

# PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

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## QUESTION PAPER

### WRITTEN REPLY

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Note: \* Indicates translated version.

**FRIDAY, 7 FEBRUARY 2025**

**1. Mr D G Jacobs to ask Ms M M Wenger, Minister of Health and Wellness:**

With regard to a video that surfaced in December 2024 of a patient being manhandled and dragged by security staff at the Karl Bremer Hospital:

Whether her Department has taken any action against the hospital and the security company; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(1)

**2. Mr B N Herron to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Education:**

With respect to his written reply to question 6 of 29 November 2024 and his comments on a News24 article published on 17 December 2024:

- (1) Whether his Department approached the Hoërskool Tulbagh at any stage to propose that it adds English as a language of teaching and learning in 2025; if so, (a) when did his Department or officials approach the school governing board (SGB) and (b) why did his Department approach the SGB to propose that it adds English as a language of teaching and learning;
- (2) whether the decision by the SGB was in response to his Department's request; if not;
- (3) whether the SGB proposed to add English as a language of teaching and learning and to make Xhosa a home language and English a first additional language of its own accord; if so, (a) when did the Hoërskool Tulbagh's SGB decide to add English as a language of teaching and learning in 2025 and (b) when (on what date) did the SGB inform his Department of its decision to add English as a language of teaching and learning in 2025 and to make Xhosa a home language and English a first additional language in the subject package;
- (4) whether the SGB informed his Department orally or in writing; (a) if orally, (i) when, (ii) by whom and (iii) to whom was this communicated and (b) if in writing, can a copy of the written communication be made available;

- (5) (a) when did his Department communicate with the SGB that it approved or agreed with the decision to add the additional language stream and package and (b) what process did his Department follow after the SGB's decision in order to fund the provision of the education and other resources required to implement this decision;
- (6) whether his Department provided or offered these resources in (5) above; if so, what are the relevant details of the resources provided?

(2)

**3. Mr B N Herron to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Education:**

With reference to the Western Cape Education Department's reduction to the educator post establishment by 2 407 posts and the HOD's circular (dated 15 January 2025) addressed to principals, educators and school-based staff at public schools in which he announced an "increase of up to 477 growth posts in the existing educator establishment for 2025":

- (1) (a) What was the educator post establishment (number of posts) for public schools at the commencement of the 2024/25 financial year, (b) what number of that post establishment was vacant throughout the 2024 school year or what was the actual total number of public school educators employed in the 2024 school year, (c) what was his Department's budget for cost of employment for the educator post establishment for the 2024/25 financial year, (d) what was his Department's actual expenditure on the cost of employment for public school educators on the educator post establishment from 1 April 2024 to 31 December 2024, (e) what is his Department's projected total expenditure on the cost of employment for the educator post establishment for the 2024/25 financial year ending 31 March 2025, (f) what is the cost-of-employment "saving" (i) resulting from the reduction of 2 407 educator posts in the current financial year and (ii) in the two outer MTEF years, (g) what is the source of the funding for the 477 "growth posts" announced on 15 January 2025, (h) what are the details of any departmental savings or adjustments to fund these posts, if applicable, and (i) what is the cost of employment for these additional posts in the (i) current financial year and (ii) MTEF years;
- (2) whether the funding was sourced from private donors; if so, what (a) are the details of the donors and (b) were their donations?

(3)

**4. Mr D W Jacobs to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Infrastructure:**

- (a) How many affordable and social housing projects are currently in progress in the province and (b) which communities are set to benefit from these housing projects?

(4)

**5. Mr D W Jacobs to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Education:**

- (a) What are the projected plans for the Rapid School Programme and (b) where will these schools be built in 2025?

(5)

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

With reference to the Tafelberg site that is being allocated to social-services delivery:

- (1) (a) What (i) review process, if any, took place when the Tafelberg site was allocated to social-services delivery and (ii) are the details of the review, if a review took place,

- (b) what demands and needs have changed since the 2016 affordable housing feasibility study to allow for the site to be earmarked for social-services delivery and
  - (c) why was the change approved despite the existing affordable housing study;
- (2) whether a new study will be conducted to assess the feasibility of the site being used for social-services delivery; if not, (a) why not and (b) why was a study not conducted before the change in allocation from housing to social services; if so, what are the relevant details;
  - (3) (a) what services will be offered at the site, (b) when will those social services commence, (c) what is the cost of repurposing the building and (d) who will incur the cost;
  - (4) whether the remainder of the site has been allocated to affordable housing; if so,
  - (5) whether a new viability study will be conducted to assess the remainder of the site for affordable housing; if so, given previous studies of the site for housing viability, why does the Department intend to conduct further studies or a new study?

