
WEDNESDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2015

The House met at 10:00

The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

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The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may be seated. Order. Before I ask the Secretary to read the first Order, may I just give some guidance about the scope of the debates that we are entering now. The debate on the supplementary estimates yesterday was on the principle of the Bill. In other words, it was essentially a wide-ranging political debate. Previously it was called the Second Reading Debate.

Today the House starts with the debates on the separate, the individual votes contained in the supplementary estimates. We debate the appropriation and/or the shifting of funds in the individual votes. The scope of the debate will therefore be more limited and must relate to the funds appropriated or shifted in the particular vote. In other words, what is contained in the schedule of the Bill and the Blue Book, we all know the Blue Book, the

Adjusted Estimates of Provincial Expenditure from 2015, should be our guiding factor. I hope this will assist the hon members in the debates. The Secretary will read the first Order.

The SECRETARY: Debate on Vote 11 – Agriculture - *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4 – 2015].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see the hon member Minister Winde.

Ms B A SCHÄFER: Hear, hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM: Thank you very much, Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you for those guidelines. I shall speak out of the Blue Book then, and I think as we know, this is that time in our year when we get to look at that budget that we put together so long ago and, as we all know, specifically in a department like Agriculture, where things change all the time, there are pressures put on the system all the time. These opportunities, I think, are actually very good within the budget process which allows us to just re-check on those decisions we made more than a year ago when we went through the MTEC process on aligning our budget.

So, you will see in the main appropriation of R742 261 million that we have an increase of R15 947 million. So, first of all, we are very grateful that we do have an increase, that we have managed to get some more money into the

system, but it also gives us the opportunity, as I said, to realign and have a look at where this money is spent, and nothing more so than right now when our province is, just like some other parts of our country, under severe pressure with regards to lower rainfall that we anticipated.

In actual fact, this Cabinet has already declared in this province a drought specifically in Central Karoo and the West Coast regions of our province and that also has huge implications, right down to something that is not in this budget, but something that happened yesterday in the Swellendam region where we saw a crazy disaster where a whole lot of the silos containing canola just collapsed. It was like a domino effect and the silos just collapsed, and now we have to try and, well, first of all perhaps just to say, really, really grateful that no one was injured while that happened, but they said it was amazing that, and still nobody knows what caused it, but in the space of a minute just all these silos collapsed. We already know that there is around about 12 000 tons of canola that is now lying out on the ground. It is a 20 000 ton facility and, of course, that is another part of our economy, and linked directly to agriculture that has been put under stress and strain.

Obviously we cannot get involved directly, but already, this morning, I know the Department of Labour have to come in and have a look. I was on the phone this morning to them where the Red Tape Unit is now trying to facilitate - that we speed up the process of investigation from the Department of Labour, so we can try and save as much of the canola that is lying on the ground as possible, get it into our facilities and start turning it into an agri-

process product, which is, of course, where our focus is because we know that we add jobs to our primary agricultural sector.

So I think this has been a busy and remarkable year for agriculture in the Western Cape with its fair share of successes, but also it has had its fair share of challenges. Some farmers are still harvesting their wheat and the total crop yield is not available, but early projections suggest that around 40% of the normal yield will materialise. Now that, again, is pretty serious for us. In a bid to minimise the economic impact of the drought, we have allocated just over R6 million in relief in the adjustment budget. So, we are already preparing for it.

I did mention that, as a Cabinet, we have made a decision to declare it a disaster and we also estimate that this is going to cost us in the vicinity of around about R60 million until the, hopeful, rainy season next year again. So, that's nearly R10 million a month – that is what the cost of this drought is going to be directly on agriculture. Of course, as we also know, this has a knock-on effect to specifically the economies of our smaller towns in those regions, and so you can see how this is one of the ways we are using this adjustment, or this reallocation so that we can actually start to step in to try and minimise or mitigate wherever the economy in this sector will feel pain.

Can I also say that we want to compliment those farmers in the region that have specifically looked at conservation agriculture, and perhaps at the same time recognise the Department and the role that the Department plays because

that has definitely minimised the impact of what has happened in this drought time. If you have a look at the work done at our own research farm you will see us getting 45/47% of the normal rainfall, but only about a 20/25% reduction in crop yield. You can see that how working with nature actually minimises your risk and still manages to give you a yield specifically in a low rainfall time like we have now.

I think you will also see that we have put some money into the Fruitlook Project. This is again a project that is really an innovation coming out of the Department, in partnership with business, but it is also a mechanism that looks at how we manage our water, and we know that water, as a natural resource, is going to become more and more of an issue as we go forward.

Perhaps also having a look at specifically money allocated to the Brucellosis issue in Beaufort West, or Malta-fever as we say. I see Dr Msiza there and I know that sometimes Dr Msiza and myself have had some tough emails between each other over the last while. I want to say to Dr Msiza: thank you very much for continuing to do what you do with your vets because we need to manage these kind of things. You can imagine what would happen if a threat like this ended up like affecting Karoo lamb, for example; a major brand that we have built over time. So, there is R1,9 million total cost that is going to go into making sure that we control this, get it out of the way and move on, but thank you very much. I know it has been tough sometimes and I apologise if sometimes I have maybe overstepped the mark in trying to get us to deal with this, but thank you very much to you and your team for what

you have done there.

And then, perhaps, this is only in the adjustment, but also recognising some of the other work that you do. You would have seen that the biggest export of horses ever, from this region, left on Monday by aircraft from our shores. It is a R200 million a year business, but we are hoping to push that to a billion Rand and it is the work that our vets do in making sure that we have product, great horses that are a brand recognised worldwide. So thank you very much for what you do there.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: You would have seen money going to Elsenburg, looking at how we deal with the specific student management, the discussions, and I think I also want to say to the Department: to the role that you played, we, as a country, are feeling pressure because our students are telling us that there is a pressure in the system, that they are needing more hope; they are looking at costs, but they are looking at all sorts of other things, and I think they are living out what is happening in our economy. Thank you very much for the late nights and the hours that were put into managing the process when things were getting a bit rough at Elsenburg, and I think really, in this last stage, you saw that Elsenburg has settled down. I am not saying that we are finished; we have a long road to go, but it is all about transformation, it is all about creating an environment of hope, and an environment of learning so

that we have a future in agriculture and we have got some money going into that space. So, thank you very much for that.

There is money going into education and training and we have to be creating the future and I think that is also very key. So, it is not a lot of money in the big picture in the adjustment, but it is some more money which, I think, in the nature of all our departments, it is a bit rare in our Government to have a bit more money, but I think it is also dealing with some of the real big pressure points in the system. So thank you very much to all involved in making sure that we are delivering a conducive agricultural environment, an environment for growth and an environment for jobs, and I look forward to this debate.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon member Ms Schäfer.

Ms B A SCHÄFER: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Agriculture, though only 4% of the Western Cape's economy, is the main driver of economic development and job creation in the rural areas. In 2014, for example, 82% of all South Africa's apple exports came from the Western Cape. The Western Cape makes up the bulk of South Africa's total fruit exports due to its excellent quality which gives the Western Cape's agricultural produce a clear competitive edge. With this in mind, we welcome the R15 947 million that has been added to the Department of Agriculture's budget. In particular, Minister, the R10 million allocated for climate change mitigation projects becomes an essential one when the employment of 150 000 farm workers and

our national food security could be at risk.

The Committee looks forward to the completion of Smart Agri in 2016, the climate change framework and implementation plan for the agricultural sector. This plan is an inter-departmental project with the Department of Environmental and Development Planning and it will become a blueprint in building climate change resilient farming communities and assist in developing climate smart agri-technologies in the future. Linked to this, the Committee welcomes the further allocation of R7.6 million allocated for sustainable resource management which aims to support farmers to practice conservation farming to produce more crops using less water.

The Committee also welcomes the establishment of the Veterinary Export Certification Office in Cape Town. Having engaged with this specific department, we believe that there needs to be far more vets employed by the Department to match the need and to ensure the safety of meat and meat products, as well as the prevention and control of animal diseases in the province. Although a small amount, we welcome the further R1.9 million allocated for veterinary services.

R3.8 million is allocated for research and technology, and in order to be at the forefront of technological developments in agriculture, relevant research and technology developments must be ongoing to ensure that all agricultural role players in the Western Cape are provided with the most advanced scientific and technical advice. Scientific information at farm level will

make our farmers far more sustainable and competitive on local, national and international markets.

The R2.6 million allocated for education and training and the R1.2 million for the development of the new student information system is also noted. The Committee engaged extensively with the Department on education and training and the emphasis of tracking past students, to assess their employment progress, has become important in order to assess and match education to work opportunities.

The continued excellent track record of this Department is something that must be commended. Their dedication to transformation of the sector remains top of mind and their progress in support through the Land Reform Advisory Desk must be mentioned.

I would like to thank the hon Minister, the Head of Department, Ms Isaacs, and the entire Department, as well as Casidra, for always making themselves available to engage with the Committee at all times, and for ensuring that transformation and reconciliation happens at all levels in the sector. We look forward to further oversight and engagements with you in the new year. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. The hon member Ms Davids.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Good morning, Mr Deputy Speaker. On 4 December 2014,

I stood here and rose to reject the adjustments appropriation budget of 2014. The same reasons that I advanced are still relevant today in 2015. In Programme 7 alone, an amount of R1.2 million has been rolled over. This shows a clear improper planning and inability to meet the set targets and capacity constraints in this Department at the levels of top management and political principles.

Why is it that the student information system has taken so long to be developed? An amount of R1 million is loosely budgeted for other adjustments. This could be anything under the earth, like party electioneering activities and so forth and so on. In this programme an amount of R10 million was used for unforeseeable and unavoidable expenditure. This conduct opens room for corrupt activities and unethical behaviours and is highly unacceptable. We all know that conditional grants are meant to be used for the projects that were dedicated therefore. There is no room to manoeuvre otherwise.

The underspending of R69 million on conditional grants in the agricultural department is shocking, to say the least. These funds could have been better utilised efficiently if there was a common vision and appreciation of the challenges of the historically disadvantaged and emerging farmers in this province. Again, we see physical dumping of R3.6 million from farmer settlements to Casidra, as was in 2014.

The Gaps projects are crucial for the emerging farmers development, but

R70 million is shifted elsewhere. In this, the AR, the Department has failed to explain why R5.8 million was underspent in administration.

For many years the DA Government has ignored the issues of transformation affecting students at the Elsenburg College in Stellenbosch. The recent student protests have exposed the DA-led Government that is paying lip-service to the poor and marginalised communities. The students had to resort to protest against the management of the College in order for their grievances to be taken seriously. Clearly the DA Government lacks political will to deal with language policies' challenges where all students are taught in Afrikaans against their will.

In Drakenstein Municipality alone, it is reported that 647 households were threatened by evictions. On 7 August 2015, the Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, the hon member J A Jeffery, noted media reports on escalating evictions from farms in the Western Cape. He called it a story of a 50 year old man, John [Inaudible.] whose family was evicted after he served 20 years on a farm in Rawsonville. Now John, who lost his left eye due to toxic poisoning, has never received any compensation from that farmer and had to start a new family life in an informal settlement nearby called Geelkamp. It is reported that in De Doorns farm workers and dwellers continue to experience growing poverty and eviction due to farm owners' violence. ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

Ms S W DAVIDS: How is the Department ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! Hon member Davids ...[Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: ...going to ensure that evictions ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I gave the Room the guidance in the beginning. I am not quite sure whether that specific reference of yours can be related to the Blue Book or the schedule. You must help me there. If it is in the Blue Book and schedule, if funds have been moved for that topic then it is ...[Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: Farmers' support. It is farm workers' support, Mr Deputy Speaker...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: And it is on farmers' support?

Ms S W DAVIDS: Yes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. I will take your word for that.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Thank you. How is this Department going to ensure that evictions are stopped with immediate effect because the MEC in previous

meetings boasted how he is going to assist farm workers, but up until now there is nothing that he can show; nothing.

A study by Stellenbosch University shows that the Western Cape Province has a variety of agricultural sectors, however, despite the agricultural potential in this province - this MEC and what this Chairperson of the Standing Committee just said now also about the growth in export of apples - despite all of those things, our small-holder farmers remain disconnected from formal food supply chains and suffer from many other market access challenges, despite all of those things.

Another challenge facing small-holder farmers is that they struggle to deliver to where the market is because they do not have vehicles to transport their goods. Has the Department put measures in place to mediate and assist small-holder farmers in this regard?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Yes.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Yes, yes.

An HON MEMBER: Whatever!

Ms S W DAVIDS: Whatever. You are not assisting anything. You are making a joke of everything, but one day those jokes will catch up with you

MEC. It will catch up with you.

The PREMIER: [Inaudible.] honourable?

Ms S W DAVIDS: No spy, you just keep quiet! [Interjections.] This adjustment is quite ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! Order, one second. Hon member Wiley?

Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, there is a reason why the Chair sits in the middle and the hon members speak through the Chair, and not [Inaudible] ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, I will look at that. Address the Chair, hon member Davids.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Thank you. Then the hon Premier must do the same. Thank you. The adjustment is quiet on the promotion of ocean economic activities that would benefit small scale fisheries in the coastal communities. In this context, there is no mention of the small scale fishing farmers in this adjustments appropriation budget. One wonders whether there is a political will to assist these communities going forward. The issue of ocean economy is strategic and central to the coastal communities, yet this adjustments appropriation says nothing.

Similarly, there is no mention of the 50 [Interjection.] You love to go national. Stay in the Western Cape. Similarly there is no mention of the 50/50% equity share scheme that was designed to benefit farm workers in poor rural communities. We were only told about 83 schemes, more than a year ago. It seems to me that this province has reacted [Inaudible.] whereas many farm workers and their families remain in abject poverty facing under-development in terms of education, unemployment and impoverishment. More is needed to be done, but this adjustments appropriation says absolutely nothing.

Recently it was reported that in the Western Cape the agricultural and farming sector transformation are almost non-existent. Only 1% of farms are owned by black people, yet the adjustments appropriation is silent on the projects promoting BBBEE. The wellbeing of black people in this sector will remain under-privileged as long as they are excluded from the mainstream economic activities in the agricultural and farming sectors. By his own admission early in this year, the hon MEC Winde was quoted as saying:

“Very little progress has been made in land reform as unofficial figures show that only 1.6% of the agricultural land in the Western Cape has been transferred to new black farmers since 1994.”

He had an opportunity to influence the process in this adjustments appropriation budget, but he shows no interest towards that. Hon Minister

Winde you failed this Department. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Order! I see the hon member Mr Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you. It is going to be a long day if we have these negative trends coming from the ANC all the time. We need to say that this Department, yet again, received a clean audit. Our committee, SCOPA, could not give them any recommendations to say improve this, improve that. We do not have any recommendations. We just ask for additional information.

So, it tells me it is a Department well run. Listen. You have that slice of the cake and you must do what is best. What is their mandate? Their mandate is, and I have checked it: it is unlocking the full potential of agriculture. So, surely this House must give the hon Minister and the Department the latitude to say, focus has not changed; there are other emergencies, we need to reallocate funds, and that is what the hon Minister is saying and we cannot fault this Department on delivery. We cannot fault this Department when it comes to working long and hard hours.

I, as the ACDP, want to say: I want to congratulate the Department, the hon MEC, on a clean audit. Climate change, farm workers - there are always problems. It is problematic but it is how you deal with it; how do you reallocate the budget? That is what the hon MEC has done. I just have two

minutes. I cannot go through all the things, but all that I am saying is that it is a long day, it is going to be a long debate and the ANC should come with solutions and not criticise a department that had a clean audit. I thank you.

[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! Order! I do not see the next speaker on the speaker's list. Hon Minister Winde to reply.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM: Thank you very much, Mr Deputy Speaker, and thank you to all the hon members who took part in this debate. I will try to answer most of the questions as raised, or perhaps react to some of the issues.

First of all, to the Chairperson, thank you very much for the role that you play, for keeping us on our toes, but can I also say to this Chairperson, thank you very much for always being there. You know, when we put the advertisements out that we have got functions on, that things are happening, you do not just keep us on our toes, but you are always there, but I think that is part of how you keep us on our toes because you are always seeing what is happening. You do attend these sessions and agriculture in this province is doing a lot of things. And I will tell you why that is better oversight than what the hon member Mr Dugmore is saying at the moment, because when I get to the next speaker, this is where we are lacking, and we are lacking in oversight because we get speech writers to write our speeches and we do not really have, we need to read these speeches before we come here, but I will

get to that just now. You mentioned our exports ...[Inaudible.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Minister, just one second. Hon member Tyatyam?

Mr S G TYATYAM: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Yesterday there was a ruling in relation to insinuations about other hon members here, and the hon MEC is directly doing that, and I want, through you, to call the hon member to order, to withdraw. Because if we go in that direction, I can tell you, it is not going to end ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Ja, hon member Tyatyam, I hear what you are saying. Hon member Tyatyam, I am speaking ...[Interjection.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: So I think let us use Rule 41 to make sure that the conduct, the process here is proper ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Chair will apply Rule 41. I did not hear anything that is unparliamentary now. We cannot debate in the debating chamber and have no criticism towards one another; that was fair comment, I thought. So, I would allow that to proceed.

Mr S G TYATYAM: Criticism and insinuations which are said to other hon members - criticism about the Department is normal but insinuations about the abilities of other hon members is a problem. If you are saying hon

members are unable to read or write ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes.

Mr S G TYATYAM: Because this is what the hon MEC is saying.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I get your point. I did not hear that. Who said that? If the hon Minister ...[Interjection.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: No!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just take your seat ...[Interjection.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: That is what he said.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Take you seat. Please take your seat. Hon Chief Whip, I will rule on that one. [Interjection.] Hon member Minister Winde. I will look at Hansard. I did not, at the time, regard the comment as unparliamentary. If it appears to be unparliamentary later on, I will come back to the House if necessary. Chief Whip Wiley?

Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, in your consideration of the matter, I would like you to take into account please that it is patently obvious when speakers stand up, irrespective from which side of the House, and they are speaking to a topic about which they know very little, and it comes across as

such. It is a respected ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

Mr M G E WILEY: Irrespective of which speaker it is. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

Mr M G E WILEY: If they are not prepared ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! Hon member Tyatyam, there is a point of order being made.

Mr M G E WILEY: If they are not prepared in their delivery, you can see they are not prepared in their delivery, and therefore they make themselves open to criticism and ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Wiley.

Mr M G E WILEY: It is part and parcel [Inaudible.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I get your point. Thank you for your input. I will consider that when I give the ruling, if necessary. Hon member Winde, you may continue.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM: Thank you very much. So, to the Chair, thank you very much in the way you have led the Committee. I think you spoke about our export specifically, our fruit exports. We are doing a lot of work around our wine exports and our agri-processed exports and I think we are going to see quite a lot happening now in the new move, as we move towards some of the Halaal markets, getting some of our products in there. Really that is also about selling our brand as a region because our products are being displayed in shopfronts around the world, and it is about how we are getting our brand out. So, it is really great for our economy.

But you also raised an issue around food security and this Department is challenged with that issue all the time, and I think specifically around the impact of the droughts, and I sort of mentioned it slightly in my address. But already we are seeing that in yellow maize a 47% increase in price already and white maize a 52% increase in price already and we are already seeing from our economists that they are projecting that this is going to have around about a 10% inflationary impact on food prices next year. So, quite frankly, food security is a risk. It is a long term risk, but it is also something that is going to be hitting us in the short term. It is going to be more expensive when buying food next year, and that is a big issue for us.

Moving on to my learned colleague, the hon member Ms Davids, thank you very much for your part in this debate, noting the hon Chief Whip of the Opposition, but also noting, and I don't mind, you can say what you like here

to me, saying that I am useless and I have failed as a director, that is fine. I do not mind that because that is actually what I see we need to be doing in this space, but the one thing that we do not do, you insinuated in your speech that we are appropriating money here that is going towards an election campaign.

No, I mean, that is totally unacceptable. It is totally ridiculous. If you have some kind of information, I challenge you, actually I dare you go and lay a charge at the police station. Let us go and see because I promise you, in this province, we do not run it the same way as the ANC runs it in other provinces, we do not adjust money towards elections campaigns. That is the first thing.

The second thing around the students; it is quite interesting how you think that the only space where students are putting pressure on the system is at Elsenburg and nowhere in the country, and that, of course, there is no other place that is being fixed. Quite frankly, you need to get on the ground and come and see what is happening there. Perhaps interact with the college, the college council; perhaps get out there and see a little bit more about what is happening on the ground.

When it comes to your point on over-expenditure, and you actually said, and now you need to check in your speech because I am not sure if you mentioned the number incorrectly or if it was written in your speech as such, but you said on conditional grant R69 million. In actual fact, that is R69 000 and not

R69 million. It is from R147 054 million in the total in that conditional grant or cast space, where only R69 000 was not spent. Now, that is what an adjustment process is for because, I promise you, we are not going to, and you heard it, you were in the Standing Committee, when the CFO and the Department recorded that, when you asked that question about the R69 000, we said it is not enough money to get a new project going.

Now, we do not in this province just take that money and dump it. We give it back if it is not going to be spent in this province; let us give it back to someone else where it can go into a project. We are not going to just push it in and spend it, give it a [Inaudible.] spike and waste the money. We are responsible in every single space where we deal with the public purse; with people's money; and this is a tiny, minute percentage of the total budget.

Ms S W DAVIDS: It must be spent.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: It will be spent and it will be spent in a space responsibly where it is needed. It will not be wasted. I promise you, in this province it will not be wasted.

