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

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Standing Committee on Community Development on Vote 6: Health in the schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 3–2018], dated 16 March 2018, as follows:

The Standing Committee on Community Development, having deliberated on the subject of Vote 6: Health in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 3–2018], referred to the Committee in accordance with Standing Rule 187, reports that it supports the vote.

Minority view

In accordance with Standing Rule 86 the African National Congress expressed its minority view not to support the Vote.

The report discusses committee findings, resolutions and requested information as indicated below.

1. Findings

- 1.1. The Department of Health (hereafter the Department) reported that the total allocation to the Department during the 2018/19 financial year is R23,063 billion, one of the largest allocations in the provincial budget.
- 1.2. The Department is primarily responsible for providing health services to approximately 6,5 million people (the population of the province), of whom 75,3 per cent is estimated to be uninsured.
- 1.3. The main challenge of the Department during the 2018/19 financial year is the overall improvement of health within the context of an escalating burden of disease and a constrained budget.
- 1.4. The demand for health services continues to increase as the population grows and levels of social deprivation increase.
- 1.5. The budgetary challenges over the next three years – in the context of a growing burden of disease, poor socio-economic conditions, drought and migration – pose a significant challenge to the Department's ability to maintain its current performance.
- 1.6. It has been assumed that the national wage negotiations will increase salaries (service conditions) by 0,3 per cent above the numbers indicated by the National Treasury and this will place additional pressure on the budget.
- 1.7. The 2018/19 Comprehensive HIV, AIDS and TB Grant allocation has been reduced by R113 million.
- 1.8. The Department reported that the Universal Test and Treat Policy is being rolled out in the province in spite of budget limitations.
- 1.9. The Department has developed a Transformation Strategy and is set to give effect to the Healthcare 2030 Strategic Vision.

- 1.10. The Management Efficiency and Alignment Project (MEAP) is one of the various projects of the Department that will lead to the redesign of its organisational architecture to ensure greater efficiencies.
- 1.11. Information and communications technology (ICT) has been identified as a critical and dynamic enabler for improving efficiency, effectiveness and service delivery.
- 1.12. The Department and the City of Cape Town will jointly address challenges relating to access to primary healthcare services in the metropolitan area.
- 1.13. During the 2018/19 financial year, the Department will participate in the whole-of-society interventions in four prioritised subdistricts (Saldanha, Drakenstein, Khayelitsha and Klipfontein) as part of its commitment to address the social determinants of health through intersectoral action.
- 1.14. The attack on Emergency Medical Services (EMS) staff members in the province is still a challenge. The Department is calling on all communities to work with the Department to ensure the safety of staff.
- 1.15. From the Global Fund 1,36 per cent is allocated to the allocation of Programme 2 in 2018/19. By comparison, 0,82 per cent was allocated in the revised estimates of the 2017/18 budget.
- 1.16. The Department reported that a response plan for the water-shortage crisis has been developed and is in the process of being implemented. Measures such as ensuring functional boreholes at all facilities (starting with hospitals), rain harvesting and changing behaviour to reduce water consumption are in place.

2. Public Input

Ms D Kiewiets, Ms N Isial and Mr Jonathan from Community Health Forums were afforded an opportunity to make oral submissions on the budget vote. The Minister and the Head of the Department duly responded to the inputs made by the members of the public.

3. Resolutions

The Committee RESOLVED that the following briefings be included in its committee programme for the 2018/19 financial year:

- 3.1. Collaboration between the Department and the City of Cape Town on the basket of services rendered to the communities of the Western Cape;
- 3.2. The progress made with the integration of health services of the City of Cape Town with those of the provincial Department of Health;
- 3.3. The District Health Plan for each district on the burden of diseases and the response strategies of the City of Cape Town and the Department;
- 3.4. A Transformation Plan of the Department;
- 3.5. The Department's Drought Plan; and
- 3.6. The Department's strategy for dealing with the listeriosis outbreak.

4. Information requested

The Committee REQUESTED that the Department provides it with a detailed report on the complaints and compliments received by the Department during the 2017/18 financial year. The report is to be submitted by Monday, 2 April 2018.

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MS L J BATHA, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DATE 16/03/2018