which is below the	Thus, average data	loadshedding
power interruptions	required 75% of	recovery across the	episodes, thus
resulting in analyser	DFFE.	WCG network	resulting in the
component failures.		during 2022 was	over-all lifespan of
As a result, the	Load shedding	approximately 78%.	the analysers
analyser	continued to result		having been
maintenance	in reduced air	However, analysers	reduced now.
budgets were	quality data	which were failing	
increasingly used	measurements and	repeatedly due to	The fact that
for analyser repairs.	reporting on air	loadshedding were	analysers require
The reduced data	quality parameters,	removed from	stable operating
collection and	given that the	operation (i.e.	temperatures and
reporting on air	analysers were not	decommissioned)	sampling flows has
quality parameters	able to operate and	due to lack of	become more
to stakeholders,	could not measure	budget to replace	evident now, as the
such as municipal	air quality.	infrastructure; while	analyser
Air Quality Officials		some analysers	components have
and DFFE, was	In addition, the load	were removed and	become more
impacted in terms		ropored tollowing o	
	shedding further	repaired following a	unreliable, resulting
of our ability to address air quality	shedding further impacted on analyser lifespan	reprioritization of budget.	in measurement accuracy being

complaints and measure present air quality. 60% of CapeNature reserves already have some form of off-grid power in the form of gas or solar power and thus have been less affected by loadshedding. CapeNature's Head Office is situated in a DTPW building that has a fully functional generator which keeps critical equipment operational.	being reduced due to the continuous power interruptions resulting in analyser component failures. As a result, the analyser maintenance budgets were increasingly used for analyser repairs. The reduced data collection and reporting on air quality parameters to stakeholders, such as municipal Air Quality Officials and DFFE, was impacted in terms of our ability to address air quality complaints and measure present air quality. 60% of CapeNature reserves already have some form of off-grid power in the form of gas or solar power and thus have been less affected by loadshedding. CapeNature's Head Office is situated in a DTPW building that has a fully functional generator which keeps critical equipment operational.	The impact of load shedding on the aged analysers continued to result in reduced air quality data measurements and reporting on air quality parameters, given that the analysers were not able to operate and could not measure air quality. It was also noticed that some of the new analysers placed at the stations were also impacted by loadshedding, as these new analysers had problems similar to that of the aged analysers. Thus, the load shedding not only impacted the aged analyser lifespan, but also the new analyser lifespan, which was being reduced due to the continuous power interruptions resulting in analyser component failures. As a result, the analyser maintenance budgets were increasingly used for analyser repairs. In addition, officials increasingly had to visit the stations to troubleshoot the analysers to improve on the data collection. This has meant that much more time was	reduced. This means that officials have to spend increased time in the field at the stations to troubleshoot the analysers to ensure that accurate data are collected. The constant changes in load shedding stages further has impacted negatively on the maintenance and repair visits (planned to avoid load shedding times); however, changes in loadshedding stages at short notice during the day has resulted in officials arriving at stations to find that the power is out and that they have to wait for power to be restored before continuing with their analyser checks and routine maintenance at the stations. From the most recent example on 1 February 2023 Oudtshoorn, the loadshedding schedule indicated load shedding to start at 14:00, and thus officials arrived at the station at 11:00 to perform routine maintenance While
		more time was	routine maintenance. While
		spent in the field, resulting in officials spending after	working, the power went out at 12:00, as the schedule

hours (private time) to analyse and report on the data collected. The reduced data collection and	had changed. Officials waited until 14:30 to ensure that analysers were operational after loadshedding,
reporting on air quality parameters to stakeholders,	noting that analysers require an hour to stabilize,
such as municipal Air Quality Officials and DFFE, was	and then a further 3-4 hours to perform the
impacted in terms of our ability to address air quality	analyser tests. Thus, given the timeframe
complaints and measure present air quality.	requirements, the station maintenance was
Load shedding has increasingly	rescheduled for the next morning to avoid loadshedding
continued to impact on the data loggers	impacts, which was expected at 12:00 -
which have needed constant attention, as software needed	16:30 and then again from 20:00 - 22:30.
to be reloaded or components needed to be replaced, at many	The above are direct impacts of loadshedding on
of the stations in 2021 and/or 2022 (e.g. Stellenbosch,	the routine maintenance schedules of the
Maitland, Saldanha Bay, Hermanus).	stations, and while officials are required to be
These additional activities take time away from officials who would under normal circumstances be	available for unplanned station maintenance visits, the loadshedding impact require that they often need
able to dedicate and focus their attention to improving the WCG AAQMN operation and increased data recovery.	double the time to do these checks and then also to perform QA/QC on the data measured, before any reporting can be
60% of CapeNature reserves already	done. The impact of load
have some form of off-grid power in the form of gas or solar	shedding on both the aged and new analysers has

power and thus	continued to result
have been less	in reduced air
affected by	quality data
loadshedding.	measurements and
	reporting on air
CapeNature's Head	quality parameters.
Office is situated in	Currently 6 of the
a DTPW building	12 stations report
that has a fully	below the 75% data
functional generator	requirement, of
which keeps critical	which 5 stations
equipment	have low data
operational.	capture due to the
	data logger and
	analyser restart
	issues resulting
	from the increased
	and continued
	loadshedding. The
	5 stations impacted
	currently by the
	increased
	loadshedding
	stages are
	Maitland, Mossel
	Bay, Malmesbury,
	Oudtshoorn and
	Saldanha Bay.
	,
	It has become very
	difficult to follow the
	constant
	loadshedding
	schedule changes
	and co-ordinate
	station
	maintenance
	accordingly,
	especially at the
	stations located
	further afield from
	Cape Town.
	60% of CapeNature
	reserves already
	have some form of
	off-grid power in the
	form of gas or solar
	power and thus
	have been less
	affected by
	loadshedding.
	5
	CapeNature's Head
	Office is situated in

	a DTPW building that has a fully functional generator which keeps critical equipment operational.

(i) Mitigation measures to minimise effects of loadshedding	(ii) what successes have these measures had to date
Planning:	<u>Planning:</u>
 Implemented a robust Business Continuity Management System – BCMS (Business Impact Assessment, Business Continuity Plan, Contingency Plan, Disaster Recovery Plan) since 2016. Maintain BCMS BCMS testing DRP testing by Department, Branch e-Innovation and transversal system custodians. Alternate site, with diesel generator and solar panel array installation, identified in event of blackout. Service providers and stakeholders are required to have BCMS with loadshedding mitigation. Address future infrastructure requirements in the U-AMP Maintain good working relationships and open communication with stakeholders to ensure that ICT and accommodation is conducive to operations. Electronic data and information stored on cloud-based solutions with back-ups routinely performed by the service providers. 	 Identified critical business processes and systems. Improved the resilience of the Department to loadshedding. Loadshedding and BCMS testing lessons learned has informed BCMS review and hardened the Department to withstand impacts of loadshedding. DRP testing evaluates the adequacy of the back-ups and efficacy of response. Safeguard against injury or loss of life to fulfil OHS obligations of the Department. Improved the resilience against data and information corruption or losses. Diesel Generators: Provides for uninterrupted power supply. Reduces chances of damage to equipment Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) and Laptops: Powers equipment during power outages Protects equipment sensitive to sudden
Diesel Generators:	power outages or spikes.
 Cape Town and George offices have permanent onsite generator installations to provide critical electrical power during bouts of loadshedding. Routine maintenance conducted and diesel replenished by the Department of Transport and Public Works: WCG 	 Laptop procurement strategy allows for resilience against power outages and allows for improved mobility when needing to work remotely, including relocating to an alternate site. <u>Occupational Health and Safety (OHS):</u> Improved resilience to prevent injury or

Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) and Laptops:

- UPS' installed on sensitive equipment e.g. ICT infrastructure like a network switch or air quality monitoring stations.
- Laptops are procured to replace existing out-of-warranty laptops and desktop computers to cover power outages by working off the laptop battery.

Occupational Health and Safety (OHS):

- Loss of water pressure would diminish the ability to extinguish a small fire, therefore a fire extinguisher may need to be used.
- Firefighting training provided and equipment maintained.
- Contingency Plan current and evacuation procedure practiced.

Air Quality:

Where possible, engaged with landowners where air quality monitoring stations are located to assist with alternative power supply (UPS or generator) during load shedding:

- The Licence Holder installed a large capacity UPS at the Maitland station air quality monitoring station during 2022 to mitigate the effects of load shedding.
- The landowners where the Hermanus station is located has supplied power to the air quality monitoring station from its UPS system which reduces the length of power outages at this location.
- During 2022, the District Municipality installed a generator at their Stellenbosch offices, which then also supply the air quality monitoring station located on the site. However, due to budget constraints, the generator is not operational during 2023, and so data collection at the Stellenbosch station is impacted on during loadshedding, as there is no back-up power.
- The George station was relocated (as load shedding affected) to the District Municipal premises, which has an on-site generator and has limited loadshedding impacts (commissioned in February 2023).

loss of life.

Air Quality:

- Data capture reductions previously affected by loadshedding has improved at locations, where analysers experience reduced loadshedding due to on-site generators (Paarl, George), UPS (Maitland) or due to loadshedding exemptions (Khayelitsha).
- During stage 1, 2 and 3 loadshedding, the Maitland station was able to cope with once per day, two-hour load shedding events, due to the UPS that was installed. However, with increased loadshedding stages (4, 5, 6, etc.) there is not enough time for the UPS to recharge and thus battery capacity is reduced and power to air quality analysers is not sustained for the full load shedding time.
- The station located at Paarl has improved data capture due to the on-site generator that is to some degree mitigating the impacts of increased loadshedding.
- The station at Hermanus has improved data capture when the on-site UPS system is operational.

At loadshedding levels of 1 to 4, CapeNature's mitigating measure are successful, however when loadshedding is above stage 4, the batteries do not have sufficient time to recharge, and generators run out of diesel.

- The Paarl station has an on-site generator, which supplies power and mitigates the length of loadshedding events.
- The Khayelitsha station has recently been exempted from loadshedding, given its location at the hospital, and thus the station has limited loadshedding impacts.

Although the above mitigation measures have aided with ensuring that some stations continue to operate during loadshedding events, there have been occasions when generators have run out of fuel during extended loadshedding events, resulting in power interruptions, and hence no air quality being collected during those time. This is especially the case over weekend, after hours or when multiple loadshedding events occur within short timeframes.

The overall impact of loadshedding on the aged and new infrastructure, which is compounded by the lack of budget to replace aged analysers, as well as the increased demand on human resource capacity, which is already limited, has required that the Department rethink the number of stations in the Network, as part of its mitigation measures, going forward. The intention is to work more efficiently and effectively with fewer stations, given the loadshedding impacts on the infrastructure, and the limited budget and human resource capacity to maintain 12 stations in the Network. Thus, in going forward, the number of stations will be reduced, as an interim measure until budget for both infrastructure and human resource capacity become available, coupled with reduced or no loadshedding. from the current 12 to 10 stations in the Network.

Since 2020, the impact of the lockdown restrictions has allowed CapeNature staff to continue working from remote locations. This allows them to plan around the loadshedding schedules to ensure that they have sufficient power for their equipment. At the time of the initial hard lockdowns, the entity stopped procuring desktop computers and only procures laptops. This allows staff to be productive

during load shedding stages 1-4 regardless of their location.	
Mobile power stations purchased to power staff's critical work equipment (R207 522)	
Solar PV were installed at the following locations in 2022:	
Robberg Nature Reserve – R283 400	
Cederberg Wilderness – R 266 300	
Solar PV will be installed at Anysberg in 2023 – R3 151 594	

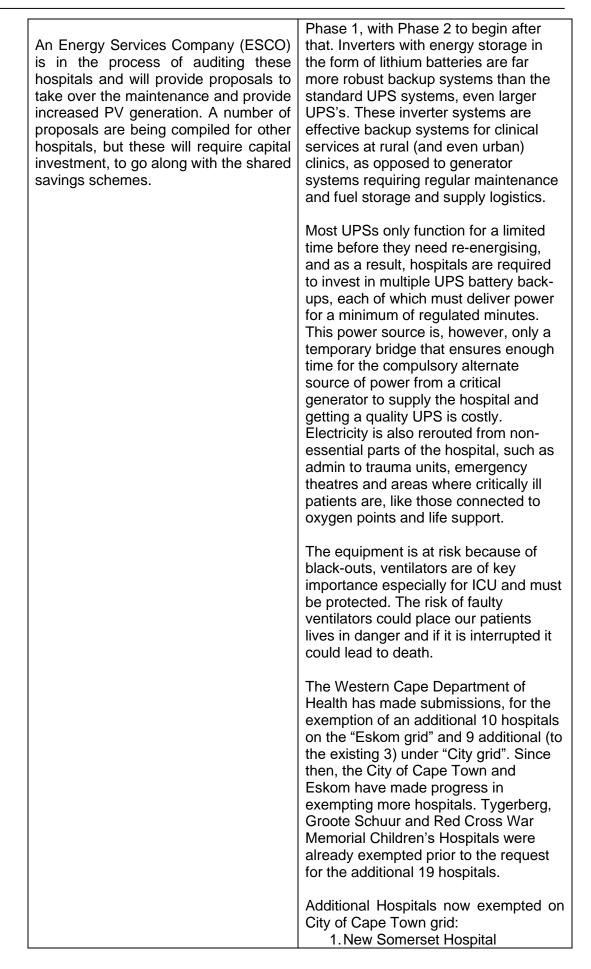
7. Health

(a) What has been the effect of load-shedding on service delivery in each department of the Western Cape Government in (i) 2020, (ii) 2021, (iii) 2022 and (iv) 2023 to date

Due to loadshedding, the Department of Health has spent money on fuel. The line item for fuel expenditure includes a range of items such as medial gas and oil, and not just fuel. The expenditure on fuel since 2020 is as follows:

2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 to date
R64 158 495,36	104 948 041,37	R120 993 815,94	R110 077 675,14

(i) Mitigation measures to minimise effects of loadshedding	(ii) what successes have these measures had to date
An assessment has been conducted	To alleviate the situation under the
on the primary healthcare components	stage 4 to 6 black-outs and continuity of
of public health service delivery	service offerings, all our hospitals,
requiring a reliable source of power	Community Health Centres (CHC's)
supply for the provision of various	and Community Day Centres (CDC's)
services to the public. This constitutes	have generators and many of our
essential clinical services and support	clinics are also equipped with
of clean environments for infection	generators or UPS systems. The
control. This was developed in a	response time for an alternate power
inverter/PV strategy for a high priority	source, like UPS, needs to be faster
rollout for clinics. Hospital and other	than 0.5 seconds for all medical
large facilities are capacitated with	equipment in ICUs, theatres, and
emergency stand-bay generators.	recovery areas, where there are high-
	risk patients.
The Department only currently has 2	
facilities with solar PV embedded	WCGH is in the process of
generation, being Mitchell's Plain	implementing a rapid deployment of
Hospital and Khayelitsha Hospital.	hybrid inverter, battery and solar
MPH - 64 kW, KDH - 18 kW.	photvoltaic systems at 51 clinics in
	protionale systems at or onnies in



2. Mitchells' Plain Hospital 3. Karl Bremer Hospital and
4. Victoria Hospital
5. Mowbray Maternity Hospital
6. Wesfleur Hospital
In Progress / Under Investigation in priority order:
False bay Hospital, Heldeberg Hospital, Oral health Centre (Tygerberg)
Additional Hospital exempted on the Eskom grid:
1. George Hospital
In Progress / Under Investigation in priority order:
In the Metro: Khayelitsha Hospital,
Eerste River Hospital, Rural Hospitals: Beaufort West
Hospital, Caledon Hospital, Ceres
Hospital
Oudtshoorn Hospital, Paarl Hospital,
Vredendal Hospital, Worcester Hospital
As indicated above, the two electricity
providers are currently investigating
and assessing the exemption of these hospitals from their grids. The
Department is in regular contact with
the two electricity providers on the
progress which is dependent on various impacting factors.

8. Human Settlements

(a) What has been the effect of load-shedding on service delivery in each department of the Western Cape Government in (i) 2020, (ii) 2021, (iii) 2022 and (iv) 2023 to date

(i) 2020	(ii) 2021	(iii) 2022	(iv) 2023
No effect on Human	No effect on Human	No effect on Human	No effect on Human
	Settlements service		
delivery.	delivery.	delivery.	delivery to date.

(i) Mitigation measures to minimise	(ii) what successes have these
effects of loadshedding	measures had to date

 Measures implemented: The generator installed in Human Settlements is fully operational. Generator is serviced quarterly in line with prescribed standards. Generators of Human Settlements re-fueled by Department of Transport and Public Works in line with agreement reached between the respective Heads of Departments. Business Continuity Plan (BCP) and Contingency plans is approved annually by Head of Department and implemented by Human Settlements facilities and their staff. Warm site for Human Settlements (being the Human Settlements (being the Human Settlements Goodwood office) fully functional and can be activated immediately if needed due to any disaster. Once Disaster Management Centre activate due to load shedding, Department of Human Settlements participate in Western Cape Disaster management JOC meetings. Situations report is disseminated to the Head of Department and CFO. Human Settlements drafted their prolonged electricity disruption risk assessment (internal and external) and provided input to Disaster Management Centre in September 2022. 	Department of Human Settlements were able to assist clients during all the periods without being affected by power outages (load shedding), thus not hampering Human Settlements service delivery.

9. Local Government

(i)2020	(ii) 2021	(iii) 2022	(iv) 2023
There have been	There have been	There has not been	There has not been
no challenges with	no challenges with	Major Service	Major Service
regards to	regards to	Delivery Challenges	Delivery Challenges
loadshedding	loadshedding	experienced.	experienced.
during this period	during this period		
due to COVID as	due to COVID as	However:	However:
most officials were	most officials were		
working from home.	working from home.	•The air	•The air
		conditioning system	conditioning system
		did not work	was not working

	optimally at times because of power outages.	optimally at times because of power outages.
	•We experienced network connectivity challenges when needed to join online meetings.	•The Service Providers took longer than expected (as indicated in the service level agreement) to
	•The Service Providers took longer than expected (as indicated in the	provide their service due to delays on the roads.
	service level agreement) to provide their services due to delays on the roads.	•GG services/repairs took longer due to load shedding at the Service Provider Premises
	•GG services/repairs took much longer due to load shedding at the Service Provider Premises	•When we report urgent maintenance matters, sometimes emails take extremely long to deliver and receive feedback.
	•The access control doors at the regional offices (Metro 1 and Metro 2) could not work during shedding when generators could not kick in.	•Karoo regional offices do not have water during loadshedding as the Municipality's water is dependent on borehole supply.
	Communication:	•During loadshedding there has been an
	DLG Municipal Communications assisted municipalities with communication	increase in theft and damage of infrastructure at the regional offices.
	awareness campaigns around loadshedding and	Communication: DLG Municipal
	the relation between current loadshedding and water provision.	Communications assisted municipalities with communication awareness

campaigns around loadshedding and the relation between current loadshedding and water provision.
CD: Integrated Service Delivery:
The lack of energy security in the country has impacted basic government service delivery systems e.g. in Thusong Service Centres resulting in the following:
•Citizens unable to access key government services and information as some Thusong Service Centres and service departments do not have back-up energy sources.
•Backlogs for ID applications and retrievals.
•SITA down times

(i) Mitigation measures to minimise effects of loadshedding	(ii) what successes have these measures had to date
Most service challenges experienced by	VPNs work and have assisted with remote
the Department have been on infrastructure therefore the	access to the transversal systems.
Landlord/DTPW need to provide mitigation measures.	Rotation of staff, culture of trust and care definitely assisted with people going the extra mile on their own to complete tasks.
 In Waldorf, the building management 	
have a generator, however it is not connected to a UPS. The matter is still	Staff are able to access emails etc due to the issuing of Laptops and 3Gs and also

under discussion between the landlord and custodian.	allows staff to work remotely.	
•The intention is to request installation of	•Deployment of DLG engineers to support municipalities.	
solar/hybrid systems at regional offices that have power issues during loadshedding (generators are not cost effective)	•Ongoing guidance and advise to municipalities experiencing challenges	
VPNs have been made available for remote access to the transversal systems.	•Secure gensets from other municipalities, partners, and the private sectors to provide municipalities support to specific critical infrastructure.	
Rotation of staff, culture of trust and care assists with people going the extra mile on their own to complete tasks.	•Secure and amount of cabinet to provide financial support to municipalities to	
Manual order book in place in the event systems or building is inaccessible.	procure generators to provide backup electricity and critical infrastructure installations.	
Staff have been issued Laptops and 3Gs allowing staff to work remotely.		
In relation to WC: PDMC, the following contingencies are in place:		
•The Western Cape Provincial Disaster Management Centre (WC: PDMC) is located at the Tygerberg Hospital which is exempted from load-shedding.		
 The facility has generating capacity; and 		
•Limited radio communication capacity is available via EMS Metro Control and Hamnet throughout the Province.		
•An audit of all Thusong Service Centres has been conducted during January 2023 to ascertain the extent of the service disruptions with a view to determine how best to support the Centres.		
•The occurrence and severity of loadshedding is expected to increase in 2023 with stage 4 expected to be the norm with further frequent occurrences of stage 6. The crippling effects of loadshedding on basic municipal services and more so on the water and sanitation function in municipalities are anticipated to be catastrophic. Municipalities will be unable to comply with their Constitutional mandate of providing portable water for consumption as well as maintaining a healthy environment.		

•Firstly, in terms of water services, municipalities will not be able to pump water from their respective sources, clean the raw water to meet the required SANS standards, nor fill reservoirs to ensure adequate water provision. This can lead to significant and prolonged water shortages and decline in water quality to communities which will have a detrimental effect on their daily lives, impact on their health and cause further economic decline.

•Furthermore, in terms of sanitation services, municipalities will also be unable to comply with their Water Use License conditions due to overflowing and spillage of sewage at pumpstations where generators or other forms of backup energy sources are not available. This would result in a significant pollution risk of watercourses, posing an increased load on the general health system, and potentially reduced economic productivity with a knock-on effect on local economic development.

•Given the Department's mandate to support and strengthen the capacity of municipalities to manage their own affairs, to exercise their powers and to perform their functions, several initiatives are currently being undertaken with the aim of assisting municipalities to manage and mitigate the impact of prolonged load shedding on their citizens.

•These support initiatives include, amongst others, technical advisory services, development of response strategies, assessment of key infrastructure components, and facilitation of partnerships. The Department is currently drafting a strategic document that will aim to formalize before-mentioned support initiatives and to provide strategic direction and guidance for further support to municipalities in this regard.