You then went on to speak about farm workers' support. Now, there are a whole lot of provinces in this country and not one of them has a component in their department [Interjection.] - I am saying in the Western Cape. Not one of them in the rest of the country have what we have in the Western Cape,

where we have farm workers' support in this province. You spoke about farm evictions. Let us have a look at when the National Department came in, and you will remember the big fanfare, we had all the DGs down here, we had all this investigation on farm evictions, and that report was produced. I remember it being presented to the Deputy President, and of course it never saw the light of day after that because when the numbers came out, suddenly the Deputy President went, ooh, we cannot make a big thing of evictions in the Western Cape because in actual fact the Western Cape is not where the culprits lie. So the total number in that study ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM: ...in that study said: Free State 130, KZN 73, Western Cape 62, another KZN at 51, a Free State at 51 and a KZN at 43. These were by municipalities. Those were the top ten eviction spaces in the Western Cape. And this farm workers' support unit is the unit that goes in to do exactly that, and it is the only province in South Africa that has a unit like that, that goes in to support farm workers in those kind of needs. The hon member knows herself that when there is an issue, even if she contacts my office, we get the unit to go in there and go and give that support as soon as we can.

The next point that I want to make on the hon member's speech, she went and spoke quite a lot about the ocean's economy, about Project Phakisa and we are absolutely involved in Project Phakisa. We are absolutely involved in the

ocean's economy from various departments across this Government. This is not the Annual Performance Plan; this is not our five year projections and our five year plan, and this is not our main appropriation budget where those issues are dealt with. We have just gone through the Annual Performance Plan where you had the opportunity to interact. This is the adjustments appropriation. So, all of the money that you are worried about being spent, is being spent in that space. We do not have to adjust it. It is there. So go to the other Blue Book; not this Blue Book that the Deputy Speaker spoke about when we started, go to the thicker Blue Book. It is the thicker one, not the thinner one; go to the thicker one and have a look.

Then you spoke about the numbers in land reform, and you came up with a number of 83. I do not know where your researcher got that number, your speech writer got that number, [Interjection.] but that is why I suggested that you read the speech in your office before you come to the House, or at least get to know the numbers because it is actually ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! Order, hon Minister, just one second. Hon member Davids you cannot make a running commentary all the time. You have had your turn to speak now. The hon Minister replies to the debate now. Hon Minister please continue.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker; it is actually a study that this Department did. They actually did the study before I was even in the

Department. It was during my predecessor's time, when the hon Minister Van Rensburg was in the Department, and it is a study that we can be very, very proud of. The process that was put in place is a complex process that really manages or understands the management in each and every one of these transformation farm spaces. It has a look at market, it has a look at viability and accounting practices. It has a look at the holistic view of that specific ... [Interjection.] You mentioned 83; it was 246, if I remember correctly, and that is 246 of which we think there should be around about 500 of these projects in the province, and that is why we are mapping them, because we need to have a base line.

I can assure you, and that 1% came from me; I am the one that said 1% and my 1% that I said has been repeated across South Africa a few times; which I have noticed, which is quite interesting; but that is fine because that was where we were starting from. You will see when this mapping process is finished where we are at, and we can start to measure it correctly from then onwards.

I can guarantee you, and I am willing to put my head on a block, that this province has the highest number of land reform and transformation product [Interjections.] but that is in South Africa. In South Africa, and this is the only province in South Africa again that has a dedicated unit for land reform at a provincial level. No other province has it. This is the only province in South Africa where we have set up this desk now for support to allow to, from a communication point, as in Casidra - I notice your running

commentary, but I promise you, it has no effect and no traction. Quite frankly this individual needs to perhaps spend a little bit more time interrogating the speech writer who puts the speech in front of her. [Interjection.] Maybe, as you said in the beginning, spend a bit more time in the Blue Book.

If I can move on to the hon member Mr Christians; thank you very much for the role you played. You mentioned clean audit and a well-run department, and I concur. It is an honour to be involved and part of this great Department, the top performing in the country. To this head of Department, who is one of the longest serving HOD's in this province, who comes with a huge amount of knowledge, who really comes with a great amount of leadership and she does not just exercise that leadership within her own Department - she shares that leadership across this Government - I want to say thank you very much for the role that you play. HOD, it is very much appreciated, and to you and your full Department for the role that you play in making this province and this country a better place for all of our people. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: That concludes the debate on this vote. Before we read the second Order, can we just allow two seconds for the bays to be changed.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Secretary will read the second order.

The SECRETARY: Debate on Vote 12 – Economic Development and Tourism - *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4 – 2015].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see the hon Minister Winde again.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM: Thank you very much. Mr Deputy Speaker, here we have, again, as you said, from the Blue Book, an adjustment that we are dealing with. In this case we have a decrease, unlike in the previous vote which I dealt with in which we had an increase in agriculture; we have a decrease, but I will explain that decrease and where that has gone to. I think before I do that, I need to just speak in general because this Department's task is growth and jobs, making sure that our economy is conducive to, and the eco-system is changing, and we are playing our role in that changing eco-system so that it becomes conducive to growth and jobs.

And perhaps, as I said earlier, one thing in this space; the adjustments appropriation is the space that allows us to relook at where we are from decisions that we made a year ago, and of course, in the economy, things are fluid and always changing and perhaps also there are one or two delays here and there, and we have to take responsible decisions in this process.

But perhaps as a sort of scene setting, and to say at this stage, thank you very much to the HOD, Mr Fourie, and the full team, for the role that they play in creating this conducive environment.

In my speech yesterday I spoke about what is happening in the system and we can very proudly stand here today and say that our unemployment rate is dropping. We are now at 20.6% and I am really, really hoping that by next year this time when we stand here at adjustments time again, we can actually say that it is below 20%, and although that 20% number is way too high, we continue going in the right direction; so, perhaps to say, and as I said yesterday, the 2.375 million people have a job in this province, which is up on the previous year this time.

That is exactly why this Department does what they do. So I want to thank them for that. Perhaps also to say, in this adjustment, remember that in this process, we have gone through our own project earlier in the debate; we spoke about the ocean's economy and a project at a national level, called Project Phakisa. Of course we were very involved from both Departments' point of view in that national project. The same process of terminology used in that project we used in our own project, called project Khulisa, and that project which was approved in August this year obviously also has had an effect and you can see some of the changes coming through in the adjustments. Of course, you will see the main realignments coming through in next year's budget, but of course, Project Khulisa really focuses on some interventions, where we intervene in some of the spaces, namely tourism, agri-processing, oil and gas, and we can talk a little about that, but also in the enabling environment, energy. We know that that is a big blockage in our system. We do not have enough energy to create a conducive environment

for investment, so we need to make sure that we are upping the energy space. I think the role that GreenCape plays there is amazing. It is really is good to see.

It is really good to see the other enabling spaces, whether they be skills; and I think it is a key part that we are playing a role in; but interestingly if you look at the total overall budget spent on skills, and where the responsibility lies under the hon Minister Blade Nzimande, but obviously we, as a province, have to also come in and say, well, we will take some of our budget share and also look at skills as an enabler, broadband as an enabler, and we are going to talk a little bit about that.

Under PSG1 lots of enablers, investment, infrastructure, etc., but creating that conducive environment that allows the growth to happen and the ecosystem. It is very interesting to see, and I must use this opportunity to say to the Department, well done on helping to create this conducive environment. I will not talk about the negative stuff. I will talk about the positive stuff because we could get stuck in it, and we were stuck in a political debate about that yesterday.

One of the most telling articles in the last while of what is happening here in the region is when *Moneyweb* puts out an article that says:

“Could Cape Town challenge Johannesburg as South Africa’s economic hub?”

Now, that is quite interesting when *Moneyweb* puts out an article like that. Now why are they doing this? They are doing this because we are seeing economic growth in Johannesburg, which is the hub; that is 35/36% of South Africa's economy. We are seeing that being challenged, decreasing, the numbers are going down, the pressure on the system there in job losses, because we are seeing at a national level 25.6% and growing in the unemployment space.

Here they are saying this region is going to the future, which is about trade, which is what we are about as opposed to say, the reliance on commodities like mining which is that sort of older base of the economy which we are seeing in Gauteng. I urge every single member of this House to actually go and draw down this document because it is very interesting reading. I want to say to the Department, you can see throughout this discussion, it is the kind of work that we are doing directly and indirectly through our entities like Wesgro, but of course, through our ports. What is happening in our ports and our new ports coming in and the kind of work we are doing in Saldanha, etc., along with Transnet and our national colleagues and DTI and of course ourselves in the local authority. But we are creating a different eco-system and we are seeing it in the growth rates.

Can I also say that perhaps linking it to tourism, last month there was just over 69 000 international arrivals; this is last month, 69 000 international arrivals at Cape Town; that is 10 000 international arrivals up on the previous

year. That is really good news. Remember, although we have an announcement on the visa regulations, we still have those visa regulations hanging over our head where we see a major decline out of India and out of China primarily. If we get that right, you can imagine what our year-on-year numbers are going to look like.

So we have an average of an 11% increase in an economy where nationally we are being downgraded to around about 1% growth rate. So, in tourism, you can see the levers are working nicely; the income is coming in nicely. If we just unblock a couple of these other major blockages, we can really see something changing. That is why in this adjustment you will see some allocation going to Wesgro. Again, we already have budget in there, but going to look at Airlift; we need to really up our game in Airlift, and you have seen the number of airlines announcing that Cape Town is now the direct flight destination. They are doing it purposely because there is a good tourism eco-system, but we are also changing the business eco-system at the same time, and so that more and more people want to come here, and we need to make sure that we get more and more of those direct flights. That is a pipeline coming directly into our system.

With regard to small businesses, our economy is an SMME based economy. It is not like Gauteng, and the big multi-nationals that are based in Gauteng where the pressure is sitting. In this space we have the growth, the economy, the jobs; 300 businesses registered in this province, new businesses, every single month, and the kind of work that John and his team are doing to make

sure that we are making it easier to register your business, to open your business, and that, you know, things are changing in that space.

We also look at, and I spoke about it, skills and specifically the focus on artisans. We know the average age of 55, but that kind of work that Tony and his team are doing around skills and making sure that we are getting artisans into our system. Knox and her team around tourism, I have spoken about that; agri-processing, Dingaan and the work that he is doing with his side and linking to the agricultural space in agri-processing; the oil and gas stuff that we are doing up the West Coast, the red tape reduction. It really is trying to make a difference, and for me that is really exciting.

Perhaps what we need to say further to the adjustments, and maybe just listening to the debate yesterday, we have to just say one or two things here. We know that in the adjustments we have funds becoming available. We know that in the liquor authority that there is some surrendering of money, the R3.698 million from a cash surplus, and of course that has to be registered in this process and we will be able to use that next year.

We are also looking at the R1.7 million and R450 000 and these come from the SETA sectors, and that is again the kind of work that Tony Phillips and his team are doing where we are partnering and where we have to make sure that we try and bring in funding into this space from wherever we can.

Then of course there is the realignment, and this is the stuff that was being

raised yesterday; the R65 million reallocated for the Convention Centre. Now I know that the hon member Ms Beerwinkel spoke about this yesterday, but of course, this is about responsible action within a budget. So what we could do is we could say we are going to get 100% spending; no one will raise a thing here and we are going to just dump the money in the system. We do not do that. We have an MOU passed by Cabinet that says funding to the CTICC goes as follows. We said that from day one, four years ago when we wrote this document we said what is going to happen is: the City will put their money in first, the CTICC will put in their money, we are going to put our money in last. What we also did then is as the project progressed, because it has to be planned, we also said, and the City said, hang on a second, we actually want the CTICC to put in some more money, number one. But number two, we also said, what happens in the planning process because perhaps there are delays here and there and there is a very, very strict cash flow programme of exactly when and how we will put our money in, in partnership with the City, in partnership with the CTICC's own money.

If you have a look at that ... [Interjection.] That is exactly what has happened. [Interjection.] Will you please speak to your colleague about it. So that is exactly what we have done. We have said we cannot dump it into the CTICC, what we will do is, this money, we cannot say that we are going to spend it before the end of the financial year because the risk is too high. The HOD sitting there would not take that risk on. So we looked at the payment schedules. We were, last month, 14 days behind; I think we are 10 days behind schedule now. This is how strictly we are managing this system,

and the HOD, whose responsibility this is, would not take that risk. So the decision is, we will move this because it is probably going to go out in May and June next year. Obviously the builders close down for a short while and next year what will happen is that money will be spent in the first part, but it is dedicated to the CTICC. We will not spend it on anything else. We will not, as the hon member Ms Davids said in the previous one, spend it on election processes because we do not do that in this province.

Then, of course, there is the R9.129 million for the financial year - broadband. It is exactly the same. These are big, big projects that are multi-year projects, that were planned years ago. Of course you do not know that you are going to be spending in January in February or July, and we have to take those judgments to say, hang on a second, we are not going to do it in February, we might do it in July, so then what we will do is exactly the responsible thing that this Blue Book does, as it says, let us move it over to that specific time when we are going to be needing to spend it.

And then the last point is on the money that is being moved over for the Halaal Park. You will see that has also come out of the Project Khulisa. As I have just said it was only finalised in March through Cabinet, and Halaal is a key area that we have done some investigation on through a pre-feasibility. We are busy, we have to do the feasibility now, but the pre-feasibility tells us that just in Africa alone it is US\$111 billion a year market of which only 11% is a certified product going into that market. It says to us there is huge opportunity. We have an eco-system that is already conducive to that kind of

production; it is also linked to agri-processing; it links to extra jobs in the value chain. So this, again, is a key project where we are saying let us move some money so that we make sure that we are actually getting that final feasibility, that we are actually creating that environment, so the Halaal industry can be also supported from this region. I thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you hon Minister. Hon member Ms Schäfer?

Ms B A SCHÄFER: Yes, Mr Deputy Speaker. Today how do we move people from education into jobs when our economy is currently only growing at under 2%? Recent unemployment statistics have shown that the Western Cape is down from 23.6% in the last quarter to 20.6%. The nature of economic growth is a really volatile one. It operates on investor sentiment and responds to market trends. Government does have a role to play and that is to ensure that the targets set are market-driven and demand led. Growing youth unemployment also constitutes, in fact, a national crisis and is evident of the recent discontent of young people in the fact of the current South African climate.

R65 million will be rolled over towards the Cape Town Convention Centre's expansion project and upgrade, and I would like to take a few minutes to unpack the impact that the CTICC has on this province, and its contribution to the regional economy of the Western Cape. As world leading convention centre the Cape Town International Convention Centre has placed Cape Town as a leading global destination for business and leisure tourism, and has

proven ability to host world class events, meetings, conferences and exhibitions, to cater for all industries.

But what I would like to point out is that the CTICC has delivered one of the most remarkable performances in the 2014/2015 financial year. It achieved the best economic and financial results in its 12-year history, revenues of R197 million. The CTICC also delivered the highest economic contribution adding R3.4 billion to the national growth domestic product and R3.1 billion to the regional gross geographic product, while sustaining a record of 8 058 direct and indirect jobs.

Procurement from women-owned companies also increased from 20% in the previous financial year to 28% in the 2014/15 financial year, and the total delegate and visitor days generated by the CTICC amounted to 1,36 million. So the allocation of this funding to such an important entity speaks volumes in its numbers and the potential for greater job creation and growth upon its completion.

The allocation of funding also towards broadband and the Halaal Park, as the hon Minister has mentioned, which is one of Project Khulisa's agri-processing projects, is also welcomed. As he said, the Halaal market, and I have it is in the region around about \$2.3 trillion, but what is important is the R1 billion Halaal agri-processing food park situated near Cape Town International Airport, or the Cape Winelands, is under consideration in the Western Cape. The proposed park would add 5 000 new jobs to the economy

in the next five years.

Economic planning also received R3.3 million and is welcomed as it addresses how the Department will put processes in place to give effect to the strategic objective one, which is about creating opportunities for jobs and growth. And finally, Mr Deputy Speaker, the economy cannot grow without the necessary skills needed. The artisan and technical skills game-changer is based on demand and supply of labour in the marketplace. It focuses on addressing the shortage of vocational skills in line with the increasing demand from industry, particularly as it relates to Project Khulisa; the agri-processing, the tourism and oil and gas sectors. So we welcome the extra R3.2 million for skills development and innovation to match skills to work opportunities.

While the economy is such a large one to talk about, I would just like to say and extend my sincere appreciation to the hon Minister Winde and his Department, to Mr Solly Fourie. I must say that Mr Fourie has the amazing ability to unpack the economy for us in a way that makes sense and in a way that we can understand, and for that we would really like to thank him. We would also like to thank our entities, which is Wesgro and the Liquor Authority for the work they are doing to stimulate the economy and create an enabling environment for jobs to grow. Their continuous engagement with the Standing Committee and ensuring that as an oversight ,,[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

Ms B A SCHÄFER: ...we are always welcome to be part of the many functions and events taking place. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. I see the hon member Ms Davids.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I just want to make one comment before I start. You said we are not allowed to make political inputs, but you allowed the MEC to make political inputs. So I am going to make, I am just going to tell you I am going to make a few ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Ms Davids, I did not say that. I said ...[Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: Yes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The debates must be related to the Blue Book, and if politics flow from the Blue Book, then it is acceptable.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am not saying you cannot speak politics.

Ms S W DAVIDS: I want to make some comments on what the hon MEC said yesterday, if I am allowed?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: If it is related to the topic under consideration now you may. If it is not, then it is out of order.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Okay, thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Yesterday the hon MEC of Economic Opportunities, hon member Mr Alan Winde, made a few unfounded allegations and we want to start with the one on tourism. He said the latest tourism figures actually show that there has been a downward drop because of the visa regulations. I want to say that the hon Minister actually misled the House yesterday because it is shown that there is an increase in tourism nationally and provincially. The tourism figures, which the very same DA in the City of Cape Town commissioned, actually showed that tourism in Cape Town is actually at an all-time high. It is very high. So you misled the House by saying it went down because of the visa regulations. Therefore it shows that the hon MEC stood here and purposefully misled the House.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member ...[Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: Now, I am going to start. I just wanted to make that point on this.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, but before you take that further to say he purposefully misled the House, that would be unparliamentary. You must withdraw the word “purposefully”.

Ms S W DAVIDS: I withdraw the word “purposefully”. I am just saying he was misleading the House. Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker for the guidance. The adjustment, and then also the MEC also said that the employment totals in the Western Cape have gone down. It went up. I want to show that the unemployment in the Western Cape was at its lowest point in 2006. In 2006 it was 16%. From 2012 up till now it went up to 23.4% while you are the MEC it went up. So the MEC must not come here and mislead the House with totals that he is not sure of.

An HON MEMBER: Generalised...

Ms S W DAVIDS: Ja, the adjustment budget for this vote shows the continuous huge spending from this Department which continues to favour the minority at the expense of the majority. The shift of R4 million from Programme 2 meant for integrated economic development services is testimony to the fact that the DA is not interested in an integrated economy in the Western Cape. The Department’s shift funds are said to have been safe because that was one of my issues in the meeting. There is a lot of savings within this Department from not filling vacancies during the course of this year. How and when does not filling posts result in a saving? This is yet another instance where underspending is to be a saving.

It must be very nice in the DA where underperformance is labelled to be a saving. Maybe this has something to do with the colour of the administration.

[Interjections.] Of the budget allocated to Vote 12 they were able to take almost R80 million of their budget and allocate it to next year's budget for Cape Town International Convention Centre and the Minister just now with the Chairperson said they have a programme of how they are going to give the money to the CTICC and that is why the money must stand over, whilst in our process of doing the adjustment budget it was said in this meeting in this Chamber by the Budgeting Committee and also by the Department, that it is because of the City of Cape Town that didn't do the allocation of their money that we must put that money over to next year and it is in this book also on page - I just want to show. It is in this book also. The reasons that were given why the money was not spent. It is on page 291 in this book. So it means then the MEC again misled the House by saying that because we have planned we are going to spend the money. We did not have - we did not...

We were not supposed to plan because the money was supposed to go to the CTICC but because of the delay in the City of Cape Town that is why we are now taking the money to next year and not because of the excuses that were just given.

These funds which are supposed to be spent in uplifting the lives of the poor right now have not been spent and rather hidden under some funny thing called savings, which is in actual fact underspending on the budget. One can only wonder whether these funds are not hidden in order to patronise our people next year ahead of Local Government, of which there are elections by giving them old bread, honourable Premier, like for votes as we have seen

two weeks ago in Drakenstein. Old bread, one bread for a vote.
[Interjections.]

Instead of filling vacancies in the Department, the Department has shifted funds for officials required to act in higher positions to ensure the continuity of projects where funds are allocated to accommodate the acting allowances. Why not fill vacancies to deal with staffing shortages first instead of making provision for acting allowances - that is that, for me that is a waste acting, acting while you can fill the vacancies and MEC of Human Settlements, the vacancies, it was the same last year. We queried them again on the same thing and it was budgeted for those vacancies, they did not fill it. Now it is again the same thing and it is the same positions. It is not other positions. It is the same positions every year. [Interjections.] These are funny decisions this administration makes in this adjustment budget.

Programme 7, which is skills development and innovations, and hon member Ms Schäfer spoke about skills development, has spent only 35% of its adjustment budget. This therefore means that 65% of the budget has not been spent and even if it was R10.00 that have not been spent. No wonder the numbers of youth employment in the province are much lower than those under the ANC Government. While we welcome the clean audit outcomes on this financial year we must also raise concerns about how these clean audits do not translate into visible and tangible service delivery outcomes.
[Interjections.]

This administration takes forever to appoint staff. Programmes that are not to be implemented are prolonged for the next year. No development in poor areas and [Inaudible.] praising of each other for underspending.

This adjustment budget is keeping true to the DA's divide and rule strategy. It does not speak to the needs of the majority of this province. All it does, it makes excuses for underspending and poor performance. As the ANC we do not support this budget.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, the hon member Mr Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you. I am always accused of Scopa not doing proper oversight. Let me just - member Davids did say like previously we do not do proper oversight, I do not do proper oversight, but she must remember it is a multi-party oversight, Scopa is multi-party. What I want to say is the AG said, they gave us 100% for oversight - Scopa - 100%. The Auditor-General said: "We give Scopa 100% for the oversight they play over departments."