(6)

**7. Ms B M van Minnen to ask Mr A R Winde, Premier:**

With regard to the First Thursdays initiative:

- (a) What was the average attendance of First Thursdays in 2024 and (b) what metrics are used to measure the success of this initiative?

(7)

**8. Mr D J Wessels to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Infrastructure:**

With regard to the joint media release relating to the Tafelberg site in Sea Point issued by him on 30 January:

- (a) What efforts have been made to engage with stakeholders and the civil society regarding the investigation into using the site for affordable housing, (b) what further engagements with stakeholders are planned, (c) what is the timeline of events regarding the investigation for the possible uses of the site and (d) what uses are being explored for the site?

(8)

**9. Mr L D van Wyk to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Education:**

With regard to school transportation:

- (a) How much has his Department spent over the past five financial years on school transportation per region, (b) how many schools participate in school transportation programmes per region and (c) how many learners make use of school transportation per region?

(9)

**10. Mr L D van Wyk to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Education:**

With regard to school feeding programmes:

- (1) (a) How much money was spent over the past five financial years on school feeding programmes per region, (b) how many schools participate in school feeding programmes and (c) how many learners rely on these school feeding programmes;
- (2) whether the private sector is assisting in any way; if so, what are the relevant details?

(10)

**11. Mr D W Bryant to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:**

Taking into consideration the phenomenal performance of many Western Cape municipalities during the recent audit outcomes, what were the contributing factors that set the top performing Western Cape municipalities so far apart from the rest of the country?

(11)

**12. Mr N P Masipa to ask Dr I H Meyer, Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism:**

(a) What are the specific benefits that the African Growth and Opportunity Act (Agoa) offers to farmers and businesses in the province, (b) what are the potential losses that could arise if South Africa were to be excluded from Agoa, (c) what actions are being taken to ensure that the country retains these benefits and (d) what efforts are being made to mitigate the potential fallout should these benefits be lost?

(12)

**13. Ms W F Kaizer-Philander to ask Mr J J Londt, Minister of Social Development:**

With regard to the Western Cape Government's Gender-based Violence Implementation Plan:

(a) How much has been spent on this implementation plan since its inception, (b) what are the (i) interventions and (ii) services offered by his Department and (c) what progress has been made by his Department in combating gender-based violence?

(13)

**14. Mr M Booysen to ask Ms M M Wenger, Minister of Health and Wellness:**

(a) What are the implications of the cancelling of the US President's Emergency Plan for Aids Relief (PEPFAR) funding for her Department and (b) what are the possible remedies to fill this void?

(14)

**15. Mr N P Masipa to ask Dr I H Meyer, Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism:**

(a) What is the impact of the current Air Traffic and Navigation Systems (ATNS) failures on tourism in the province, (b) what is the (i) estimated loss in tourism numbers and (ii) resulting economic cost and (c) what actions are being taken to resolve these issues?

(15)

**16. Mr N P Masipa to ask Dr I H Meyer, Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism:**

With regard to tourism figures for the period 2024/25:

(a) What is the detailed breakdown of tourism numbers in the province per region in terms of (i) domestic and international flights, (ii) bed occupancy rates and (iii) estimated cash flows generated by these tourists and (b) what challenges or issues have been identified by his Department that have an impact on the number of tourists visiting the province?

(16)

**17. Mr D W Bryant to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:**

(a) How many windfarm projects are legally underway in the province, (b) where are these projects located and (c) what are the details of the developers of each site?

(17)

**18. Mr D W Bryant to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:**

(1) Whether his Department is party to the investigation into the recent oil spill along the Kommetjie and Hout Bay coastline that had an impact on marine life, including many endangered African penguins; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) whether his Department has been in communication with the national Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment; if so, what was the outcome?

(18)

**19. Mr T C R Walters to ask Ms A J D Marais, Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:**

With regard to the latest available SAPS resourcing data for the province:

(a) (i) How many police officers should be deployed in the province based on best-practice police-to-population ratio and (ii) how many are currently deployed, (b)(i) what is the number of police officers based on best-practice police-to-population ratios that should be deployed at each police station in the province and (ii) how many SAPS members are deployed at each station, (c) how does the SAPS handle staff shortages in high-demand areas in the province and (d) what are the specific implications of insufficient staffing for the SAPS in the province (for example response times and crime prevention efficacy)?