10. Premier

(a) What has been the effect of load-shedding on service delivery in each department of the Western Cape Government in (i) 2020, (ii) 2021, (iii) 2022 and (iv) 2023 to date

(i) 2020	(ii) 2021	(iii) 2022	(iv) 2023
Employees were	As employees	As employees	Lesser impact on
not initially able to	returned to the	returned to the	business continuity
remain online	office, the effects of	office, the effects of	as mitigation
during	loadshedding were	loadshedding were	measures took
loadshedding when COVID-19	mitigated due to	mitigated due to	effect.
restrictions were in	generators being in place at most sites	generators being in place at most sites	
place which	in the CBD.	in the CBD.	
impacted on their			
ability to use MS	Impacted negatively	Impacted negatively	
Teams,	on the co-ordination	on the co-ordination	
applications,	of online learning.	of online learning.	
systems, e-mail,			
and other ICT			
Services.			
Impacted negatively			
on the co-ordination			
of online learning.			

(i) Mitigation measures to minimise effects of loadshedding	(ii) what successes have these measures had to date
 Impacted negatively on the availability of all the IT networks and systems. Branch e-Innovation: Installed Uninterrupted Power Supplies (UPS) on most of the network and server infrastructure. Moved key network and systems infrastructure into Tier Data Centres where power never goes 	Minimal impact on business continuity, except where DotP employees are accommodated as tenants in private buildings or buildings that belong to other WCG departments that do not have generators in place. In these instances, employees are negatively affected by loadshedding.
 off. Moved e-Mail, Teams, and systems into the cloud over the past 5 years so it is always available. 	As indicated, the co-ordination of online training could continue with no interruption or any adverse effects.
 WCG DG Circular 34 of 2022 was issued on 14 June 2022 to all departments with specific reference to paragraphs 12 and 13, which deals with the WCG 	Due to the measures implemented by the Branch e-Innovation there is no or little down time on Network and systems server infrastructure. Access is available to systems and IT Services from anywhere at any time, provided there is connectivity (external or internal). Branch
Alternative Work Arrangements Guide, and Regulation 51 of the	e-Innovation continues to install UPS's, moving network and system infrastructure

Public Service Regulations, 2016 the Departmental Alternative Work Arrangements Policy, but with specific reference to: "Employees who enter into such Remote Work Agreements, must capacitate themselves to ensure an online presence during working time. As such, if an employee is unable to secure an online presence, e.g. during loadshedding, the employee is to return to the workplace to make use of office infrastructure". This was reiterated in a departmental DG Memo of 3 October 2022 that made it	into Tier Data Centres and the cloud.
incumbent on employees to ensure loadshedding does not interfere with their	
ability to be productive whilst working from	
home.	
 An approved Electricity Disruption Plan for the Department is in place. Business Impact Analysis in key business units is being updated. Communication Plan for the 2023/24 financial year aimed at reducing demand for electricity in the WCG. Most buildings are equipped with generators which are installed, maintained, and fueled by the 	
Department of Transport and Public Works.	
There is also an industrial size generator installed at the Provincial Training Institute which is being serviced by the Department of Transport and Public Works who also provides diesel. This enabled officials to be productive during loadshedding and enabled the co-ordination of online training to continue uninterrupted. Each ICT switch on the campus has an UPS installed and also the server of the Local Area Network (LAN) has a compatible size UPS installed by Cel.	

11. Provincial Treasury

(i) 2020	(ii) 2021	(iii) 2022	(iv) 2023
Most officials were	Most officials	With the lifting of	Same as 2022 thus

(i) Mitigation measures to minimise effects of loadshedding	(ii) what successes have these measures had to date	
 The development of Business 	 Business Continuity Plan yet to be 	
Continuity Plan to respond to the	implemented but Provincial	
energy crisis as it exacerbates.	Treasury readying itself for any	

12. Social Development

(a) What has been the effect of load-shedding on service delivery in each department of the Western Cape Government in (i) 2020, (ii) 2021, (iii) 2022 and (iv) 2023 to date

Due to loadshedding, the Department of Social Development has spent money on fuel (diesel). The expenditure on diesel since 2020 is as follows:

(i) 2020	(ii) 2021	(iii) 2022	(iv) 2023
R180 000	R272 000	R502 000	R2 460 000 till end
			of Jan
Sustainable	Youth	Youth	
Livelihoods	Development	Development	
	Some Youth cafes	Some Youth cafes	
Perishable goods	had to close	had to close	Our NPO
are at risk of	temporarily. Online	temporarily. Online	residential facilities
spoiling due to no	programmes could	programmes could	are indicating that
electricity.	not be completed	not be completed	they cannot absorb
	on time.	on time. The	the energy cost as
Feeding was		network at the	part of their current
delayed as some	Sustainable	office during	budgets.
sites are dependent	Livelihoods	loadshedding	
on electricity.		period is not	X. a
	Perishable goods	reliable.	Youth
	are at risk of	Over te benefit	Development
	spoiling due to no	Sustainable	
	electricity.	Livelihoods	Come Vouth actes
	Fooding was	The inchility to him	Some Youth cafes
	Feeding was	The inability to buy	had to close for
	delayed as some sites were	perishable goods in bulk as they may go	extended periods.
		"off" resulted in	Online programmes could not be
	dependent on		
	electricity.	increased transport	completed on time.

costs and in some instances goods shortages as suppliers were also stocking limited items.	The network at the office during loadshedding period is not reliable.
For those feeding sites utilizing electricity stoves, food preparation and feeding times had to be adjusted in accordance with loadshedding schedules. Having to have both electricity and gas equipment, especially stoves and fridges.	Impact on IT The National DSD is more prone to load shedding impacting on their IT infrastructure as their Servers do not all have adequate backup power. This has a knock-on effect on access to the national systems in the Province, impacting our productivity and usage of the national systems.

b)(i) what mitigation measures have been taken by the departments of the Western Cape Government to minimise these effects and (ii) what successes have these measures had to date?

(i) Mitigation measures to minimise effects of loadshedding	(ii) what successes have these measures had to date
DSD run residential care centres:	DSD run residential care centres:
Participate in transversal diesel contract to enhance availability and distribution. Switched to gas provision on stoves in kitchens; Included batteries in security equipment on doors/gates/cameras/enhanced diesels storage facilities at CYCCs; Back up battery powered lights. Generators at all centres We are heavily cutting our programme provision in order to reprioritise funding at this stage, but it is not sustainable.	 Expenses tripled above allocated budget in the current financial year. Budget insufficient to cope with diesel increases. Generators are breaking down due to overuse. Plan to procure a mobile generator. Battery life on security equipment insufficient to deal with longer periods of load shedding since it does not have adequate time to charge.
DSD local offices	Other mitigations assisted.
Installation of generators at Shared	DSD local offices
services buildings and some leased	Most offices were able to render
buildings ensured that some offices were	services during office hours.
able to operate during office hours.	
Social Workers did home visits during	Sustainable Livelihoods
loadshedding.	Service is being rendered consistently

Procurement of laptops and provisioning of 3G cards	without having to adjust days and times of feeding.
Sustainable Livelihoods The purchasing of gas stoves and 9kg gas cylinders for all feeding sites province wide. The fridges and freezers purchased are using electricity rendering them semi- redundant.	Youth Programme services continued.
Impact on IT	
The Department has eMobility as a backup when the network is down, however, eMobility only works when the mobile towers have power.	

13. Transport and Public Works

(a) What has been the effect of load-shedding on service delivery in each department of the Western Cape Government in (i) 2020, (ii) 2021, (iii) 2022 and (iv) 2023 to date

(i) 2020	(ii) 2021	(iii) 2022	(iv) 2023
The nature of the			
wide range of	wide range of	wide range of	wide range of
services for which	services for which	services for which	services for which
DTPW is	DTPW is	DTPW is	DTPW is
responsible is such	responsible is such	responsible is such	responsible is such
that it has	that it has	that it has	that it has
essentially been	essentially been	essentially been	essentially been
able to continue	able to continue	able to continue	able to continue
with other aspects	with other aspects	with other aspects	with other aspects
of work when	of work when	of work when	of work when
electricity has been	electricity has been	electricity has been	electricity has been
cut e.g. on a			
construction or	construction or	construction or	construction or
maintenance site,	maintenance site,	maintenance site,	maintenance site,
while power driven	while power driven	while power driven	while power driven
tools may be	tools may be	tools may be	tools may be
unusable for a time,			
plastering,	plastering,	plastering,	plastering,
bricklaying, levelling	bricklaying, levelling	bricklaying, levelling	bricklaying, levelling
and so on can			
continue. On most	continue. On most	continue. On most	continue. On most
road projects,	road projects,	road projects,	road projects,
construction	construction	construction	construction
companies provide	companies provide	companies provide	companies provide
their own power	their own power	their own power	their own power
given the variable	given the variable	given the variable	given the variable
locations of the	locations of the	locations of the	locations of the
work to be done.			
Within a relatively	Within a relatively	Within a relatively	Within a relatively
short time of	short time of	short time of	short time of

loadshedding	loadshedding	loadshedding	loadshedding
becoming a regular	becoming a regular	becoming a regular	becoming a regular
occurrence, DTPW	occurrence, DTPW	occurrence, DTPW	occurrence, DTPW
had ensured that its			
key work locations	key work locations	key work locations	key work locations
were adequately	were adequately	were adequately	were adequately
serviced with	serviced with	serviced with	serviced with
generators. A far	generators. A far	generators. A far	generators. A far
greater threat lies in			
the inability of other			
agencies and	agencies and	agencies and	agencies and
spheres of	spheres of	spheres of	spheres of
government upon	government upon	government upon	government upon
which DTPW is	which DTPW is	which DTPW is	which DTPW is
dependent for	dependent for	dependent for	dependent for
services e.g.,	services e.g.,	services e.g.,	services e.g.,
property transfers,	property transfers,	property transfers,	property transfers,
zoning applications,	zoning applications,	zoning applications,	zoning applications,
the Deeds Office.	the Deeds Office.	the Deeds Office.	the Deeds Office.

b)(i) what mitigation measures have been taken by the departments of the Western Cape Government to minimise these effects and (ii) what successes have these measures had to date?

(i) Mitigation measures to minimise effects of loadshedding	(ii) what successes have these measures had to date
As indicated, DTPW was able relatively	As indicated, DTPW was able relatively
quickly to ensure alternative power in its	quickly to ensure alternative power in its
key work locations as well as ensuring the	key work locations as well as ensuring the
availability of diesel for these and other	availability of diesel for these and other
generators for which it is responsible.	generators for which it is responsible.
Obviously, measures such as these have	Obviously, measures such as these have
additional budgetary implications. Steps	additional budgetary implications. Steps
were also taken to shut down points of	were also taken to shut down points of
electricity consumption which were not	electricity consumption which were not
required on a 24-hour basis. The judicious	required on a 24-hour basis. The judicious
use of the working from home	use of the working from home
arrangements instituted during the COVID	arrangements instituted during the COVID
pandemic has further ensured that service	pandemic has further ensured that service
delivery has not been significantly	delivery has not been significantly
hampered.	hampered.

Taxi Violence: Route between Paarl and Bellville

6. Mr R D Mackenzie to ask Dr I H Meyer, Acting Minister of Mobility:

- Whether there have been any reported incidents of taxi violence since the B97 route between Paarl and Bellville reopened; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) (a) how many representatives from the Western Cape form part of the National Taxi Task Team and (b) what is the latest update on the task team's work in terms of (i) the number of times they have met in the last 12 months and (ii) reports of their work over the last 12

months?

The ACTING MINISTER OF MOBILITY

Prior to the reopening of the B97 (Mbekweni – Paarl – Bellville) minibus-taxi route, the Department of Transport and Public Works invested a considerable amount of time, resources, and funding into mediation efforts between the Paarl Alliance Taxi Association (affiliated to CODETA) and the Boland Taxi Association (affiliated to CATA). The mentioned Associations have been embroiled in violent conflict for many years regarding control of the B97 route.

This mediation work resulted in the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement between the two Associations. Both Associations have given an undertaking to co-exist and to respect each other's operating rights. The Department also engaged both the City of Cape Town and Drakenstein Municipality to investigate the balance between supply and demand on the B97 taxi route. This resulted in the issuance of some 50 minibus-taxi operating licences conferring authority to provide services on route B97.

Since the reopening of the route in December 2022, departmental officials have closely monitored operations on route B97. Regular engagements have taken place with the affected associations and the Western Cape Branch of the South African National Taxi Council. Several route and rank inspections have been done and we can report that the Associations are co-existing and providing the service jointly. A gap-gap system has been implemented. This effectively means that two vehicles from one Association may not load consecutively, and rank marshals have been appointed by both Associations to monitor proceedings. No incidents of taxi violence between the two Associations have been reported.

The Department has received reports from Law Enforcement Agencies and the South African Police Services of tension between members of the taxi industry and Golden Arrow Bus Services. It has been submitted that taxi drivers are intimidating Golden Arrow drivers and preventing them from loading passengers on Jan Van Riebeeck Road opposite Mbekweni. The Taxi Associations claim that GABS, who provided the replacement service while

route B97 was closed for minibus-taxi operations, should no longer be operating in the area following the reopening of the taxi route. GABS is currently providing a service from Wellington/Paarl/Mbekweni to Cape Town (via Bellville). GABS maintain that they were providing this service before the closure of route B97. Discussions have taken place with both the taxi industry and GABS and the industry has been cautioned to refrain from any acts of intimidation or subjugation.

(2) (a) There are currently two Western Cape government officials serving on

the National Taxi Task Team

(b) (i) Three meetings were held over the last twelve months.

(ii) The National Department of Transport was tasked with the drafting of a report outlining key resolutions adopted during the National Taxi Lekgotla that was held in Johannesburg in October 2020. While provinces were requested to provide inputs during the process of drafting the report, the consolidated draft report that was submitted to the Minister for approval, was not shared with provincial departments.

The National Department of Transport has also been tasked with ensuring that the resolutions are implemented. Many of the adopted resolutions fall outside of the scope and function of regulatory stakeholders (within the various spheres of government), which necessitated the need to co-opt other government departments onto the task team to ensure a co-ordinated and consolidated national approach. The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition, the South African Revenue Services and the Department of Labour are among the national departments that have been co-opted.

The primary focus of the Task Team is to solicit inputs from Departments and regulatory stakeholders regarding the implementation of the resolutions. Following this, the National Department of Transport

Outstanding taxi permits

7. Mr R D Mackenzie to ask Dr I H Meyer, Acting Minister of Mobility:

(a) How many operating taxi permits are currently outstanding in the province, (b) how many have been (i) issued and (ii) collected over the past two years and (c) what efforts has his Department made to ensure that operators collect their permits?

The ACTING MINISTER OF MOBILITY:

a) It is important to note that the Provincial Regulatory Entity ('PRE") must meet often enough to dispose of (process and decide) on operating licence applications within 60 days of the receipt thereof. In this regard, the PRE's turnaround time is contingent on the timeous submission of directives provided by municipalities in terms of their Integrated Transport Plans (ITPs). Transport planning is an exclusive local government matter and the PRE is bound by the directives provided by municipalities and the transport plans for the area.

Once an application has been granted by the PRE, an applicant is given 60 days within which to submit certain documents needed to uplift the operating licence. If the applicant is unable to submit these documents within the 60-day period, he or she may apply for a once-off 30-day extension of this period. Our records show that there are currently 1503 applications for minibus-taxi operating licences with the PRE. Of these, 658 applications (44%) have already been granted by the PRE and are currently in the upliftment/issue operating licence phase, where operators have to submit supporting documents including tax clearance certificates, vehicle registration and licensing papers, etc. In addition, 361 applications (24%) are currently in the adjudication/issue decision letter step.

When an application is received, the PRE must publish same in the Government Gazette for a mandatory 21-day period. The application must also

be referred to the municipality for directions in terms of its Integrated Transport Plan. In terms of legislation, the municipality must provide such directions within a 30-day period. The application cannot be adjudicated until this process has been completed. A total of 415 applications (28%) is currently in this publication/referral phase. The remaining 69 applications (5%) have just been accepted by the PRE and vehicle details must be checked against the National Traffic Information System.

Processing step	No of applications	% of applications
Check NATIS	69	4%
Referral/publication	415	28%
Adjudication/Issue decision letter	361	24%
Upliftment/generate and check operating		
licence	658	44%
Totals	1503	100%

(b)(i) For the 2021 calendar year, the PRE granted and issued a total of 3121 minibus-taxi operating licences. For the 2022 calendar year, at total of 3430 minibus-taxi operating licences were granted and issued (generated) by the PRE.

(ii) During 2021, a total of 3120 (99.97%) operating licences were collected by the applicants. For the 2022 calendar year, a total of 3414 (99.53%) operating licences were collected/uplifted.

c. When an operator transacts with the PRE, there is a requirement to update both his or her contact details and physical/postal address. The operator is also required to select his/her preferred method of communication viz email, registered post, etc. The decision letter of the PRE is sent to the applicant within seven days of the decision being made by the Adjudicators. In addition, the Western Cape's Public Transport Regulation System (PTRS) generates an SMS indicating that the application has been granted or refused. In the case of a granted application, the system will also send out a reminder SMS to the applicant to uplift the operating licence.

Joint operations: 2022 Festive season

8. Mr R D Mackenzie to ask Dr I H Meyer, Acting Minister of Mobility:

How many joint operations were conducted in the province during the 2022 festive season?

The ACTING MINISTER OF MOBILITY:

A total of 2 283 integrated operations were executed across the province during the 2022/23 festive season, for the reporting period 1 December 2022 till 11

January 2023.

Internal and external role players who contributed to and participated in the operations include: South African Police Services (SAPS), Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Safely Home WC, Road Accident Fund, Child Safe, Provincial Regulatory Entity (PRE), Land Transport Safety Management as well as the EC/NC provinces at Inter provincial operations.

9. Mr C Fry to ask Mr A R Winde, Premier:

How many participants of the 2022 Premier's Advancement of Youth Programme have become permanent employees of a department of the Western Cape Government?

The PRIEMIER:

The 2022 participants of the PAY Programme are still serving the last quarter of their contracts. The department will only be able to give the requested number after 31 March 2023.

10. Mr M K Sayed to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Education:

With regard to learner placement for the 2023 academic year:

(1) What is the detailed breakdown of learner placement per (i) school and(ii) education district as at the latest date for which information is available;

(2) whether raw data and a detailed list of all unsuccessful applicants per(i) school and (ii) education district as at the latest date for which information is available can be made available;

(3) what are the hotspot areas for unplaced learners in the province as at the latest date for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

My Department has informed me of the following:

- (1) The list of CEMIS enrolment data per school for placement Grades 1 and 8 as at 11 April 2023 is attached (Annexure A).
- (2) There are two reasons such data would not be a reflection of learners that do not have a place in a school.

Firstly, parents apply to multiple schools for their children. One unique learner may have applications submitted to 10 schools, and would only confirm placement at 1 of these. Thus, the number of "unsuccessful" applications per school would exponentially exceed the number of actual unique learners in the system.

Secondly, a learner may have an application that has been unsuccessful at one

school, but successful at another, and their preferred school of choice. For example, if a learner has been successful in their application to School A, their first school of choice, but their application to School B has been unsuccessful. This learner would not be unplaced – they have been placed in their first choice of school.

Thus we look at unique applications where the learner does not have ANY successful status, and does not have a CURRENT status at a school on our CEMIS database – their placement is thus in progress.

As at 11 April 2023, we have no Grade 1 and 8 learners whose placement is currently in progress.

3. The following are placement hotspots that have been experienced for 2023, however there are currently no Grade 1 and 8 learners for whom placement is in progress.

Mitchells Plain Phillipi Delft Mfuleni **Table View** Parow Durbanville Du Noon Milnerton Athlone Guaulethu City Bowl (CBD) Lansdowne/ Manenberg Corridor Kuils River Brackenfell/ Northpine Khayelitsha Wallacedene Blue Downs Macassar Blackheath **Eerste River** Strand/ Helderberg **Bloekombos** Nomzamo Grabouw Hermanus Gansbaai Mossel Bay Vredenburg Piketberg

11. Mr M K Sayed to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Education:

With regard to his Department's Rapid School Build Programme:

(a) What is the total expenditure breakdown as at 17 January 2023, (b) what are the details of all the (i) contractors who benefitted from the programme and (ii) amounts received per contractor, (c) what are the (i) types of schools that are being built and (ii) types of material being used per school, (d) what is the number of projects that (i) have been completed and (ii) have not been completed and (e) what are the reasons for the delays, if any?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

My department has informed me of the following: (a) Expenditure breakdown provided is for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022:

School	Total Capital Expenditure 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022
Saxonsea HS	R30 841 005
Roosendaal HS	R33 848 532
Nowers Academy	R15 466 618
Lwandle PS	R2 108 447
Blueridge PS	0

Total

R82 264 602

(b)

Name	Contractor
Saxonsea HS no 2	GVK Siya Zama Building Contractors (Pty) Ltd
Rosendaal HS no 2	GVK Siya Zama Building Contractors (Pty) Ltd
Nowers Academy	H & I Civil and Building (Pty) Ltd
Lwandle PS (phase 1A)	Grinaker-LTA (Pty) Ltd
Blueridge PS (phase 1A)	Grinaker-LTA (Pty) Ltd

(c) See response to (a) and (b) for the relevant amounts.

Name	Type of school	Type of material used
Saxonsea HS no 2	Secondary School with a Learning Resource Centre for blended online learning	A hybrid of traditional brick- and-mortar, fibre cement paneling and light steel framing.
Rosendaal HS no 2	Secondary School with a Learning Resource Centre for blended online learning	A hybrid of traditional brick- and-mortar, fibre cement paneling and light steel framing.

Name	Type of school	Type of material used
Nowers Academy	Secondary School offering academic, technical and vocational learning pathways	Refurbishment of a portion of an existing facility: reinforced concrete, brick- and-mortar.
Lwandle PS (phase 1A)	Primary School with extended facilities for Foundation Phase (Grade R-3) and Special Needs Learners	Reinforced concrete, brick- and-mortar.
Blueridge PS (phase 1A)	Primary School with extended facilities for Foundation Phase (Grade R-3) and Special Needs Learners	Reinforced concrete, brick- and-mortar.