Member Davids said again a clean audit means nothing. Do you know... [Interjections.] ... the important thing is that we said to the AG, how do you realign your clean audit with service delivery and they recommended and said there is a step, performance audit, because we are doing it in this province so well the other provinces are lagging behind. They must still get it right.

So where we talk about clean audits there is a money trail. We know how money is spent. It is important to have clean audits so this Department again had a clean audit and had 0.3% underspending so now we are sitting... [Interjections.] you can say whatever you want to, honourable member, but let me say... [Interjections.] ... the important thing for me here is the money that will be spent that will be redirected to skills. What is important to me is the reduction in unemployment, because it means that people get jobs. This Department must create that opportunity that people feel they are dignified. They are proud citizens and this Department has got an important role to play. So what I want to say in closing, because I don't have a lot of time, we are going hear the same things over and over again. We engaged the AG on a regular basis. Every month we call him, we say: "What Department must we call in to say they must improve in essence. This Department again, we as Scopa had no recommendations because the money was well spent. So I am saying it is a trend of the ANC. Even Scopa as the multi-party committee, they say no, we don't have an oversight. We don't play an oversight role. It is disgusting, Mr Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you hon member Mr Christians. Your time has expired.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you. [Time expired.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister Winde to reply.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you very much Mr Deputy Speaker and to the members that took part in the debate. First of all to the Chair again, thank you very much for the role you play and your committee. You mentioned a few things and I will just comment on one or two.

The one you mentioned was the CTICC because obviously it is in the blue book, it is part of the adjustment. I think I did explain it in my introduction but what you spoke about is the impact that the CTICC has brought about within our economy and you know, that took me back when you were talking about it, it took me back to a time when I was in this House when I first got to this House. That was quite a long time ago. I remember that hon member Mr Dugmore was here, hon member Ms Beerwinkel was not here yet. There were one or two people in this House that were here, the Premier was here, one or two of us, but you will remember the debates in this House, because we didn't have a CTICC. We were talking about whether we should be investing in one and I still remember the hon Leon Markovitz was the Minister of Finance at that stage. A lot of work had been done and we said that we really need to do this thing because it is going to be a great job creator. It is going to be really good for the economy and you know, I think that there is not many politicians in the world that actually really manage to leave legacies, and this is one legacy that was left and today still that legacy is creating jobs, creating growth and this Cabinet is reinvesting into that legacy because it has been such a great success, so perhaps posthumously to Leon Markovitz, thank you very much for driving that process and of course

you can see right now... [Interjections.] What was that? [Interjection.]

No we are talking about architects. Of course there were lots of people that were involved in this process; many, many people were involved in this process. I remember those long debates. The hon Tasneem Essop speaking against it. [Interjections.] Yes. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Is the [Inaudible.] Convention Centre... [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Yes, yes, yes, she actually wanted to take the hon Markovitz to court. There is Hansard. You can go and have a look at it, those of you that were not here, if you want to go and have a look at that time, but quite frankly I think today it is not only about our investment, and continued investment into the CTICC and the impact that it is having as a region on our economy on job creation, on pride, etcetera, etcetera, but as we stand here today because of the CTICC we have got five new hotels being built right now in this region; five new hotels being invested into and part of the fact is, part of that factor is not only the tourism industry itself but also the conventions and business tourism industry and it is not only the CTICC because that started the change to the ecosystem and started to change other people's views. So we got another convention centre being invested into by the private sector in Century City as we speak.

We have got a number of other facilities and that all comes together into that

ecosystem where we are bringing more and more business travellers to this region which is part of the strategy and I think it really is key to growth and jobs.

You also spoke about economic planning. I know that I didn't speak about it in the initial stage but economic planning is key, if we don't have economic planning if we don't have conglomeration of our data and understanding and unpacking of data we cannot make decisions and so also I think the team does a great job there. We have got so many data sets and that is really about how we bring those together and then we put those plans in place and so that we can be trusted and we create an evolving ecosystem.

Then to the next speaker, ja, sometimes...

Global recession. I am not sure if the hon member Ms Davids knows that there was a global recession, and that South Africa also was involved in a recession because she says there is not a reduction in unemployment, it is not reducing. Remember when. Well of course you know, we could remember when. We could go back in history to all different fluctuations and increases in unemployment but quite frankly we are dealing with the modern day where we are dealing with our unemployment rate, as you remember I said yesterday that South Africa's unemployment rate has again gone up, got worse to 25.5% and again quarter on quarter in the Western Cape it has gone down.
[Interjections.]

It did not go down? So what was it previously before it was 20.6? [Laughter.] Okay. I am sorry. It is going to be difficult to deal with that. I think I will move on. Of course, ja, I remember a time when unemployment was zero. I mean, quite frankly that is just a ridiculous example and perhaps we should move on to the point that she raised around visas and she said to me that I was misleading the House because of the visa issue.

Well quite frankly 54% reduction in incoming travellers to this region from China is a real number. 34% reduction in travellers coming to this region is a real number. She says that the visa issue did not have an impact so the reason for the Deputy President to Chair a Committee to really challenge what the Minister Gigaba and his regulations were doing was actually not really necessary, was it?

No of course not. It was very necessary because it had a huge impact on our system. Chinese tourists are the biggest number of tourists in the world now. Do you know that in China last year 111 million Chinese tourists travelled around the world? We want our fair share of those travellers of those tourists who are spending money. We want them in our economy. We do not want them in other economies, because they create jobs. We know that when tourists come here we create jobs.

So that is why we have a problem with that policy. It is an idiotic policy. It is a crazy policy and even the Deputy President had to chair a committee to get some reversal and you are still in denial but I promise you the numbers were

affected and then you will get to what I said and I will say it again. Our tourism numbers in October were up again. Our numbers are looking better and better as a region. Can you imagine what they would look like if we did not have this problem in China and India?

The PREMIER: Ja.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: We would be sitting with 17% and 20% increase in our tourism coming from external markets into our system. We would be creating thousands more jobs but this ANC policy is still not out of the way. The Deputy President made an announcement at the beginning of November to say we have gone through the review. They have hurt our economy. They have really made sure that we are not creating jobs. We have asked for a reverse of this and within the next three months it will happen.

Today it still has not happened. It still has not happened. The Minister is still in denial and it is hurting jobs in this province. It is hurting jobs in this country and denial is not going to help it at all, even if you don't know that there was a recession and you do not know that this is a problem in our system.

Then you spoke about some of the money around posts and of course that was explained by the HOD and the Standing Committee around the process of modernisation. Modernisation went through every single Department in this

province. This Department unfortunately got the short straw and modernisation happened last in this Department, number one, but number two, we also changed the way that this Department interacts with the economy. It is about lifting the skills levels. It is about the kind of interaction because we are creating a different ecosystem and that ecosystem is as I have said being played out in the numbers. The numbers are telling us that the decisions and the leadership role and the role that this Department is playing in the economy is making a difference. It is making a vast contrasting difference to what happens in other ANC run provinces and the country and if you cannot understand those numbers well, then I do not know. Perhaps also on the visa issue, I just wrote down here that Stats SA - not the province, Stats SA January to April, 138 000 lost to the visa regulations - number of travellers, 138 000 in South Africa.

An HON MEMBER: In South Africa.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: In South Africa the visa regulations had that impact and then perhaps lastly... [Interjections.] ... the member needs to again - I spoke to her in her last debate - really interact with her speech writer or perhaps she read it wrong, she needs to have a look in her speech. Because she said “no wonder youth unemployment is better than what it was under the ANC Government.” [Interjections.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Yes, that is what you said. Youth unemployment is much lower than what it was under the ANC Government. We agree with you. Your speech writer wrote exactly the right thing. Youth unemployment is lower. We are doing a lot more work. It is getting much better, so thank you very much for that sentence, and then perhaps last of all to the honourable Christians, thank you very, very much for your input. You mentioned the audit outcomes and perhaps I should use this opportunity to also say to the Department thank you very much. I have said it, the role that you are playing in the economy, but of course those audit outcomes... [Interjections.]

What about it? [Interjections.] Perhaps I should talk about the...

An HON MEMBER: Transformation.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: No, I am not going to talk about transformation. I am going to talk about the Department's role that they play in the economy, the leadership role, but of course it also had to be judged and it gets judged by the Auditor-General and the audit outcomes and once again a really great audit outcome and perhaps I can say it here, when the Auditor-General sent the management letter to this Department and I notice Mymoena is not here today but perhaps you will pass it on to her and the team.

When the Auditor-General sent the management letter to the Department it had nothing in it. They really worked very hard at trying to find something to raise for the Department. We think it is the only audit or management letter to a department in South Africa that didn't actually raise anything. Every single box was ticked to please pass that on to the team, well done, getting better and better and of course nothing is ever perfect. I don't know how we are going to better that next year but we will continue to do that but of course that is the basics. You get the basics right. Then we can spend our time. It becomes a habit, you know, clean audits, good management, good governance becomes the habit. Then we spend our time in making the real difference in the economy so with that I want to thank the House...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, before you sit down. Is that a question? Do you want to ask a question, Minister Winde, are you prepared to take a question?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Absolutely, yes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister is prepared.

Mr S G TYATYAM: Minister, just to talk about the gaps in the economics, the recent study shows that the Western Cape is still number one in relation to the gap between the rich and the poor. So what has been the Department's role... [Interjections.] Wait! What has been the Department's role to close

that gap because that is one of the challenges and the time bomb of Western Cape.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. I think the question is clear. Minister Winde.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you very much and that was an outstanding question. I am really actually glad that that question has been asked. We should have covered it because the measurement that you used for that gap between rich and poor is called the Gini Coefficient and I would suggest that that member just takes his smartphone; Google it right now and ask for the different Gini Coefficients of the provinces and the cities in this country. And you will see that the lowest Gini Coefficient, the smallest gap in South Africa, is in Cape Town; the smallest gap between rich and poor is in this very City in this very Province. [Applause.] [Interjections.]

So please do that Google thing, but if I can say that obviously that is exactly what we are tasked with because even though it might be the lowest in South Africa it is still a major problem. The reason that students are doing what students are doing is because students are at university. It is not only about the fees. It is about having hope in the system. You are studying in university. Is there going to be a job at the end of the line? This country has got the highest youth unemployment rate in the world under this President Zuma and it has got worse. It has got worse. That Gini Coefficient is a major

problem in South Africa. [Interjections.] A major problem and it is what we charge ourselves with day and night, the kind of work that we were talking about this morning was how do we deal with this and what do we do about the informal economy and what role does that play and how do we make sure that we bring those together. It is exactly what we focus on so thank you very much for raising that point for asking that question because it is an issue that challenges us but I can assure you best performance in South Africa. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. [Interjections.] Order, order! [Interjections.] Order, hon member Ms Davids! That concludes the debate on this vote.

[Debate concluded.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I ask the Secretary to read the next Order shall we allow a few seconds for the bays to be cleared please.

Business of House paused for clearing of bays.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! The Secretary will read the third Order. [Interjections.] Order, order, order! I have asked the Secretary to read the Order. Please continue.

The SECRETARY: Debate on Vote 3 – Provincial Treasury - *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4 – 2015].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see Minister Meyer.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you hon Mr Deputy Speaker. In March this year we have tabled the budget estimates of the provincial revenue and expenditure in this House and it was formally adopted at the end of March, the various budget votes of this Government.

Today I rise to table the adjusted estimates of Vote 3, the Provincial Treasury.

Mr Deputy Speaker since you have asked us that we stick to the blue book I will comply with your request and therefore merely speak to the adjusted estimates of Vote 3 the provincial budget of the Provincial Treasury.

The provincial budget is a key policy instrument used to address the social and economic challenges and give effect to the key strategic priorities of the Western Cape Government. Now we know that the current economic environment and the fiscal constraints have reiterated the need for an integrated approach towards planning and budgeting. This approach now focuses on formulating a responsive budget, which drives the provincial policy priorities, responds to the spatial and local context and improves the service delivery while creating maximum socio-economic impact; the impact

that the honourable Minister of Economic Development have just mentioned in this House.

The specific role of the Provincial Treasury within the Provincial Strategic Goal 5 is to promote integrated financial governance, planning and budgeting and we are building on previous initiatives to ensure they are irreversible and create public value. Through facilitating good governance, the focused initiatives and successes towards improving financial sustainability and financial governance, include the following:

- Firstly to promote effective and responsive resource allocation at both provincial and local government level through the Provincial Government and Local Government MTEC processes;
- Secondly, through various Municipal Capacity, Infrastructure and Performance Management Support Grants to the municipalities;
- Thirdly, to also improve the audit outcomes in the province and in municipalities;
- Also to institutionalise the infrastructure delivery management across the Western Cape; hon Mr Deputy Speaker will recall that we have budgeted for the previous MTEF period a budget of R17.3 billion for infrastructure;
- And lastly to improve the departmental planning through the better supply chain management;
- And also the transversal financial management.

The Department's Adjusted Budget, when I came to the House in March I have tabled a main budget of Vote 3 for an amount of R262 million and the main budget; this budget and the adjusted budget estimates today before this House decreased with an amount of R11.652 million to an adjusted appropriation of R250.377 million in aggregate adjustments within the four programmes are set out as follows:

- Programme 1: Administration is decreasing by an amount of R2.178 million;
- Programme 2: Sustainable Resource Management was reduced with an amount of R10 million mainly as a result of the transfer payment reduction to the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board and the municipal support shifting to Vote 14;
- Programme 3: Asset Management was decreased by an amount of R866 000; and
- Programme 4: Financial Governance was increased by an amount of R1.427 million.

The following allocations make up the earmarked internal control allocations within the Vote 4:

- An amount of R500 000 for internal control allocation, education, training and development plans;
- An amount of R1 million has been rolled over from 2014/15 for the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants Training, because we are now

busy rolling out a public sector accounting professionals to increase public sector accounting professionals in the public services since we are also dealing with the accounting practices within municipalities across the Western Cape;

- Also an amount of R466 000 has been rolled over to further develop a web-based MGRO process as we currently have now, we have an MGRO process that is manually and we are now doing a conversion and I am thankful that the Western Cape Cabinet has recently approved that the Western Cape Department of Treasury can now move over to an electronic form of the MGRO process so that we have an electronic governance action plan available to all the various municipalities across the Western Cape. So there is a migration for that and for that we have made an amount of R466 000 available.

Also an amount of about R500 000 was shifted from Vote 3: Provincial Treasury to Vote 1: the Department of the Premier to continue with the institutionalisation of the processes of planning, monitoring and evaluation linking it to both the financial and non-financial performance to improve service delivery across the Western Cape.

In addition, an amount of R300 000 was shifted to Vote 2: Provincial Parliament for the manual conversion from the cash to accrual based system.

Lastly Mr Deputy Speaker, you will also recall that in the Main Budget in 2015 we have also set aside amounts to municipal support initiatives in my

Vote. These were to be allocated in the adjusted estimates because the Premier and I as part of members of the Budget Policy Committee have tabled one of the principles that speaks to how this process works. We have adopted a process of evidence-based practice and that happened firstly through the MGRO process, through the Provincial Economic Review and Outlook as well assistance of the Municipal Economic Review and Outlook, we do both the LG MTEC assessment; we do the MGRO assessments twice a year, so based on that evidence in the main budget you allocate a ballpark figure for municipal support only after you have done your assessments, after you have verified information you are now having the evidence to indicate which amounts can now be in your adjusted estimates, that can be allocated to the various municipalities. These adjustment estimates also make available that amount to transfer it to the Department of Local Government because this is a joint project between the Department of Local Government and the Department of the Provincial Treasury, and for that purpose the findings of these engagements therefore informed the largest shift between Vote 3: Provincial Treasury and Vote 14: Local Government. That is an amount of R7.574 million for the municipal support initiatives.

My colleague, Minister Bredell, will provide further detail in his budget speech, in his adjustment budget speech. Now I would also take this opportunity to thank my accounting officer Mr Zak Hussain, who is doing an outstanding job as the head of the Treasury; also Mr Harry Malila, an outstanding head of the Budget Office in this province; Mr Aziz Hardien who is not only the DDG but also the Accountant-General of this Western Cape

Government who have absolutely outstanding managers in the Provincial Treasury.

I would also like to thank Marcia Korsten, Yolanda Cantano, Mr Basil Fink and all the colleagues. From my own office, Advocate Estienne Pretorius, thank you for your leadership and guidance and I would also like to thank an outstanding individual in the form of Annemarie Smit, working also across many different functionalities within the Provincial Treasury. I thank you Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Good morning members and officials. I see the next speaker, the hon member Mr Joseph.

Mr D JOSEPH: Thank you Madam Speaker. The Western Cape Provincial Parliament received the Adjustment Appropriation Bill for 2015 whereafter it was introduced by the Minister and then referred to the Standing Committees for consideration. The committees after having considered then gave feedback to the Budget Committee and the various Committees report on the votes adopted and of course the Budget Committee have supported the Bill. It is also important to bring to the attention of this House that the Budget Committee made sure that the view of the minority party were noted and recorded.

The adjusted appropriations by the Provincial Parliament - the money from the revenue fund in the 2015/2016 financial year - is voted on for specific

listed purposes and is subject to the Public Financial Management Act. It is also important to note that the earmarked allocations appropriated may be used in accordance with the framework published in terms of Section 4 of the Western Cape Appropriations Act of 2015.

The role of our Provincial Treasury, the adjustments indicate a reduction or allocation of funds, it indicates reallocation of funds. It includes nationally agreed priorities such as the wage agreements and of course we must ensure that funds likely not to be spent as intended is then decided upon. There are Treasury guidelines with regards to the realignment of the base lines linked to the creation of the policy objectives.

The shifting of funds across votes and programmes for personnel, goods and services, is important and that is done according to policy and rules. As said by the Minister the main votes affected is Education, Health, Human Settlements and the main projects relates to the infrastructure projects particularly within the municipalities.

What is important to note is that we have a stable leadership within the Treasury as the Minister noted now. We have sound financial management systems and it is clear that the people appointed in this Department understand their work, they are competent and they take their work seriously and they transfer their skills to make sure that they build the capacity to ensure that everyone in the Department understand their function. It is then

important that the dedication of staff to perform this function and to bring the desired outcomes are noted.

The entity in itself have experienced labour issues internally. However the Minister has intervened and made sure that there is stability in the Department but the purpose of this entity and according to the report the taxes are expected to increase from R403 million to R444 million in the 2015/2016 financial year. It is about 17.9% of the total own income revenue of the province.

It is important that we understand that gambling is an individual choice. However the responsibility of the Department is to promote responsible gambling and I think it is an issue that the Committee and I think the whole country is grappling with in where do you peg this responsibility, but over a period of time and over many years Government has accepted that because it is part of own revenue income it needs to be regulated. It needs to be managed carefully and the individual must understand what involvement is and I think also the implications of responsible gambling is and therefore I want to acknowledge the role that the officials in the Gambling Board is playing in making sure that people entering into this environment whether it be through gambling at the casinos or whether it be at the horseracing or whether it is any other form of betting that it is done through the regulations and through the stipulated laws. However, we have noted that there is an increasing illegal online gambling and I think we, as a Government and as on

a National level and as well as the province, need to take notice that this area needs some attention.

The economy is under stress and I think all departments have gone back and looked at their own budgets, looked at austerity measures that is needed to keep their own projects and the programmes going and to keep it sustainable. The programmes within Treasury as the Minister referred to the improvement of good governance, the administration, to keep sustainable resource management, particular asset management and financial governance. That programmes is the priorities within the Department.

†Die ondersteuning wat veral gegaan het aan die munisipaliteite is belangrik en ons moet finansiële bestuur hier voorhou as prioriteit. Dit veroorsaak goeie oudituitkomst. Dit veroorsaak dat daar deeglike begrotings met kennis opgestel word veral waar munisipaliteite vooraf en departemente bosberade hou, die bestuur, en in oorlegging met ekonomiese druk wat ons ervaar, herbesin oor hoe hulle die finansiële stelsels, die diensleweringuitkomst en veral die poste wat gevul moet word, hoe dit bestuur moet word.

*The support rendered to the especially the municipalities is important and we have to set financial management up front as priority. It results in good audit outcomes. It leads to thorough budgets drawn up with knowledge especially where municipalities and departments have submits beforehand, the management, in accordance with the economic pressure we are experiencing, reflects on how to manage the financial systems, the service delivery outcomes and especially the posts to be filled.

†Ek dink ons kan nie die feit ignoreer dat binne die Tesourie Departement ons die beste bekwame personeel het wat ook leiding gee in ander departemente en ook aan die munisipaliteite.

*I think we cannot ignore the fact that within the Treasury we have the best able staff who also provides direction in other departments as well as to municipalities.

†Die een vraag wat ons moet vra is hoe gaan ons die nasionale ontwikkelingsplan uitvoer? Hierdie provinsie het aanvaar dat die nasionale ontwikkelingsplan 'n baie groot deel van die toekomstige ontwikkeling van hierdie land uitmaak veral met dienslewering nader aan die mense en dat die munisipaliteite veral gekies is om hierdie ontwikkelingsplan uit te rol. Dit bring vir ons uitdagings, en dit beteken dat al die sektore en departemente moet saamwerk maar daar is 'n ontbreking aan die kant van Nasionaal met betrekking tot die rigting eerstens; ek dink die probleem is dat daar binne die Nasionale Regering en ook die politieke leiding wat gegee word, hewige verskille is tussen die rolspelers wat eintlik die leiding moet gee of die beleid maak of die beleid gemaak het rondom die nasionale ontwikkelingsplan en dit is 'n groot kommer en dit bring druk op die provinsies of in 'n mate hoe hulle hierdie plan moet uitrol; hoe dit befonds gaan word en hoe die ekonomie kan groei en hoe dienslewering nader aan die mense uitgerol kan word. So ek wil graag hier 'n punt maak ten opsigte van die munisipaliteite wat moet klem lê in die toekoms op die nasionale ontwikkelingsplan en ek is van mening dat ons op hierdie stadium 'n dokument het wat goed opgestel is deur 'n

voormalige Minister wat in die Ministerie van die President gewerk het, Minister Trevor Manuel, maar dat die implementering van hierdie plan nie tot sy reg kom nie en ek dink ons in die Wes-Kaapse Regering gaan 'n hoë premie stel op die Nasionale Ontwikkelingsplan omdat ons weet die bedoeling daarvan is om die lewenskwaliteit en gehalte van die mense te verbeter.