(19)

**20. Mr T C R Walters to ask Ms A J D Marais, Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:**

(a) What is the current status of the SAPS Western Cape Extortion Task Team, (b) how many cases perpetrated in the province have been reported to the SAPS toll-free extortion hotline since its inception on 1 September 2023 and (c)(i) how many of these cases have been resolved and (ii) how many of these cases resulted in (aa) arrests and (bb) convictions?

(20)

**21. Ms A Cassiem to ask Ms M M Wenger, Minister of Health and Wellness:**

With regard to the statement by the President of the United States of America that he will be cutting future aid to South Africa:

(1) What impact will such a move have on the administration of health in the province and on patients;

(2) whether such a move will result in job losses; if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) whether her Department has any relations with the United States government; if so, what impact will such a move have on those relations?

(21)

**22. Ms A Cassiem to ask Mr A W Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:**

In the light of the recent water crisis facing the Swartland Local Municipality where residents complained about excessive demand for water supply as the reservoirs ran dry:

- (1) Whether the municipality is approaching Day Zero; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether his Department is capable of intervening to make sure that there are enough boreholes in the area so that residents can have access to an adequate water supply; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(22)

**23. Ms A Cassiem to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Education:**

With regard to unplaced learners:

- (a) What is the backlog in the number of children who are still not placed at schools,
- (b) how does his Department come to the decision to place a learner from one region (Cape Metro) in another region (West Coast) without providing learner transport for such a learner and
- (c) what are the criteria used by his Department to provide learner transport for learners from one area going to a school or schools that are located in the same direction?

(23)

**24. Ms T Lithakong to ask Mr J J Londt, Minister of Social Development:**

In the light of President Trump's freeze on US foreign aid:

- (a) How will such a move affect social services in the province and
- (b) what bearing will the move have on services provided by non-governmental organisations?

(24)

**25. Mr M K Sayed to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Education:**

- (1) What percentage of matric learners in the (a) African, (b) coloured, (c) Indian and (d) white population groups was enrolled for (i) Mathematics and (ii) Physical Sciences in the (aa) 2023, (bb) 2024 and (cc) 2025 academic years;
- (2) how many learners from each of the population groups in (1) above passed (a) Mathematics and (b) Physical Sciences in the (i) 2023 and (ii) 2024 academic years?

(25)

**26. Mr M K Sayed to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Education:**

- (1) What is the (a) number and (b) detailed breakdown of all the administrative employees of the Western Cape Education Department (WCED), including their (i) race, (ii) qualifications, (iii) positions occupied, (iv) level of experience and (v) salary scales;
- (2) what is the (a) number and (b) detailed breakdown of all the educators employed by the WCED, including their (i) race, (ii) schools where they are employed, (iii) qualifications and (iv) level of experience?

(26)

**27. Mr M K Sayed to ask Mr D J Maynier, Minister of Education:**

- (1) What progress has been made with the construction of a permanent school in Atlantis;
- (2) whether a budget has been allocated for the school in the 2025/26 financial year; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

(27)

**28. Mr M B Ngqentsu to ask Ms A J D Marais, Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:**

- (a) What is the total number of cases related to (i) extortion, (ii) the construction mafia and (iii) other related crimes that (aa) has been opened and (bb) are currently under investigation in the province, (b) what are the details of the accused in these cases, including (i) the number of individuals charged, (ii) their affiliations or known associations and (iii) the status of each case and (c) what are the details of each case, including (i) the nature of the crime, (ii) the affected areas and (iii) the progress of investigations and prosecutions?

(28)

**29. Ms A P Bans to ask Dr I H Meyer, Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism:**

- (a) What is the number of businesses that have closed down in (i) 2019, (ii) 2020, (iii) 2021, (iv) 2022, (v) 2023, (vi) 2024 and (vii) 2025 to date as the result of (aa) extortion, (bb) the construction mafia and (cc) any other related form of organised crime in the province and (b) what is the estimated cost of (i) extortion, (ii) the construction mafia and (iii) other related forms of organised crime to (aa) the Western Cape economy and (bb) the livelihoods of people in the province?

(29)

**PLEASE NOTE: The replies to the questions in this Question Paper are due on 21 February 2025. Should the replies not be submitted before or on the deadline, the Members have the right to have the questions transferred to the Question Paper for oral reply in accordance with Rule 206.**