(d) Saxonsea HS no 2

Rosendaal HS no 2

Nowers Academy

Lwandle PS (phase 1A)

Blueridge PS (phase 1A)

- The question is answered in the context of the scope of works contracted to be completed by school opening on 18 January 2023, which in some cases are in phases.
- Saxonsea HS no 2; (2) Rosendaal HS no 2; and (3) Nowers Academy.
- A further school in the Rapid School Build programme Rivergate PS is leased and fitted out and was ready for occupation on 18 January 2023.
- The question is answered in the context of the scope of capital works contracted to be completed by school opening on 18 January 2023, which in some cases are in phases.
- Lwandle PS (phase 1A)
- Blueridge PS (phase 1A)
- Edison HS

(e) There no delays at Edison HS (will be fitted out on completion of the acquisition) or Lwandle PS (new school build) with both expected to be ready for occupation by later this year.

No construction has as yet taken place on the Blueridge PS (phase 1A) project due to the intimidation of personnel, vandalism and destruction of construction materials by members of the Oostenberg Football fraternity opposed to the proposed development.

12. Mr M Kama to ask Ms A J D Marais, Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport:

- (1) (a) When did a certain person, whose name has been furnished to her Department for the purpose of her reply, start working for her Department, (b) what (i) position does he occupy and (iii) positions did he occupy in the past and (c) how much budget does he control and oversee;
- (2) (a) how much was spent on the building of the Lavender Hill Care Centre, (b) for what purpose was it built, (c) what environmental studies determined the project, (d) what is the detailed itemised costing of the entire building project for the Lavender Hill Care Centre and (e) what was the involvement of the person in (1)(a) in the decision and process to build the centre;
- (3) whether there is a management committee in place for the Lavender Hill Care Centre; if not, why not; if so, what are the (a) names of the committee members and (b) criteria that determine the composition of the committee?

The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT:

- (1)(a) When did he start working for her Department?
- **Answer:** (1)(a). He started in May 2009.

(1)(b)(i) What position does he occupy?

Answer: (1)(b)(i). The individual you are referring to does not occupy any position at the Department currently as he retired on 31 October 2022. At that point in time, he held a position of Director: Sport Development.

(1)(b)(ii) What positions did he occupy in the past?

Answer: (1)(b)(ii). He started as a Deputy Director of School Sport on 1 May 2009 and got promoted to the post of Director: Sport Development on 1 January 2011.

(1)(c). How much budget does he control and oversee?

Answer: (1)(c) R116 176 595.00 (2022/23).

(2)(a) How much was spent on the building of the Lavender Hill Care Centre?

Answer: (2)(a) The DCAS does not have the costing information of the project. The Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport are the end-users of the facilities. It can be obtained from the Western Cape Education Department (budget holder and Project owner) and the Department of Transport and Public Works (Infrastructure Developer) who have the information. The WCED and the DTPW were approached for the information and once received it will be made

available.

(2)(b) For what purpose was it built?

Answer: (2)(b) The purpose of the facilities was to embrace the concept of promoting neighbourhood development, intersectoral collaboration, and access for learners to multi-purpose shared facilities. The Shared Facilities model was agreed upon to assist in those clusters where facilities were not adequate. The philosophy underpinning the shared facility model was that it was more economical to have several schools within a cluster sharing facilities in close proximity to create safe spaces for learners,

(2)(c) What environmental studies determined the project?

Answer: (2)(c) The DCAS was informed that an environmental impact assessment study that was conducted by the Department of Transport and Public Works prior to the construction of the infrastructure on the Western Cape Education Department properties.

(2)(d) What is the detailed itemised costing of the entire building project for the Lavender Hill Care Centre and?

Answer: (2)(d) The Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport are the end-users of the facilities and does not have access to the information. It can be obtained from the Western Cape Education Department (budget holder and Project owner) and the Department of Transport and Public Works (Infrastructure Developer) who have the information. The WCED and the DTPW were approached for the information and once received it will be made available.

(2)(e) What was the involvement of the person in (1)(a) in the decision and process to build the centre?

Answer: (2)(e) As the DCAS is the end-user of the facilities his role was to liaison with the Western Cape Department of Education on the use of the facilities during the planning and construction of the facilities. He represented DCAS in the meetings and discussions relating to the construction of the facilities.

3. Whether there is a management committee in place for the Lavender Hill Care Centre?

Answer: (3) Yes, there is.

(3)(a) If not, why not; if so, what are the (a) names of the committee members and?

Answer: (3)(a) LH CARES BOARD (NPO Reg. No.: 2018/595286/08)

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

Chairperson: Mr F. Viljoen, Vice Chairperson: Mr Z. Davis, Secretary: Mr A. Adonis, Treasurer: Mr H. Stroud.

(3)(b) Criteria that determine the composition of the committee.

Answer: (3)(b) The committee consist of representatives from Schools (principals), Sport and Recreation organisations, Arts and Culture organisations; Non-Profit Company.

Ex-officio status: The Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport.

13. Mr M Kama to ask Ms A J D Marais, Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport:

With regard to the funding of sport federations from 2014 to 2023 to date: (a) What sporting codes were funded, (b) what is the detailed breakdown of the money spent and (c) what are the details of the funds spent on (i) rugby, (ii) chess, (iii) softball and (iv) football for international participation during this period?

The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT:

13.(a) Please refer to the attached spreadsheet.

• (b) Please refer to the attached spreadsheet. Please note that: The transfer funding is for the following support to federations.

- Administration: Supports the administrative functions of sport federations which includes purchasing of office equipment, stationary, telephones, data, travel cost to meetings etc.
- Development: Support the developmental programmes and projects of sport federations, this includes clubs' leagues, travel to provincial tournaments and competitions, purchasing of equipment and attire and other areas relative to the federation's needs.
- Transformation: Support those projects and initiatives which includes increase participation for women and girls, disability sport, previously disadvantaged communities and other outcomes aligned to the transformation scorecard and charter.
- Capacity building: Support the projects and initiatives aligned to the upskill of athletes, clubs, referee's, technical officials, management, coaches.
- Major events: Support event applications of federations to promote the western cape as a sport tourism Mecca of South Africa. These events are across the 6 districts of the western cape. The funding provided contributes to the hosting of Districts, Provincial, National, and International events.

The details per federation can be found in the annual reports.

• (c) The following codes were supported for period 2014-2023

SPORT CODE	AMOUNT	YEAR
RUGBY	No funds were spent	
CHESS	R48 000 – 6 Athletes R48 000 – 6 Athletes	2015 -2016 2016 – 2017
	R48 000 – 6 Athletes R10 000 – 1 Athlete	2010 - 2017 2021 - 2022
SOFTBALL	R106 000.00 R40 000 – 5 Athletes	2016- 2017
	R48 000 – 6 Athletes	2018 - 2019
	R88 000.00	
FOOTBALL	No funds were spent	

14. Ms R Windvogel to ask Dr N Mbombo, Minister of Health:

(a) How much has her Department received from the national government during the (i) fifth and (ii) sixth administrations for the construction of the Klipfontein Regional Hospital, (b) how much of this money (i) has been spent and (ii) was unspent and returned to the Revenue Fund, (c) what are the reasons why the money had not been spent and (d) which tasks have been undertaken and completed in the building of the Klipfontein Regional Hospital as at the latest date for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH:

• Earmarking of funding with WCGH Programme 8 allocation:

	Administration ministration (2019/20):	(2014 - 2019): R0 Main – R6 000 000.00
Adjusted – F	R1 000.00	
(2020/21):	Main – R2 500 000.00	
	(2021/22):	Adjusted – R0 Main – R10 000 000.00
	(2021/22).	Adjusted – R0
	(2022/23):	Main – R5 510 000.00
		Adjusted – R2 000.00

• (i & ii) The project has not incurred any expenditure, and funding has been reprioritised.

© The original Professional Services Providers tender was cancelled and had to be re-advertised, evaluated and adjudicated. This resulted in a delay in the commencement of the project.

(d) Re-advertisement of the tender to appoint multidisciplinary professional service providers (PSPs) for the design and construction management of the new Klipfontein Regional Hospital has been undertaken and completed, resulting in the award of the tender to M: Phatic Consortium on 16/09/2022.

WCGTPW has appointed a Town Planner to commence land application processes (rezoning and erven consolidation), and a Site Topographical Survey and Preliminary Site Investigation Report have been completed. Tender returnables have been received from the Consortium, including a High-level Development Plan, Quality Management Plan, BIM Execution Plan and Empowerment Implementation Plan;

- DTPW held a 2-day Project Briefing with the Consortium and WCGH on 31/10/2022 and 01/11/2022.
- Preliminary Clinical planning briefing sessions, led by DTPW with WCGH representatives, were completed on 23/110/2022, 30/11/2022, 14/12/2022, 18/01/2023, and 25/01/2023.
- Site visits have been conducted with the Consortium to precedent hospitals in the Western Cape, i.e., Khayelitsha Hospital on 29/11/2022 and Mitchells Plain Hospital on 13/12/2022.
- Project Technical meetings commenced on 17/11/2022 and are being held on a fortnightly basis;
- Appointment of sub-consultants and other specialists has commenced.

15. Mr L L Mvimbi to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Infrastructure:

(a) What has happened to the site on which the old GF Jooste Hospital was located, (b) what are the future plans for the site, (c) how much has the provincial government spent on the old GF Jooste Hospital since its decommissioning as at the latest date for which information is available and (d) what is the breakdown of what the funds were spent on?

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE:

(a) The site has been vacant since closure of the hospital. It has since been identified for utilization for educational purposes.

(b) A new secondary school is being constructed on the site, namely the Manenberg School of Skills. Construction of the new facility began in July 2022. However, during September 2022 the contractor was threatened with extortion

and the site was closed (work halted) pending resolution through engagements with the South African Police Services (SAPS), local law enforcement and community organisations. In the same month the department was served with a legal challenge by an aggrieved contractor seeking a legal review of the tender award process. The challenge included an interdict to halt construction activities until the matter is resolved. The matter is set down for review in court in February 2023. The current practical completion date for the facility is envisaged to be September 2024, but this is subject to the outcome of the afore-mentioned court process.

(c) The Department of Transport and Public Works has spent R19,642,631.41 since the decommissioning of the hospital.

(d) Breakdown

Cleaning and clearing:	R53,943.18
Electricity:	R362,621.84
Sewerage:	R844,659.97
Water:	R239,420.00
Boarding up costs:	R229,745.00
Demolition:	R1,932,300.00
Security (to protect the site against unlawful occupation):	R14,735,543.53
Property rates:	R1,244,666.90

Questions and replies as received from departments

QUESTIONS

For written reply

SASSA grants

1. Mr D Plato to ask Ms S G Fernandez, Minister of Social Development:

- (1) What are the details of the challenges relating to the disbursement of Sassa grants that took place in January 2023.
- (2) Whether she is aware of any mitigation strategies that (a) the Postbank or (b) Sassa has put in place to prevent these issues during the February 2023 grant disbursements?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Postbank experienced what it called "system challenges" which led to a number of beneficiaries being unable to access their January SASSA grants. There were various news reports about the impact on beneficiaries. Our office also received complaints about beneficiaries who experienced difficulties accessing their money.

(a) Postbank issued a statement in January saying it had fixed its system glitches, but did not go into detail how it fixed it or what the cause of the issue was in the first place.

(b) Minister Fernandez requested that SASSA be placed on the agenda of the first MINMEC meeting on 24 January 2023 so that SASSA could explain what it is doing to mitigate problems related to Postbank. In this meeting national minister of social development Lindiwe Zulu admitted it is a serious issue that needs to be discussed, but that she wasn't satisfied with SASSA's current plans and that she's giving the Agency time to come up with a comprehensive response in a later meeting with the MECs. During Minister Fernandez's visit to SASSA offices and the Post Office in Athlone, she heard from several beneficiaries that their money hasn't been paid into their accounts, so it seems the same issue from January prevailed into February.

Gender-Based Violence: Western Cape Shelters

2. Mr D Plato to ask Ms S G Fernandez, Minister of Social Development:

(a) How many survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) made use of the Western Cape's six GBV shelters in 2022 and (b) of these, how many made use of the (i) social workers, (ii) legal aid and (iii) health services offered at each shelter?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT:

Shelters reported that they work closely with the local Department of Health and the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development to refer victims for services.

Location of shelter	Number of victims that accessed shelter services	Number of victims that accessed social work services	Number of victims that accessed legal services	Number of victims that accessed health services
Bergriver 1	45	All victims were assessed by a social worker	1	17
Bergriver 2	76	All victims were assessed by a social worker	5	56
Swartland	25	All victims were assessed by a social worker	7	6
Central Karoo	47	All victims were assessed by a social worker	1	12
Hessequa 1	24	All victims were assessed by a social worker	6	10
Hessequa 2	53	All victims were assessed by a social worker	4	21

Loadshedding: Cape Access Centres

3. Mr C Fry to ask Mr A R Winde, Premier:

- (1) How are the Cape Access centres around the province affected by load-shedding;
- (2) whether any technical (a) infrastructure and (b) equipment have been damaged as a result of load-shedding;
- (3) whether there are any Cape Access centres in the province that have had to close down due to the impact of load-shedding; if so, what are the relevant details?

The PREMIER

 Downtime: When e-centres experience loadshedding during the day our centres have to close as there is no power to the eCentre facilities. Equipment: Due to the power surges created by loadshedding, our

equipment is always at risk.

Training: Centre staff have specific times for training but had to adjust these times, resulting in training taking longer than usual.

User session: Loadshedding had a considerable impact on visits by citizens to the eCentres, resulting in a significant drop in user sessions.

Impact on service delivery: All the above led to increased complaints by users regarding services and they do at times take their frustration out on e-centre staff.

- 2. Some infrastructure and equipment has indeed been damaged due to loadshedding.
 - a. Infrastructure: Network points and power points bear the brunt of the impact of loadshedding. There are 62 faulty network points for the centres and therefore 62 workstations are currently not working.
 - Equipment: We have installed UPS's at eCentres to protect our server. However, the UPS is usually the first to fail and when this happens eCentres bypass it by plugging the power directly into the server (in order for the centre stay open) until such time that a new UPS is installed. However, sometimes the server is damaged before we are able to install a new UPS. Recently the server at Groot Brakrivier failed to restart after loadshedding.
 At Sonskynvallei e-centre (Mosselbay) four monitors could not be switched on after loadshedding.
- 3. Two centres had to close their doors temporarily due to burglary, vandalism and robbery during loadshedding periods.
 - The centre in Wellington experienced a break-in during loadshedding. A server, UPS and two all-in-one PC's were stolen amounting to a considerable cost in equipment replacement alone, excluding the cost of repairing the security door and gates. The centre had to close its doors temporarily for the municipality to repair the damaged infrastructure. We are currently in the process of reopening this centre as the municipality completed the installation of a shutter door.
 - The Bridgton eCentre (Oudtshoorn) facility was damaged to the extent that it was beyond repair due to burglary, robbery of equipment and vandalism during a period of loadshedding. Unfortunately, the cost of repairing and replacing the equipment is extremely high while the risk of repeat vandalisation and burglary at the current venue remains high. It was therefore decided to temporarily close the centre and relocate to a safer venue. A site visit to the newly identified site was conducted during the first week of February and negotiations are under way to ensure the speedy relocation of the eCentre to a safer location.

Advancement of Youth Programme

4. Mr C Fry to ask Mr A R Winde, Premier:

Regarding the Premier's Advancement of Youth Programme:

(1) Since its inception, (a) how many young people have participated in the programme each year, (b) what is the rate of completion for the group in each year and (c) how many have received permanent employment at the 13 Western Cape Government departments in each year;

(2) whether there is any indication of the employment status of those who did not find employment in any department after the completion of the programme; if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) which skills have the participants been equipped with during the programme;

(4) whether there is general feedback from the graduates of the programme; if so, what are the relevant details?

Year of Placement	Number of Interns Participated
2012 - 2013	747
2013 - 2014	728
2014 - 2015	768
2015 - 2016	727
2016 - 2017	721
2017 - 2018	608
2018 - 2019	699
2019 - 2020	837
2020 - 2021	632
2021 - 2022	741
2022 - 2023	496
Total	7704

The PREMIER

(b) The average completion rate is around 75%. The reasons for participants not completing the full 12 months include pursuing studies or finding permanent or contract employment.

(c)
``	

Year of	Number of interns taken up in permanent WCG
Placement	Posts
2012 – 2013	0
2013 - 2014	0
2014 - 2015	31
2015 – 2016	3
2016 - 2017	0
2017 - 2018	2
2018 - 2019	11

	2019 – 2020	5
The main	2020 – 2021	4
purpose of the PAY	2021 – 2022	15
programme is	2022 - 2023	4
to develop skills	TOTAL	75
of youth in		

of youth in

terms of preparing them for either employment, further studies or selfemployment opportunities, including small and informal business opportunities.

- 2.No, the WCG does not have a tracking system that tracks the interns after they leave the system. The WCG is in the process of exploring a tracking system to track PAY interns post the completion of the programme.
- 3.PAY interns have been equipped with the following skills during the programme:
- Work Readiness Training;
- Compulsory Skills Training focused on career guidance, resilience, and an introduction to project management;
- Digital Literacy training structured to provide computer literacy, focusing on the Microsoft Office package,
- Employee Health and Wellness training interventions offer guidance on personal and emotional support and development, and
- Departmental Specific training such as:
 - BAS Training
 - LOGIS Training
 - PERSAL Training
 - Fraud Awareness
 - Sexual Harassment
 - Diversity Management

4.Yes, PAY Interns have responded, amongst others, that:

- The PAY Programme provided workplace experience that improved the market ability of participant;
- excellent training and development opportunities to equip participants for the future, and
- the Pay Programme helped participants to decide how and in what fields to further their studies.

CapeNature's policy on the replacement of assets

5. Mr A P van der Westhuizen to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:

- What is CapeNature's policy on the replacement of assets such as
 (a) mattresses, (b) towels, (c) linen and (d) curtains that are used in tourism accommodation;
- (2) (a) who is responsible for the implementation of this policy and (b) which staff members have the right to write off such assets when

they are found to be not of the high standard that paying guests expect;

(3) (a) what is the process to dispose of these assets, once withdrawn from tourist facilities, and (b) how frequently is the disposal process invoked?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GIVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

a) Mattresses are replaced according to CapeNature's asset disposal process. Relevant staff are required to identify which mattresses need to be disposed including the reason for disposal. The Asset Management team will prepare the disposal submission for sign off by relevant senior management so that the asset can be removed from the fixed asset register.

(1) (b) (c) and (d) Towels, linen and curtains are not classified as assets. These items are checked on a regular basis to assess its condition which informs the decision whether or not to replace it.

- (a) Tourism Liaison Officers, in consultation with supervisors and management, are responsible for the implementation of the policy.
- (b) Tourism Liaison Officers in liaison with the Assets Finance Officer and Conservation Manager, are responsible for writing off assets. Formal documentation must be completed and signed off by the Conservation Manager.
 - 3.(a) The Tourism Liaison Officer(s) identifies stock which needs to be disposed. A disposal form with the asset details and reason for disposal is completed. This will be signed by the Tourism Liaison Officers and Conservation Manager. He/she contacts the Assets Finance Officer with the disposal form and accompanying pictures of the asset. The Asset Management Unit will prepare the disposal submission to be signed off by Senior Management, including the CEO, so that the asset can be taken off the fixed asset register.

The Tourism Liaison Officer(s) completes the donation form (if applicable), and the necessary manager/s sign off on the process. The Conservation Manager identifies a community or project for donation.

(b) The disposal process is invoked on bi-annual basis after the asset verification process

AGRISAT satellite

- 6. Mr A P van der Westhuizen to ask Dr I H Meyer, Minister of Agriculture:
 - (a) To what extent do the images produced by the AGRISAT satellite of Dragonfly Aeronautics in Stellenbosch cover the Western Cape,

- (b) how are these images of value to agriculture in the province,
- (c) who is able to (i) access and (ii) utilise the images produced by the AGRISAT satellite and
- (d) to what extent has Dragonfly Aeronautics engaged his Department for support and/or cooperation?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

(a) AGRISAT will ultimately form part of a constellation of 7 satellites,

belonging to a company called EOS Data Analytics, founded and chaired by the well-known tech entrepreneur Max Polyakov, https://maxpolyakov.com/(link is external). The satellites will not continuously image the entire planet, as per Landsat and Sentinel-2, but being considerably higher resolution, 1-3 metres, will be tasked and targeted to specific project focus areas and generally focus data acquisition on agricultural areas, with a 5 – 6 day revisit time.

Thus it is expected that commercial users worldwide will be able to request specific coverage – albeit at a cost. They eventually envisage a full cycle turnaround time from data acquisition to data delivery in 16-24 hours, with a 1-day revisit time on specific tasking.

Further detailed information on the EOS constellation at: <u>https://eos.com/eossat/</u>

As stated by EOS: "crop prediction, vegetation state control, weed and pest management, weather forecast, and many more. Besides, remote sensing contributes to climate change prevention and satisfaction of global food demand by supporting precision agriculture, which enables farmers to make weighed, data-driven decisions". "They will embrace up to 40 km swath width in 11 bands channels at close to 1,5 - 2,8m resolution. The satellite's service period is five years, and all the main components are fully redundant". Although the data products will be (commercially) provided by EOS, Dragonfly is evidently negotiating access for South African-specific applications and are keen to engage with the Department and other role players to learn what our needs are. Depending on costs there may be interested role players in the sector – and we in the Department would certainly like to explore the system's utility in crop identification, to support our so-called "Flyover" crop census, and crop monitoring in a research capacity.

(i) As stated, the image products are wholly privately owned and will be available commercially, as are many other satellite products at the higher resolution end of the scale. (ii) There are various free offerings provided by the coarser-scale satellites such as LandSat (USGS), Sentinel (European Space Agency), MODIS (NASA) and many more – all of which have excellent and well-proven application in various aspects of agriculture. Generally however, these free offerings are too coarse to support analytics required by precision agriculture. EOS is thus aiming for that market, amongst others.

Dr. Sias Mostert is Chairman of SCS Aerospace Group (Space Commercial Services Holdings) met with members of the Department during 2019, before the establishment of Dragonfly. It is unclear whether these early explorative

engagements relate to the Dragonfly Project. It appears that attracting foreign funding (from Max Polyakov) was a more expedient route for Dragonfly to follow, for various reasons. Nonetheless Mr Dave du Toit, Head of Dragonfly's Advisory Council has expressed enthusiastic interest in meeting with our GIS team upon the return of their CEO, Brian Dean, from abroad.

The satellite is the first of a seven-satellite constellation in low Earth orbit for customer EOSDA (EOS Data Analytics). The remaining six satellites of the constellation will be deployed over the next three years. EOS SAT is the world's first agriculture-focused satellite constellation providing the agriculture and forestry industry with high-quality data to support efficient and sustainable practices. Images obtained from Dragonfly's EOS SAT-1 will deliver valuable information for harvest monitoring, application mapping, seasonal planning and assessments that analyse information such as soil moisture, yield prediction and biomass levels.