*The one question we have to ask is how are we going to execute the National Development Plan? This province has accepted that the National Development Plan is a large part of the future development of this country especially with service delivery closer to the people and that the municipalities especially were selected to roll out this development plan. That poses challenges, and it means that all the sectors and departments have to cooperate but there is a lack on the side of National regarding the direction; firstly I think the problem is that within the National Government, also in the political leadership provided, there are serious differences between the role players who actually have to provide direction or formulating the policy or had formulated the policy around the National Development Plan, and it is great worry and it puts pressure on the provinces to which extent they have to roll out this plan; how it is going to be funded and how the economy is going to grow and how service delivery can be rolled out closer to the people. So I want to make a point here with regard to the municipalities that in future have to emphasise the National Development Plan and I am of the opinion that at this stage we have a document that had been well drawn up by a former Minister who worked in the Ministry of the President, Minister Trevor Manuel, but that the implementation of this plan is not bearing fruit and I think we in the Western Cape Government will place a

high premium on the National Development Plan because we know the aim of that is to improve the quality and standard of life of the people.

†Agb Speaker, ek wil graag ook my dank uitspreek aan die Departement. Die amptenare en die entiteit vir die rol wat hulle gespeel het om te sorg dat daar wel 'n skoon oudit is en dat hierdie Departement professionele leiding gee aan al die departemente sowel as die munisipaliteite en ook die dank aan die Minister wat die leiding gegee het. Ek dank u. Totsiens.

*Madam Speaker, I also want to thank the Departement, the officials and the entity for the role they played to ensure that there was a clean audit and that this Department provides professional direction to all the departments as well as to municipalities, and also thanks to the Minister who provided leadership. I thank you. Goodbye.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. I see the hon member Ms Beerwinkel.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Morning Madam Speaker. Before I make my inputs regarding the vote here today there are some statements that were made in the second reading debate and inputs that cannot go unchallenged here today so I am hoping that you would allow me also to address them as others have been allowed earlier on.

I would also just like to make a correction to what the Chairperson has just said. I think you said that you have noted the minority party. I think what you meant to say was that the main Opposition raised its minority view and not

the minority party. We are the main Opposition party here. We are not the minority party here. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please, members.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Alright, let us continue. Let us continue. Semantics as usual; semantics, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Members, we have made some good time. Let us keep it that way, thank you, hon member Ms Beerwinkel.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Thank you. More than one yesterday got up and attempted to discredit my statement regarding clean audits, because it is the norm of the DA to hear the word and either draw it out of context or go off at a tangent before listening fully to the context because they are hypersensitive when someone isn't doing the praise singing or asking sweetheart questions created for condescending lectures and grandstand responses.

Clean audits is a national imperative by the National Auditor-General from the time of when Terence Mbembe, so when that happens it is nothing to jump up about, but the point I made yesterday and this is what I said, I am going to repeat what I said yesterday. I said: "Clean audits mean nothing." I repeat it. "Clean audits mean nothing..." and then I added: "...if the impact is not felt by communities." That is what I said, but "clean audits mean nothing" is the issue that was drawn out.

The SPEAKER: Order! Hon member Ms Beerwinkel.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: And my colleagues... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Ms Beerwinkel could you take your seat please?

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Oh please.

The SPEAKER: Chief Whip are you rising on a point of order?

Mr M G E WILEY: Yes I am please, it is a case of relevance, which is described in the Rules. The Deputy Speaker ruled earlier saying...

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Please! [Interjections.]

Mr M G E WILEY: ...saying that what the member is now busy with is an explanatory statement. It has got nothing to do with the budget.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you Chief Whip. Before we continue, the Deputy Speaker has provided guidelines at the beginning of the session talking to the content being in the Blue Book, which we have on the table, so the scope is a lot less than yesterday's debate which was more political in nature. So the guidance and the point is taken. Hon member Ms Beerwinkel you may proceed.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: I agree with you Madam Speaker, and I will honour that but I originally asked because other speakers were allowed to also address things of yesterday. Please can I do the same.

The SPEAKER: Order please members. Let us proceed.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Please can we continue in the tone and the vein that it was done. MEC Winde did exactly the same thing. We listened with respect to what he was saying. In fact he addressed me as well and I listened with respect. Now that is [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Please hon member Ms Beerwinkel that is a very important point to listen with respect.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Thank you Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: And I would like the House to take their cue from that. Thank you.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: The point I made is that the impact needs to be felt by the communities that we serve and my colleagues behind me can attest to the fact that I mentioned that word because you can just take a drive out 20 kilometres from here and you will see that the impact is not felt by the communities, 20 kilometres around from where we are.

Secondly the MEC gets up, does not acknowledge the input that I made, yet spends the better part of his response addressing issues that I raised, especially about the housing input, the human settlements input. I need to correct that, because when I addressed the issues of the Human Settlement Department I raised the point of the cocky responses by the officials and the Housing Development Fund; not the Department, I didn't address the Department, I addressed the Fund and the Auditor-General's report on the fund. So that and I also mentioned that that was the black spot on the clean audit report of this province, because they regressed. That was the regression and it landed in the red. I read from the Auditor-General's comments about that fund but the deflection as normally had to go on and the pricing - he went on about the Department which wasn't relevant at the time. I distinctly made the point that the Housing Development Fund is not about housing delivery. It is about managing their assets and knowing the real value of it; not blaming the Deeds Office for not giving them the correct information.

When I get up here, or in any Standing Committee where I serve, I don't suck things out of my thumbs. I read. My reputation in this House is there as proof. I read things that are given to me because officials spend days and nights preparing documents for us to enlighten ourselves. The least we can do is read it. I do that. In fact the truth is it is the ANC that normally makes the input in Standing Committees, in Scopa and wherever. [Interjections.] The DA sits quietly because they do not want to put their MECs and the Department on the spot. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please members.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: I come here to do my job. I engage, I correct, I speak out, but I also have the decency to acknowledge when something has been done well. I could have taken every single vote of these MECs and tell you what is in it. That is how much I read. I know why I am here, hon member Ms Maseko. I know what my role is.

Treasury has often acknowledged that a lot of the methods that they now use to report was initiated by us because of the kind of input that we make. The same, Scopa the same now, it is changing the way that it addresses things because of the way that we assisted in getting there. [Interjections.]

Yes, we gave them lessons. That is how it is. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please members.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: So to get up here and to make us out to be children who do not understand is just disingenuous, condescending in a circus performance here in front of us.

Respect, Madam Speaker, begets respect. Treat us with the same respect that we give when you respond. It is the manner in which you respond that affects us. [Interjections.] No-no-no I have never said that to you. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please members.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: I never used those words on you, never.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Ms Beerwinkel have you got your budget?

[Inaudible.]

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Yes, thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Madam Speaker, Vote 3, is not really a service delivery department. Instead it is the departments that it serves and has oversight over, and therefore it has transversal powers to ensure that the taxpayer's money - the taxpayer's money, please note - is utilised efficiently.

[Interjections.]

It is also responsible for MGRO and the CGRO. It also has statutory responsibilities to ensure that municipalities function; the principles of the NDP are adhered to and supported and to develop methods to reduce any inefficiencies that are identified. It has control over the fact that all departments need to implement their budgets in a transparent and resourceful and innovative way, within specified timeframes.

It is commendable that Provincial Treasury has shown savings on consultancy fees, but failed to find suitable candidates to fill posts which then resulted in savings which could then be shifted around. One is not blind or insensitive to the national or the international impact on our fiscus, nationally or provincially, but we are continuously reminded here of how well this Government is proving to do more with less, work smarter to achieve better results, so then how did this specific Department fare? Treasury cannot work as an island, as I have said, together with Local Government, it also has a statutory... the Department of Local Government, it also has a statutory responsibility to ensure that Local Government is able to function and have the necessary support to be able to do so. It is therefore understood why R7.6 million was shifted to Local Government; how the shift was necessary for the strengthening of governance in municipal support.

Also the rollover of R1.466 million for the training of more accounting professionals for the public service as part of a special projects programme. We want more people to be trained. We want the financial services in municipalities and wherever financial services are needed to be improved and if money is allocated to that we will support it because it then helps the service delivery in the municipalities where those people have to work.

The debacle at the Gambling and Racing Board won't easily be forgotten so one hopes that the decreased payment to them of R5.244 million will be put to good use, but I also need to support the Chairperson when he says that

gambling is a double-edged sword. On the one end, it is a job creator and on the other end it is a social menace.

The R500 million shifted to Vote 1 for institutional mandate of planning, monitoring and evaluation is also a way that Provincial Treasury is assisting Vote 1 by the secondment of staff to train up the final end users and the implementers. I will leave out certain parts because it has already been read.

The big question that remains for me in Treasury and what it allowed in the bigger budget is how the surplus that arose was allowed or how they managed to be able to do that, the R207.4 million they held in reserve for next year. If times were as tough and wage settlement agreements were needed as much as we were told then how is this surplus created to the extent of that amount?

An HON MEMBER: How can we see... [Inaudible.]

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: I am going to leave that part out as well. Some of the things that have happened - okay, no maybe I should say this. [Interjections.] There has been a relationship with some of these MECs, acrimonious some of them, but open and transparent and free with some and that has allowed us to understand what is happening in some of these departments. We have a long history with some of these MECs as they have been in previous departments as well but it is very, very clear that there is a change in the staff morale of late where MECs before had the stance that if MPLs need help, drop what you are doing, run and go, so that they can understand and help them. These days,

officials are too scared to be even seen to be talking to you. That is the strange thing that is happening here. That is the open and non-transparent Government that is happening here in the Western Cape. [Interjections.]

MEC Fritz, and this is on a lighter note. MEC Fritz says - he loves watching me getting silently angry here and enjoys [Inaudible.] me from across the floor and then something happens to him while he is sitting there. I want to declare in this House, Madam Speaker, I will not be responsible for his heart attack that will happen afterwards. [Laughter.] He knows what I mean.

When we address the issue of the DA's travels across the different provinces to compare themselves with other provinces we are not saying that the Western Cape is not an island or it is an island because we are always accusing the DA of making the Western Cape in their secessionist attitude a province or a country on its own. We are saying concentrate here because here is where you govern. Leave your colleagues in those other provinces where they sit in the Opposition benches to do their work in the same way that we do our work here. You cannot control the hunt. You cannot control the whole country in wanting to do everything. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please.

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: We note the changes that happened in Treasury, most of them we will support because it is transversal and it is always about helping municipalities; who is who, who governs in those municipalities is of

no matter. It is whether the service delivery happens and whether these clean audits impact are felt where it is needed most. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon member Ms Beerwinkel. I see the hon member Mr Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you Madam Speaker. I must say, the important thing of this Department and the Minister is we engage with them in the Budget Committee. These are the boffins. These guys have a special skill. That is true. We need to say that and they are doing an excellent job. Now we want to go and tell them: "Listen, do that and do that." They advise us on many occasions how things must be done, and the other thing that I want to say, we all fought and I think everybody was holding their breath that when Dr Stegman led, but look at the competent HOD that they have with the team doing well. [Interjections.]

We must just say that because we engage with them and we see what they are doing. I also saw the hon member Ms Beerwinkel, she supported the shifting of funds. So I think we are going to get here something right, where the ANC supports the shifting of funds to municipalities; that the ANC... she supported that. So I hope that she will support this vote, but the important thing is that this Department is doing its job.

This Department must improve governance and now all the audit outcomes that we received in municipalities and departments tell us that this

Department is going a good job. That is the fact of the matter. That is the fact of the matter so we as the ACDP support the shifting of the funds because we know that this Department under the capable leadership of the MEC is doing a sterling job. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. In the absence of hon member Mr Joseph of the EFF, he forfeits his two minutes. We now see the hon Minister Meyer. Thank you.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you Madam Speaker. I just would like to confirm to this House that Minister Fritz is in good health. [Laughter.]

Thank you also to my Chairperson and members of the Standing Committee on Finance. After we... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please members.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: After we, the Treasury, appeared before the Standing Committee on Finance we made our presentations on the adjusted estimates. Then the Chairperson asked us to leave the Chamber and afterwards the Standing Committee in the absence of the officials and the MEC passes then certain resolutions of that Standing Committee based on the presentation on the adjusted budget. I can confirm that in that Standing Committee because I had sight of the minutes, and I want to thank the Chairperson and members of that committee because the committee supported

the adjusted estimates for Vote 3, but I think a budget is both a political and a technical tool but because it is a technical tool you need researchers to assist you in developing the budget. Your debate must be influenced by research so you have researchers that support you and we want to thank the researchers of this Parliament and want to thank the researchers in the Budget and Treasury office, but I am saddened by the fact that the ANC is beating up its researchers at the Local Provincial Office.

The PREMIER: Yes, amazing. I think the [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Order please.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: The Provincial Secretary of the ANC is beating up its researchers. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please, Minister Meyer.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: It is no wonder there is no research capacity left... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Minister Meyer, can you please take your seat.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: During the sixteen days of activism this is what the ANC is doing to its own researchers.

The SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Hon member Mr Dugmore.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Madam Speaker, if ever there was a case of irrelevance I think we have just seen it. We really request you to rule on this matter as per the initial guidelines of the... [Interjections.] I am not saying it is not serious, but it is irrelevant.

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

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Madam Speaker...

The SPEAKER: Hon member Mr Dugmore, the comment was made relevant to researchers, it forms part of the process so I will allow it. You may proceed, Minister Meyer. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: I want to thank the researchers in the Western Cape. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Sorry, honourable Minister Meyer, please take your seat. Hon member Mr Tyatyam.

Mr S G TYATYAM: Thanks Madam Speaker. The researchers of the ANC have nothing to do with researchers of the Department. You cannot make reference to what is happening in the ANC and what is happening in the Department.

The SPEAKER: No. It is not in that context.

Mr S G TYATYAM: It is in that context.

The SPEAKER: No, hon member Mr Tyatyam.

Mr S G TYATYAM: It is in that context.

The SPEAKER: In terms of the flow the Minister alluded to researchers and I will allow it to go, please. Thank you, and that is going to be my ruling.

Mr S G TYATYAM: No but Madam Speaker, no.

The SPEAKER: No. The relevance... [Interjections.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: In terms of this book - that is the book we must follow. There is nothing that says talk to what he is raising.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Mr Tyatyam, I hear you... [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Hon member Mr Tyatyam, can I indicate how... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: I consider it relevant to the discussion based on the research input. Thank you. Minister, can I please request that you stay though within the guidelines of the Blue Book.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: I will speak about this document.

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you for the opportunity.

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: But this Blue Book, Madam Speaker, is a result of deep substantive research based on evidence. Now if you are an opposition party then you table an alternative adjusted budget.

The PREMIER: They cannot.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: But to do that, to submit an alternative adjusted budget you need researchers to do the background work so that you come here in the House and table this document as a product of research so the alternative must be based on research, but instead of asking its researchers to do the work, imagine what will happen if we beat up our researchers. [Interjections.] We will not be able to produce this document. I make that point; but I now move on. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Minister, the point is made and taken. Thank you.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: But I want to thank our researchers for the outstanding work they have done in this particular budget. Hon Madam Speaker, †die ANC het vandag weereens misluk om 'n alternatiewe aanvullende begroting vir Pos 3 ter tafel te lê. Daar is 'n intellektuele leemte of daar is geen kapasiteit of albei en ons agbare Voorsitter van die Staande Komitee...

*the ANC today again failed to table an alternative adjustment appropriation for Vote 3. There is an intellectual void or there is no capacity, or both, and our hon Chairman of the Standing Committee...

The SPEAKER: Excuse me members, hon Minister Meyer, please take your seat. There is too much noise in the House. Can I please ask all members to just tone down. Thank you. You may proceed Minister.

†Die MINISTER VAN FINANSIES: Agb Speaker, die Voorsitter van die Staande Komitee het sy besorgdheid uitgespreek oor die implementering van die Nasionale Ontwikkelingsplan. Die Wes-Kaapse Regering is die enigste provinsie wat die Nasionale Ontwikkelingsplan implementeer. Op die 5de Maart vanjaar het ek die begroting ter tafel gelê met die tema: "Western Cape Budget, Implementing the National Development Plan, a Province at work."

Agbare Agb Speaker, maar om die Nasionale Ontwikkelingsplan te kan implementeer is daar drie primêre vereistes:

- Eerstens, “a capable state”;
- Tweedens, leierskap;
- Derdens, aktiewe burgerskap.

Ons werk hier in die Wes-Kaap om seker te maak dat ons nie net die Nasionale Ontwikkelingsplan implementeer nie, maar dat ons 'n model-provinsie raak vir die implementering van die Nasionale Ontwikkelingsplan.

*The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Madam Speaker, the Chairman of the Standing Committee expressed his concern about the implementation of the National Development Plan. The Western Cape Government is the only province implementing the National Development Plan. On 5 March this year I tabled the budget with the theme: “Western Cape Budget, Implementing the National Development Plan, a Province at work.”

Madam Speaker, but to be able to implement the National Development Plan there are three primary requirements:

- Firstly, a capable state;
- Secondly, leadership;
- Thirdly, active citizenship.

†We are working here in the Western Cape to ensure that we not only implement the National Development Plan, but that we become a model province for the implementation of the National Development Plan.

Madam Speaker, this issue of clean audits, I have referred yesterday in my speech that under the leadership of Helen Zille she told us it is not about clean audits and technical issue. It is about the moral issues and certainly what does a clean audit do? A clean audit buys more services to the poor. It means more money is allocated for what it is intended for. It means that no money is mismanaged; no money is stolen from taxpayers. It also means that this Government is more accountable and responsible for this budget, but it also demonstrates this Government is really caring for poor people, but more importantly, it also shows clean audits and good governance also both confidence, business confidence and investment confidence, but Madam Speaker, I want to conclude.

I have consulted with the Minister of Human Settlements and with the documents before me but the Minister has indicated to me that he will reply to the issues raised by the honourable member in terms of his adjustment budget in terms of the Vote for Human Settlements. He will explain what is happening there.

I am very happy to speak to that point right now, but also the largest part of the adjustment budget will go to Vote 14 for Local Government and from Vote 3, and Minister Bredell will deal with that in his adjusted budget, but I

think we have come to the conclusion in this province that if Local Government fails, South Africa fails, but we will not let that happen and hence our municipal support grant is dedicated to make sure that we build the capacity of municipalities so that South Africa do not fail. We have no interest in seeing South Africa to fail. We want South Africa to succeed and because of that we want Local Government to succeed in South Africa.

There are questions about the reserve. As a result of the mismanagement of the economy countrywide the South African Government has wiped out R66 billion for the next three years in terms of the Wage Bill. We have now hon member Mr Dugmore, we are seeing the crisis getting bigger and bigger and because we are seeing the crisis we have made now provision to deal with that fiscal challenges, particularly as it relates to education in the 2016/17 budget. That is what we are doing. We are protecting the fiscal risk of this Government as we move into 2016/17. That is what we do because we are a capable State. We are a competent State, and we are a responsible State. So we are dealing with this budget in a responsible manner to show that we can protect frontline service delivery particularly Social Development, Human Settlements, Transport and Public Works and Education. So that is what we are building. We are building a buffer to protect as we see, we had the risk report had just come out. The number one issue in the risk report is pure national governance failure and because we see that risk we built in mitigation so that we are able to come back in the main budget to deal with that risk so there is no mismanagement of the economy. We are certainly strategic so that we build in a fiscal buffer to deal with this because we, this

Government, is a responsible and an accountable Government in the Western Cape.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: I thank you Madam Speaker.

†Die PREMIER: Mooi!

*The PREMIER: Good!

The SPEAKER: Thank you Minister Meyer. [Applause.] That concludes the debate on Vote 3.

[Debate concluded.]

The SPEAKER: If I may, I have been alerted to the fact that we have made up a fair amount of time and there has been consultation between the Chief Whip, the Deputy Whip and I think the Premier who is the next Vote reading. I think with the permission of the House we will proceed to the next debate and at the end of that debate we will break for lunch, so I ask for your support and cooperation. Can we then just allow the officials a minute or two to reorganise themselves and then we will continue with the fourth Order of the Day. Thank you.

Business of House paused for clearing of bays.

The SPEAKER: Okay, if I could call the House to order. The Secretary will read the fourth Order of the Day.

The SECRETARY: Debate on Vote 1 – Premier - *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4 – 2015].

The SPEAKER: Thank you. I see the honourable, the Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much indeed, Madam Speaker. As we know and as we have discussed previously, the Department of the Premier's budget has been reduced by R59.4 million in the Adjustment Appropriation Bill. The adjusted budget of the Department is therefore R1.27 billion.

The bulk of this adjustment affects the budget for information and communication technology and mainly relates to firstly the reallocation of the broadband project funding over 2016 MTEF period. That amounted to a reduction of R53 million. Now that is by far the bulk of the adjustment and we have discussed this in some detail before.

