

**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, 8 MARCH 2024

1. Ms A Cassiem to ask Mr R I Allen, Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

With regard to the 15 firearms stolen from the Mitchells Plain Police Station in November 2023:

(a) What has been the developments in this matter and (b) what is the status of the investigation?

(27)

2. Ms A Cassiem to ask Mr R I Allen, Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

(a) Where are the police vans of the Mitchells Plain Police Station deployed and (b) what are the reasons for their poor response to crime in the area?

(28)

3. Mr T M Klaas to ask Mr R D Mackenzie, Minister of Mobility:

With regard to the “Getting YOU to Work” Pilot Project:

(a) (i) How do jobseekers get a voucher in order to get the benefits of this pilot project and (ii) which areas are covered, (b) what is the duration of this pilot project and (c) how much will the Western Cape Government pay to Golden Arrow Bus Services for the duration of this pilot project?

(29)

4. Ms G Bosman to ask Mr R I Allen, Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

With regard to the Platteklouf Forensic Science Laboratory:

- (1) (a) How many staff members are currently employed at the facility and (b)(i) how many staff members have resigned in the last 36 months and (ii) what were the reasons given for each resignation;
- (2) (a) how many generators are currently installed at the facility and (b) how many of these are currently functional;
- (3) whether the facility has requested any exemption from load-shedding; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) (a) what is the current status of the supply of reagents for DNA testing at the facility and (b) what is the current backlog of samples as at 5 March 2024;
- (5) what is the current status of the air-conditioning units;
- (6) whether there has been any breakdown of the air-conditioning units in the last 12 months; if so, what was the effect on (a) staff members' working conditions and (b) sample storage?

(29)

5. Mr C M Dugmore to ask Mr A T Simmers, Minister of Infrastructure:

- (1) (a) What is the breakdown of the total cost incurred by the Western Cape Government in litigation expenses regarding the development of social housing on the Tafelberg site and (b) how does this expenditure align with the government's commitment to fiscal responsibility and to addressing housing inequality;
- (2) (a) what factors continue to delay the development of social housing on the Tafelberg site, (b) when will development plans be implemented on the site, (c) what is the specific timeline for the commencement of construction and the provision of affordable housing units and (d) what measures are in place to speed up the process of providing affordable housing to residents of the province;
- (3) (a) what is the Province's plan for the site in terms of the reactivation of a school facility as an urban public school, identified in the Preliminary Key Development Elements alongside spatial transformation and the development of affordable housing in the invitation for an exploration process on the Tafelberg site, (b) why is the reactivation of a school facility prioritised over the urgent need for social housing and (c) what criteria were used to determine this priority?

(30)

6. Mr C M Dugmore to ask Mr A T Simmers, Minister of Infrastructure:

- (a) What are the barriers preventing the provincial government from recognising the occupation of Ahmed Kathrada House as a lived alternative, (b) what steps are being taken to address these barriers, (c) when will he be meeting with the residents to engage in dialogue to find a fair and lasting solution and (d)(i) what is the latest update on energy provision to the residents and (ii) what steps are being taken by his Department to ensure that the residents have reliable and affordable access to electricity?

(31)

7. Mr P Marran to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Infrastructure:

With regard to the filling of the vacancy of Chief Director: Human Settlements Planning:

- (a) When did this position become vacant, (b)(i) when and (ii) where was it advertised, (c)(i) how many applications were received and (ii) what are the details of (aa) all the shortlisted candidates, (bb) their qualifications and (cc) their experience, (d)(i) when did

his Department hold interviews for this position and (ii) what was the scoring for each candidate and (e)(i) when was Ms Kahmiela August appointed permanently in this position and (ii) what was the motivation for this appointment?

(32)

8. Mr P Marran to ask Mr T A Simmers, Minister of Infrastructure:

In respect of the termination of the contracts of the officials who worked in the Project Management Office:

- (1) (a) What (i) is the number and (ii) are the details of all the employees who worked in this office, (b) what were the functions of this office and (c) what impact will the termination of these contracts have on the work of his Department;
- (2) whether the staff members in the Project Management Office worked in his Department for more than a decade; if so, why were they not included in the staff establishment?

(33)

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

In respect of learner placements for the 2024 academic year:

- (1) (a) What is the number of learners who are yet to be placed at schools per grade for the current academic year, (b) what measures are being taken to ensure that these unplaced learners are accommodated in schools, (c) what is the proposed strategy for integrating these unplaced learners into schools and for helping them catch up academically and (d)(i) what is the number of learners between grades 2 and 12 who requested transfers to other schools and (ii) how many of these learners have been transferred;
- (2) (a) what is the number of schools with class sizes with more than 40 learners in a class and (b)(i) what is the total number of overcrowded classrooms with more than 40 learners in a class and (ii) what is the detailed breakdown of this number per (aa) circuit and (bb) school;
- (3) when is his Department planning to build additional schools to alleviate overcrowding, particularly in hotspot areas for overcrowded schools, such as Kraaifontein, Mitchells Plain and Khayelitsha?

(34)

PLEASE NOTE: The replies to the questions in this Question Paper are due on 25 March 2024. 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.