This data will support growers with reducing carbon dioxide emissions and help them to develop sustainable agricultural methods. Such information will have important environmental benefits for the planet and help prevent natural habitats from being diminished for crop growth and maintain biodiversity. Equipped with two DragonEye electro-optical imagers, EOS SAT-1 will provide 44km swath panchromatic and multispectral imagery across 11 spectral bands at close to 1m resolution – making it one of the most capable imaging satellites in LEO.

To address the issues of existing satellites, such as low sensor resolution, limited spectral capacities, and poor performance during cloudy weather, EOS SAT satellite cameras will capture imagery using 13 agri-related bands: RGB, 2 NIR channels, 3 RedEdge channels, WaterVapor, Aerosol, Pan, and 2 SWIR channels. EOS SAT-1 will have 11 spectral bands, excluding the SWIR bands. EOS SAT-2 and the following satellites are expected to get into orbit within 2023-2024. The full operational capability of the EOS SAT constellation is scheduled to be achieved in 2025

After reaching full operation by 2025, EOS SAT will cover up to 100% of countries with the largest areas of farmlands and forestlands, amounting to 98.5% of such lands across the globe. Bryan Dean, CEO and Co-founder of Dragonfly Aerospace.

Polyphagous shot hole borer beetles

7. Mr A P van der Westhuizen to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:

(1) How effective are traps for polyphagous shot hole borer beetles (Euwallacea fornicatus) to determine the presence of such beetles in a particular area;

(2) whether his Department has or whether his Department or its entity, CapeNature, will be using such traps in order to monitor the presence and/or spread of polyphagous shot hole borer beetles in the Western Cape; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details; (3) to what extent is his Department or CapeNature cooperating with other research bodies and departments (such as the Department of Agriculture) regarding the polyphagous shot hole borer beetle;

(4) whether there is a map of the province indicating areas where the presence of the shot hole borer beetle has been recorded; if so, where can this map be obtained?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

The effectiveness of setting traps to determine the presence of polyphagous shot hole borer beetles (PSHB) is being researched by Prof Francois Roets at Stellenbosch University in collaboration with the Forest and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI) and several other universities.

CapeNature is not currently considering the deployment of traps to monitor the presence or spread of PSHB on protected areas managed by the entity and will only consider the deployment of traps on CapeNature managed nature reserves, if supported by research findings.

CapeNature has implemented surveillance and mitigation protocols at reserves where the potential invasion of PSHB posing a risk to biodiversity has been identified.

CapeNature collaborates with the Centre for Invasion Biology and Stellenbosch University, and with other entities and agencies via the Provincial Disaster Management Centre (i.e. Provincial Departments, South African National Parks, City of Cape Town).

Yes, there is a map indicating areas where the presence of the PSHB has been recorded. This can be found on the FABI website - <u>https://www.fabinet.up.ac.za/index.php/pshb</u>

Accommodation occupancy

8. Ms C Murray to ask Ms M M Wenger, Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities:

(1) (a) What was the average accommodation occupancy rate in the province in (i) November and (ii) December 2022, (b) what is the rate for each month of the remaining tourism season and (c) how does this rate compare with the same period in (i) 2019 and (ii) 2021;

(2) what was the average spend per (a) international visitor and (b) domestic visitor during their visits to the Western Cape?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

a.At present, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism [DEDAT] only has access to hotel occupancy rates as the Department does not subscribe to services that report on occupancy levels for other forms of short-stay accommodation. According to STR [2022], the average hotel occupancy rate for November 2022 was 69.5%. This was slightly lower than the November 2019 average of 76%. The hotel occupancy rate for December 2022 was 72% which was slightly higher than the 68.1% reported for December 2019. Overall, hotel occupancy levels have seen a steady increase since the Covid-19 pandemic started and levels are returning to pre-Covid levels.

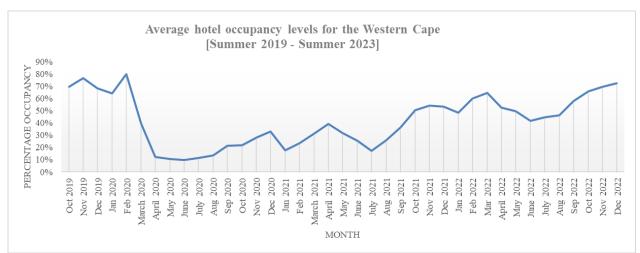
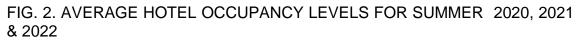


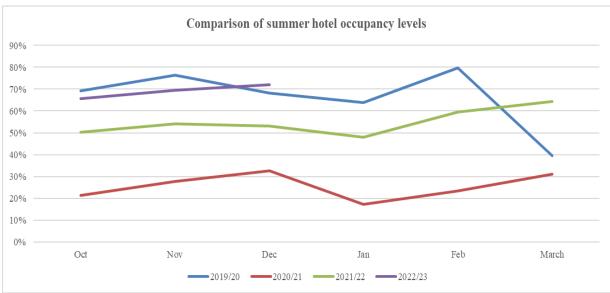
FIGURE 1: AVERAGE HOTEL OCCUPANCY [WESTERN CAPE]

Fig. 1. Average hotel occupancy levels for Western Cape hotels [Source: STR].

[Source: STR, 2022]

- b.At present, DEDAT does not have access to forward booking data so are unable to report on future projected occupancy levels.
- c. Figure 2 compares the average hotel occupancy levels for summer 2019/2020, 2020/2021, 2021/2022 and 2022/23.





[Source: STR, 2022]

Average expenditure figures for the current 2022/2023 [which extends until the end of April] tourism season have not yet been released. In 2021 however, the total average spending for international visitors was R9,545 per trip, while the total average spending for domestic visitors per trip was R3,062. These are national figures and not Western Cape-specific. South African Tourism does however publish a provincial breakdown of domestic spending. It notes that the average domestic spend per trip in the Western Cape was R7,703.79 in 2021.

GreenCape Contribution

9. Ms C Murray to ask Ms M M Wenger, Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities:

With regard to the green economy in the Western Cape:

(a) What is the estimated value of the green economy in the province, (b) how has GreenCape contributed to the growth of this economy over the past three years, (c) what are the risks to jobs associated with a greater transition to green energy in the province and (d) what efforts has the Western Cape Government made to mitigate these risks?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

There are a number of indicators one could use to assess the value of the Green Economy, such as the number of companies, however, the green tech sector is not measured as a separate sector, and so contribution to GDP is difficult to determine. A sector analysis study for the City of Cape Town in 2019/20 provides some proxy indicators. Considering that about 70-80% of the Western Cape's economy can be attributed to the City of Cape Town, this information can be indicative at least of minimum likely size.

A few headline items from this analysis indicate that:

- In 2019/20, Cape Town had a minimum of 600 companies providing green goods and services to the economy. Of these, 522 (87%) were SMMEs: 275 (46%) of these businesses were micro businesses, 175 (29%) were small businesses, and 72 (12%) were medium businesses. The remaining 78 (13%) companies were identified as large businesses. Of the 600 companies, 416 (70%) have head offices in Cape Town.
- The companies operating in Cape Town supported between 6,865 29,075 formal jobs. This excludes an estimated minimum of 10,000 informal waste reclaimers operating in Cape Town.
- It is expected that both the number of companies and jobs have grown particularly post-Covid and due to the current energy crisis.
- The revenue: GDP ratio of the Green Economy to the total GDP of Cape Town is estimated to be between 2 and 9%.

In terms of the value of green economy related opportunities in the province:

The Energy Services Market Intelligence Report (MIR) for 2022 highlighted the estimated value of R35 billion by 2035 in Western Cape (from the estimated national value of R131 billion by 2035), using the total available market for the SSEG (solar rooftop PV systems) installed in the country, energy storage, and capital leveraged in energy efficiency interventions implemented by the South African energy users. It is important to note that this estimate does not consider smaller technology market segments that are also part of this market sector, such as small-scale wind energy, waste-to-energy, solar thermal, and diesel generators.

In addition, as outlined in the Water MIR, there is an investment opportunity on smart systems for water and wastewater management, with R1.2 billion in planned smart meter installation in the City of Cape Town over 8 years, and R5.5 million subsidy for smart metering in Western Cape schools. With respect to public sector water and wastewater treatment (W&WWT) infrastructure, R10.1 billion is budgeted by Western Cape municipalities (incl. R7 billion for the City of Cape Town) for W&WWT infrastructure expenditure over the next 3 years with an additional R3.8 billion (R 2.75 billion for City of Cape Town) for repairs and maintenance with opportunities for climate mitigation and innovation.

While GreenCape is not a provincial entity, it was contracted by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism (DEDAT) in 2020/21 and 2021/22 to provide services to industry to help grow the green economy.

Apart from direct support being provided to industry to assist with technical and financial decisions, matchmaking and other, during 2020/21, GreenCape in partnership with Wesgro facilitated investments to the value of R11 563 700 000 (50/50 split with Wesgro i.e. total value of investment supported by GreenCape was R5 781 850 000) and during 2021/22, GreenCape in partnership with Wesgro facilitated investments in the Western Cape to the value of R61,853,205 (50/50 split with Wesgro i.e. total value of investment declaration of R52 million was signed in 2021/22, but this covers four provinces including the Western Cape.

Since being established in 2010, GreenCape has helped to facilitate and support R42 billion of investment in renewable energy projects and manufacturing (not limited to the Western Cape). From these investments, more than approximately 19 000 local jobs have been created. GreenCape has also diverted over 104 900 tonnes of waste from landfill by connecting businesses with waste/under-used resources through their Western Cape Industrial Symbiosis Programme (WISP).

The transition to green energy in the province doesn't pose any direct negative risks to jobs in the Western Cape as is in the case of Mpumalanga where coal power stations and related jobs are located. There are no coal power stations or coal mines located in the Western Cape, which is where the bulk of energy transition job risks sit. Additionally, green energy developers have a proportionately higher presence in the province, with 16 out of 25 projects awarded in REIPPPP (Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Program) Bid Window 5 being awarded to developers with offices in the Western Cape. This is due to the significant support work that has been undertaken in the Western Cape in the past decade, including the annual development and distribution of energy-related (utility-scale and energy services) market intelligence reports, as well as direct support to businesses, municipalities and others through engagements, networking events, case study and industry brief development.

The energy transition is deemed to have no negative impact on jobs in the Western Cape. In fact, the opposite is true and the transition can assist in creating new jobs in the sector through:

- A reduction in risks to and growth potential for exports due to the avoidance of carbon border taxes (due to lowering the carbon footprint of goods manufactured and / or produced in the province),
- the creation of value-adding local manufacturing opportunities e.g. Atlantis Special Economic Zone (SEZ),
- increased investment in the Province by renewable energy project developers,
- increased activity in the energy sector as a whole (e.g. installers of PV systems), and
- increased investment by businesses in the Province to build their own and Western Cape energy resilience.

The Western Cape Government is also planning to develop a Western Cape Just Energy Transition Investment Plan to harness further access to climate financing opportunities that support the energy resilience of all. Given the current energy supply crisis, rising energy costs, and the increasing threat of carbon border adjustments, the risks to jobs are much greater if we do not transition to a green energy in the Province.

Bothasig Police Station

10. Ms C Murray to ask Mr R I Allen, Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

With regard to the SAPS Bothasig Police Station:

- (1) Which suburbs or communities is this SAPS station mandated to respond to;
- whether the station is also mandated to respond to communities including Burgundy, Richwood, De Zicht, De Aan Zicht and Monte Vista;

if not, (a) why not and (b) what measures can be taken by the Western Cape SAPS to include these suburbs in this station's mandated areas to respond to? The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

(1) Edgemead, Bothasig, Richwood De Zicht, De Aan Zicht, Atlantic Hills and Kleinbosch.

(2) Burgundy is within the Parow SAPS policing precinct, whereas Monte Vista is within the Goodwood SAPS policing precinct.

- (b) N/A
- (c) N/A

Loss of life due to wildfires

11. Mr D America to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:

- Whether there have been any instances of loss of life due to wildfires in the province from November 2022 to date; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether there have been any instances of property damage due to wildfires in the province from November 2022 to date; if so, what has been the estimated total cost of said damage?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

- (1) No, there has been no loss of life reported to Province.
- (2) No, there has been no instances of property damage or loss reported to Province.

Municipalities: Develop ward committee operational plans

12. Mr D America to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:

- (1) How many municipalities in the province are expected to develop ward committee operational plans;
- (2) whether there are municipalities that have yet to finalise ward committee operational plans; if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

1.All twenty-four local municipalities and the metropolitan municipality are required to annually develop Ward Committee Operational Plans and submit such plans to the Department of Local Government (the Department).

2.Only one local municipality has not yet submitted Ward Operational Plans to the Department. This matter has been escalated to their Speaker of the Council as the custodian of Ward Committees and through his intervention a meeting has been scheduled with the purpose of supporting the Municipality with the development and submission of their outstanding Ward Committee Operational Plans.

Provincial Treasury: R80 million

13. Mr D America to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:

With regard to the recently announced amount of more than R80 million released by the Provincial Treasury to his Department:

(a) What is the exact amount that his Department has received from the Provincial Treasury, (b) what is the purpose of this allocation, (c) what are the details of his Department's plan to spend this money and (d) what is the expected time frame for (i) this expenditure to take place and (ii) implementation to commence?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

- a.Once the Gazette has been published the Department of Local Government expects to receive R 88.815 million from Provincial Treasury
- b. The Grant provides a financial contribution to municipalities towards the purchase and installation of back-up energy supply (which may include generators, renewable power sources, batteries and all ancillary costs associated with the installation i.e.: switch gear, safe keeping, caging etc) for water and wastewater infrastructure as an immediate response to the prolonged loadshedding, thereby mitigating the impact on the provision of basic services and potential health risks.
- c. The following is the Department's implementation plan to spend the allocation:
- Each Municipality must prepare a business plan signed by the Accounting Officer that contains the following special requirements:
- Certificates of Commitment completed by the accounting officer to procure and effectively operate, maintain, and handle all ancillary costs (operational costs) associated with their respective generators.
- A summary of the amount spent by the municipality to mitigate the risk of loadshedding.
- The business plans will detail the following:
- Project scope (a consolidated list of critical infrastructure

installations and energy supply requirements)

- Technical design specifications
- Output indicators
- Outcomes
- Key activities
- Implementation strategy
- Timeframes
- Estimated costs & cash flows
- Monitoring and reporting
- Vetted Transfer Payment Agreements (TPAs) will be signed between the municipalities and the HOD of the Department of Local Government.
- Transfer payments schedules to municipalities shall be in accordance with the TPA between the Department of Local Government and Municipality

The expected time frames:

- i. The expenditure is expected to take place at least two months or thereabout from the date of disbursement of the allocated funds to the municipalities.
- ii. The implementation is expected to commence as soon as the gazette has been published.

SAPS call centre in Maitland

14. Mr G Bosman to ask Mr R I Allen, Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

In relation to the SAPS call centre in Maitland:

(1) (a) What has been the call centre's budget for (i) 2018/19, (ii) 2019/20, (iii) 2020/21, (iv) 2021/22 and (v) 2022/23 and (b)(i) how many cases of dropped calls have been reported and (ii) what were the reasons for it;

(2) (a) what (i) infrastructure and (ii) software are in need of replacement or upgrading and (b) what would the cost be?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

The reply of the South African Police Service (SAPS):

- 14. (1) (a) (i) R 8,788,000-00
 - (ii) R 9,031,500-00
 - (iii) R 8,680,700-00
 - (iv) R 9,890,000-00
 - (v) R 9,997,000-00

The above refers to the operational budget, which excludes compensation.

(b) (i) 2018/2019 - 277 152

2019/2020 - 319 512 2020/2021 - 393 302 2021/2022 - 501 978

(ii) A dropped call refers to a lost call that was disconnected due to inter alia:

- Technical errors
- Abandoned calls
- Hoax/nuisance/abusive calls

(2) (a) (i) Voice Logger requires an upgrade, estimated at $\pm R$ 1 500 000.

(ii) Incident Management System requires an upgrade, estimated at \pm R21 000 000 for all 10111 Centres country wide.

(b) $\pm R \ 1 \ 500 \ 000 \ and \pm R \ 21 \ 000 \ 000 \ as mentioned above.$

SAPS call centre in Maitland

15. Mr G Bosman to ask Mr R I Allen, Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

In relation to the SAPS call centre in Maitland:

(1) Whether the current call centre is sufficient to cater for all the residents of the province; if not;

(2) whether there are plans to (a) increase its capacity or (b) build an additional centre; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) whether load-shedding has affected the operations of the call centre; if so, what are the relevant details;

(4) whether the call centre is (a) equipped with a generator and (b) exempted from certain stages of load-shedding; if so, what are the relevant details;

(5) how many cases of absenteeism have been recorded in (a) 2018/19, (b) 2019/20, (c) 2020/21, (d) 2021/22 and (e) 2022/23 to date?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

- [1] The Maitland 10111 Command Centre is currently serving 72 police stations, which are situated in the peninsula.
- [2] [a] No
- [b] No
- [3] Yes, when the power goes off all systems/telephones shutdown and have to be rebooted upon switching to the generator.
- [4] [a] Yes

[b] No [5] [a] - [e] Information outstanding due to non-availability of the PERSAL/PERSAL System.

Loadshedding: Police stations

16. Mr G Bosman to ask Mr R I Allen, Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

With respect to the impact of load-shedding on service delivery at police stations:

(1) Whether there are police stations exempted from load-shedding; if not, (a) which stations are equipped with generators and (b) which services are unavailable when stations do not have electricity; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) whether police stations are closed during load-shedding; if not, whether any cases of stations closing during periods of load-shedding have been bought to his attention; if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

The reply of the South African Police Service [SAPS]:

- [1] Yes, Athlone SAPS
 - [a] All police stations are equipped with generators.
 - [b] All frontline services are available, such as the client service centre, victim support and the attendance of complaints. Affected

services are those of the back office, which range from SAPS mainframe and web-based systems.

Questions and replies as received from departments

QUESTIONS

For written reply

Public Order Policing Unit

1. Mr G Bosman to ask Mr R I Allen, Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

In relation to the Public Order Policing Unit in the province:

(a) How many police officers have been assigned to the unit in (i) 2018/19, (ii) 2019/20, (iii) 2020/21, (iv) 2021/22 and (v) 2022/23 and (b) what has been the budget assigned to the unit during the same period?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

The reply of the South African Police Service [SAPS]:

- 1. [a] [i] 412
 - [ii] 380 [iii] 380 [iv] 392
 - [v] 384

[In addition 400 constables were ring-fenced from the intake of April 2022 and 121 constables were allocated to National POP situated in Cape Town].

[b] [i] R14 146 000 [ii] R14 677 500 [iii] R13 976 000 [iv] R13 621 000 [v] R13 710 000

The above refers to the operational budget, which excludes compensation.

Public Order Policing

2. Mr G Bosman to ask Mr R I Allen, Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

In relation to the Public Order Policing Unit in the province:

(a) What is the full list of protests that occurred to which the unit was deployed in (i) 2018/19, (ii) 2019/20, (iii) 2020/21, (iv) 2021/22 and (v) 2022/23 and (b) in relation to these protests, what is the detailed list of how (i) many police officers and (ii) much resources were used at each protest?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

The reply of the South African Police Service [SAPS):

2. Detailed information that is made public, with regard to SAPS operational deployment of human material resources [other than vehicles), may pose a threat to the safety and security of SAPS personnel deployed, and therefore, cannot be provided. However, the totals per financial year are indicated below.

[a)		[i) [ii) [iii) [i∨) [∨)	1 373 1 049 833 741 614
[b)	[i)	[i) [ii) [iii) [iv) [v)	50 666 48 921 33 607 18 827 14 516
[b)	[ii)	[i) [ii) [iii)	4 621 vehicles 3 945 vehicles 3 504 vehicles

- [iv) 2 250 vehicles
- [v) 1 742 vehicles

Former SAPS members

3. Mr G Bosman to ask Mr R I Allen, Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

In relation to former SAPS members in the province:

(a) How many have been employed by municipal law enforcement in the province in (i) 2018/19, (ii) 2019/20, (iii) 2020/21, (iv) 2021/22 and (v) 2022/23 to date and (b) what were their reasons for them leaving the SAPS?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

The reply of the South African Police Service (SAPS):

- 3. (a) (i) to (v) This information is not available and may be obtained from municipal law enforcement.
 - (b) Not applicable.

Security Services: Social Development

4. Mr D Plato to ask Ms S G Fernandez, Minister of Social Development:

(a) How much has been spent on security services at her Department's facilities over the last three financial years, (b) what are the details of this expenditure and (c) what has been the total cost of break-ins at facilities of the Department of Social Development to her Department over the last three financial years?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- a. The total amount spent for the last three years amounts to R 72 852 066.52
- b. Facility 2019/2020 2020/2021 2021/2022 BONNYTOUN: FACILITY MANAGEMENT 3,264 3,432 3,296 CLANWILLIAM FACILITY MANAGEMENT 1,917 5,308 5,345 **DE NOVO: FACILITY** MANAGEMENT 2,488 2,551 2,658 HORIZON FACILITY MANAGEMENT 3,396 8,749 8,823 **KENSINGTON** (REHAB) 1,071 1,179 1,166 LINDELANI: FACILITY MANAGEMENT 1,544 1,570 1,636 OUTENIEKWA: FACILITY MANAGEMENT 1,823 2,029 2,107 VREDELUS: FACILITY MANAGEMENT 2,344 2,378 2,780 Total 17,847 27,194 27,810
- c. During 2022 there was an armed robbery at Vredelus Child and Youth Care Centre in Elsiesriver. The damages were around R30 000.

Inverters: 25 healthcare facilities

5. Mr G Pretorius to ask Dr N Mbombo, Minister of Health:

In relation to her Department's project that will supply 25 healthcare facilities with inverters:

(1) (a) How far along is the project, (b) when is it expected to be completed, (c) which healthcare facilities participated in the project and (d) what was the cost of the project;

(2) with respect to the 50 facilities smaller than 200 m2 that will be assisted with specifications to purchase inverter trolleys, (a) how far along is this intervention,(b) by when is it expected to be completed, (c) which healthcare facilities are participating in the initiative and (d) what is the expected total cost?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH

1.(a) Phase 1 of the Rural PHC Clinic Hybrid Inverter Turnkey Project will see hybrid inverters commissioned at 51 clinics.