This particular budget has an 11-year year cash flow projection so there is a globular amount over 11 years and then we broke it down into estimates of each of those eleven years. It is quite clear that not exactly the same amounts as have been projected are going to be spent in each year for a myriad of reasons and that is why we were able to reallocate R53 million. The details

are all in the figures here and if any honourable members want to ask me questions I am quite happy to answer those questions so the 11-year cash flow projections for the broadband project have been firmed up and require a realignment of the 2015/2016 and 2016 MTEF allocations, but the entire budget will be spent as projected over the 11 years.

Secondly the information communication technology adjustment relates to shifts to the Western Cape Education Department in support of the e-Learning Initiative. That shift amounts to R10 million that will be transferred from the Department of the Premier to the Western Cape Education Department to supplement experimental hubs and another R10 million to supplement the 100 Schools Initiative primarily with tablets in the financial year and then there is also a shift of R18 million from the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport to my Department.

Now as we know, the Department of Cultural Affairs is responsible for the archives systems of this province. What we are doing is we are moving archiving for all departments onto an electronic platform. So because it is a transversal platform and because it is a transversal tender and because it is an electronics related system the Department of the Premier had to do the procuring but the money came from the Department of Cultural Affairs because they are responsible for archives and that is the reason for that shift.

Then within the Department of the Premier business process optimisation or BPO - that is not business process outsourcing. It is business process

optimisation, that project had funds totalling R5.9 million which were moved to the Centre for e-Innovation for their implementation of the service interface programme, which is part of BPO.

Various private initiatives are currently being undertaken to improve the experience of our citizens when engaging Government through either our frontline service delivery facilities or via our various digital channels.

Then within the Centre for e-Innovation funds are also going to be shifted. Savings within goods and services totalling R4.3 million will be utilised for the Cape Access e-Centres which are wonderful interface points for citizens of this province. These funds will be used to address the increased demand for these facilities in the rural areas and to effect a much needed refresh of technologies in some of our older e-Centres.

Then R37 million will be utilised for the upgrading of local area network infrastructure at corporate sites which will make it possible to deploy VOIP, which is voice over internet protocol services resulting in significant voice usage savings for the Western Cape Government and those are really significant savings so I fully support that shift and then R5 million will be utilised to roll out an email service for schools as part of the e-Learning Initiative.

The budget baseline of programme 2, provincial strategic management, increases by R8.2 million mainly due to the funding of the Delivery Support

Unit that has been established to render design and implementation support services for the game changers that we have repeatedly discussed in this Chamber. Almost half of the funding requirement is financed from donations. So we minimise the cost to this Provincial Government and the other half is funded through the internal shifting of funds that became available due to the slower than anticipated filling of posts and posts vacated during the course of the year.

Now, anticipating that there might be a question about the slower than anticipated filling of posts I have also queried that and I am told that in many of these posts that we were slower than anticipated in filling, we had and we were looking for very scarce skills, which takes a lot of challenge to find. Then in cases where for example we are obliged to vet and we were obliged to vet all employees where there is a negative vetting, let's say somebody has embellished their CV in one or other way, where there is a negative vetting one obviously has to start again and often because we are creating career pipelines and promotion prospects for talented and hardworking people at lower levels in the administration, a promotion post is often filled by someone at a lower level which then creates a vacancy on its own, which has to be filled, so those are the primary reasons for the slower than anticipated filling of posts and posts vacated during the course of the year. Therefore, in 2015/16 no new money is requested for this initiative.

Those are the points that I wanted to make about the adjustment estimates and this adjustment appropriation budget.

The last thing I would like to do is to thank the DG very much indeed and our chief financial officer, Mr Drikus Basson, for their very, very tight hands on the reins for making me a little bit more financially literate than I used to be and for getting us yet another clean audit. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you honourable Premier. I see the hon member Mr Mackenzie.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Madam Speaker, the fiscal situation in the country is not as good as it should be. I think various speakers and commentators have made some notes about it, and obviously due to the higher than expected wage negotiations one has to applaud the Department of the Premier and all the other departments for their ability to find the savings that they had because that is obviously what is needed in the current situation. So it affords me great pleasure standing as the Chairperson of the Standing Committee of the Premier, to give input into this bill.

I have to say I align myself and I am in full agreement with the arguments, the analysis, the rationale and the justification for the adjusted appropriation of the Department of the Premier. [Interjections.]

We have throughout the year received many presentations from the Department of the Premier on the reasons as to why some of the money will

need to be rolled over in terms of the e-Learning and the 11-year project and the broadband project and many of the members in this House or members of this committee I know have exhausted that matter extensively as well. We obviously wanted to thank the Department for the R18 million that they are receiving from the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport. That project is an excellent project. In fact a director who was working at the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport has now been snatched up by National Department where she is now a Chief Director responsible for the country, countrywide, so this indeed shows the quality of the work that they are doing in that Department. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: As soon as it suits you hon member Mr Dugmore, you want to claim credibility for it. We know that the extra R18 million that have been shifted has been allocated to the Department of the Premier for enabling of the procurement of that open text enterprising licensing agreement and we know that this will only enhance the effectiveness of the Department.

During this adjustment period, Afrobarometer South Africa released data on South Africa's leadership and Government performance, which revealed that 62% of the residents in the Western Cape approve of the Premier and therefore I can say the Department of the Premier compared to the rest countrywide it shows that the Department of the Premier is indeed doing good work.

It is refreshing to see that the DA-led Government is recognised for its performance by peers countrywide for its clean and effective governance and this point was made earlier on again about the clean audits and let me repeat again, clean audits lead to effective governance and it shows that we are spending the money right and well and in the right places. So it is very important - clean audits.

These findings reinforce that the Western Cape is indeed one of the best Governments. We are grateful that this appropriation affords the Department greater leeway to attain their predetermined objectives for improved sustained and high-quality of service for all the people of the Western Cape across the Department, given the transversal nature of the Department. I take this opportunity to thank the Premier in the execution of her task, all her efforts is helping to elevate the Western Cape to be the best province in the country and the best regional Government in the world as the national MPAT proved. [Interjections.] The Director General and the Department's relentless dedication and hard work... [Interjections.]

We had just seen him win a silver award as one of the best Director-Generals in the country and one of the best functional departments in the country. My heartfelt thanks also goes out to my fellow Committee members and also to the Committee coordinator and the staff.

In light of the abovementioned I propose that this House adopts the Appropriation Bill and Madam Speaker, the DA fully supports the adjusted estimates for this vote and we thank the Premier for action leadership. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. I see the hon member Mr Dugmore.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Thank you very much. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please, members. There is a speaker on the floor.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Thank you very much. [Interjections.] [Laughter.]

The SPEAKER: Order please.

Mr C M DUGMORE: I think it is important, Madam Speaker, as we reflect on these adjustments for the Department of the Premier that we remind ourselves that the aim of this Department is to actually embed good governance and to focus on integrated service delivery. So I think when we begin to look at the issue of good governance we clearly expect that the Premier also representing the DA actually reflects that kind of good governance and I am glad that the Premier has the opportunity to respond after we have, because what I would like to ask her is whether she confirms that her participation yesterday at the march outside the ANC offices took place alongside not DA members but in

fact at least two thirds of the participants were forced to participate working at a Call Centre which is actually contracted by the DA but not actually DA members, so she was part of the march, she is supposed to reflect good governance. I would like the Premier to actually indicate to this House whether she can confirm that the vast majority of those protestors were in fact forced from the call centre to be part of that... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Mr Dugmore... [Interjections.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: ...and let us actually get her... [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Order please members, hon member Mr Dugmore can I ask you to stay within the context of the Blue Book please. I will allow you to proceed but let us not drift. Thank you.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Yes. I am simply making the point that this adjustment talks to good governance being set as an example by the Department of the Premier. She in the person of the Premier participated yesterday and that is why I think it is important for her to reflect on whether she is taking good governance further.

As has been indicated we are talking about a R59 million rand adjustment here but I think the Premier's explanation and she said she personally followed up and actually enquired about the slow filling of posts, is not an acceptable explanation. You can go through the Blue Book and you will see

in a number of different sub-programmes strategic ICT services, corporate assurance, in fact across most programmes so these are not strategic positions, these are posts throughout this Department which are essentially not being filled and that is where some of the savings are actually coming from. The failure of this Department which should actually be coordinating the filling of posts across the province, and we are beginning to see that impact in Transport and Public Works where many posts are not filled and in other departments, so I think what we need to look at across the province is how much cushioning is there within the budget of Provincial Departments who have funded posts, do not fill them and in that particular way creates an impression of not being properly funded whereas in fact there is a deliberate strategy to fill those posts slowly or not fill them at all and in fact create cushions across this Provincial Government. That I believe needs to be looked at very carefully.

I would also like the Premier to respond particularly to those sections in the Blue Book under the provincial strategic management. We have heard a lot in this committee but hon member Mr Mackenzie would agree with me, that we have not had any adequate explanations in regard to the Delivery Support Unit.

What we see reflected in the budget is an amount of R3.7 million. In fact as an increase in own revenue because these are donor funds that we are talking about, both the Millennium Trust and the [Inaudible] Group have donated funds to this Department to support the work of the Delivery Support Unit

despite having asked we have not got the details of what this Delivery Support Unit is actually intended to do and how these monies from the Millennium Trust as well as the [Inaudible.] Group are actually being utilised. I think that it is very clear to me that there is no evidence of agreements having been signed between the Department of the Premier and these two donor organisations because this Delivery Support Unit is being funded but no information is being provided to the Department as to exactly what the Unit is supposed to do and whether agreements are in place to actually use the donor funding that has been indicated.

A further concern is if one then begins to look at the actual shifting of funds, there aren't any environment involved in this particular adjustment, but when one looks at the shifting of funds and the Premier herself referred to the amounts of money that are being shifted to the Department of Education, I believe that what we also have here is the dumping of funds without clear business plans, because the Education Department for instance has not given us a business plan in regard to the R10 million that is being used to supplement the experimental hubs. There is not a business plan for that so it is reflected in this budget that is a transfer but we do not have a business plan for that.

Also the 100 Schools Initiative, another R10 million that is shifted to Vote 5 from the Department of the Premier, you shift the money. There is no particular business plan in regard to how those funds are actually going to be utilised, and then we also have a R10 million shift once again to the

Department of Education for the purchasing of tablets. We ask for clear detailed business plans in regards to how those tablets are going to be purchased; how they will be monitored. We only had verbal responses.

I think it is very concerning that even though adjustment when we actually deal with shifts from one Department to another, that the receiving Department doesn't actually have business plans to implement these funds, to utilise the funds which they are going to be receiving. I would also like to focus on the fact that this Department is responsible for game changers.

I think it is important that when we reflect on an adjustment where on the one hand the Provincial Treasury have told us that this Department has actually 19 performance indicators, sorry 20, and has actually achieved 19 of those and only one has been partially achieved. So in other words it is a 95% so called success rate and then let's compare that to the actual impact of the game changers because we don't have any evidence, scientific and researched evidence as to what the actual impact of the game changers at the Department of the Premier is responsible for. I also think it is important when the Premier opens the Legislature at the beginning of the year - for instance last year she told us that MEC Madikizela is going to produce an integrated housing development strategy for this province. Up until today two years later we have not received that. Yet we are told that performance indicators are 95%. We are sitting in a situation where there are... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please.

Mr C M DUGMORE: ...there are fires in Masiphumelele, there is land that needs to be actually allocated for this purpose and yet MEC Madikizela has not produced a plan which would indicate so that is what our hon member Ms Beerwinkel was for instance saying. We all welcome clean audits and the real test though is whether those audits are resulting in impacts and I would argue that one of the crises we are facing which the Department of the Premier needs to take responsibility for is announcing the fact that there would be a housing development strategy including a land release strategy but this MEC not having given that to the House, while fires continue. So I think those are the issues which are really concerning to us. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Members, we have proceeded pretty well this morning. Let us maintain that same approach. Hon member Mr Dugmore, you may proceed.

Mr C M DUGMORE: So in the adjustment and the input that we have from the Department, once again we hear that this Department has achieved 19 of the 20 performance indicators and I think that what is particularly important is to look at whether these particular provincial strategic goals creating opportunities for growth and jobs improving education outcomes, increasing wellness, safety and also enabling a resilient and sustainable quality and inclusive environment are actually being achieved on the ground practically.

The Premier's Department for instance have said nothing about the fact that in terms of integrated Human Settlements and the need to consult communities when one is actually planning to remove them, that is a critical part of integrated service delivery and good governance. The Premier's Department has said absolutely nothing about the conduct of the City of Cape Town in regard to wanting to forcibly remove an existing settled community to provide transport links for the MyCiTi, whereas alternatives are available. [Interjections.]

Is that good governance? Is that public participation? I would argue that that falls foul of the Provincial Strategic Goal, both in regard to the goal number 4, resilient and sustainable communities, and obviously in regard to the overall governance goals.

We also have a situation which I have referred to in regard to failures by the Department of the Premier to deliver on promises it has made for integrated Human Settlements, land identification which your MEC has not yet provided. We have fires in places like Masiphumelele and others, and the point that we are making is that we welcome this clean audit and we also congratulate the officials for it, but the Department of the Premier is in the unfortunate position of having a Premier who makes promises and commitments often wearing her DA hat but fails then to deliver and we believe that this Department needs to be judged on what it is actually doing in regard to the game changers, the evidence and hopefully the Premier will give us evidence as to what is actually being achieved and in regard to all

those Provincial Strategic Goals, which have been announced and being championed but we are not actually seeing the delivery on the ground.

I would then like to go to the Blue Book and actually point out some of the strategic communications, some of the shifts that have happened.

It is well known that this Premier herself, and I am not sure whether Cabinet was part of it, decided unilaterally to not renew their subscription to the *Cape Times*. Now if you look at sub-programme 4, we see a shift of R462 000 where due to the refinement of the senior management structure of the medium monitoring post... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please.

Mr C M DUGMORE: I think it is important that the Premier in regard to this particular shift out of strategic communication to corporate communication shares with us, has this been a saving in the Department, is this a decision which she stands by and can she promise us that she never reads the *Cape Times* every day, because she is the one that has actually indicated... [Interjections.]

Then if we look at sub-programme 4, we see that R5 million from connected Government has been moved over to GITO Management Services, sub-programme 4.3 and this is for the so called roll-out of an integrated email service in the e-Learning initiative.

Hon member Mr Mackenzie, when have we received a business plan in regard to how the email system that is supposed to be rolled out to the schools, this R5 million will be utilised? We have not received that. We have an indication of this adjustment of R5 million going to that purpose, yet we have no plan as to how this integrated emailing service is going to be helping our schools and I think this is part of the problem. We have got allocations made to receiving departments with no business plans to actually implement that.

I would then also like to refer to the shift from internal audit, sub-programme 5.3 over R759 000. Once again so called due to the slower than anticipated filling of posts, and this funding in addition to the donor funding being utilised for the Delivery Support Unit, where is the business plan for the Delivery Support Unit? Where is the staff establishment? That is something that we actually need to see as a committee which we have not seen, so I think we have a situation where this R59 million which has been shifted, the key criticism here is that money is being shifted to departments, mainly the Department of Education, and this without any business plan, so you can say we are getting rid of this money. This is what the Department has to do. I will say that in regard to the shift from Cultural Affairs and Sports we would also support that in terms of the Archives but the real concern which I think the Premier owes us an explanation for is that the shifts particularly to supplement e-Education, the Department of Education, where are the plans? How can funds be shifted without actually having plans from the receiving Department and that is why we as the ANC would be irresponsible to support

such an adjustment because of the fact that those details have not been provided to us. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. I see the hon member Mr Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you Madam Speaker. I do not sit on many of these committees because as you know I am only one, so the only interaction I have with the departments is when they appear in front of Scopa. Now if the ANC is so concerned about what is happening I want to ask where is the leader, because he is on this Committee. He is on the Committee. He is not even here. So yesterday he was here because of the media hype. Today there is no media. So he is not here today. [Interjections.]

But if it is so important, why is he not here?

An HON MEMBER: Ja.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: And then honourable member Mr Dugmore is the substitute. He is the substitute, he must now come and explain. [Interjections.] So it is not important. This debate is not important to the ANC because the Chief Whip is not even here. He has not been here for a long time so yet again, Madam Speaker, I need not say, this ` received a clean audit. [Interjections.] This Department and the ANC members that is not on Scopa, I will teach them what a clean audit means because clearly they do not know. Clearly they do not know.

The one thing that I need to say, when we spoke about broadband, I am very excited about broadband, this roll-out to broadband because I can see how poor communities are going to benefit. We have a detailed programme from the Department coming to us explaining to us they had a few setbacks but this is what we are going to do and the HOD Advocate Gerber was here at Scopa many times. The CFO Mr Drikus Basson was there and they explained the details. So I cannot understand if this Department had a clean audit, money that can be utilised to improve the lives of people, the ANC says no, we do not support, in other words I do not support the poor. That is what they are saying, and the people will catch them out. The people will catch them out because it is about political points scoring. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: So Madam Speaker, I support this adjustment budget, because it is going to be where it is - the money is going to go where it is needed...

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: ...where it can improve the lives of our people. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon member Mr Christians. [Interjections.] In the absence of hon member Mr Joseph of the EFF we will now - I recognise the hon, the Premier. [Interjections.]

Mr M G E WILEY: Hear, hear.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. It is interesting to see that the hon Mr Fransman has resumed his normal absence. As the hon member Mr Christians says, he only comes here for the grandstanding, but he has got a hell of a lot of work to do out there, because the dyke is leaking and all the stories about his various involvements are starting to come out so I am sure he is trying to plug them as hard as he can in between visiting hospital either to recover himself from the clobbering he got yesterday or to visit his staff members who also got clobbered in the ANC office.

Now the hon member Mr Dugmore is here today. I think he is quite old enough to remember a song, a pop song called "Substitute" and it went something like this and I will not sing it for you, you will be pleased to hear, Madam Speaker, but it goes: "I am a substitute for another guy. I look pretty tall, but my heels are high..." [Laughter.] ...and that is exactly the song that the hon member Mr Dugmore should be singing here today.

First of all I would like to thank the hon member Mr Ricardo Mackenzie for his excellent leadership of the Portfolio Committee for holding us to account for all the very tough questions that get asked when we go there and for

making certain that we read our documents and that we are called to account for answering to them.

I would also like to thank the hon member Ms Lorraine Botha who was previously the Chair, and she also did an excellent job and I would like to thank her.

Now absolutely the aim of the Department is to embed good governance and integrated service delivery, which is exactly what we do every day and it has been recognised to the extent that out of every single Department nationally and provincially in this country in the Batho Pele Awards which looks at the efficacy of your mandate and how you implement your mandate, this Department got a silver award, and the head of the Department...
[Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: Who got the gold?

The PREMIER: ...the Director-General got the silver award for heads of Department. I am being asked who got the gold, and I will tell this House with pleasure, because all the gold, all the silver and all the bronze adjudicated out of all of the Departments national and provincial countrywide all went to the Western Cape.

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

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

The PREMIER: They do not know that. They do not know that, that is why they ask stupid questions.

The SPEAKER: Order please, Premier.

The PREMIER: You see, our honourable Opposition leads with their chin the whole time and then shoots themselves in the foot. That is what they do. They only open their mouth to change feet. That is what they do and you know, the gold for Departments was won by the Western Cape Department of Community Safety.

†'n AGBARE LID: Hoor, hoor.

*An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear.

The PREMIER: The gold for the best head of Department was won by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport, Mr Brent Walters. The silver for the best Department and the best head of Department went to the Department of the Premier. The bronze for the best head of Department went to the Department of Transport and Public Works and the bronze for the best Department went to the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport and then another very major award went to a senior member of the Department of Human Settlements... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order please.

The PREMIER: So it is quite extraordinary that the National DPSA looking at every single Department countrywide gives the gold, the silver and the bronze award in all of the categories to the Western Cape.

Now you know, we have not been jumping up and down about that, but really, you should know that before you ask me a question. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please members.

The PREMIER: Madam Speaker, there are interjections here that are in fact devoid of all truth. I will say again that I have never spied on anybody and I will say again that I have never procured spying services against anybody and if that is all that they can say then they bring a misleading statement to this House because they have no other argument.

Ms S W DAVIDS: It will come out... [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: The truth will come out against somebody else and it will not be me.

The SPEAKER: Order please, hon member Ms Davids, you cannot engage the Premier in this way. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: We must go and see them...

The SPEAKER: We can do that. Premier, please take your seat. We can have all the deliberations after the sitting. We cannot engage the speaker on the floor with content that is unrelated to the Blue Book. Thank you. You may proceed, Premier.

The PREMIER: Then the hon member Mr Dugmore makes a claim here that staff members at our call centre were forced to come and march yesterday. That is another completely misleading and untrue statement made in this House but that is parr for the course for the ANC.

Mr C M DUGMORE: How many of them [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: In fact people in our call centre when we have a march nearby are voluntarily allowed to come and march. [Interjections.] So some were there, but many, many, many, in fact the vast majority of people who were there were from the call centre, and so what? The people in our call centre are DA members.

An HON MEMBER: Exactly!

The PREMIER: They work for the DA. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please.

The PREMIER: They do not work for the Government. They do not work for the Government. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please, Madam Premier, please address the Chair.

The PREMIER: And so while they are trying to make an issue...

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

The PREMIER: What?

The SPEAKER: I said when you do speak address the Chair. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Ja, ja. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please members. [Interjections.] Hon members, Premier, please take your seat. Hon member Mr Magaxa...

Mr K E MAGAXA: I am just [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Okay, sorry. Can we now get some respect and get back on track. There is a speaker on the floor. Hon member Mr Dugmore, you have posed your questions in your fifteen minute slot. Please allow the Premier to respond to those questions now please. Thank you.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: We have done very well so far so let us maintain this, thank you. You may proceed, Premier.

The PREMIER: Madam Speaker, it would be a scandal if I had gone to a Government Call Centre or if anybody from a political party had gone to a Government Call Centre and had asked people if they wanted to go and march. We do not do that. We would never do that but we do know that the ANC abuses a whole range of things, not only staff members in ANC municipalities but in fact vehicles and other infrastructure to support their party political activities. We do not do that. If ANC members voluntarily choose to go and march for them we would never even raise it. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order please, members.