(b) Phase 1 will commence on 20 February 2023. $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$

Empilisweni Clinic	Worcester
Klein Drakenstein Clinic	Paarl
Nieuwedrift Clinic	Paarl
Patriot Plein Clinic	Paarl
Simondium Clinic	Paarl
Soetendal Clinic	Wellington
Bella Vista Clinic	Ceres
Montagu Clinic	Montagu
Kayamandi Clinic	Stellenbosch
De Doorns Clinic	De Doorns
Huis McCrone Clinic	Wellington
Idas Valley Clinic	Stellenbosch
Nkqubela Clinic	Robertson
Hillside Clinic	Beaufort West
Klaarstroom Satellite Clinic	Klaarstroom
Kwamandlenkosi Clinic	Beaufort West
Leeu-Gamka Clinic	Leeu-Gamka
Amalienstein Clinic	Zoar
Asla Clinic	Mossel Bay
Bongolethu Clinic	Oudtshoorn
Eyethu Clinic	Mossel Bay
George Central Clinic	George
Great Brak River Clinic	Great Brak River
Knysna Town Clinic	Knysna
Kuyasa (George) Clinic	George
Melkhoutfontein Satellite Clinic	Stilbaai
New Horizon Clinic	Plettenberg Bay

Oudtshoorn Clinic	Oudtshoorn
Slangrivier Satellite Clinic	Slangrivier
Zoar Clinic	Oudtshoorn
Bredasdorp Clinic	Bredasdorp
Genadendal Clinic	Genadendal
Napier Clinic	Napier
Pearly Beach Satellite Clinic	Pearly Beach
Railton Clinic	Swellendam
Suurbraak Clinic	Suurbraak
Swellendam Clinic	Swellendam
Waenhuiskrans Satellite Clinic	Arniston
Darling Clinic	Darling
Elands Bay Clinic	Elands Bay
Graafwater Clinic	Graafwater
Laingville Clinic	St Helena Bay
Lutzville Clinic	Lutzville
Riebeek Kasteel Clinic	Riebeek Kasteel
Riebeek West Clinic	Riebeek West
Van Rhynsdorp Clinic	Van Rhynsdorp
Wupperthal Clinic	Wupperthal
Lalie Cleophas Clinic	Hopefield
Langebaan Clinic	Langebaan
Saldanha Clinic	Saldanha
Hanna Coetzee Clinic	Vredenburg

(d) The initial cost estimate of the project is R7,2 million.

2. This proposed initiative was absorbed in the Rural PHC Clinic Hybrid Inverter Turnkey Project and trolleys will be replaced with hybrid inverters. Advantages of the Inverter Turnkey application include:

• Provides backup power for clinics' essential circuits in the event of load shedding

• Normally drawing solar power for the clinic to lower grid consumption and charge batteries

• No feed-in tariff to allow faster installation of hybrid system (no application and agreement with municipality)

- A means of targeting net zero for the Department
- Maintained by ESCO for 10 years as part of shared savings
- ESCO insures installation against vandalism
- New COC can be issued for installation and whole facility with minimal additional cost if no major faults as per SANS 10142

a. Phase 1 of the project commences on 20 February and Phase 2 will bring about 71 additional clinics being equipped with hybrid inverters.

b. Phase 2 will commence during the 2023/24 financial year.

c. The remaining 71 PHC facilities.

d. This is part of the R7,2m allocated towards the Clinic Hybrid Inverter Turnkey Project.

Climate change: Western Cape Province

6. Mr A P van der Westhuizen to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:

In relation to the Western Cape Government's response to climate change: (1) (a) What are the main challenges in implementing a comprehensive response on provincial level, (b) to what extent has the lack of an integrated plan from the national government curtailed the Western Cape Government's plan and (c) what support has been received from the national government to address the threat of climate change in the province;

(2) whether the support received from the national government has been sufficient; if not, what further support from the national government would be beneficial?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMANET, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

(a) Implementing a comprehensive response to climate change on a provincial level can be challenging for a number of reasons. One of the main challenges is limited resources, both financial and human, to develop and implement programs and policies aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to the impacts of climate change which are appropriate for our context. These resources should not only be expected from Vote 9 but pervasive across WCG.

With climate change being a transversal issue, another challenge is poor coordination and cooperation between different government departments and sectors, which can lead to a fragmented approach. This exacerbates the problem of accessing financial support, due to climate change response project proposals not getting to implementation readiness state, or not being large enough to qualify for external funding.

Incorrectly labelled as an environmental problem, there can also be a lack of public and political support and understanding of the need for action on climate change, which can make it difficult to secure political will and resources when it is seen as being in competition with pressing priorities.

(b) The lack of provincially proportional and downscaled targets, thresholds and obligations which are specifically resourced from national government makes it difficult for the Western Cape Government to align and implement policies and programs in a manner that complements the national plan, and to secure the necessary funding and support from national and international sources. The main concern though is the lack of provincial proportioned downscaled targets, thresholds and obligations that should guide the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and benchmarking of adaptation and resilience.

(c) The national Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment has, on occasion, conducted capacity building sessions in the province, and channelled international donor funding to localised response projects. The platform for sharing information related to international treaties is the Environmental Sector MinTech Working Groups (WG9 is Climate Change). These are, however, restricted to the National commitment and not unpacked to the subnational level as evident in the current version of the Climate Change Bill. The WCG is an active participant on this platform, advancing and defending the interests of subnational spheres of government.

In respect of adaptation measures – i.e. adapting to unavoidable impacts of climate change – mention can be made of individual local intervention projects by the national Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment. These projects typically facilitate the use of international donor funding for local scale adaptation such as early warning systems or response strategy development. We have benefitted from an Adaptive Capacity Facility funded project setting up an early warning system for fires in the Garden Route District Municipality. The national DFFE has a Local Government Support Programme that supports municipalities directly in some of their response activities.

2. It is important for both the national and provincial governments to work together technically to address the challenges of climate change. The National team endeavours to provide access to technical expertise, and sharing best practices and lessons learned from other regions. International funding is often channelled to Provinces which experience high levels of poverty especially of their large rural populations. In order for the Western Cape to respond sufficiently with the necessary urgency and scale to predicted climate change impacts, there would need to be a dedicated national conditional grant or ring-fenced funds provided to Province and to the Municipalities for our respective roles.

Loadshedding: Traffic lights

7. Mr R D Mackenzie to ask Dr I H Meyer, Acting Minister of Mobility:

Regarding load-shedding:

(1) What is the impact of blackouts on the operation of traffic lights;

(2) whether there are alternative sources of energy, such as solar panels installed in the province, to ensure traffic lights remain functional during blackouts; if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) how much has the provincial government and local governments in the province invested in alternative energy to power traffic lights? The ACTING MINISTER OF MOBILITY

- 1. Unless there are alternative sources of electricity, traffic lights will not be operational when we there are blackouts.
- 2. There are no alternative sources of energy installed to keep traffic lights functional on the provincial road network. The Province has no detail regarding the national or municipal road networks.
- 3. The Province has not invested any funds in alternative energy to serve traffic lights on its network. The Province has no detail regarding the local municipal traffic lights.

Loadshedding: Alternative energy

8. Mr R D Mackenzie to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Infrastructure:

(1) Whether the Western Cape Government is using alternative energy sources during load-shedding in government buildings in the province; if so, what are the costs involved;

(2) what is the plan to make Western Cape government buildings energy resilient?

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE

1. The DTPW, in its capacity as custodian and manager of provincial government buildings has installed backup generators in all provincially owned office buildings and in this way has addressed all previous load-shedding demands since 2015/16.

The capacity of the generators is based on the electrical demands of each building and the department performs routine maintenance comprising several services per year on all backup generators.

The costs incurred by the DTPW relate to routine maintenance of backup generators, additional mechanical repairs due to the frequency of extended loadshedding and diesel, the purchase and hire of additional generators and equipment, as well as diesel. The detailed repair and maintenance costs relating to generators specifically cannot easily be extracted from the total operational maintenance costs incurred by the DTPW in respect of all mechanical and electrical installations. However, the DTPW will have spent in the region of R5.1m for diesel for the various back-up generators provided across the general building portfolio from 1 April 2022 to 28 February 2023. Over the same period, the department will have incurred an amount of about R633,000.00 for the hiring of generators to further support various departments' operational requirements, and approximately R1.3m, for the procurement of new generators and related equipment, specifically bousers, which are holding tanks and trailers for diesel.

Since 2017, the Department of Transport and Public Works has furthermore installed solar photovoltaic panels on several provincially owned buildings and sites to supplement electrical supply. Currently, these installations are grid-tied, meaning that provincial buildings remain on the national power grid. There is therefore less demand for Eskom power and enhanced resilience of our infrastructure.

The DTPW's most recent solar PV projects include a ground-mounted installation at Elsenburg which is managed by the Department of Agriculture, and the solar PV installation covering the parking area at the Green Building located on the Karl Bremer hospital site in Bellville. These will be completed before the end of March 2023.

2. Feasibility assessments are ongoing to determine the most appropriate alternative energy solutions, including battery storage for various provincially owned facilities and sites for which the Department of Transport and Public Works is responsible.

Agriculture: Funding of service providers

9. Mr P Marran to ask Dr I H Meyer, Minister of Agriculture:

With reference to his Department's funding of service providers from the start of the sixth administration to date:

(1) (a) What are the details of all the service providers that have been funded in (i) 2019, (ii) 2020, (iii) 2021, (iv) 2022 and (v) 2023 to date and (b) what was the purpose of each funding;

(2) whether his Department awarded funding of R10 million about 18 months ago to a certain company, whose name has been furnished to his Department for the purpose of his reply; if not, why not; if so, (a) what was the purpose of this funding and (b) from which programme did the money come;

(3) whether a commodity representative can also become a competitor in the market of plant material, given that the company in (2) is a service provider; if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

(1) Since the start of the sixth administration no donation was made to Ukraine. The reason being that it is not the policy nor practice of the Western Cape Department of Agriculture to make donations to foreign states.

(2) (a) Neither the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, nor any of its entities, has instituted a project called the Food Garden Project for Ukraine. The Department is also not aware whether any of the entities utilised by the Department to assist with the rollout of food gardens have a project with that title.

(b) No funds were allocated to a project of this nature.

Donations to the Ukraine

10. Mr P Marran to ask Dr I H Meyer, Minister of Agriculture:

- (1) Whether his Department and/or entities have made any donations to Ukraine from the start of the sixth administration to date; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether his Department and/or entities run a project called the Food Garden Project for Ukraine; if so, (a) what are the relevant details and (b) how much is allocated to the project?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

- Since the start of the sixth administration no donation was made to Ukraine. The reason being that it is not the policy nor practice of the Western Cape Department of Agriculture to make donations to foreign states.
- (a) Neither the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, nor any of its entities, has instituted a project called the Food Garden Project for Ukraine. The Department is also not aware whether any of the entities utilised by the Department to assist with the rollout of food gardens have a project with that title.
 - (b) No funds were allocated to a project of this nature.

Provincial Strategic Plan (2019-2024)

11. Ms P Z Lekker to ask Mr A R Winde, Premier:

(a) What are the (i) targets and (ii) deliverables attached to each of his government's vision-inspired priorities (VIPs) and (b) how has his government and individual departments performed in terms of each VIP from the start of the sixth administration to date?

The PREMIER

The following document captures progress against the deliverables listed in the Provincial Strategic Plan (2019-2024), which encompasses all five VIPs. All associated indicators and targets were incorporated into departmental Annual Performance Plans in the following years. Owing to COVID-19 and the prioritisation that occurred during the pandemic, some progress is only captured since the beginning of the 2021/22 financial year.

Abbreviations

ABT	Area-Based Team
ASP	After-School Programmes
CE	Catalytic Enhancement

CYCC	Child and Youth Care Centre	
DCAS	Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport	
DEA&DP	Department of Environmental Affairs and Sport	
DEDAT	Department of Economic Development and Tourism	
DHS	Department of Human Settlements	
DLG	Department of Local Government	
DoA	Department of Agriculture	
DoCS	Department of Community Safety	
DoH	Department of Health and Wellness	
DoTP	Department of the Premier	
DSD	Department of Social Development	
DTPW	Department of Transport and Public Works	
GBV	Gender-Based Violence	
GIPTN	George Integrated Transport Network	
ITH	Integrated Transport Hub	
JDMA	Joint District and Metro Approach	
LDAC	Local Drug Action Committee	

LDAC	Local Drug Action Committee	
MURP	Mayoral Urban Regeneration Programme	
PDIA	Problem-Driven Iterative Adaptation	
PDO	Provincial Data Office	
PNP	Policing Needs and Priorities	
PT	Provincial Treasury	
PTI	Provincial Training Institute	
RSEP	Regional Socio-Economic Programme	
SDI	Service Delivery Index	
SIDAFF	Sustainable Infrastructure Delivery and Funding Facility	
SSEG	Small-scale Embedded Generation	
SSRA	Safety and Security Risk Assessment	
SWSA	Strategic Water Source Area	
T2P	Transform to Perform	
VUCA	Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, Ambiguity	
WCED	Western Cape Education Department	
WCG	Western Cape Government	

VIP 1: Safe and Cohesive Communities

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DCAS	After school programmes	Since 2019/20, the number of youth participating in After School Programmes has ranged between 14 500 and 49 000 youth depending on the year and what else is happening in schools. DCAS has increased its after school footprint from 364 to 515 active sites over the period.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	Area based security risk management to increase security in and around WCG buildings and facilities	Safety and Security Risk Assessments (SSRAs) are conducted to identify safety and security risks faced by WCG departments. The SSRA provides WCG departments with risk mitigation (treatment) measures to minimize the identified risks. To be noted, requests for SSRAs are demand driven.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DSD	Child and youth care centres	12 554 children were provided with alternative care at DSD own and DSD-funded CYCCs in terms of the Childrens Act since 2019/20. Over the same period, 520 children have been sentenced to secure care CYCCs in terms of the Child Justice Act. At the end of December 2022, 3 549 children in conflict with the law were awaiting trial in secure care CYCCs in terms of the Child Justice Act.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DSD	Childcare and child protection	12 914 children were placed in foster care, 1 059 were reunified with their families and 10 517 parents and caregivers completed parent education and training programmes.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoTP	Children's Commissioner	The WC Children's Commissioner has been appointed, as well as support staff. Programmatic work is ongoing and periodic reports are submitted to Parliament.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	Chrysalis Academy expansion of service, and intake/reach	Since 2019/20, the total youth intake at the Chrysalis Academy is 1 736 youth. The Chrysalis Academy intends establishing youth hubs in 18 priority areas, namely, Atlantis, Bishop Lavis (Bonteheuwel), Delft, Gugulethu, Harare, Khayelitsha, Kraaifontein, Mfuleni, Mitchells Plain, Nyanga, Philippi
			(Hanover Park), Philippi East, Samora Machel, Cape Winelands, Central Karoo, Garden Route, Overberg and West Coast. The pilot area is Atlantis and the programme currently rendered will see youth graduating on 4 March 2023.
			The expansion will include the transformation of the Youth Hub Project from individuals to a critical mass at community level.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DCAS	Community-based sports and culture programmes	These programmes are on-going. In 2022/23, as at Q3, 35 702 youth had participated in opportunities.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	Community safety partners supported	The Department supports safety partners, amongst others Community Police Forums, Neighbourhood Watches, Community Safety Forums and municipalities with training, funding and resources based on a Whole of Society and Whole of Government approach. The Department established Area- Based Teams (ABTs) in 18 areas across the Province, with the main focus being the murder stations within the City of Cape Town and one area per rural municipality. The ABT model is a methodology to deliver integrated law enforcement and violence prevention initiatives in priority areas within the Western Cape linked to the deliverables of the Safety Plan. Currently, the ABT co- ordination resides with the Department of Health which is setting up a Violence Prevention Unit.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	Court watching briefs	The Department monitors courts in priority areas across the Province and prepares Court Watching Brief reports on matters struck off the court rolls due to police inefficiencies. Reports are provided to the SAPS on a quarterly basis and also submitted to the Standing Committee. The reports have resulted in matters being placed back on the court rolls and disciplinary action against SAPS members. The monitoring of SAPS compliance with the implementation of the Domestic Violence Act and the role played by SAPS in the registration of domestic violence incidents, registration of criminal cases and the investigation of those criminal cases through oversight and the Court Watching Briefs is ongoing. The Police station census project of all 151 police stations will be implemented in the 2023/2024 year.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DTPW	Deploy additional traffic/ highway patrol officers	Annually, graduate officers from the Gene Louw Traffic Training College have been added to the ranks of provincial traffic law enforcement. In December 2021, 90 graduates, and in December 2022, 85 graduates were additionally deployed.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoA	District Rural safety plan	The rural safety plan was developed and adopted in 2021. The rural safety desk was established in 2021 and is operational. A number of safety structures in rural areas are supported.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DSD	Ensuring evidence-based care and services are provided to families at risk	70 504 families participated in family preservation and support services since 2019/20. DSD has supported DoTP and other Departments in co-designing norms and standards to strengthen evidence-informed family strengthening programmes that are responsive to the Western Cape context.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DEA&DP	Environmental enforcement initiatives	DEA&DP remains a lead environmental enforcement agency in the WCG and has continuously ensured the compliance with environmental laws. The Environmental Management Inspectors tackle various threats relating to, for example, degradation of biodiversity, developments and pollution within watercourses. In 2021/22 the Department reported 75% compliance to legislative obligations in respect of licensed facilities inspected. The 2022/23 year is in progress and percentage compliance has not been reported as yet. A total of 449 compliance inspections were conducted in 2021/22. To date, in 2022/23, 309 compliance inspections have been conducted.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DEA&DP	Expert team focussed on safe spaces	Work is underway to develop a community of practice for urban design which will support the thinking and implementation of how we continue to develop social infrastructure that supports safer neighbourhoods and a sense of community. This is being achieved through closer collaboration with the City of Cape Town MURP Team and through the Urban Design Stream under the umbrella of the Safety Steercom.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DSD	Eye-on-the-Child and Youth	32 916 children were reached through Drop-in Centres and Risiha sites between 2019/2020 and December 2022.
VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date

VIP 1: Safe &	DoH	First 1000 Days	A Parent Caregiver Support Package was developed and
Cohesive			integrated as part of routine services.
communities			The components of the Parent Caregiver Package are:
			Communication (Awareness, Education and Community
			activations)
			Risk Assessment, referral, support and response of
			vulnerable clients
			Implementation of Side by Side under 5-year campaign and
			new Road to Health Booklet
			Parent support at health facility touch points antenatally,
			postnatally and early childhood
			Home and community touch points for family relational
			support
			Training, support and mentoring of staff
			Capturing and sharing learnings
			The First 1000 (FTD) days Initiative includes two evidence-
			informed parenting support initiatives in collaboration with
			partners, namely, book sharing and relational enhancement
			support/Blankie project.
			Book sharing: Partnered with the Mikhulu Child
			Development Trust to conduct training of CHW (2 districts)
			on the importance of book sharing. Book-sharing was
			included as one of the thriving activities and aligns with what
			is needed for Early Childhood Development (nurturing care).
			Creater every see of the importance of healt shoring has
			Greater awareness of the importance of book sharing has
			been done using wordless books as it is a powerful activity
			that parents (irrespective if they can read or not) can do. Collaborations on book sharing also extend to working with
			the City of Cape Town and Library services as part of a
			broader reading strategy.
			broader reading strategy.
			proader reading strategy.

		The relational enhancement support /Blanket project has been implemented in Drakenstein in partnership with Dlanathi i.e
VIP	Department PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
		Community Health workers are capacitated to identify at-risk households and provide support visits to vulnerable pregnant women and caregivers (12 visits in the first thousand day period starting in pregnancy).

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	Fund, train, and deploy additional law enforcement officers and investigators	1308 LEAP officers are deployed to priority areas within the City of Cape Town. Ten of these policing precincts form part of the top murder stations in the Western Cape. The LEAP Reaction Unit provides additional assistance when flare-ups occur. No investigators have been deployed as part of LEAP.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	Further develop a community- based crowd-sourced crime data tool	Although the Department has not developed a crowd- sourced data tool, information on perceptions of crime is collected at PNP engagements.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DLG	High mast lighting and surveillance cameras	DLG initiated a special project to assist municipalities to construct high mast lighting in specific areas with high crime rates by means of Grant allocations in support of registered projects. The areas are identified in consultation with the Department of Community Safety. This project is also further supplemented by municipalities registering projects of this nature on their MIG allocations. In Grabouw, SAPS reported a 15% drop in the crime rate within 3 months after the installation of these lights.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	Identify provincial policing needs and priorities (PNP)	PNP reports were provided for both the 2021-22 and 2022- 23 Financial Years and engagements are being planned with relevant stakeholders.

VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DSD	Implementation of the revised National Drug Master Plan	14 339 service users completed inpatient or community- based treatment programmes since 2019, while a further 6 715 service users received aftercare and reintegration services for substance use disorder. Over the same period, 21 543 service users access early intervention services for substance use disorder.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DHS	Informal Settlements Upgrading Programme	From 2019/2020 to December 2022, the Department has delivered 15 870 serviced sites in the Western Cape. This can be further broken down as follows: 2019/2020: 5 842 sites 2020/2021: 5 204 sites 2021/2022: 3 973 sites 2022/2023 (as at December 2022): 851

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
			Performance on serviced sites has been slow due to instances of violence on certain sites, with damage to property and, in some cases, attacks on site staff. Additionally, delays due to people refusing to move from a construction path have been experienced in relocating informal structures, which then slowed the performance of the contractors.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoH		The initial draft of the internal Safety Dashboard has been developed and ratified. It maps homicides and admissions in emergency centres. The HECTIS system provides real time information on incidents of trauma in priority areas. This information is provided to law enforcement to guide deployment. HECTIS roll-out: Rolled out to 43 sites. Of the 14 sites planned for roll out in 2022/23, 9 have been completed thus far. 24 sites are planned for roll out in the 2023/24 financial year

		(sites located in hotspots included).
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	The Department monitors SAPS's compliance with the Domestic Violence Act (DVA) (Act 116 of 1998) and the implementation of the IPID recommendations by the SAPS. The monitoring of SAPS compliance with the implementation of the Domestic Violence Act and the role played by SAPS in the registration of domestic violence incidents, registration of criminal cases and the investigation of those criminal cases through oversight and the Court Watching Briefs is ongoing. The Police station census project of all 151 police stations will be implemented in the 2023/2024 year.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DEA&DP	MURP)	The RSEP Programme has been central in establishing neighbourhood community social infrastructure which DEA&DP has continued to roll-out since 2015. RSEP was implemented in 12 municipalities by 2022 and offers support to the local municipalities. Through RSEP, the Department works with local neighbourhoods in creating safe spaces through urban design, critical in creating safe and cohesive communities.

VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	Neighbourhood Watches	The Department accredited 318 and 253 NHW structures in the last two financial years. The Department trained and equipped 63 NHWs. A pilot initiative with NHWs as the first responders in cases of GBV is being implemented.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities		Partnering framework between safety partners to identify and address reasons for poor partnering and collaboration	ABTs are being established in the 18 hotpots of violence and will focus on coordinating government resources at an area level. An ABT Framework has been developed for approval. There is close collaboration between DoCS and DoH.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DTPW	Random Breath Testing and Evidentiary Breath Alcohol Testing	Since April 2022, 938 traffic operations were conducted, targeting drivers for drinking and driving, reckless and or negligent driving, habitual driver offenders, transportation of illegal substances, and false documentation. In 2021/22 1175 people were arrested for drunken driving by Provincial Traffic Law Enforcement.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	Research to build the case for devolution	Research garnered from expert roundtables on the topic of devolution has been consolidated. The implementation of PNP recommendations, additional police resources and the devolution of policing powers is being addressed with the National Minister of Police. The Department has embarked on increased advocacy to this end.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities		Roll out of the Local Drug Action Committees (LDACs)	17 LDACs have been established and are functional.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	WCED		The Safe Schools Call Centre will continue to support schools in the management of all schools and it is supported by the relevant emergency agency. It facilitates psychosocial support when required.

VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DTPW	Safe transport infrastructure- focused initiatives	The Department assisted PRASA with the clearing of vegetation in rail reserves aimed at supporting safety, inclusive of reducing potential fire risks. A pre-feasibility study was undertaken by DTPW and CoCT. While various collaborative efforts have been undertaken regarding the improvement of the passenger rail system (including the issue of opening up the central line), the issue of devolution and shifting the management of rail to the Province is dependent on national government assigning this responsibility.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DTPW	Safely home campaign	The Safely Home Campaign is an annual programme based on an annual calendar. Social media platforms are used and have performed well, with over 54 000 followers on Facebook (with a reach of 120 million), 16 000 on Twitter (with a reach of 16.4 million) and over 11 000 000 views on YouTube. The Western Cape Highway Patrol reality television series, showcasing the work of traffic officers, has been aired. The Safely Home Year 5- survey has been adjusted to be a public health survey, where focus group interviews were conducted with traffic officers and members of the public.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	Safety and Security Resilience Scorecard	In line with supporting Departments with the identification and mitigation of risks, the Programme facilitated the process of completion of the Safety and Security Scorecard (SSRS) by Western Cape Education Department (WCED) schools. The aim of the SSRS scorecard is to increase school safety. The first set of treatment plans emanating from the completed SSRS was rolled out in the WCED Overberg region. These treatment plans were presented to WCED stakeholders for implementation at the various schools. After implementation, the affected schools will complete the SSRS again to determine whether their risk rating improved. From the inception of the SSRS up until 31 March 2022, a total of 1 036 schools completed the scorecard.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	Safety Cabinet, ProvJoints and Intelligence Committee are operational	Safety MANCO meetings take place on a regular basis. The Department participates in ProvJoints and operational meetings. There are monthly meetings between the Minister and HOD and the Western Cape Police Commissioner and Generals.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoH / DoTP / DoCS	Safety Information Systems - technology-driven	The safety information hub is being developed by the Department of Health using HECTIS and other data, in conjunction with the support of DoCS and DotP. The Department prioritised the roll out of HECTIS and more than doubled the number of facilities using the system within a year to 43 sites. A public-facing dashboard will be launched by 31 May 2023. The HECTIS system provides real time information on incidents of trauma in priority areas. This information is provided to law enforcement to guide deployment. HECTIS roll-out: Rolled out to 43 sites. Of the 14 sites planned for roll out in 2022/23, 9 have been completed thus far. 24 sites are planned for roll-out in the 2023/24 financial year (sites located in hotspots included). DoTP Strategic Management Information has developed a framework for data co-ordination for the Safety priority.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DTPW	Safety Information Systems - technology-driven	

VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	From 2019-20 to 2021-22 there were 28 school resource officers deployed to schools each year. This programme has to some extent been amalgamated with the LEAP
		deployment in priority
		areas.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	WCED	School-based behavioural violence prevention programme	In 2022, it was rolled out to 45 high schools in the Cape Winelands and Cape Metro, reaching over 4000 Grade 8 and 9 learners from July – November. In 2023, the programme will be institutionalised into service delivery departments, moving operationally from DotP to DCAS, with support from WCED.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	WCED	Schools provided with high security perimeter fencing	Since 2019, 81 high-security fences have been erected at identified schools.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	Security Support Teams deployed at schools and health facilities	For the period 1 April 2021 to 31 January 2023, a total of 70 deployment requests were responded to in relation to deployment at schools and health facilities. Deployment requests in this regard range from protest action, access and egress control at vaccination sites, as well as oversight visits by the WCPP.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DSD	System to identify, assess and refer youth and children vulnerable to committing violence	19 068 children in conflict with the law have been assessed since 2019/20, with 4 216 having been referred to diversion programmes by the courts.

VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	WC Police Ombud: broaden powers through legislative amendments	These powers are included in proposed legislative amendments to the Western Cape Community Safety Act.
VIP VIP 1: Safe &	Department DoCS	PSP / VIP Intervention WCG Alcohol-related Harms	Progress to date Phase 1 Amendments:
Cohesive communities		Reduction Policy implemented	The vetted WC Liquor amendment Bill and amendment Regulations were received from Legal Services. A cabinet memo is being routed for consideration at the next Cabinet sitting to obtain approval to publish the amendment Bill for public comment. It is envisaged that both the Bill and the Regulations will be published simultaneously for public comment.
			Phase 2 Amendments: Two alcohol-harms reduction best-buy interventions (Minimum Unit Price of alcohol and setting parameters for uniform trading times for the sale of alcohol in the WC) have been researched and are undergoing a Regulatory Impact Assessment process. The Task Team completed the Significance Tests for Minimum Unit Pricing and Trading Times during quarter 2. On 10 October 2022, the CRSC supported the recommendation to conduct Regulatory Impact Assessments for both proposed interventions. A Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Framework is being developed as part of the RIA process.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DEDAT	Safety Strategy	A Safety Strategy was implemented, and the Department of Economic Development and Tourism produced four Tourism Safety Strategy Implementation Reports in 2020/21. The Department provided funds towards tourism safety initiatives to the CoCT for the establishment of a Tourism Safety Law Enforcement Unit. 763 tourists were assisted by the unit and officers were deployed at key tourism hotspots including the CBD, Bo-Kaap and Table Mountain.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DLG		DLG works closely with DEA&DP to identify and implement projects in the waste field through municipal operational support plans and JDMA catalytic projects. To this extend, DEA&DP, DLG and affected municipalities are looking into a waste to energy project in one of the Districts.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DoCS	Youth and children Safety and Religion Partnership Programme	This has been discontinued as the focus is on Safety Plan deliverables.
VIP 1: Safe & Cohesive communities	DEDAT	Youth-at-risk Programme Graduate Work Placement programme	1 877 beneficiaries were employed in permanent positions with project partners as part of the Jobs Fund. 4 489 beneficiaries completed time-bound internships.

VIP 2: Growth & Jobs

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs		0 11	The Department reported 17461 work opportunities in 2022/23 and 16144 work opportunities in 2021/22.

VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DEDAT	Ease of doing business interventions initiated or supported	The Department supported 13 Ease of Doing Business Interventions in 2021/22. By the end of Q3:2022/23, the Department implemented 4 improvement measures to business-facing government services, conducted 13 ease-of- doing business capacity-building interventions and conducted 9 business interventions that enable compliance.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DEDAT	Energy & water communications; Energy – direct technical & advisory support to businesses; Water – direct technical & advisory support to businesses; Green finance	The Department supported 6 green economy projects in 2021/22. The Department supported 210 businesses in resource resilience by the end of Q3: 2022/23.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DoA	Export promotion	Since 2019/20, 22 activities were supported to promote Western Cape agriculture and agri-business.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DEDAT	Foster economic resilience of firms by promoting improved productivity, competitiveness, and exports of tradable sectors (including explore a funding mechanism to assist emerging and potential exporters AND	The Department is aligned to the G4J Strategy with exports being a key priority focus area. In the 2023/24 financial year, the export programme will focus on launching an ECEP (Exporter Competitive Enhancement Programme) as well as support for exporters as it relates to technical trade barriers. In addition, the focus will be on growing the productivity of firms through tech-related support mechanisms as manufacturers of export-related commodities.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
		study undertaken to determine the input costs along the export value chain of identified export sectors in order to support targeted efforts to increase competitiveness)	
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DEDAT	ICAN project; Skills Boost project; Garden Route Skills Mecca; Apprenticeship	The Department supported 2 429 beneficiaries through skills interventions in 2021/22 and has supported 3488 beneficiaries through skills interventions in 2022/23. 2021/22: 1219 training opportunities were created through I- CAN Elsies River (524 free and 695 subsidized user-paid). "Skills interventions" include training opportunities and work placements.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DEA&DP	Implement 2050 Emissions Pathway	Two reports were completed in 2021/22 including the "2050 Emissions Pathway Analysis - 2018 Baseline Emissions Profile", which is identified as a PSP output; and a second report: "Identification of mitigation measures for Energy, Waste, AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) and IPPU (Industrial Processes and Product Use)." A report detailing the 2050 Emissions Pathway methodology, assumptions, and actions as well as the Climate Change Implementation Plan in support of the 2021 Western Cape Climate Change Response Strategy Vision 2050, are being developed. A focus on climate change has been included in the Growth for Jobs Strategy and the draft WC Infrastructure Framework.

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VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DEA&DP	Implement State of Waste Report; explore application of alternative waste treatment technologies	Since 2021, a State of Waste Management Report has been compiled annually. The purpose of the report is to guide policy formulation, waste planning and decision-making.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DTPW	Implement the Property Efficiency Report	The Property Efficiency Report has been produced annually. The 11th edition of the report covers April 2021 to March 2022 and was published in February 2023.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DLG	Delivery and Funding Facility (SIDAFF) programme in partnership	A shortlist of qualifying projects has been identified and confirmed and the projects are ready to enter the next phase of the project ("feasibility to bankability"). To support the funding of these projects, a Framework for Grant Funding mechanisms has been finalised and engagements have been held with international and national donor/funding partners.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DoA	Installing solar panels and batteries at DoA sites	In Phase One of the project, 375kWp Solar panels were installed and in Phase Two, an additional 630kWp solar capacity was installed with 520 kWh battery capacity. This is sufficient to safeguard three of the five blocks of the Elsenburg main building against load shedding and to prevent the running of generators after hours and over weekends.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DEDAT	Investment in catalytic projects	The Department supported 5 catalytic projects in 2021/22. Investment and support for catalytic projects include support for the Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone and Atlantis Special Economic Zone.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DoA	Investment in water infrastructure	Since 2019/20, 4 agricultural infrastructure projects were established.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs		Land Assembly Programme	The Land Assembly Programme is a provincial development facilitation service provided by DEA&DP for both public and private sectors. Land assembly is viewed broadly, i.e. any action undertaken to enable development, including actions/activities to guide, support, fast-track and coordinate. The responsible Department has committed to producing quarterly reports in the MTEF period 2023/24. The annual evaluation of the Land Assembly Programme was completed by the end of the fourth quarter of 2021/22 and highlighted that over 50 projects received support.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs		Lobby national government to allow municipalities to purchase power from IPPs and relax the requirements for the installation of SSEG.	The Department has identified 5 pioneering projects through intensive analysis that would enable municipalities to purchase power from IPPs. Of these pioneering projects, the Department is supporting Stellenbosch municipality with capacity and transaction advisory support whilst sharing learnings from this and from the City of Cape Town's procurement with other municipalities. Another pioneering project looks at pooled buying by municipalities. The Department has previously supported municipalities to develop SSEG and wheeling frameworks and tariffs, and in 2022/23, the Department funded 13 foundational energy studies in 8 municipalities. Additionally, the Department is undertaking work that would provide standardised agreements for Use of Systems for wheeling in municipal networks and is also looking at developing a model that will enable municipal decision-makers to better understand trade-offs in wheeling revenue.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DTPW	Maintenance and protection of core provincial infrastructure; Resource resilient infrastructure	Information for 2021/22 and previous years is reported in each annual report of the DTPW for the core infrastructure portfolio.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	Wesgro	One Stop Shop – Invest SA	Wesgro facilitated six investments by the end of Q3 2022/23. The entity facilitated 18 investment projects in 2019/20, 17 in 2020/21, and 8 in 2021/22.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DTPW	invest in new road networks, including the	As reported annually, the strategic spending is focused on preventative maintenance and rehabilitation of road infrastructure. 22 capital roads projects continued or reached practical completion during 2021/22 and 13 capital roads projects commenced during the 2021/22 financial year. The refinery interchange project as part of the N1/N7 programme is underway.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DoA	Support Wine and Agricultural Ethical Trade Association (WIETA) ; Sustainability Initiative of South Africa (SIZA) ; Develop a Provincial Freight Strategy; Develop an Africa Trade and Investment Strategy	Since 2019/20, 139 market information outputs were disseminated.
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DLG	The Development of a 15- year WC Integrated Drought and Water Response Plan	The Response Plan has been completed. Outputs include various reports and tools, including programmatic responses, inputs to the Western Cape Enterprise Risk Register and Western Cape Sustainable Water Management Plan. The 15- year plan is also guiding the transversal response to the provincial risk on water.

VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DLG	with water source augmentation,	An extensive programme to enhance water security in high-risk areas has been rolled out. The Greater Karoo was identified as the biggest risk area with the allocation of funding to fund water augmentation and demand management programmes. The Department also appointed geohydrologists to provide technical support to municipalities and assist with rollout of identified projects.
VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
		and water demand management	
VIP 2: Growth & Jobs	DEA&DP	Transversal programme for the implementation of the Western Cape Ecological Infrastructure Investment Framework implemented	The Ecological Infrastructure Investment Framework was developed in 2020/21 and has led to co-finance and partnerships with government and non-government organisations. Apart from an EIIF project pipeline developed during 2021/22, the Department also entered in a Collaboration Agreement with the WWF to focus on the restoration of the ecological infrastructure in Strategic Water Source Areas (SWSAs) in the province. The Agreement and the resources allocated to its implementation have been extended for a further year to the end of 2023. The Department has also partnered with The Nature Conservancy to enable the establishment of the Greater Cape Town Water Fund, which has enabled the leveraging of more than R130 million into priority catchments in the Western Cape Supply System. The Ecological Infrastructure Investment Framework has been mainstreamed into the developing Western Cape Infrastructure Framework and the Western Cape Integrated Drought Response Plan and positioned as a catalytic transversal programme within the Growth for Jobs priority projects.

VIP 3: Empowering people

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 3: Empowering people	DSD		19 068 children in conflict with the law have been assessed since 2019/20, with 4 216 having been referred to diversion programmes by the courts.
VIP 3: Empowering people	DCAS	Entrench and expand After School and Community Programmes	Of the thousands of youth in ASP, 3 033 learners-at-risk are participating in structured afternoon programmes. These learners also attend programmes at least twice a week. DCAS has also put the spotlight on ASP with the annual Lights on After School, run since 2019.
VIP 3: Empowering people	DCAS	Implement literacy initiatives to improve reading	During 2021/22, 32 589 literacy interventions were presented at public libraries. Between 1 April 2022 and 30 September 2022, 20 226 literacy interventions were presented by public libraries. YearBeyond also supports 6 000-plus learners with literacy challenges in schools.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 3: Empowering people	WCED	to Perform (T2P) Programme	The Department's foresight in developing and implementing the T2P strategy that focuses on wellbeing and mindset growth was starkly illuminated during the pandemic and over the recovery period. The Growth Mindset pillar forms an integral part of the Department's T2P strategy that has been designed to address levels of motivation, attitude, and mindset of learners (Annual Report 2021/22). 240 schools have been trained in Growth Mindset and 230 in Change Mindset.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 3: Empowering people	DoH	Implementation of appropriate 1st 1000 days interventions/initiatives	A Parent Caregiver Support Package was developed and sintegrated as part of routine services. The components of the Parent Caregiver Package are: Communication (Awareness, Education and Community activations) Risk Assessment, referral, support and response of vulnerable clients Implementation of Side by Side under 5-year campaign and new Road to Health Booklet Parent support at health facility touch points antenatally, postnatally and early childhood Home and community touch points for family relational support Training, support and mentoring of staff Capturing and sharing learnings The First 1000 (FTD) days Initiative includes two evidence- informed parenting support initiatives in collaboration with partners, namely, book sharing and relational enhancement support/Blankie project.

Book sharing: Partnered with the Mikhulu Child Development Trust to conduct training of CHW (2 districts) on the importance of book sharing. Book-sharing was included as one of the thriving activities and aligns with what is needed for Early Childhood Development (nurturing care - early learning, stimulation and language development) as well as the Road to Health Booklet (part of the LOVE pillar). Greater awareness of the importance of book sharing has been done using wordless books as it is a powerful activity that parents (Irrespective if they can read or not) can do. Collaborations on book sharing also extend to working with the City of Cape Town and Library services as part of a broader reading strategy.
The relational enhancement support /Blanket project was implemented in Drakenstein in partnership with Dlanathi i.e., Community Health workers are capacitated to identify at-risk

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
			households and provide support visits to vulnerable pregnant women and caregivers (12 visits in the first thousand day period starting in pregnancy). Guidance is provided in terms of what needs to be covered at visits that are not prescriptive but geared towards empowering caregivers/ families to be responsive and establish relational bonds that are lasting.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 3: Empowering people	WCED	Implementation of Foundation Phase Mathematics Strategy	This strategy has been launched and is in implementation. RTI International will be doing a numeracy at scale research on the Grade R Maths programme in 2023. SALDRU is currently doing research on the Bala Wande pilot to evaluate the resources. This research started in 2021 and is ongoing. Research is currently also being done by Dr Isabel Tarling on the effectiveness of the Maths Curriculum Online programme in schools. This research is ongoing.
VIP 3: Empowering people	WCED	Implementation of Foundation Phase reading Strategy	This strategy has been launched and is in implementation. A longitudinal study is ongoing by SALDRU to measure the implementation of the Funda Wande programme which is the main intervention in Afrikaans and IsiXhosa Home Language schools. This study is ongoing and a baseline report was released in 2022.
VIP 3: Empowering people	DCAS	Improve youth programme quality through the use of norms and standards	Norms and standards were developed in 2021 and adopted by the top management of the Province in 2022. All funded programmes are now being assessed against these norms and standards by an external service provider.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 3: Empowering people	DoH	urban locations with a response under 30 minutes	In 2021/22, the EMS P1 urban response under 30 minutes rate was 58.7%. So far, the 2022/23 response time was 56.4%, on average and thus remains resistant to existing efforts. This is further compounded by an increase in primary trauma cases and motor vehicle crashes. The principle that remains a perennial focus is to ensure that the available resources are managed to attend to the most critical patients in the shortest time possible. This results in prolonged waiting times for less critical clients. EMS will also continue its on-going focus on improving patient hand-over and collection times at health facilities and, in so doing, reduce ambulance mission times. Learnings taken from key improvement projects will also be reviewed and implemented on both Primary and Inter-facility transfers.
VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 3: Empowering people	WCED	skills subjects and schools of skills	The WCED is piloting the 3 streams Technical curriculum in 23 schools in the province in Grades 8 and 9, which includes the introduction of 13 vocationally oriented subjects within the GET phase at Grade 8 (2021) and Grade 9 (2022). The Pilot will continue in 2023 – 2024. This will provide a pipeline to increase enrolment in the FET phase at the schools piloting the program. Schools offering technical, vocational, and agricultural subjects are equipped with tools and resources to implement the curriculum. We are currently collaborating with districts to identify Academic (non-technical) and Technical schools to expand the introduction of these subjects. The Expansion will inform the infrastructure plan and the provision of additional posts. The province has also implemented the Annual Skills competition at provincial Level to promote and advocate the importance of Technical and vocational education programs.

VIP 3: Empowering people	DSD	Increasing Access to Quality Early Childhood Development Initiatives	In 2019/20, 80 373 children attended ECD facilities funded by DSD. In 2020/21, the Department began reporting on the number of subsidies transferred to ECD facilities. 119 449 subsidies were transferred to ECD facilities to provide services to young children in 2020/21 and 2021/22.
VIP 3: Empowering people	WCED		This is on track and reports are received from the SEA and actioned by the Chief Directorate: Districts.
VIP 3: Empowering people	DCAS	economic sectors	YearBeyond has grown its footprint from 563 youth in service in 2019 to 3 085 in the current year. The programme is now offered in schools, libraries, museums, and community hubs. Annually, over 70% of these youth have progressed into work and studies within 3 months. Currently around half of the youth who exited the programme in December 2022 have progressed and the balance are being supported to take their next steps. Over 50 corporates have been mobilised to create opportunities for the youth who exit the programme as part of pathway support.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 3: Empowering people	WCED	U	Since 2019, when this indicator was introduced, 81 high- security fences have been erected at identified schools.
VIP 3: Empowering people	WCED	violence prevention programme	In 2022, this programme was rolled out to 45 high schools in the Cape Winelands and Cape Metro, reaching over 4000 Grade 8 and 9 learners from July – November. In 2023, the programme will be institutionalised into service delivery departments, moving operationally from DotP to DCAS, with support from WCED.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 3: Empowering people	DoH	WoW! in communities, workplaces and schools	WoW! aims to strengthen Supported Self-Management in order to prevent, reduce and better control Non-communicable Diseases by addressing their key individual behavioural and social/structural determinants through wellness-promoting partnerships using a whole of society, life course approach. WoW! is being implemented incrementally across multiple settings which include workplaces, public spaces, community spaces, healthcare facilities and academic institutions. Volunteer WoW! Wellness Champions (Peer Leaders) are recruited, trained, and resourced to establish and maintain a WoW! Groups in their respective settings.
			Metro (As at Q2 2022/23): Total champions: 133 (including 12 active influencers*) 78 active groups 41 worksites and 37 community settings (youth integrated) Rural (as at Q2 2022/23): 178 champions (including 38 active influencers*) 39 active groups 16 worksites and 23 community settings (youth integrated) (* An active influencer is a trained WoW! Wellness Champion who works under the WoW! Banner in a defined setting (e.g. organisation, community, church, school), promoting healthy lifestyles and motivating people to adopt self-managed healthy
			behaviours.) Training (Over 3-year period): There have been more than 800 trainings (majority are community-based) There have been more than 80 Wow! School Citizen Scientists trained in 6 schools: COSAT-Khayelitsha, Pinelands High

school, Gardens Commercial High School, Kensington High, Spine Road High, and Bonteheuwel High.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
			Communication and Implementation Channels for the WoW! initiative include: Training of champions
			More than 540 persons receive 3 x weekly WhatsApp messages Facebook page with 2400 followers WoW! website with downloadable resources, recipes, articles Public activations to promote improving healthy lifestyles integrated to Health Promotion interventions aligned to priority areas

VIP 4: Mobility & spatial transformation

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
		Completion of Devolution Pre- Feasibility Study	A pre-feasibility study was completed in 2020.
VIP 4: Mobility & spatial transformation		Rural Development Nodes	Since 2019/20, 148 Regional Coordination Committee (RCC) engagements took place in facilitating rural development in the 16 Rural Development Nodes.