The PREMIER: That if DA members voluntarily choose, voluntarily choose to come and march they are free to do so. There is no scandal. There is nothing to be ashamed of and in fact it just reflects that the ANC does not understand the difference between the party and the state. That is fundamentally the problem of that party. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Mr Magaxa, please, can I call you to order. An interjection is allowed but your constant heckling is becoming disruptive. Please members, you may proceed Premier.

The PREMIER: Then the hon member Mr Dugmore questions whether the posts that took some time to fill were strategic posts. Well, we had the internal audit positions. We had the forensic positions. We had the Centre for e-Innovation, which are highly technical personnel. We had finance personnel and when we advertise positions we make sure that we get the kinds of applications that are able to fill those posts at the requisite level and occasionally we have to re-advertise because we are not getting the applications that we require and we re-advertise. That is what we do, and it is far better to get the right person in the right post even if it requires a little bit of a delay, than get the wrong person in a post and sit there with the ‘gebakte pere’ forever as the National Government keeps on doing. You just have to look at every single state-owned enterprise to see the result of that.

Then the delivery support unit - the hon member Mr Dugmore claims that he knows nothing about this. Well, he must go to his email and he must go and look at an email that he got on the 20th of November this year or dated the 20th of November for a full analysis of the delivery support unit and what it is doing and all the attachments. [Interjections.]

Now I don’t know what the hon member Mr Dugmore means by business plan but we plan for everything we do and we implement those plans and we do so

rigorously based on data and evidence and the central role of the Delivery Support Unit is to do just that. Now the hon member Mr Dugmore asks about the history of the Delivery Support Unit and where it comes from. I am always amazed by the Opposition in this House, because the original impetus to start a delivery support unit came from Minister Trevor Manuel when he was Minister in the Presidency and when he developed the National Development Plan and the bottom line is that the hon member Mr Dugmore was actually working for the honourable Trevor Manuel and the first time I heard of this was actually from the hon Trevor Manuel and he was referring to a book called: "Instruction to deliver" by Sir Michael Barber and he said that everyone in Government should read that book. So I went out and I bought that book and I read it and I was very, very impressed by it. So I got hold of Sir Michael Barber and when I went to the United Kingdom on another issue unrelated to Government and not funded by Government I contacted Sir Michael Barber and asked him if I could speak to him and we did go and speak to him and he said he would be very interested to help us establish the same kind of delivery unit in the Western Cape. And indeed the Delivery Unit concept was developed under Tony Blair's Labour Government in the United Kingdom and it was there because as Tony Blair said, when he won his second term in office he said: "I have instruction from the voters to deliver", and he delegated that instruction to Sir Michael Barber and the rest is quite legendary history. So we are seeking to do exactly the same thing and we have worked enormously hard on applying the methodology which I could explain now in some detail, but it has been explained elsewhere and it is not

the job in this adjustment estimates to explain the detail of the methodology and the planning for the Delivery Unit, but it is there in all its full glory.

Now to argue that we are dumping funds on the Department of Education without plans, is simply absurd. The e-Learning plans, the vision, the strategy, has been there for an extraordinarily long time. The planning for the foundation phase in the 100 schools has been ongoing for a whole year and indeed it has been significantly praised by individual experts in education and independent experts in education. Getting an email address that is consistent for all schools is not something that we have to spend weeks writing a business plan about, the simple objective is to get a consistent email address for all schools that you do not have this entire fruit salad that makes it really difficult to get hold of people, and for that you need a service provider, and for that we have budgeted R5 million. We do not have to spend months and months drawing up a business plan for it. [Interjections.]

So the hon member Mr Dugmore says there is no evidence at all of any of these game changers and the basis on whether they will make any impact. What he does not understand is the role of the Delivery Support Unit is precisely to ensure that we gather the data and that we measure the impact of the game changers. Well, three years' time is a very short time compared to the 21 years that the ANC has taken this country backwards.

[Interjections.] So the honourable [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please, members.

The PREMIER: You see, Madam Speaker, the hon member Mr Dugmore says that the ANC has taken this country forward. Now let me say that as...

[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please hon member Ms Davids and whoever it is you are speaking to across the desk. I cannot see. Premier, proceed please.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. The honourable Opposition in this House say that clean audits do not matter.

Mr C M DUGMORE: No it does not.

The PREMIER: They mean nothing.

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The PREMIER: That is what they said. That is what they said and the result is that for the first time tragically South Africa has overtaken Nigeria as the most corrupt country in Africa. That is where the ANC has taken South Africa. [Interjections.]

But in any case, as bad a Government as the ANC is today, as ghastly a Government as the ANC is today, none of us in the DA hark back to apartheid because that was an evil system and none of us hark back to that.

[Interjections.] We are trying to make South Africa's democracy work.
[Interjections.] We are trying to enable South Africa to live up to its magnificent potential and not be perceived as the most corrupt Government in Africa. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please.

The PREMIER: Then the hon member Mr Dugmore asked me questions about the City of Cape Town. He maybe knows the basis of the Constitution is independent spheres of Government and the honourable Opposition in the City of Cape Town has asked questions there but again we got another clean audit there quite unlike anything the ANC was able to achieve when they were there. Now the hon member Mr Dugmore asks me if I read the Cape Times. I do not read the newspaper the *Cape Times*, but I read the relevant cuttings from the Cape Times every single day because we have a cutting service, which is one of the reasons that we did not need the subscription. It was a duplication. So what we have every day is a cutting service, and I get those cuttings on my email and I read them every single day. So there is no problem as far that is concerned.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Do you regret that decision now?

The PREMIER: I absolutely do not regret that decision. In fact we could rationalise our subscriptions a whole lot more and indeed that was another instruction from the Treasury to rationalise newspaper subscriptions and the

only Government in South Africa that actually took that seriously was the Western Cape Government. Again we are the only one who takes Treasury instructions seriously which is why we are the only province that keeps on getting more and more clean audits.

Now we have - compliance is actually reasonably important when it means that you stop being corrupt like the rest of the country. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please.

The PREMIER: I would like to get to the hon member Mr Ferlon Christians and thank him very much for the job that he does chairing Scopa, and for being able to see the wood from the trees and the grandstanding from the delivery. Thank you very much.

Mr M G E WILEY: Hear, hear.

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon Premier. That concludes the debate on this vote. Hon members, proceedings will now be suspended and the House will resume at 14:00. I thank you.

The House adjourned at 12:57.

The House resumed at 14:00.

The SPEAKER: Order, members. We now resume the business of the day. The Secretary will read the Fifth Order.

The SECRETARY: Debate on Vote 10 – Transport and Public Works - *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4 – 2015].

The SPEAKER: Thank you. I see the hon the Minister.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Honourable Speaker, Honourable Premier in absentia, Cabinet colleagues, Honourable Leader of the Opposition in absentia, Honourable members of the Western Cape Parliament and Officials of Transport and Public Work, guests.

It is my privilege to present the Adjusted Estimates for the Department of Transport and Public Works for 2015/16. Last year this time I indicated to the House that I was presenting the adjusted estimates very conscious of the key role which this Department has to play in relation to the outcomes set by the Western Cape Government and as a service provider to other departments in the Province. Another year in office has strengthened my conviction in this regard. The Department of Transport and Public Works provides a wide range of services to the Western Cape Government as well as being the implementation agent for Education and Health. It is open to extending the range of these services within its core mandate as the Western Cape Government launches new initiatives aimed at improving the lives of people in this Province.

None of this has been made easier by the negative impact of the deteriorating economic climate and by the need to fund the shortfall on wage and conditions of service agreements reached at national level. My Department has done whatever it could to assist across the Western Cape Government in this regard and I thank the HOD and her staff for the responsible stance they have taken.

In the year since the last adjustment estimates were tabled we have successfully filled a number of key senior posts and are rapidly improving our capacity to run efficient systems, deliver enhanced services and to innovate.

However, I would be failing in my responsibility, as a member of the Executive in this province, if I did not raise serious challenges that are beginning to face departments which require a significant core of technically proficient staff – staff qualified and experienced in the hard disciplines such as engineering. Increasingly we are finding that all means available to us to fill vacancies – advertising, recruitment and headhunting – produce little or nothing. This is despite our extensive internship and bursary programmes. Competition from other spheres of government and from the private sector is intense. However virtuous its underlying causes, the recent disruption of the Higher Education system and the resultant inability of many universities to conclude their 2015 academic year with the writing of examinations will only

aggravate this situation by delaying the entry of new graduates and possibly reducing the numbers significantly. Time will tell.

The budget of the Department of Transport and Public Works of R6.76 billion has been decreased by an amount of R1.116 million to R6.759 billion. This is a decrease of 0.016%.

The adjustments are the following:

Retention of increased conditional allocation received from the Road Traffic Management Corporation in 2014/15 of R18.806 million to be utilised for road safety related projects

Increased own revenue collection received in 2015/16 of R14.871 million to be utilised for the following:

- Reallocation of flood damage grant funding erroneously paid to the Kannaland Municipality by the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs to make provision for additional routine maintenance within the Eden District Municipality - R2 008 000
- Reimbursement of guarantee funding for borrow pit by the Cape Winelands District Municipality to be used for additional routine road maintenance within the Cape Winelands District Municipal area - R1.433 million

- Conditional allocation received from the RTMC for road safety related projects - R36 000
- Increased own revenue from motor vehicle licence collections fees to be used to provide for increased agency fees on the collection of motor vehicle licence fees by municipalities – R10 000 000
- Conditional allocation received from the Public Service Skills Education Training Authority (PSETA) for the welding apprenticeship programme - R1.394 million

Then, the shifting of funds between Votes of R2.164 million.

- From Vote 1: Department of the Premier to lease-in additional accommodation for the Centre for E—Innovation - R589 000
- From Vote 6: Health for the acquisition of Kwamandlakosi Clinic in Beaufort West - R1 000 000
- From Vote 6: Health to lease-in accommodation for tuition space at the Boland College premises in Worcester - R550 000
- Also from Vote 6: Health to lease-in accommodation at the Strand Community Health Centre premises - R25 000

Then the rollover from the previous financial year of R41 677 000.

- Conditional allocation received from the Road Traffic Management Corporation for road safety related projects R17.285 million

- Provision for payment of municipal property rates and municipal services R12.102 million
- Provision for the demolition of the former Conradie Hospital R11.076 million. Though it says: never a word true is said in jest.

The SPEAKER: It might have been a Freudian slip. [Laughter.]

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Then Madam Speaker:

- The National Conditional Grant: Expanded Public Works Programme Integrated Grant for Provinces to expand job creation efforts in specific focus areas where labour intensive delivery methods can be maximised R1.214 million

Lastly, a reduction in the Vote 10 allocation of R78 634 000 to contribute towards the 2015 wage settlement shortfall.

I am sure that this House will be understanding of my lifting out of the list of these adjustments above one specific matter, as follows:

I know we all share a concern for the on-going inability across the country to reduce more successfully road crashes, many of which involve pedestrians. Not only do these crashes destroy families and cause lasting emotional suffering – they also have a huge economic impact, an impact estimated in

the Western Cape at approximately R20 billion and in the country as a whole at R206 billion. We budget a significant amount of money on measures and programmes to improve this critical situation and the additional funds will effectively be spent on this objective. In fact, in 9 days' time, on 11 December, we will therefore launch our intensive holiday season road safety programme. I appeal to all the people throughout the province who use our roads, to do so responsibly and to take all sensible precautions. Madam Speaker, I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister. I see the hon Max.

Mr L H MAX: Thank you, Madam Speaker. As this House has heard now, the Department of Public Works is a cross-cutting department. It is actually an implementation agent for other departments and what is pleasing is the co-operation with local government. Infrastructure is a prerequisite for any country to succeed economically but strategic investment in infrastructure produces a foundation for long-term growth. The allocation and shifting of funds in this adjustment is, in my view, justifiable to address the needs of the people of the Western Cape.

A rising tide does not raise people who do not have a boat. We have to build that boat and give them the vote. We have to give them the infrastructure so that they can rise with the tide. Now, GMT, Government Management Transport, motor transport is a key partner in ensuring that other government departments operate without interference, without unnecessary delay. And I

would like to commend them and especially the head there, Mr Koegelenberg and his team, for the excellent leadership they have displayed over these years.

Now in bringing me to – and we are not going to repeat what the Minister said, what he mentioned there were the figures which are being moved between the various sections of the department – I totally agree with it. It is unquestionable. It is also unquestionable that this Department and this Government have provided the best services in the country. So what is pleasing is the fact that RTMC might see R36.1 billion available to be used for traffic.

Now as the Minister actually indicated here, which I really agree with – as we say, I am ad idem with him – the challenges that we actually experience on our roads are very worrisome. I believe that as far as traffic law enforcement is concerned, that there is a place and a reason for speed cameras – there is a place for them. However, to be proactive we need more bodies, but to have enough bodies means you have to have a bigger budget and obviously the Department does not have that luxury. And on the other hand there is a challenge to change the behaviour of road users from non-compliance and transgression to one of compliance and respect.

We cannot address and rely only on traffic law enforcement and policing to reduce the road carnage. There should be a mind-shift, there should be co-operation. We cannot have a police state, we have a constitutional state,

but surely if somebody transgresses there must be consequences and those consequences are not only depending on the Department and traffic law enforcement. We have our courts who are equally responsible to execute the necessary functions to ensure that people are being deterred and behave according to the law if they face consequences.

It is an undisputed fact and there is irrefutable evidence in the Annual Reports as well as in these adjustment discussions, as the Minister indicated, that this Department and this Government render the services which the people of the Western Cape need. Now I just want to end off to say thank you to the HOD, who is actually, I believe, on leave; the staff - people who work very unselfishly: for their unselfishness and their commitment to serve the people of the Western Cape.

General Eisenhower – a former general of the American Army – once said, and he referred to leadership as follows and I quote: he said “Leadership is like a piece of string; if you pull it, it will follow you everywhere you go but if you push it, it will go nowhere.”

So hon Minister, I would like to thank you for the leadership that you display and for the political direction and policy implementation of this Government in ensuring that the people of the Western Cape get nothing less than the best. Thank you so much. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you. I see the hon member Dugmore.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I would just like to raise a couple of issues in regard to Vote 10 and the adjustment. I think all of us – and the MEC has referred to this, as well as hon Max – would welcome the fact that there has been an amount of just over R36 million from Traffic Management Services nationally, the Corporation, to support the province's work in this regard and I think that is an indication of the seriousness around road safety on our roads and I think all of us would welcome that particular allocation.

I think what is also significant but needs further interrogation is the fact that the Department and the Blue Book indicate to us that R78 million was found from within Transport and Public Works as a contribution towards the provincial wage agreement, the shortfall, and that is a large amount of money. Again we can raise the issue of how many posts in this Department, and in fact in others, are funded but not yet filled. We have interrogated this issue and we asked the Department, because there was a question raised when we were discussing the adjustment as to what the current vacancy rate in this Department actually was. There were one or two figures given and the Department then came back to us and indicated that the vacancy rate is basically round about 5%.

But if one looks at more detail – and I am raising this point in the context of this Department having been asked to contribute R78 million towards funding the provincial wage agreement – that if you look, the projected budget

surplus in regard to posts that are not filled actually amounts to R272 million, right? So the Department was asked to contribute R78 million of that to cover particularly education and health and those departments, but we are sitting with a situation where, if you then had to subtract the R78 million from the R272 million, you are actually still sitting with a surplus in this Department – a surplus arising from the fact that these posts have not been filled – of R194 million that is still in this Department's budget. And the point was raised, in regard to the Premier's adjustment vote, that once again the slow filling of posts creates a cushion in these departments. So one gets a budget at the beginning of the year and actually there really isn't the intention to fill those posts. So effectively some of these departments, and I would argue including this one, are being over-funded because there is not an intention to fill the post. The implications of this failure to fill the posts is actually very, very concerning because we have had reports about the failure of this Department to adequately supervise and monitor the construction of schools, the construction of health facilities. And if you look at the vacancies, surely this Department should be prioritising filling those vacancies, particularly in terms of engineering services and others, so that we avoid essentially the lack of accountability in terms of those contractors that are appointed to work particularly in the education and health sectors.

So I want to register my concern that in fact there is a projected surplus of R272 million in this Department, arising from the failure to actually fill what I would argue are much needed posts. So the issue is, do we really intend to

fill these posts or is this just a ritual of every year making this allocation to create a cushion which is then not actually spent and that actually contributes to the inability of this Department to effectively monitor those contractors. We all know what happened in regard to how Filcon was appointed and clearly an error was made there in not picking up the fact that this particular owner had been banned from being a director in the UK. That was not picked up. The fact that there were seven liquidation applications against the company, that was not picked up. Surely one then has to actually boost that Department by filling some posts to avoid these kinds of mistakes.

The second point I want to raise is that if you look at the presentation that was given to us by the Treasury in regard to these adjustments, there are some warning lights flashing about the Department of Transport and Public Works and that is that only 35% of the transport capital budget had been spent as of 30 September – only 35% and that is in transport, capital spending.

If one then looks at the Public Works capital budget, by 30 September this year only 17% of that budget had actually been spent and the point that I am trying to make is that this Department is not filling posts and is way, way behind in the spending of its capital budget and, I would argue, because of the failure to actually fill these particular posts. It is all well and good to say: well, let us contribute R70-odd million to make up the provincial wage agreement but you actually are not filling the posts, much needed posts in this Department. I think that is part of why there are these blockages and

mistakes that are being made in regard to the delivery of our public infrastructure.

So I think we need a commitment, while we discuss this Adjustment Appropriation Vote, from the MEC, that there is going to be a serious commitment to actually fill – to ask, this is the funding we need and then to actually fill those posts because we cannot carry on like this. There have been some appointments made at a very senior level but in the critical middle layers of this Department we are facing vacancies and this report actually reflects it. But those warning signs are then continued and I would argue that it has a lot to do with the under-filling of these posts as reflected in this adjustment.

If one looks at the quarterly indicators and information as at 30 September, this Department is in fact performing worse than every other department in regard to indicators. We all know ... [Interjection.] No, no, no, we all know that Transport and Public Works has got 31 performance indicator targets. They have got 31 and only 11 of those have been achieved and the percentage then that gives us is that only 35% of those targets have been achieved and 52% of targets have only been partially achieved. So actually we have 45% of targets not achieved as at 30 September and I want to make the argument that there is a correlation between not achieving these targets, being behind in your capital spending, because of the staffing issues in this Department. I think the MEC needs to acknowledge this and indicate to us what exactly is going to be done because it is very concerning that when we come to the

adjustment we see this Department behind in the filling of posts and in regard to meeting its targets and – most concerning – behind in the spending of its capital budget. We might well receive a response from the MEC: oh yes, most of the expenditure will happen towards the end of the year and that is the trend in delivery of infrastructure but at this stage of the year those figures are very concerning.

I would then like to move on just to one other point. When we were discussing the Annual Report, and it is directly related to the adjustment discussion, there were a number of concerns raised in regard to the *Go George*. If you look at the allocations made to local authorities, the George Municipality will be getting R74 million this year towards the integrated transport system in George.

What we asked for, already in the Annual Report process, which we have not received at this stage – although member Mackenzie is not here and I see the Premier has gone out – it said that an e-mail had been sent around the delivery support unit. Do you know, just for people's information – as I had said, it was one paragraph – no budget for the delivery support unit, nothing, whereas we get given an impression in this House that a detailed document has been sent. So we asked in the Annual Reports for copies of any agreements that may be in place between the three parties, a monthly report and the status of operations and lists of the directors of the company and the articles of association, the names of persons employed. And I want to ask the MEC today: can you give this House the assurance that there has been

absolutely no patronage in regard to employment at *Go George*, that there are no family members of directors that have been appointed? Can you give us that assurance, because this is the information we have asked in the Standing Committee but have not yet received.

So the adjustments indicate to us that R74 million is going to the George Municipality for the purpose of the integrated rapid transport, which we support. We want to also appeal to the Minister – what is so wrong with actually looking at mediating outstanding differences? Is it a huge crisis just to get a mediator on board and resolve whatever outstanding issues and publish a report on that, and deal with the forensic audit in regard to the issues that we have raised around alleged patronage in the *Go George* operating company.

I would then also like to – on a positive note and this affects my constituency – the MEC and the Department are aware that we have been raising the issue to not neglect the building of rural roads and we have raised the issue arising with the ward councillor in the Hessequa area and in Slangrivier, particularly, around the need to upgrade the DR01263 road. We are very pleased that there has been an indication – and this response came from the adjustment hearing that we had – that there is a commitment to extend an additional one kilometre of the Slangrivier Road in the 2017/2018 budget year and we welcome that.

The concern, however, and this was in the response that was given to us, is that it is only – for the additional 5.3 kilometres, the tender date is only 2019 and I must convey to the MEC, through you, Madam Speaker, that the community of Slangrivier are extremely disappointed that they need to wait until 2019 for the remainder of that road to actually be surfaced.

And that brings me to the point which has a direct link to the Annual Report but it is also reflected in GMT; we are sitting on R671 million in cash reserves in the GMT. Surely we need to be making a case as to how those funds could be used and we would be arguing that rural roads is one of the areas where money generated by the Government Motor Transport could be used to reprioritise those roads.

So in summary, we believe that the reason that we cannot support this adjustment appropriation is that while the Department has assisted other parts of the province to meet the salary agreement, they are failing to actually fill critical posts and that is impacting on the infrastructure delivery in this province as a whole. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. I see the hon member Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, Madam Speaker. The ACDP supports the Appropriation Adjustment Budget because yet again here we have a Department that has a clean audit – yet again a clean audit. I attended some of the awards the Department received for a department well-run.