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VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 4: Mobility & spatial transformation	DEA&DP	Develop a Regional Spatial Knowledge Platform	DEA&DP is adopting a Development Planning Knowledge Sharing Platform to support the Joint District and Metro Approach (JDMA). This also serves as a platform to share research results, such as the housing market studies information.
			DEA&DP has developed two Knowledge Sharing Platforms: The DEA&DP Intranet (hub-site) is internal facing to Western Cape Government Departments. (Site attributes: So far, the site has been populated with: 22 SharePoint sites, one for each Chief Directorate and Directorate; 81 web pages; 27 News Pages; 36 Events Pages; 120 Document Libraries; more than 20000 documents & data files).All WCG officials have access to the site.
			The Resource Centre for Development Planning is a knowledge platform (SharePoint site) with third party access to selected Municipal officials. Sixty-one (61) Municipal officials from most Municipalities and Districts were approved for access thus far, and a new batch of applications will be processed before the end of March 2023. (Site attributes: 61 SharePoint Site Pages; 9 Libraries; 6188 documents & data files).

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
transformation	Supported by: DEDAT, DEADP	Develop strategy-led land release programme and pipeline (incl. through MSDFs and CEF Support programme)	The Department is engaging other organs of state including the HDA to make land available for human settlement purposes.
	DEA&DP Supported by: DTPW, DHS & DLG	Development of a Provincial Inclusionary Housing Policy Framework	The Western Cape Inclusionary Housing Policy Framework was approved by Cabinet on 26 October 2022. The Department offers ongoing support to municipalities to develop their own Municipal Inclusionary Housing Policies guided by the provincial Policy Framework. Municipal support actions that have thus far been undertaken by the Department include a first round of Housing Market Studies for the intermediate/ larger towns of Paarl / Mbekweni / Wellington, Stellenbosch town, Mossel Bay / Kwanonqaba / Hartenbos and George City Area. Additional Housing Market Studies have been proposed to Provincial Treasury (PT) during PG MTEC 2 as part of the Fiscal Transitional Support Facility.
VIP 4: Mobility & spatial transformation	DTPW	Implement an advanced technology system for planning, integration, and management of the transport ecosystem.	The DTPW Integrated Transport Hub (ITH) has enabled data- driven coordination in support of safe transport infrastructure- focused initiatives aimed at increasing safety on roads and public transport spaces.
	DTPW Partners: Local Authorities	Implement District Safety Plans	The District Safety Plan Programme was hindered by the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic. The DSP programme is to be repositioned to align with transport corridors rather than district and local municipal boundaries.

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VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 4: Mobility & spatial transformation	DTPW		The Provincial Sustainable Transport Programme is being implemented through a strong focus on improving public transport, including bus services, minibus taxi transformation, intelligent use of data, safe and reliable rail services, and the provision of non-motorised transport solutions. The Department has been implementing the medium-term actions from the Western Cape Freight Strategy and Implementation Programme. This included conducting several freight-related traffic law enforcement operations aimed at improving freight-related road traffic safety. The Department has supported initiatives to improve efficiencies at the Port of Cape Town, working closely with DEDAT's Ease of Doing Business Committee. In addition, the Department developed a Western Cape Freight Data Bank, which includes interactive data from the Western Cape Freight Demand Model (WCFDM). Other areas of work included the development of a Western Cape view on the transportation of high cube containers, a draft concept study on potential locations of intermodal terminals in the province, and support for initiatives to resuscitate certain branch lines, working closely with Transnet Freight Rail, industry and local government.
VIP 4: Mobility & spatial transformation	DTPW	Implementation of the Sustainable Western Cape Government office accommodation and modernisation programme	As noted in the Property Efficiency Report, the Department has implemented numerous measures to improve sustainability aspects of its office portfolio. The Modernisation programme is budget dependent, but projects have been implemented on an annual basis across various office properties.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
transformation	Partners: Local Authorities and minibus taxi industry	participating in a	The Blue Dot Taxi project is an incentive programme to reward improved driving behaviour and service quality, while progressing the formalisation of the industry. The 18-month pilot saw the participation of almost 880 minibus taxis.
VIP 4: Mobility & spatial transformation		infrastructure on the Central Line	The restoration of the central line is dependent on national government. The DTPW has worked on an on-going basis to support PRASA and the DoT with the recovery of the central line, including participating in various steering and working committees.
transformation	Partners: PRASA/METROR AIL, City of Cape Town		The restoration of the central line is dependent on national government. PRASA discontinued funding to the REU and therefore the programme was halted.
VIP 4: Mobility & spatial transformation	DHS	settlements upgrade (ISSP & Living Cape Framework)	Since the inception of the Informal Settlement Upgrading Partnership Grant (ISUP-G) in 2021/22, a total of 89 projects have been approved for informal settlement upgrading, which are at various stages of delivery. These projects include but are not limited to Schoongezicht, Gansbaai, Masakhane, Mossel Bay- NUSP, Villiersdorp, Airport Precinct, and Kayamandi.
transformation	DTPW Partners: George Local Municipality and Minibus Taxi Industry	Launch of GIPTN Phase 4	GIPTN Phase 4A is scheduled to be launched before end of March 2023.
VIP 4: Mobility & spatial transformation	,		This has not been pursued with PRASA, given on-going managerial changes in PRASA.
VIP 4: Mobility & spatial transformation	DTPW	•••	The original intent was brought into the Blue Dot pilot programme and implemented not only in Overstrand but across the province on a limited basis.

	Overstrand Municipality	

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
transformation	DTPW Partners: Local Authorities and minibus taxi industry	minibus taxi operations in identified	Illegal operators are identified during ITP demand. Focused law enforcement operations take place regularly in relation to illegal operations by both municipal traffic law enforcement in the City of Cape Town and provincial traffic law enforcement.
VIP 4: Mobility & spatial transformation	DEA&DP	Economic Programme (RSEP)	The Department has, since 2015, rolled out RSEP in cumulatively 12 municipalities across the province, mainstreaming the programme. Through RSEP the Department promotes safety and dignity in the neighbourhoods. RSEP maintains a presence to monitor and support the municipality in respect of a completed project.
VIP 4: Mobility & spatial transformation	DHS & DTPW	fifteen Provincial Priority Projects with a potential yield of approximately 100 000 housing opportunities by 2024	39 905 Housing opportunities have been delivered from the financial year 2019/20 to the 3rd Quarter of 2022/23 from all projects inclusive of Catalytic and Provincial projects. In the following financial years, the Department delivered: 2019/20: 13 880 Housing opportunities. 2020/21: 11 451 Housing opportunities. 2021/22: 10 164 Housing opportunities. 2022/23 (as at December 2022): 4 410 Housing opportunities.
VIP 4: Mobility & spatial transformation	DTPW		This has been implemented with rebranded vehicles, use of technology and deployment.

VIP 4: Mobility & DHS	Target 14 Priority	The Department continually focuses its efforts to unlock
spatial	Housing Development	targeted investment in the designated 19 Priority Housing
transformation	mixed-use, mixed- income, and mixed-	Development Areas. In the previous MTSF cycle (2014-2019) the Department acquired 130 hectares of land. Of these hectares, 6% of land has been rezoned in the 2021/22 financial year and for the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years, 45.16% and 20% of land will be rezoned respectively. Furthermore, township establishment processes within the PHDAs were completed in 4 areas, namely Hermanus Mount Pleasant, Hermanus Sandbaai, and 2 in Milnerton. In addition, integrated implementation plans for projects within the PHDAs were completed in 2 areas, namely Worcester and Saldanha Bay.

VIP 5: Innovation & Culture

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 5: Innovatior & Culture	DotP	competencies of WCG	This undertaking has been addressed through the WCG's Culture Journey, Capability Model, and Community Capacity Enhancement programmes (see descriptions below).

VIP 5: InnovationDotP & Culture	impact" initiative to drive service delivery	All 13 departments are using innovative methods ranging from problem driven iterative adaptation approaches to Lean management, Design thinking, Behavioural insights and Community Capacity Enhancement. Each department has nominated one or more innovation champions who are actively engaging with the Innovation for Impact team to deepen understanding and application of innovative practices, undertake site visits and engagements with the WCG innovation network and others in the innovation space and build partnerships to understand how we at the WCG can better innovate for our citizens to maximize our service delivery impact.
VIP 5: InnovationDLG & Culture	Capacity building and training of Councillors to strengthen their oversight role.	Numerous councillor training programmes have been conducted since 2019, with training being provided on a variety of topics such as roles and responsibilities of councillors, Municipal Public Accounts Committees, code of conduct, and rules of order. Post the last local government elections, a special session on ethical leadership was conducted and 20 councillors commenced
		with the municipal minimum competency course.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture	DoTP	Conduct citizen feedback surveys	Bi-weekly polling research has been done since 2019 and is specifically targeted to engage with WCG citizens and residents around the WCG VIP priorities. The objective of the polling research is to listen to our citizens, understand if our actions are making an impact and adjust our behaviour accordingly. The information gathered from this research and the recommendations from the resulting report are fed into the broader communication feedback that is shared with the WCG Executive to inform its decision-making.

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VIP 5: InnovationDoTP	Conduct dedicated	The Reconfiguration of the Provincial Training Institute (PTI)
& Culture		into a learning and innovation centre of excellence, resulting
	and networking to	in a new vision, a new operating model and implementation
	ensure holistic skills	roadmap which makes the PTI fit for purpose in a 21st
	development that	century world of learning and development, was concluded in
		November 2022. This project was underpinned by dedicated
	training based on	research, collaboration, and networking through a focus
	5	group system covering the entire learning, development, and
	needs, as well as	innovation value chain, both internally and externally. This
		new model, along with the future-fit skills strategy, will ensure
	(especially soft skills)	holistic skills development that provides for skills training.
	in the changing societal	This will be based not only on current organisational needs
	and work environment	but also future-referenced skills, especially soft skills (to
		name a few: adaptability, innovation and creativity,
		collaboration and co-ordination, agile thinking, data
		intelligence, and coping in a VUCA world). Of significance is
		the introduction of solution-driven methodologies focused on
		citizen centricity which would assist in service delivery
		improvement.
		Implementation of the new PTI model is currently underway
		and has been integrated into the 2023/24 business of the PTI.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture	DotP	Create capacitated leaders to sustain the desired culture through leadership maturity development using a value-based leadership development programme	The key focus since COVID-19 has been on approving and piloting the WCG Capability Model which is pivotal in enabling the delivery of the Recovery Plan and broader PSP. A WCG Culture strategy was defined which informed key initiatives that were implemented during this cycle, one of which is the Values- based leadership development programme. The programme was piloted with 35 employees in 2021 (SL9-DD level) and last year 40 employees went through the programme. We are looking at ways to enlarge the footprint/reach of the programme by upskilling more internal facilitators and educating broader SMS and MMS groups on certain VBLDP modules.
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture	DoTP	Data and knowledge management that informs provincial and municipal decision making	The Provincial Data Office (PDO) has become the central coordinator for data producers, users and suppliers in driving a common purpose towards building a WCG data ecosystem that supports strategic decision-making. In line with the year-on-year data delivery programme, the six (6) Catalytic Enhancements (CEs) implemented during 2022/23 financial year contributed to the "Increase use of quality data for decision-making" in that it strengthened the institutionalisation of the centrality of data for decision-making. These CEs realised: Data quality and data analytics supporting small geographic area analysis. Indices supporting service delivery and vulnerability analysis. An integrated indicator system with supporting data trend analysis. Quarterly releases on the "integrated performance of non-financial performance data for the WCG".

	Diagnosing and assessing government performance through evaluation products. A Western Cape (WC) data portal shaping data access. Data sharing through data policy and legislation mechanisms.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture		Decisively respond to allegations of fraud, corruption and maladministration	The WCG adopted an Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy which confirms the Province's zero tolerance stance towards fraud, theft and corruption. All Departments have approved Fraud and Corruption Prevention Plans and a concomitant Fraud Prevention Implementation Plans which gives effect to the Prevention Plan. Various channels for reporting allegations of fraud, theft and corruption exist. The WCG Whistle-blowing Policy provides guidelines to employees and workers on how to raise concerns with the appropriate line management, specific designated persons in the WCG or external institutions. All allegations of Fraud and Corruption cases that are received through the various channels are promptly investigated and when fraud or corruption is confirmed, the said cases are reported to the SAPS. These SAPS cases are followed up regularly and, although taking long, progress has been made with prosecution of such cases. Of course, should fraud, corruption or irregularities be confirmed, recommendations are made to the respective Accounting Officers for disciplinary action. It remains the responsibility of accounting officers to institute such disciplinary actions.
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture		Develop an innovative financing and procurement framework to assist with reducing barriers to deliver on the PSP outcomes	A Problem-driven Iterative Adaptation (PDIA) team has been established focusing on the problem statement: "Procurement practices hamper service delivery and innovation." The team consists of team members from the Provincial Treasury, the Departments of Health, Premier, Transport and Public Works and Economic Development and Tourism. The team has identified 4 main causes to the problem and have unpacked it in detail. Extensive stakeholder engagements have taken place with National Treasury, Business Chambers, the SCM and CFO Forums, DPSA, SITA, DTIC, Legal Services, Suppliers, Community Based Organisations and most importantly, line

users in departments. Currently the team is completing the identification of actions, responsible parties and timeframes.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture		an employee value proposition to affirm the WCG as an employer of choice	The elements/tenets of our People Value Proposition will be reinforced through our various practices. We have entered the Top Employer Certification process on behalf of WCG. Our People practices will be assessed against a global standard and if we get the 60% mark, we can use the certification on all our documents for a year. Research has shown that it has tremendous value in attracting and retaining top talent in an org. We will be launching an Employee Engagement survey to hear the employees' voice related to our practices in early 2024.

VIP 5: Innovation	DotP	Develop and implement	This undertaking has been addressed through the WCG's
& Culture			Culture Journey, Capability Model, and Community Capacity
			Enhancement programmes (see descriptions above and
		•	below).
		organisational culture,	
		citizen satisfaction, and	
		employee engagement	
		to facilitate alignment of	
		the WCG Service	
		commitment and citizen	
		experience	
		realities.	
VIP 5: Innovation	DotP	Developing and	Our culture journey has developed on the premise that it
& Culture		implementing a leader-	would be leader-led engagements. The Premier kicked the
		led engagement and	journey off early 2022 and since then he, DG, Cabinet
		communication process	members have been instrumental in all the engagement
		that will enable	processes. We have launched Values Conversations and
		sustained vision clarity	enabled leaders to have these conversations in/with their
			teams. We will be launching the 2nd Value for conversation
		purpose of the WCG	cycles in 2023. We will follow the same approach with our
			Barrett survey debrief in 2023.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 5: Innovatior & Culture	DoTP	Service Delivery Index	The Service Delivery Index (SDI) framework and methodology have been completed and widely consulted. The SDI has proven to be a quantitative measurement tool that paints a holistic picture in establishing the opinions about and experience of government services, more specifically the delivery of Western Cape Government services to citizens in the Western Cape. A key data source for informing the SDI is the Citizens Perception Survey, as this data source positions the citizens' feedback within government performance data and socio- economic data. The SDI pilot was successfully concluded and shifted into implementation stage with a 2023 baseline. The WCG Citizen Perception Survey is now becoming an annual tracking study measuring government service delivery.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture		Development and roll- out of civic education	The Department, in collaboration with the Hanns Seidel Foundation, developed eight thematic areas in Civic Education Videos on Public Participation. The primary focus was on educating and empowering citizens with information that will enable them to participate meaningfully and effectively in the affairs of local government. In addition to sharing these Civic Education Videos with all municipalities, the Department also conducted several outreaches across the five districts through facilitated sessions with members of the public, followed by robust conversations on possible remedial actions and interventions to enhance meaningful community involvement in the affairs of their municipalities. The interactive sessions with communities cover themes such as: What are municipal services?; What is a responsive citizen?; What is the role of ward committees in a municipality?; and What is the role of a municipal Ward Councillor? Between 2020 and 2022, the Department has facilitated sessions in areas such as Matzikama (Molsvlei, Putsekloof, Rietpoort, Stofkraal, Kliprand and Vredendal North) George (Haarlem and Uniondale), Beaufort West (Marrusysburg, Nelspport and Merweville), Hessequa (Slangrivier and Kwanokuthula, Prince Albert (Klaarstroom and Leeu Gamka), Bitou (Qolweni, New Horizons and Kwanokuthula) as well as showcased the videos during Thusong Outreaches in Matzikama, Witzenberg and Beaufort West whilst citizens are awaiting to be serviced by departments.
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture	DLG	Development of Client/Customer Service Charters for municipalities	Support has been provided to municipalities on the development of client / customer services charters. In addition, support has been provided to all ward committees in the Province, specifically on ward committee induction and ward committee policy guidelines.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture	DoTP	Implementation of a Talent Retention Strategy with career and succession planning frameworks	The WCG Framework for Attraction, Engagement Retention of Talent is in the process of finalisation. This is a comprehensive document specifying all the elements required for successful attraction, engagement and retention of talent in the WCG.
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture	DLG	Improved integrated planning, budgeting & implementation through the annual development of integrated JMDA Implementation Plan to give effect to integrated	The Joint District and Metro Approach (JDMA) was endorsed by the Premier's Coordinating Forum in June 2019. It is a geographical and team based, citizen-focused approach with a single delivery/ implementation plan to provide developmental initiatives and government services. It has been institutionalised through consultations with district and local municipalities, WCG departments and national departments with a footprint in the Western Cape. Many are on board. JDMA Interface Teams, comprising officials from the different departments, have been established in all five districts. They are led by a DLG official. Each JDMA Interface Team is mainly responsible to promote co- planning, co- budgeting, and co-implementation to strengthen service delivery to communities. Each Interface Team has developed an implementation plans informed by each district planning priorities, which was adopted by each of the District Coordinating Forums. Implementation plans are currently being implemented. At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the JDMA structures were also used as part of the hotspot strategy to manage the spread of infections.

& Culture Initiative AND Build Initiative AND Build Initiative AND Build Initernal capacity for a innovation in the WCG of the term of ter	An Innovation Network, whose purpose is to coordinate and learn from other departments, was launched in 2021. In addition, the Innovation for Impact Strategic Framework was developed in 2021 and has resulted in the appointment of a cohort of Innovation Champions across departments.
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VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture	DoTP	Integrated Brand implementation programme	The renewed brand identity FOR YOU was initially introduced at the beginning of 2019 and rolled out in 2021 (the delay in roll-out was owing to the COVID-19 pandemic). The continuous implementation and maintenance of the WCG Brand has remained a priority for the Directorate: Corporate Communication, which piloted the first of several internal research surveys on staff behaviour towards the brand to increase staff awareness. The Directorate: Corporate Communication continues to ensure the consistent application of the WCG's brand identity and messaging and to deliver on the brand promise.
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture	DLG	Municipal support initiatives on municipal governance requirements, finance, capacity building and training.	Significant support has been provided to municipalities since 2019, including support with shared services, Human Resource strategies, indigent policies, reviewing and amending of by-laws, and support with the implementation of the Municipal Property Rates Act.

VIP 5: InnovationDotP	Review and	To enable the WCG to review legislation and institutional
& Culture	rationalizing of	policies and procedures, the WCG has implemented the
	legislation and	PDIA approach. Since 2019, numerous teams have been at
	institutional policies and	work, with 6 teams currently active working on issues ranging
	procedures to result in	from commuter mobility to procurement reform. The teams
	an enabling	comprise officials from various departments (and often the
	environment for service	two other spheres of government). They are tasked with
	delivery.	identifying the main causes of a problem through extensive
		internal and external stakeholder engagements and then
		deciding on actions that could address one aspect of the
		problem. This process is then followed iteratively for other
		aspects of the problem.

VIP	Department	PSP / VIP Intervention	Progress to date
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture	DoTP	Institute into a provincial learning and innovation centre that will continue to provide transversal learning programmes as well as to provide an Innovation facilitation hub to stimulate	The PTI is undergoing a reconfiguration process, part of which is to set up the Innovation Centre at Kromme Rhee to play the role of an innovation hub. The space is already being used as a place to connect, reflect, learn, collaborate and co- create. A Suite of Innovative methodologies is being integrated into the PTI offering to capacitate officials with knowledge, skills and understanding of Innovative solution- driven and action learning methodologies (solutions directly linked to service delivery challenges in communities), e.g., PDIA, Community Capacity Enhancement, Design Thinking, and others. The digital innovation hub is being revamped into an innovation portal.
VIP 5: Innovation & Culture	DoTP	Training programmes will emphasise the citizen centricity of the work we do, whether directly or indirectly. There will be a clear link between leadership	The main programme supporting the citizen-centricity programme is the Community Capacity Enhancement programme, which trains public servants about how to listen to and engage with the citizens they serve. Pilot testing of the course started in 2016, and as a result was housed at the Provincial Training Institute. Here since 2018, the aim has been to conduct monthly courses and 695 people have attended the courses in all.