So I just want to say a couple of things. In most of the departments we encountered we asked: does the filling of posts have an impact on your service delivery? The Department at length told us it does not have an impact because they will fill positions ... [Interjection] They will fill positions if it is critical. We asked those questions and they said it does not have an impact on service delivery. [Interjection.] That was said over and over again but yet again it is just something to differ on and something to say for the sake of it.

The other thing is here hon member Dugmore again: Filcon, Filcon, Filcon, [Interjections.] We did not even discuss it in our Annual Report and yet hon member Tyatyam said we need to discuss Filcon. You know, the ANC has become lame – lame and have no contribution to this House. And now member Dugmore was very picky. Win the election and then you can decide. [Interjections.] We are here to support – support and say listen, this is how we can do it better, not criticise all the time.

The SPEAKER: Order, please.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: So, Madam Speaker, I want to conclude by saying this: when we look at shifting of funds, and I have mentioned in this House before about the programme; I am glad to see there is shifting of funds for measures and programmes because it is just not the road use, it is not just the motorists but also for pedestrians. I think that the carnage we have on the roads is concerning and we have mentioned, we spoke about it. So I am very

glad about the shifting of funds. Hon Minister, would you care just to elaborate more on that? Thank you. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Christians. In the absence of the EFF we now call on the Minister to address the House. [Interjections.] Hon Members, can we have some order, please? There is too much noise in the Chamber. Order, please. Hon Davids, order please. Minister Madikizela. Thank you. You may proceed, Minister.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to start off by thanking all who participated in the Adjustments debate this afternoon. To the hon Max, I share his concern around the staffing of our provincial traffic. We have looked at this every which way and just looking at the numbers that I got on my cell phone this morning – and I get an SMS about the deaths every morning on my phone – the body count in the Western Cape is 1 221 as at yesterday. Of these, 563 or 46.1% are pedestrians.

Now the biggest issue we face around road safety is, and I say this with the greatest respect, the nut behind the wheel – because if we do not change driver behaviour with adequate sanction and severe penalties – and I have already had discussions with Minister Mike Masutha in this regard as well as Minister Peters and they both agree. We have had discussions with the Justice cluster in the Western Cape and there are plans fast advanced to bring back

random breath testing, the Draga, the name and shame and issues which will help us to change behaviour. These are ... [Interjection]

Mr C M DUGMORE: We will support that.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Well, I am pleased you will support that but I note you do not support the budget, hon member Dugmore. [Interjections.]

†Mnr R B LENTIT: Ons vergewe hom vir daardie een. [Tussenwerpsel.]

*Mr R B LENTIT: We forgive him for that one. [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: And hon member Max, let me just say that leadership is also a funny thing and I do not believe that leadership starts with the pulling of a piece of string. I believe it starts with someone building teams to work together, especially when you have a broad department cross-cutting, with deep technical skills needs and one of the reasons – and let me address both you and the hon Dugmore in this regard – when we came into office in my Department I had one DDG appointed and I had three acting DDGs and it has taken almost a year for us to fill those three crucial posts. And from my 42-odd years, 43-odd years working in both the private sector and my recent experience in government, you cannot build a team from the bottom up. You simply have to delegate the responsibility of your senior leadership to go and resource and pick the necessary players in their team, because if you start filling from the

bottom, how can you hold your senior management accountable? Okay, simple logistics.

So to come now to the hon member Dugmore, and I thank you for your comments. I really think the intention, to answer your question: are we serious about filling those posts? Yes, we are – and the key ones obviously from the top down. And I do not think you were in the House and I would like to re-read the fourth paragraph of my speech to you.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Today?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Today, because with respect you were not in the House. You came in:

“However, Madam Speaker, I would be failing in my responsibility as a member of the Executive in this province if I did not raise serious challenges that are beginning to face departments which require a significant core of technically proficient staff – staff qualified and experienced in the hard disciplines such as engineering. Increasingly we are finding that all means available to us to fill vacancies – advertising, recruitment and headhunting – produce little or nothing. This is despite our extensive internship and bursary programmes. Competition from other spheres of government and from the private sector is intense. However virtuous its underlying causes, the recent disruption of the Higher Education system and the resultant inability of

many universities to conclude their 2015 academic year with the writing of examinations will only aggravate this situation by delaying the entry of new graduates and possibly reducing these numbers significantly. Time will tell.”

So I did give the context to the seriousness of the situation but I can tell you we are doing our best to find the best people available so that we can deliver quality service, not only to our departments, local authorities, but to every citizen in the Western Cape.

I will look into your questions about the indicated targets, etcetera, but let me go to *Go George*, which I know is one of your favourites and I know your father and your mother are in George and you have a deep history in education there, which is appreciated. But let me tell you, you have no idea of the contract arrangements between this Government and the George Municipality. Well, you can come and see me at any time for a cup of tea, Cameron ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: ... and you do not need to pontificate in this House.

The SPEAKER: Minister Grant, please return my chair, thank you.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: I apologise.

The SPEAKER: And do not engage in a debate, talk to me. Thank you.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: I will do so, Madam Speaker. The hon member Dugmore is welcome to visit me at any mutually acceptable time in order for him to go through the contracts which are in place. If he went through the contracts he would see that the vehicle operating company is a private entity and therefore questions raised in the Standing Committee as to the provision of financial information or statements or whether there has been nepotism in the allocation of posts, frankly, I do not know and I do not need to know because there is a leading, binding agreement between the Provincial Government, the George Municipality and an independent company as a result of eight years of negotiation. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, please talk to me. Thank you. [Interjections.]
Let me help you there.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Let me just say that I am disappointed in the stance of the hon member Dugmore's non-support of this budget because it speaks without political bias across the spectrum of government and actually all it says to me is that he is not interested in supporting a 0.016% adjustment in a R6.7 billion budget.

[Interjections.] I would like to thank the ACDP for your contribution.

[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Members!

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: My experience of the hon member Christians is that he is not picky. When he needs to get serious about something, he does so and we basically respect that as the Chair of SCOPA.

I would like to conclude by just thanking our CFO and his deputy here and let me say that the R78 million which we managed to excise was as a result of not hours, not days but weeks of burning the candle late at night, line by line in a very complex budget to get to that number. And next year obviously we will re-look at our budget, we will take a position on what posts can and cannot be filled. But, Madam Speaker, I must say to this House: I am very mindful of the fiscal situation of our whole country.

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: And I am extremely concerned that we just fill posts for the sake of filling posts where they are not absolutely necessary. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. [Interjections.] [Applause.] That concludes the debate on this vote. The Secretary will now read the Sixth Order of the Day.

The SECRETARY: Debate on Vote 5 – Education - *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4 – 2015].

The SPEAKER: Hon Members, can I call for order please? I recognise the hon Minister, Minister Schäfer. Thank you. You can come in.

An HON MEMBER: Where?

The SPEAKER: Sorry. We will give them a minute or two to come in, sorry. Thank you. I am just waiting on the officials. If I get word that ... They are not here, I will just check. I must apologise because if we were looking at the time, we should have possibly started at three o'clock and we have seemingly made up 15 minutes. Minister Schäfer, would you want to proceed in the absence of the officials?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Were they asked to be here earlier?

The SPEAKER: I would not know.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: I do not know, I am in your hands, Madam Speaker. I am happy to proceed or ...

The SPEAKER: If you are then we will call the House to order. Please members, we will now recognise the hon Minister, Minister Schäfer.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Before I get to the details of the Blue Book, I would first of all like to set a little bit of context ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order please, hon member Davids.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: ... to the environment in which we are working at the moment. It is common knowledge and has been referred to many times in this debate that this country finds itself in a very difficult financial position as a result of the unsustainable and excessive expenditure, corruption and maladministration, as well as policies that stifle economic growth and have led us to the brink of junk status. Unfortunately the Western Cape is affected by this, despite our economy growing by more than the national economy.

As a result of these difficulties, which are beyond our control, the Western Cape Government as a whole has had to take some very tough decisions. In education, this is particularly hard to do. Instead of being able to announce more no fee schools or an improved learner transport policy, we have had to have hard discussions about which of our priorities we are going to have to scale back on, and how we are going to pay our teachers. I was accused

yesterday of being cold and heartless. I cannot imagine anything more cold and heartless than appeasing political allies by entering unaffordable and unsustainable wage agreements, organising a trillion rand tender that our country cannot afford to ensure, no doubt, election funding for next year, and spending R4bn on a new private jet, complete with shower, I am sure – all of which are supported by the other side of the House.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Sorry, Madam Speaker...

The SPEAKER: Hon member Davids, if you address me kindly stand.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to know what is the relevance of the input that the MEC just made?

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Because it is of no relevance to what she must do. She must speak about education.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Davids, the Minister has a preamble to the budget debate and she is setting the context for the debate. So I would ask that you listen carefully and I am sure she is going to get to the thrust of the debate very shortly. Hon Minister, you may proceed.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, Madam Speaker. That is quite correct. As I have said, all these factors are affecting the budget and the decisions we are taking today. [Interjections.] Shall I repeat it? [Interjections.]

All this is seemingly regarded as more important than securing the education of our children. THAT is cold and heartless.

Despite making provision for wage increases in our budget, we did not expect such dramatic increases, especially in the medical aid benefits and housing allowances. These increases affect all provinces and departments, specifically Provincial Departments such as Education and Health, which are labour intensive.

The financial impact of the 2015 wage agreement on education in the province is approximately R222 million in the 2015/16 financial year and approximately R1 billion across the MTEF, not taking into account increases in inflation, which appear more and more likely by the day.

This budget gives us an additional R62.922 million to address the ICS in this financial year. So on a basic mathematical calculation, we need to find another R159 million. In addition to the higher than anticipated cost of living adjustment, the growth in learner numbers in the province has also created additional pressure on the budget amounting to R144 million. We are thus looking at a total budget pressure of R376 million this year alone.

We have made a conscious decision not to cut funding in areas where it affects our poorer schools in particular. These areas include the compensation for fee exemption of poorer learners, learner transport and the full norms and standards funding to our schools.

Unlike ANC-run provinces such as Limpopo, which has reduced Norms and Standards funding to the poorest schools from R1116 per year to R323,50 per child per year, we have managed to maintain ours at this stage and are doing everything possible to ensure that remains the case.

The WCED has gone to extraordinary lengths to address the shortfall we face this year.

We have had to, *inter alia*, delay the implementation of part of our e-learning project this year, which is reflected under the heading “Administration” as well as the enhancement of Grade R teacher posts, which must be completed by 2019. We have effected savings by paying nearly R100 million in the previous financial year to schools for Norms and Standards funding as a result of the delay in the land tender.

These are not changes we should have to make. For the R4bn allocated for the presidential jet, we could build 80 schools, or employed 11 428 entry level teachers. Alternatively we could make 3333 schools no fee schools, which is double the amount of schools we have in the province. So that just

goes to show what could be done with this money, which the ANC supports, instead of allowing the equivalent of a quarter of our annual budget that serves one million learners to be allocated to the luxurious whims of one individual. [Interjection.]

This year we have also been allocated an additional R30 million from the Department of the Premier from savings they have managed to effect, towards our e-learning game-changer – as we heard earlier – for which we are very grateful and for which we do have plans, hon member Dugmore. Just because you do not know about them does not mean they do not exist.

Mr C M DUGMORE: [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Order please, members. Hon member Dugmore ...
[Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: They are not your kind of labs and we ...
[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore, you cannot engage with the Minister directly. Thank you.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, Madam Speaker. In addition to the increasing financial constraints ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Minister, could you kindly take a seat, please? Hon Mnqasela is it a point of order?

Mr M MNQASELA: Hon Speaker, is it parliamentary for the hon member to point a finger at another member of this House? [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Sorry, I did not see that but if there was any member who pointed fingers, it is considered unparliamentary. Hon Manqasela?

Mr M MNQASELA: Madam Speaker, it is hon member Dugmore.

The SPEAKER: Okay.

Mr M MNQASELA: Pointing a finger, not a figure. So you do not have a figure – a finger.

The SPEAKER: Can we then all – we can either put our hands in our pockets or we can put them on the desk. Members, let us co-operate. No finger pointing, it is considered unparliamentary. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Join fingers.

The SPEAKER: Alright, let us settle down. You may proceed, Minister.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, Madam Speaker. In addition to the increasing financial constraints imposed by unfunded mandates of National Government, we also have to find a way to provide for increasing learner numbers each year as the Western Cape has become a receiving province for families in search of a better education for their children. This year we had an additional 23 000 learners who needed access to our schools, and we are expecting a similar number in 2016.

Even with the Adjustment Budget, I am very concerned for the following financial year that, coupled with financial constraints and growth in learner numbers, schools in the Western Cape will be overcrowded and the teacher: learner ratio will increase especially in our poorer schools.

Given the many challenges that we face in education every day and that many of our initiatives are aimed at assisting our poorer schools financially, it is quite an achievement that our financial managers were able to identify the savings they have. This reflects the commitment and innovation of our financial managers and I would like to thank my Department, especially Mr Eli [Inaudible.] and his team in that regard, as well as for their clean audit of our Department as a whole.

I would like to also thank Provincial Treasury who have had the unenviable task of trying to accommodate our needs and priorities and my Cabinet colleagues who have persisted in doing everything reasonably possible to

assist our frontline services to maintain the best possible service delivery under the circumstances.

Thank you also to the Standing Committee chaired by hon member Kivedo, for supporting this Adjustment Budget and I hereby request the House to approve the Adjustment Education Vote 5. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Schäfer.

An HON MEMBER: No!

The SPEAKER: I think before I recognise the next speaker I would like to express a word of welcome to the visitors in the gallery from the ICare Children's Foundation in Rylands Estate. Welcome, it is good to have you here with us today. We trust you will enjoy the sitting with us. Thank you. The next speaker is the hon member Kivedo.

Mr B D KIVEDO: Thank you, Madam Chair, hon members and also our distinguished guests. I rise in support – I tell you right at the outset – of this Vote, the budget, Appropriation Budget, and I think there is one Vote, Vote 5 Education, that is a given in terms of adoption. There should be no qualms about that because it is a universal issue. It touches your lives as well and your kids' lives.

They are also attending schools right in this province under the best conducive circumstances ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: No!

Mr B D KIVEDO: ... and the most, in terms of qualitative ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr B D KIVEDO: ... not only quantifiable, but qualitative conditions. I think another issue that I want to address is for clarity in terms of assisting the ANC also to grasp where we are coming from. I think in terms of looking over our shoulder and also where we are at this juncture and how we are moving forward – it is a three-pronged approach, my dear colleagues and ... [Interjection.] There is one issue that ...

The SPEAKER: Order please!

Mr B D KIVEDO: ... seems also of uttermost importance and that made me rewrite my whole speech during the lunch hour because certain questions were being asked, there were some perceptions and some doubts in people's minds and I want to resolve those doubts.

†Wanneer dit kom by aansuiweringsbegrotings of die **terstuiwing** van enige finansiële befondsing in enige departement, dan gaan dit klaarblyklik oor een

basiese beginsel en dit is verdienstelikheid. Geen ander beginsel nie, die beginsel van verdienstelikheid, want dit gaan oor investering, dit gaan oor belegging en dit gaan oor die aanstuiwing van fondse om addisionele kapasiteitsbou daar te stel en basies om ons kinders se toekoms te skep. Ek dink dit is die groot essensiële saak wat ons in aanmerking moet neem.

*When it comes to the adjustments appropriations or the **termination** increase of any financial funding in a department, then it is all about one basic principle and that is merit. No other principle, the principle of merit, because it is about investing, investments and the increase of funds to create additional capacity building and basically to create our childrens' future. I think that is the big essential issue we have to take into account.

†U sien, agb lid Davids, ons kan nie belê in 'n dooie perd nie. [Tussenwerpsels.] Die perd moet lewendig wees, hy moet galop. Hy moet kan galop en dit is presies wat die Onderwysdepartement doen. †Ons is aan die galop, aan die beweeg in terme van mobiliteit. [Tussenwerpsels.]

*Mr B D KIVEDO: You see, hon member Davids, we cannot invest in a dead horse .[Interjections.] The horse has to be alive, he has to gallop. He must be able to gallop and that is precisely what the Department of Education is doing. We are at a gallop, on the move in terms of mobility. [Interjections.]

†Hon members – hon Speaker, hon members, let me say that when the Premier identified our five strategic goals for the year, education has been chief.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon member. Point of order, hon member Dugmore?

Mr C M DUGMORE: Just on a point of order please, an order of the House.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes?

Mr C M DUGMORE: Mr Deputy Speaker, we have been busy this morning and in each of the Adjustment Votes that we have been dealing with, the officials of the relevant departments have been present, even in the instance where the Premier's Vote was moved forward. Obviously there was communication between the Premier and that Department and they were present. We are now on the second speaker and either MEC Schäfer has not informed her Department, but they are not here. The Departments listen to these debates and take issues forward.

I am very concerned that could we, for the order of this House and the tradition that we have established, request that that matter is actually dealt with because it appears to us that the MEC is not in touch with her Department and clearly has not informed them that ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order! The point is – order! It is not really a point of order but it is valid point, although it is not compulsory for officials to be present but the Minister must take note of that. Please continue, hon Kivedo.

Mr B D KIVEDO: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I think in terms of the game-changer, education being the core critical one, it is all about outcomes, it is about improving not only the hard core quantifiable issues in schools in terms of didactics and pedagogy and the methodology, but in delivery of school books - that is 100% by the way, for your information.

†Mnr R B LENTIT: Ja, vertel hulle.

*Mr R B LENTIT: Yes, tell them.

Mr B D KIVEDO: And nutrition, the safety of our learners, school transport, quintiling, no fees schools – 102, 116 schools being declared as no fee schools, over 173 000 learners being positively affected, creating conducive study circumstances and learning environments for our kids; capacitating principals, educators, SGBs and also in terms of improving our infrastructure.

So it is on a quantifiable as well as a qualitative level that we drive this education process for all people in the Western Cape – for all people in the Western Cape, because it is our inalienable right to have access to education. The doors of learning and culture should be open to all. †Ons het daaroor geen twyfel nie; daaroor het ons geen twyfel nie. [Tussenwerpsels.]

*We have no doubt about that; about that we have no doubt. [Interjections.]

So what is also important in moving forward in terms of the strategic goal, is that we also intend supporting poorer learners in terms of making this access to education possible and opening up the doors for them.

Then the e-learning, the school hubs and broadband and all these other issues that will also enhance our educational excursion and initiative. Next ... I will leave this for another day – [Interjection] – when we speak next year. But I think what is important is that we have travelled a long way on this educational road and the clean audit, provincially and nationally, did not fall out of the sky. It was not mythical or magic; it required hard work and even my two hon members Dugmore and member Olivier who assist me so well in that Standing Committee, will admit that we are working hard in terms of achieving this.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: But here they deny it.

Mr B D KIVEDO: They must be in denial. You know there is a pathology, through the Speaker, it is a serious pathology. Sometimes there is no remedy for that and I care for your health. [Interjections.]

Let me get to the estimates on provincial expenditure. The 2015 adjusted budget addresses budget issues which might hamper the Department's ability to function optimally in the 2015/16 financial year. In order to deal with the wage implication in 2016/17, the balance of the funds received from National Treasury for 2015/2016 to deal with the wage implications has been allocated

to Education in the 2016/17 financial year. The total adjustments include R28 764 000 for administration as well as R62,9 million allocated to public ordinary school education.

The Minister allocated funds for the following: education infrastructure amounting to R12,7 million; e-learning initiatives, R10 million, for improved learning in the foundation phase at school as part of the 100 schools initiative. R10 million, to supplement experimental hubs at schools and R10 million to purchase tablets. That flows out of the Premier's office. We thank her for that.

Hon Speaker, hon members, we welcome the adjusted budgets and know the money will go a very long way to ensuring the department continues doing [inaudible]. And I think – †hierin lê die groot geheim: ons is nie tevrede met dit wat ons bereik het nie, al is die oudit skitterskoon. Ons wil hom nog skoner hê – *herein lies the big secret: we are not satisfied with what we have achieved, even if the audit is shiny clean. We still want it cleaner.

†‘n AGB LID: Ja!

*An HON MEMBER: Yes!

Mr B D KIVEDO: We want to improve the quality, hon member Davids. A further development that is welcomed by the Department of Education in the Western Cape has been the rollout of broadband in the province and specifically the schools. Although still in its infancy stages, the project has

been benefiting schools around the province. The initiative will go a long way in assisting learners to gain access to information and improving learning outcomes.

Hon Deputy Speaker, hon members, I would also like to take this time to thank the Department for once again providing the learners of this province with the support they need to achieve their goals. As the DA we also want to thank our Minister, Beverley Schäfer, and her whole Ministry. We want to thank the HOD, Ms Penny Vinjevold and the team at WCED and also my fellow members of the Standing Committee on Education, thanks for your support right throughout. So our achievement is your achievement as well.

†‘n AGB LID: Hoor, hoor!

*An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

Mr B D KIVEDO: Ja. It is a shared achievement. It is great, it is a collective achievement. [Interjection.] The committee co-ordinators and support staff, our research and media staff, my fellow colleagues, all of you – all of you for the support rendered to our initiatives – all educators, learners, SGBs, parents and school communities. And therefore, Mr Deputy Speaker, I, Basil David Kivedo ... [Laughter.] ... move in support of the Appropriation Budget. I thank you. [Applause]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Dankie, agb Kivedo. Agb Olivier?

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kivedo. Hon Olivier?

Mr R T OLIVIER: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. You know when it is this time of the afternoon then English and myself are not very good friends, so I am going to speak the other language of the province, which is isiXhosa, but I must first just make a comment in English because it might be translated or interpreted differently.