Social Development: Kannaland

12. Ms N G BakuBaku-Vos to ask Ms S G Fernandez, Minister of Social Development:

With regard to her Department's work at the Kannaland service delivery area (SDA):

- (1) (a) What are the reasons for the high number of vacancies, (b) how long has each vacancy existed and (c) what are the plans and progress made to fill each vacancy;
- (2) (a) why is the Kannaland SDA housed in a church building and (b) when will a permanent office be built;
- (a) what are the (i) funded and (ii) unfunded services that are rendered in the Kannaland SDA, (b) what are the challenges that have been reported and (c) what are the plans to address them?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

With regard to her Department's work at the Kannaland service delivery area (SDA):

- (a) What are the reasons for the high number of vacancies, Currently only 4 vacancies based on the approved organisational structure of 2010:
 - 1 x Social Work Supervisor
 - 1 x Social Worker
 - 1 x Community Development Practitioner unfunded post
 - 1 x Assistant Community Development Practitioner unfunded post
 - 1 x social work graduate additional to the establishment appointed.

(b) how long has each vacancy existed and
1x Social Work Supervisor – since 1 January 2023
1 x Social Worker - 1 October 2021
1 x Community Development Practitioner – Unfunded since 2010
1 x Assistant Community Development Practitioner – Unfunded since 2010

(c) what are the plans and progress made to fill each vacancy. All funded social work vacancies are currently in the recruitment process.

2. (a) why is the Kannaland SDA housed in a church building and The local office is located in the Thusong Centre. Lease managed by the Department of Transport and Public Works.

Service Points: Zoar & Calitzdorp & van Wyksdorp

(b) when will a permanent office be built;

The main office is in Ladismith

3. (a) what are the (i) funded and (ii) unfunded services that are rendered in the Kannaland SDA, All social welfare services are funded.

(b) what are the challenges that have been reported and Shortage of staff

(approved organogram not aligned to social work norms & standards 1 social worker :4500 population) Retention of staff in rural areas Office accommodation

Limited resources in terms of substance treatments centres, child and youth care centres, GBV shelters, employment opportunities, safety parents to assist with child neglect etc.

(c) what are the plans to address them?Department submitted a request to Provincial Treasury to obtain the necessary funding for filling of vacancies.Department requested the Department of the Premier to do an organisation design exercise to comply with norms and standards.

Education: Supports school sport

13. Mr M K Sayed to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Education:

(1) Whether his Department supports school sport in any way; if not, why not; if so, (a) how much has his Department spent on school sport from the start of the sixth administration to date and (b) what are the details of the (i) sporting codes supported and (ii) support provided;

(2) (a) what are the current challenges that hamper school sport, especially at schools in previously disadvantaged communities, and (b) what intervention measures are in place to address these challenges;

(3) whether reports of alleged discrimination at the Laerskool Sedgefield against learners and teachers from the Sedgefield Primary School who are left out of athletics event has been bought to his attention; if so, (a) what are the relevant details and (b) how is his Department dealing with the matter?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION

My Department has informed me of the following:

(1)

a. The Western Cape Education Department (WCED) has no allocated budget for school sport, as school sport is the competency of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport.

- b. Not applicable.
 - i. Not applicable
 - ii. Not applicable

a. Please refer the question to the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport

b. Please refer the question to the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport.

(3)

a. No. WCED district officials visited the two schools. Both schools deny the allegations of discrimination.

Both schools participated in the 2023 Regional Athletics competition that took place in Plettenberg Bay.

b. There are a few administrative issues that need to be addressed between the two schools, such as the financing of the events, and the selection of "officials" for each event. The two principals have committed to address these in their upcoming engagement Questions and replies as received from departments

QUESTIONS

For written reply

Ideal Clinic Initiative

Mr G Pretorius to ask Dr N Mbombo, Minister of Health:

In relation to progress with the Ideal Clinic Initiative in the province: (a) What parameters are used to determine the outcomes of a clinic and (b) what has been the overall percentage outcome of each clinic in the province in (i) 2018/19, (i) 2019/20, (iii) 2020/21, (iv) 2021/22 and (v) 2022/23?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH

1. (a) A clinic is evaluated through the Ideal Clinic Dashboard to determine its ideal clinic status and currently version 18 is in use. The dashboard consists of 211 elements which are linked to 10 components and the National Core Standards for Health Establishments. Each element is assigned a specific weight i.e. vital, essential and important. In order for a facility to obtain an Ideal Clinic status, the facility must achieve a minimum score of 90% for vital, 70% for essential and 70% for important elements. The average score according to the weights assigned to the 211 elements determines whether a clinic has qualified for one of the three Ideal Clinic categories: Silver, Gold or Platinum.

b.	% of clinics with Ideal Clinic status	Explanatory note Information provided as per the finalised Annual Reports.
(i) 2018/19	74%	
(ii) 2019/20	82%	
(iii) 2020/21	53%	The number of Primary Health Care facilities which achieved Ideal Clinic Status in the 2020/21 financial year is 94, a significant decrease from 2019/20. The percentage of facilities which achieved Ideal Clinic Status who participated in the programme is 53%. A major contributory factor for the 2020/21 performance is the de-escalation of services and re- prioritisation which was brought about by the need for the Department to focus on managing the COVID -19 pandemic.

(iv) 2021/22	78%	The number of Primary Health Care facilities which achieved Ideal Clinic Status in the 2021/22 financial year is 200. Thus, the percentage of facilities which achieved Ideal Clinic Status out of those who participated in the programme is 78%, compared to the 53% achievement in 2020/21. Looking at the fact that the number of facilities participating in ICRM has increased significantly since the previous financial year, this is a significant achievement. A contributory factor for the increased performance in 2021/22 is the re-introduction of non- COVID-19 services and the attempt to integrate COVID-19 management with other mainstream health services.
(v) 2022/23	Financial year not completed yet.	

Surgical backlog ib the province

2. Mr G Pretorius to ask Dr N Mbombo, Minister of Health:

With respect to the surgical backlog in the province:

(1) (a) How many surgeries still need to take place to eliminate the backlog and (b) how many took place in each month in 2022;

(2) whether the accelerated catch-up plan for the 2022/23 financial year has resulted in more surgeries taking place; if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) how much dedicated donor funding has been used to augment the R20 million ring-fenced funding used for the surgical catch-up plan;

(4) whether the recent period of stage 6 load-shedding resulted in any delays in surgeries taking place; if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH

1. a. The annual numbers of elective operations have not yet recovered to 2016-2019 levels, but the annual deficit in elective operations has decreased each year since 2020, with the deficit now half of the 2020 deficit. The estimated

backlog of elective surgeries is currently 20 849.

- b. Data is not recorded monthly, but annual data is provided but the that the rate of increase is slowing down.
- 2. Backlogs on elective surgery have been building up over the past three years primarily due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In June 2022, the Western Cape reported a backlog of 77 000 surgeries which include those of under 30 minutes duration as well as those which require longer theatre time. We have made strides into reducing the backlog but have been impacted on by factors such as continuous new trauma and emergency admissions as well as loadshedding. As such, our current elective surgery backlog has been reduced and now stands at 20 849.
- 3. The Gift of the Givers has donated R5 million to Groote Schuur over the past two years. Hospitals have increased day surgery activities as far as possible and the Department procured 2 surgical robots at a cost of R 80 million, which greatly reduce the recovery time and allow patients to be discharged earlier.
- 4. The impact of loadshedding is felt as elective surgeries are postponed during loadshedding when electricity is routed to emergency centres and theatres.

Health: Budget expenditure

3. Mr G Pretorius to ask Dr N Mbombo, Minister of Health:

In relation to the monies spent on budget items, including fuel, oil and medical gas, to keep healthcare facilities running during power cuts:

(a) How much was spent in every month since the start of the 2022/23 financial year, (b) how many litres of (i) fuel, (ii) oil and (iii) medical gas does her Department have in storage in the province and (c) what is the combined value of these items?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH

a. The below is expenditure report for budget item Consumables:

Fuel from 1 April 2022 to 16 February 2023:

April	_	R7 407 413,46
May	_	R8 783 755,42
June	_	R5 697 287,25
July	_	R16 805 228,14
August	_	R8 508 614,52
September	_	R14 739 049,71
October	_	R12 616 602,03
November	_	R8 264 156,97

December	_	R12 092 521,51
January	_	R15 810 865,84
16 February	-	R10 203 873,41

- b. (i) Fuel Storage for diesel has maximum capacity of 250 000 litres. This level however fluctuates hourly but most accurate available calculation with data at hand is that stock levels are at 192 500 litres.
- c. (ii) Medical gas Bulk oxygen tanks capacity is 90.5 tons and additional 9 tons of cylinder rises oxygen. Current stock levels are approximately at 60%.
 (ii) Oil is not a stock item that is generally kept.

Combined value of these items: Fuel - Approximate value of R4 250 000, 00 Medical gas - Approximate value of R720 000, 00

Total approximate value - R4 970 000, 00

Trade agreement: United States of America

4. Mr A P van der Westhuizen to ask Dr I H Meyer, Minister of Agriculture:

(1) (a) How important has the trade agreement with the United States of America, which flowed from the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) of that country, proven to be for agricultural exports from the province and (b) how will our farmers be affected when the current agreement lapses in 2025;

(2) what other trade agreements with the United States, if any, are currently affecting agricultural (a) imports and (b) exports;

(3) what government support is available to South African entities that want to market agricultural and related products in the United States?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

(1) (a) In 2000 the United States of America (USA) introduced the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), giving eligible Sub-Saharan countries duty free access into the USA for 6 400 products. Although the AGOA was initially intended to cover the period 2000 to 2008, it was later extend up to 2015. In 2015 it was extended for a further 10 years and is due to lapse in 2025. Although 661 agricultural products are eligible to receive duty-free access under AGOA, South Africa is currently only using 44 of these which make up 56% of South Africa's agricultural exports to the USA. Over the period of 2000 to 2022, the total value of South African agricultural exports to the USA increased from R1,08 billion to R9,30 billion in nominal terms which is one of the reasons why South Africa's favour. Finally, the nominal value of South Africa's exports receiving AGOA preferences increased from US\$417 million in 2001 to US\$1 917 million in 2021.

(b) The strong positive agricultural trade balance is evidence of the positive impact of AGOA on South African farmers. Although agricultural exports will inevitably continue if South Africa loses its AGOA eligibility, it will have a detrimental impact on competitiveness. In 2014 the calculation was already made that such a step will immediately add an additional R52 million in import taxes to be paid by South African farmers on their exports to the USA. Hence, it is not only South African farmers whom want to get clarity on the future of AGOA, but also importers in the USA. For this reason a strong lobby has also developed across the Atlantic to bring surety to the trade environment.

2. (a) South Africa has no Preferential or Free Trade Agreement with the USA.

(b) In 1974 the USA introduced the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) which reduces duties on thousands of products imported from 119 countries. South Africa is one of those countries, but the GSP share of the combined AGOA and GSP preferences declined from 55% in 2001 to 23% in 2021.

3. As export subsidies are continuously being curtailed under the rules of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), no support of this nature is available to South African farmers. However, export certification of animals and animal products are being done by the Western Cape Department of Agriculture and every year Wesgro is leading several business and trade missions to the USA.

The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)

5. Ms C Murray to ask Ms M M Wenger, Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities:

With regard to the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA):

(1) (a) Which sectors in the provincial economy will benefit from the renewal and continuation of the trade agreement based on this Act, (b) how have different sectors of the province previously benefitted from this Act and (c) what are the risks to the Western Cape economy associated with not implementing the AGOA;

(2) whether the AGOA contributes to an export or import surplus;

(3) what steps have been taken by the (a) provincial and (b) national government to ensure that the AGOA is signed and renewed timeously?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

1 (a)

According to Wesgro, South Africa is able to export more than 6000 types of products to the United States without paying U.S. import tariffs. This is because of the preferential trade dispensation offered by the United States under the

African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and the US Generalized System of Preferences (GSP). First instituted in the 1970s, this programme is designed to promote economic growth in developing countries by providing preferential duty-free treatment for over 3500 products from designated beneficiary countries around the world (with LDCs qualifying for an additional 1,500 products).

Among others, the agricultural sector would benefit significantly from a continuation of AGOA as 70% of agricultural exports to the United States relied on AGOA in 2021. Moreover, 50% of footwear products, 49% of miscellaneous manufactures and 36% of forest products entered the United States under the programme. In addition, textiles and apparel (33%), chemicals and related products (31%), transportation equipment (16%), electronic products (14%) and energy-related products (13%) entered the United States under the AGOA programme.

From an industry perspective, the motor vehicle industry would stand to benefit greatly from the continuation of AGOA. The export of motor vehicles from South Africa to the United States has consistently risen since 2018 and spiked by 30% in 2022. Other industries that would stand to benefit from AGOA continuation are iron and steel, aluminium and jewellery, wine and citrus.

1(b)

South Africa's citrus export sector is a success story under AGOA, with the programme having enabled South Africa, and in particular, the Western Cape, to become one of the largest citrus suppliers to the United States in recent years. The Western Cape exports a diverse range of products to the U.S., with top exports in 2018 including steel, jewellery, engine components, citrus, wine, boats, and beauty products.

Of the top 10 AGOA exports from SA to the US, five were exported from the WC with a share greater than 89% in 2021. This means that the WC province contributes and benefit significantly from AGOA/GSP preferences in 2021. Of the top 10 WC exports to the US in 2021, flat-rolled products of iron/steel dominated the list, reaching an export value of USD166.7m and growing at an average annual rate of 26% over the last five years, from 2017 to 2021. Moreover, 50% of the WC's top 10 products at an HS4 level are AGOA eligible. When analysing it from an HS6 level, 6 out of the top 10 can enter the US under AGOA preference.

1(c)

The risks are multifaceted – on the one hand, qualifying exports won't be as competitive if import tariffs have to be paid in the United States. This may mean that US importers rather seek out similar imports from countries that have preferential access to the United States, either through a preference programme or through a Free Trade Agreement. It is important to keep in mind, however, that other factors besides import tariffs also contribute to competitiveness, such as, for example, cost of production and transport, exchange rate, counter seasonality, and quality. On the other hand, if South Africa no longer qualifies for preferential access to the US market, this could also impact investor location decisions, as foreign investors may choose to set

up their operations in a country from where their products will qualify for dutyfree access into the United States.

In a recent interaction that Wesgro has had with exporters, several companies exporting under AGOA indicated that they would be negatively impacted by the loss of AGOA benefits, and some indicated that it would lead to job losses. More in-depth research is however required to quantify the potential impact.

2)

AGOA certainly contributes significantly to an already existing trade surplus with the United States. When AGOA-related exports are not accounted for (i.e. only considering no-preference exports), South Africa still maintained a trade surplus with the United States at an average annual trade surplus of \$0.79 billion over the period 2001 to 2021. When including AGOA-eligible exports, this average annual surplus increases to \$3.2 billion, with AGOA-eligible products accounting for an average annual share of 31% of South African exports to the United States.

3 (a)

In the Western Cape, through Wesgro our trade promotion agency, ongoing work related to AGOA is done, whether ensuring that Western Cape exporters know about and are equipped to leverage trade preferences under AGOA, or doing periodic AGOA-related research.

A strategy to support the extension of AGOA is underway. Wesgro has done an initial analysis of Western Cape exports under AGOA and has engaged with exporters regarding the importance of AGOA. Additional steps are being planned by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism and Wesgro to build upon this, including, inter alia,

- Engagements with SA/USA Chamber of Commerce
- Lobbying the President and the DTIC to raise the matter of AGOA
- Corporate awareness amongst companies in the Western Cape that benefit from AGOA and who are at risk should it not be renewed
- Engaging with other provinces to work together
- Awareness drive in the USA of Western Cape products and benefits of AGOA
- In-depth research on job creation and economic impacts of AGOA in the WC

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The Department of Economic Development and Tourism in partnership with Wesgro is in the process of establishing a provincial bilateral steering committee with DTIC who are the responsible National Department for trade negotiations. Work has already commenced to ensure that channels are in place for lobbying and advocacy work as it relates to all trade related negotiations and agreements with the relevant National Departments and agencies.

3 (b)

I understand that lobbying for the renewal of AGOA was high on the priority list when President Ramaphosa visited the United States and met with Pres Joe Biden in September 2022. The President also addressed certain members of Congress regarding the renewal of AGOA. The renewal of AGOA was also a topic of discussion during the US – Africa Leaders Summit in December in Washington DC.

According to a DTIC Presentation to Parliament in November 2022, the AGOAeligible countries in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) have a common position on AGOA. This includes calling for the following:

- Extend AGOA beyond its 2025 expiry, for an extended period
- Improve product and country coverage and remove US non-tariff barriers
- Opposition to "graduating" i.e. excluding some SSA countries from AGOA

In addition, these countries together call for US support for Africa's industrialisation and integration efforts and encourage increased US investment in manufacturing and infrastructure. According to the DTIC, SA will host the AGOA Forum in 2023, and SSA will seek to influence the future direction and content of SSA-US trade and investment.

However, we are concerned that the South African Government's so-called neutral stance on the Ukraine invasion and recent military exercises with Russia may cause controversy and potentially place the renewal of this Act in jeopardy. These actions have received notable press coverage in US media outlets and a resolution "opposing the Republic of South Africa's hosting of military exercises with the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation, and calling on the Biden administration to conduct a review of the United States-South Africa relationship" (H. Res 145) has been introduced in the United States Congress.

Remote-working visa

6. Ms C Murray to ask Ms M M Wenger, Minister of Finance and Economic Opportunities:

With regard to the implementation of a remote-working visa:

(a) What steps has her Department taken to advocate the implementation of such a visa, (b) what are the benefits of implementing a remote-working visa and (c) what is the estimated (i) financial and (ii) non-financial impact that such a visa will have on the Western Cape economy?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPRTUNITIES

In 2021 and 2022, the Western Cape Government submitted detailed proposals to the Minister of Home Affairs urging the adoption of a remote work VISA. The matter has also been raised via the Department of Tourism at various platforms. Furthermore, I have raised the need to introduce a remote working VISA in direct communication with the Minister of Finance as one of the leads in Operation Vulindlela on this matter.

The continued lobbying and advocacy work on formal platforms and through the formal written submissions as mentioned continues in partnership with numerous tourism sector bodies such as TBCSA and SATSA amongst others.

With the widespread adoption of new digital technologies together with the ongoing informalisation of work practices (which is giving rise to the growing "gig" economy), many workers are now able to work remotely for extended periods. The challenge that they face is that most tourist VISAs do not allow travellers to earn an income while travelling. These VISAs are typically also capped at between 30 and 90 days' stay length and are difficult to extend. To overcome this challenge, many destinations are introducing remote work VISAs which allow "digital nomads" who are employed in other countries, the ability to stay for an extended period. In this manner, these destinations are enticing foreigners to come and contribute to their economies while pursuing their work remotely. By offering a remote work VISA, South Africa will be able to compete with destinations that already offer this type of VISA. With suitable digital infrastructure, the Western Cape is ideally placed to capitalise on this trend. Introducing such a dedicated remote-working VISA programme can attract a significant number of long-term, financially independent travellers to South Africa, not only during this period of economic uncertainty but also in the long term. In addition to attracting remote workers, it is anticipated that such a VISA would have the knock-on effect of encouraging remote workers to invite their family and friends to visit – with data showing that the main purpose for visiting South Africa among international travellers is to visit friends and relatives. It is important to note that because digital nomads already have a job somewhere else in the world, they do not compete with the local labour market. It is therefore a 'win-win' for the South African economy.

b.

The Department will soon commission research to better quantify the potential financial and non-financial impacts that could be realised in the Western Cape through this type of VISA

Loadshedding: Human-settlement – Infrastructure projects

7. Ms L M Maseko to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Infrastructure:

(1) What impact has load-shedding had on any (a) human-settlements and (b) infrastructure projects in the province;

(2) whether he is spending funds on generators to mitigate the impact of loadshedding; if so, what are the costs involved?

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE

1. (a) Loadshedding is impacting human settlements projects directly in relation to cost, time and quality:

Cost

• Increasing material prices due to fuel costs for generators and the high demand for material as factories cannot keep up with the demand due to

load shedding.

- Material theft at night during load shedding.
- Approximately 7-9 % increase in costs. This is, however, being absorbed by the contractor due to fixed-price tenders.

Time

- Delayed delivery of material due to low production at factories.
- Certain activities on site come to a halt when load shedding.
- Almost 8 9% loss in time.

Quality

• Due to power tools not working during load shedding, SMMEs are taking short cuts. For example, if the grinders are not working, bricks are broken by hand which affects the quality of the structure (this is addressed and rectified but it takes more time).

All contractors are responsible for power supply during load shedding where predominantly diesel generators are used. There is some negative impact on certain sites resulting in delays with concrete mixing or testing.

 (b) In respect of maintenance and capital infrastructure projects in General Buildings, there has been limited adverse impact of loadshedding to date. Contractors work around loadshedding by utilising small generators and power tools which they bring to site, and in instances where they are doing work in provincially occupied buildings, these have back-up generators in place.

The nature of the wide range of services for which the Department of Transport and Public Works (DTPW) is responsible is such that it has essentially been able to continue with other aspects of work when electricity has been cut e.g. on a construction or maintenance site, while power driven tools may be unusable for a time, plastering, bricklaying, levelling and so on can continue. On most road projects, construction companies provide their own power given the variable locations of the work to be done. A far greater threat lies in the inability of other agencies and spheres of government upon which DTPW is dependent for services e.g., property transfers, zoning applications, the Deeds Office.

2. The cost of generators and resultant delays due to load shedding is for the cost of the contractor. Human settlement infrastructure projects are predominantly in areas where there is no electrical supply when projects commence. The electrical supply on site is normally only in place at the end of the project when the houses are complete. Hence, it is a norm for contractors to provide alternative power supply. The DTPW, in its capacity as custodian and manager of provincial government buildings has installed backup generators in all provincially owned office buildings and in this way has addressed all previous load-shedding demands since 2015/16.

The installation of backup generators is often part of a larger electrical infrastructure upgrade project and accordingly, isolating the capital costs of procuring generators is not always possible. I can mention that in 2016/17 the DTPW procured and installed a 1000kVA standby generator to run all electrical

supply at the York Park shared office building in George. This was part of the electrical infrastructure upgrade project at the building with a project cost of R7.7m.

From April 2022 to February 2023, the DTPW has procured additional generators and bouser [diesel tanks and trailers] at an approximate cost of R1.3m. This is in addition to short term rentals of backup generators to assist user departments, such as the Department of Agriculture in the support of their operations. Over the same period, an amount of approximately R633 000.00 has been incurred in respect of such rentals.

The detailed repair and maintenance costs relating to generators cannot easily be extracted from the overall operational maintenance costs incurred by the DTPW in respect of all mechanical and electrical installations. However, the DTPW will have spent in the region of R 5.1m on diesel from 01 April 2022 to 28 February 2023 for the various backup generators which it has provided across the general building portfolio.

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(as put to relevant Minister)

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