I just want to comment quickly, Chair, on the Chairperson of the Standing Committee. Yes, I agree with him because he might think we are not going to agree with him on many issues. Yes, we agree with him that we have been participating and supporting many initiatives in the Standing Committee. He is quite right, I think we agree with him, there is nothing wrong with that and I want, for the sake of the Chair, just to take note of the clean audit. We take note that we have got a clean audit, that the Department has got a clean audit, we take note of that.

Chair, let us see what a clean audit then is presenting to all of us. You fortunately raised the issue of the core mandate or the strategic objective and I think the first one which refers to Programme 9 of the Department. Then we see what we got for our own clean audit, Chair, and if you agree with me it is the fundamental one which must ensure that our learners are able to read, write and calculate correctly. That is your key mandate. That is what you must do as a Department. I think if the clean audit was in that area as well, I would have been the first one to support you on this one. But Chair, if you agree with me, we are not doing too well there – unless you read different

reports but we are below the mean scores. From our own tests, provincial ones – and I am sure the Minister will agree – and with ANA and so forth, but we are not performing at all.

Looking at grade 9, we got 29% - you know, in language. Mathematics we got 32 or 33%. Those are the figures that we are looking at, at your core mandate. Now I am saying yes, the clean audit is there. You spent the money where you were supposed to spend it but the core mandate that you are supposed to achieve on, you are not achieving. So I am just raising that, Chair, in terms of responding to yourself in saying that we might not agree with you or not support you. Yes, we support but what we are saying, in that support is what you get for a clean audit. And this is the problem that we all are facing and that you are facing and hence we are saying: if you are achieving a clean audit there and you are able to then get above the 40%, because the target is 40% in most, we are not able to reach it. There are one or two areas that we are reaching but in the majority, if we look at Programme 9, it is a serious concern and I think the HOD – it is unfortunate she is not here, she would also have confirmed that we have been raising this issue consistently.

When we also look at the adjustments it does not really speak to that area; it does not speak to how you are shifting funds to that area to ensure that we are getting our learners to be able to read, to write and to calculate correctly. We are not able to do that. That is the first core mandate, the strategic objective of this Department to achieve and they are not achieving it.

†Ngoko Somlomo xa sisitsho ke masingaceli ukuxhaswa xa izikolo zingakwazi ukufikelela kwinqanaba emazibe kulo.

*Therefore Madam Speaker, we should not be asking to be supported if the schools cannot reach the level they are supposed to reach.

†Sigqithe ke Sihlalo siye kuMphathiswa. Uthetha kakhulu ngendima yezoqoqosho lwelizwe. Siyavuma, kodwa xa ujonge apha kwezi mali zitshintshwayo okanye zihanjiswayo, sibona iR1.236 sezigidi, esuka kule Voti eya kuVoti 1. Ngoko sisusa kwale mali sithi ayikho siyisa kwenye iVoti. Okwesibini sijonge iR12.755 lezigidi ebelimele ukuba lakhe isikolo, asakhiwanga iyasuswa iyegqithiswa isiwa kwenye into kuba asikwazanga ukuyenza le besimele ukuba siyenze. Kodwa nkqu ngoku uMphathiswa uthi kuthi, uyandoyikisa uthi nakulo nyaka uzayo silindele ama 23000 abafundi abatsha, yaye aba bantwana baza kuhlala phezu kwabanye eziklasini njengoko sebehlala ngoku. Umyinge wabantwana nootitshala ngeklasi awuzukuhla nangoku, endaweni yoko uza kunyuka. Loo nto ithetha ukuba sihleli kwizikolo ezithile, ngakumbi kwezi zikolo zethu zikwiindawo ezihluphekayo. Nabantwana abanama 1-55, 1-60 nangaphezulu umyinge wezo klasi, kodwa sithatha le mali siyisusa phaya, ibinokunceda ukongeza amagumbi okufundela siyayisusa kuba sikwazanga kuyichitha.

*We move on, Chairperson to the MEC. She talked a lot about the role of the national economy. We agree, but when you look at the monies that are being transferred or that are being rolled over, we see R1.236 million from this Vote to Vote 1. Therefore we move the same money that we claim not to have

to another Vote. Secondly, let us look at the R12.55 million that was supposed to build schools. They were not built. It is being transferred to something else because we have failed to do what they had to do. But even now, the MEC is saying to us, she is scaring me when she says even this year coming year we are expecting 23 000 new learners, and these children are going to be sitting on others like they are doing now. The teacher learner rate per class is not going to decrease even now, instead it is going to increase. That means we are sitting at certain schools, especially in our schools in poor communities with children where the ratio is 1 – 55, 1 - 60 and more per class, but we take the money from there, that could have helped to build more classrooms and we transfer it because we failed to spend it.

†Sigqithe ke Somlomo. Enye into esothusa kakhulu yinto yokuba, kwizithuba zootitshala beSigaba R, phaya kwiSigaba esisiSiseko ebekumele ukuba siyasebenza khona sisuse imali nalapho. Apho bekumele ukuba siqeshe ootitshala siyayisusa imali, siyayihambisa nalapho. Yeyona nto isikhathazayo thina siyiAfrican National Congress kuba kulapho sithi kuza kufuneka sizame ukujonga ukuba sinza njani ukuba esi Sigaba seSiseko sethu siyakwazi ukufika kwinqanaba lokuthi incedise thina ukusuka apha kwiSigaba 3 ukunyuka, bakwazi ukuzenza ezi zinto besisithi abakwazi ukuzenza zeNkqubo 9 besithetha ngazo.

*We move on, Madam Speaker. Another thing that really shocks us is that, with Grade R teacher vacancies, the Foundation Phase, where we were supposed to be working even there we move money. Where we were supposed to employ teachers, we transfer monies, we take it away from there. That is

what worries us as the African National Congress because that is where we will need to look from Grade 3 upwards, so they can be able to do the things that we say they cannot do in Programme 9 that we were talking about.

†Sigqithe ke sithethe ngoKhuseleko eZikolweni nezinye izinto, bezivezwa nguMphathiswa. Nawe Sihlalo uthethile ngazo wathi olwakho uxanduva kukuthi makubekho iimeko ezivumayo ezikolweni ukwenzela ukhuseleko lwabantwana. Singathini xa kungekho nezimali ezigqithiswayo okanye izabelo ezenziwa kolu hlengahlengiso ezijongene nabantwana abajulana ngaphaya kwamaqonga?

*We then move on and talk about safety at schools and other things, the MEC mentioned them. You too, Chairperson, spoke about them and you said your responsibility is to see to it that there are safe conditions in schools for the safety of children. What can we do while there are no funds being transferred or budgetary adjustments to cater for children who throw each other from balconies?

How can we support an adjustment that does not speak really to the safety of our learners in the school precincts? Yes, I understand it is an inter-departmental responsibility, also that of parents, to ensure that the kids are safe but when we are in the precinct of the school, when we are at school and two learners of eight years old, in the lower grades, are able to push one another over balconies, it is a problem. Where we see reports that learners are using schools as drug experimental sites; where you can look from one class, which has no doors, right through into the neighbouring classes. We

saw it in the media, that has been raised. So that is not creating a conducive environment for our learners and this adjustment budget does not add realistically to those issues.

Learner transport, yes, we accept but we have also raised an issue where we would have liked to see whether it is an adjustment in the years to come, that we really deal with the issue of our learner transport, particularly in the rural areas where learners are still going to school on foot, which is just below your five kilometre radius.

Then the other issue that the Chair has also raised which is quite important is the issue of quality of education. I think, yes, you are right, we all strive to have equality of education in our province and that speaks really to the core, that when you look at the R1.24 million of conditional grants which have also not been spent by this Department, you can list them. There is a list of them and I am not going to list them; it is in the adjustments. This allocation has also not been spent. We could not spend that adjustment which was given to us.

So, in short and in closing, because I do not want to keep us here too long, taking into account the conditions of our learners at school, given the infrastructure backlogs of the province in terms of upgrading of schools, new schools, the ratio in classrooms, the poor performance of our learners in terms of our core mandate, then I think the Adjustment Budget should have

spoken to some of those areas so that we can really push education to a higher level.

I want to reiterate what hon member Beerwinkel has said, yes, you have got a clean audit which is welcomed but a clean audit – and I want just to repeat what she said because I think she is being misunderstood or misquoted. What she said is that the outcomes of that clean audit, or the service delivery brought about in terms of getting a clean audit, is not felt by those recipients, those at grass roots or those in the communities; that clean audit means nothing.

We want to say categorically, if our learners are not able to read and write, if our learners are still in classrooms in crime-ridden spots where teachers fear for their lives, we cannot say a clean audit has brought anything in this Department if that is the situation that we find ourselves in. So Chair, on that note I want to say as much as my heart goes out to the Chair, I would have really wanted to support you ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Ag, shame.

Mr R T OLIVIER: Really, but given this issue – no, hon Christians you can – MEC, when I sit down you can thank hon member Christians in advance because I know what he is going to say. He is going to sing the same song that he has been singing this whole morning. So thank you, hon Christians, for what you are going to say. But on that note, hon MEC, this is what we

have in terms of education and unfortunately I cannot be party to a situation where I support an adjustment that does not speak to the core issues that really confront our learners on a daily basis. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon member Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Mr Deputy Speaker, education is one of the committees I sit on and the Minister and the Department will tell you that when we are there we speak and we give them difficult time because we are not happy with certain things, but this is not the place to speak about it now. What we are talking now – because the ANC will keep on saying: safety in schools. We had the Safe Schools people coming in to brief us about that. [Interjections.]

I mean some members were not even there to listen to the Safe Schools Programme. Hon member Olivier went with us to the Safe School Centre Call Centre and we have done all of that and we have said the core mandate of education is not to provide safety but an inter-governmental approach is needed. They said to us: what is the budget for safety for education and what is community safety? They gave us a breakdown. So that is not the core function.

The other problem – you know what the problem actually is, the problem actually is the influx of learners every year. [Interjections.] An influx of 20 000 learners, not because we are saying that they must not come but

because of the poor services they receive in other provinces, they come here for a better life. The real problem is the wage agreement, that the Education Department must now get money and pay for other services to provide quality education. So that is the real problem.

So now the Minister comes and says we need to look at the budget and how we can service our learners to the best of our ability. [Interjections.] So that is what we have – but we will debate, when it comes to other issues, where they can improve. We will do that; you know we do that; we visit schools all the time. But the important thing is this – you only get that budget and you can only do so much. So we must actually help the Minister, help the Department and say listen – and we tell them: you need money here, we are not happy there but then the ANC – member Olivier goes with us. He goes with us.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: And we know the problems that there are but this is to support this Adjustment Budget and that is what he is failing to do.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you hon member, your time has expired. Order! Order! Minister Schäfer to respond.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. My officials apologise. They were under the impression that it was still at four

o'clock. They apologise, they are on their way but I think they might be too late. It is not my job to communicate. It is the Parliamentary Staff's job to communicate with the officials. Thank you.

Hon Kivedo, Mr Basil David Kivedo, thank you very much indeed for your – [Laughter.] – kind comments and enthusiastic support of our initiatives, unlike the ANC who accuses the ACDP of singing the same song. Well, quite frankly, so is the ANC singing the same song all the time, nothing constructive ever – just criticism all the time.

We are very excited about early learning, thank you very much, and yes, we would love to roll it out even further than we are at the moment, but money is the problem - Sorry, when hon Davids has stopped the running commentary across the floor, maybe I could continue?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, you can continue. I will watch it.

Ms S W DAVIDS: [Inaudible.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: I cannot continue when there is talking.
[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, I will watch the House, you may continue now. I am talking to the Minister and to hon member Davids who is in conversation with Minister Meyer, it appears – if they can just give the Minister of Education a chance to speak.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I also appreciate your point that the clean audit did not fall out of the sky. You are quite correct, it is the combination of many years of interventions and systems being put in place to ensure that money is spent properly.

Hon member Olivier, what can I say? A clean audit relates to how we spend our money and how we comply with our key performance objectives. I do not know who said a target of 40%, I think that is something you dreamt up, but what I will agree with you on is that we are not happy with the literacy and numeracy figures in general, I absolutely do agree with that and we are continually looking to improve that but it does not affect the clean audit status. Thank you.

Insofar as the R1.36 million is concerned, that is money that we are paying to the Department of the Premier for performance assessments of principals, which is proving extremely productive in ensuring that we have an accountable core of principals.

Yes, the learners coming next year, we are equally concerned. I would also like to have a lot more money for the additional learners that are coming in

next year. I am also extremely worried. As I have said, I agree with you. Tell me where to find it and I will get it tomorrow.

An HON MEMBER: Talk is cheap.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Talk is very cheap, yes. Tell us where to take it from. You have come up with a number of criticisms but you have not put on the table one piece of advice, one suggestion as to where the money must come from. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: So yes, it is a problem, it is a huge problem and one thing that we are trying to do is look at a different school model, as you have probably seen, which is called collaboration schools and that is designed specifically to assist smaller, poorer schools. Even then, we have people coming up with criticism of that because they do not want us to try anything new. So whatever we do, we are in trouble one way or the other. We are convinced that that will assist in kick-starting the system into better performance, particularly for poorer schools where they will get additional resources from a combination of private and public funding.

As for teachers at foundation phase, ECD is not a foundation phase, ECD is grade R and pre-grade R. We are not taking any money away from that either, we are just not paying ECD practitioners at the level of teachers until they

reach the relevant qualification level and they have not all done so yet. So, we are delaying that because it has to come in 2019. So we are not losing teachers at this point.

School safety refers to our core mandate – well, our core mandate, we have many core functions and safety is not in fact one of them. Now obviously we are concerned, as I have said before, about the safety of our learners. We are doing everything possible but given the R76 billion budget of SAPS per year, I think you would be really well advised to speak to your national colleagues about properly resourcing SAPS in the Western Cape, to help us avoid half the issues we are dealing with in our schools.

As far as the other things are concerned, bullying and things, of course we are concerned about it. We have many programmes to deal with it and we will continue to do so. I am discussing plans for next year with Director Roberts of the Metro Police because they are the only ones who have been able to assist us, and are willing to do so, and we will do what we can do but we really are being stymied by the under-resourcing of the police in the Western Cape.

Learner transport – yes, I would also like to see more in rural areas. I would very much like to see more in rural areas. Tell me where to find the money and I will happily do so.

Then I just want to go on to the issue about the learner numbers and the interjection from the hon member Dugmore – it is always interjections, he does not say it to me anywhere else – about the funding and the learners going to other provinces. I actually think it is really very overdue that we look at the manner in which the equitable share is calculated. I am very pleased to hear that the phasing in, based on the population figures, is now going to stop. It has been a long, long time coming but the allocation based on the snap survey figures is still going to be phased in over a number of years.

Now in addition to that, I have very serious concerns about the veracity of the data given by provinces as to their learner numbers. It is high time that the DPE conducted an on the ground audit of learner numbers in the provinces because apart from influencing the equitable share formula to the tune of 50%, schools also receive Norms and Standards funding based on the number of learners they have. So it is crucial to ensure that these numbers are correct. I find it very hard to believe that Limpopo, for example, had an increase of 33 000 learners last year when we had 23 000, I find that very hard to believe.

The PREMIER: It is absolute nonsense.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Premier, for that endorsement. My information is that the quality of data in other provinces leaves very much to be desired [Interjection.] - including Gauteng, which

surprised even me. [Interjection.] Yes, all of them and of course you said that.

An HON MEMBER: [Inaudible.] such generalisation that [Inaudible.] cannot take it seriously.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: No, you are not taking it seriously. That is why you are sitting there and I am sitting here. My information is that the quality of data in other provinces leaves much to be desired and has the potential to attract funding that is not justified, nor verified.

Mr C M DUGMORE: [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: So what? Are you jealous?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, just address the Chair, speak to the Chair please.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Even if it is correct ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, just speak through the Chair.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you. Sorry, Mr Deputy Speaker. I cannot help but when I am getting constantly – Even if it is correct, it is still unacceptable that financial allocations are phased in whilst we are expected

to provide for the learners immediately. Why should we constantly be on the back foot when the money does not follow the number of learners and obviously also affects our planning, which does not happen overnight in a system such as this? So I think it is something that really needs to be looked at and if you can assist us in doing that also, I would be very grateful. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, that concludes the debate on this Vote. The Secretary will read the Seventh Order.

The SECRETARY: Debate on Vote 7 – Social Development - *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill* [B 4 – 2015].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am trying to see Minister Fritz. Minister Fritz?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Can I start now Mr Deputy Speaker?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can wait a little bit, I see your officials are coming in. Thank you. You may start, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I just want to acknowledge the Premier, I want to acknowledge the Cabinet, I want to acknowledge all our members, the hon members on this

side of the House. I want to acknowledge the opposition, also the hon members. It is a great time to just reflect on humanity, for a change.

I rise seeking this House's support for Vote 7 of the Adjustment Appropriation Bill. This Adjustment Appropriation Bill helps us, hon Deputy Speaker, to continuously focus our efforts and reprioritise in response to our delivery environment.

In my debate I will highlight the adjustments made, and provide the reasoning for such shifts.

The Department of Social Development has experienced significant budget pressures, one of which is the norm, that every other MEC and Minister said on this – the huge wage demand negotiated by that side of the House and then we sit with the baby, the disabled baby. [Interjections.]

The Department's main appropriation was R1.897 billion and the adjusted appropriation is R1.8 billion. This is a slight increase of just over R944 000, which are funds we received from Treasury. The funds have been added to R11.1 million which was shifted specifically for the improvement of the Horizon Child & Youth Care Centre to allow for improvements to its norms and standards.

Hon members, as you study this Adjustment Appropriation Bill you need to constantly be reminded that we have very serious statutory obligations in this

Department and a statutory obligation is also placed on our budget. And so sometimes I hear a number of very nice, nice to have's, but I want to remind members that we have a number of Acts that we have to adhere to and it does not say "may", it says "must" in most of them.

Therefore key shifts have had to be made in order to maintain and in many cases expand services, but most importantly to maintain norms and standards.

Funds were shifted to the Older Persons Programme, now receiving R285 000. The greatest beneficiaries of this adjustment, and I am very proud of this, are people living with disabilities, as the Services to Persons with Disabilities Programme received an additional R758 000. With tomorrow marking international Day for People Living with Disabilities, I am proud to say this Department continues to prioritise this community. This is further testament to the effective functioning of our newly established Disability Desk under the actual capable leadership of Jeremy Opperman who has already made waves in this province – ask Minister Donald Grant.

The wage negotiations conducted by the National Government have placed considerable budgetary pressure on my Department. It has seen my Department work harder to cut costs and build efficiencies. To meet this budgetary pressure, the Department shifted money from my office – because I do not know, I do not buy luxury cars and overseas trips, so I had R601 000 saved there that I could give towards the Wage Agreement put on us by your party; District Management of R495 000, and from Corporate Management

Services R1.2 million, amongst others, - to meet the costs of the 2015 Wage Agreement.

Now I have mentioned a couple of notable areas and I will mention a couple of other notable areas that the Department has shifted money into to expand services and to maintain quality service standards. The Child Care and Protection programme received an additional R500 000 to fund prevention and early intervention programmes, in addition to the R2.9 million that they have. This is shifted towards the realignment of services to Child Abuse Care Centres.

One of the issues that came up in this debate today is the issue around filling of posts and not filling of posts and I will probably speak to this when I conclude but I must – remind me, hon Beerwinkel, to say something about that.

In summation, it is enough for me to point out that this Department will continue to work hard for the people of this province. As the economy continues to sink at the hands of the ANC Government and specifically the mismanagement by this National Government, our role as a Department will become ever increasingly important. I will continue to focus on boosting the number of and standards of our services to children, youth, people living with disabilities, women and older persons. If we are to truly build a society in which these vulnerable groups enjoy freedom, fairness and opportunities,

then we must continue to build partnerships with communities and NGOs. We can achieve this only if we work 'Better Together'. I thank you. [Applause.]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Die agb Botha, Lorraine Botha.

*The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon Botha, Lorraine Botha.

Ms L J BOTHA: Mr Deputy Speaker, the Department of Social Development has been committed to meeting strategic goals as laid out by the Government of the Western Cape. The Department has implemented various projects aimed at addressing the social ills we find in our communities and it has been proven with the clean audit it received.

Youth Development has been an important programme for this Department. Just to give you an idea, amongst the strategic objectives as highlighted by the Premier, has been strategic objective number 2, which focuses on the importance of improving education outcomes and opportunities for youth development. To achieve this goal, the Western Cape Department of Social Development invested just over R12.2 million into initiatives focused on youth.

The Youth Cafés programme is but one of the programmes addressing the challenges the youth face on a daily basis. The Youth Cafés have played a pivotal role in providing a socially inclusive and enabling environment for the youth fraternity in our province. Furthermore, the Cafés offer entrepreneurial leadership and other skills training courses. The Department

has funded three Youth Cafés in the province: Rocklands, Vangate and George. The Cafés are designed to be vibrant, positive spaces where young people can connect with likeminded peers.

Furthermore, the Department will over the next three years continue with the promotion of socio-economic empowerment of people with disabilities as alluded to by the Minister himself. The Department is committed to promoting redress and filling gaps present in the disability sector. R30 million, first made available in 2015/16, has been carried through and will be increased for this programme.

Important to highlight also is the Child Care Protection Programme which the Department continues to excel in. 2014/15 saw more than 11 000 children and families access care and protection services as well as over 3 000 children were placed in foster care and a further 416 reunited with their families.

These and other programmes of the Department of Social Development have been possible largely thanks to the main appropriation which has now received a further boost.

The total adjusted budget reflects an increase of R944 000 from the main appropriation. However, the increase within this frontline service delivery department will go mainly towards compensating for the higher than budgeted wage agreement.

In conclusion, Mr Deputy Speaker, as the DA in the Western Cape we take this opportunity to thank the Minister, the HOD of the Department and specially all social workers within this Department who work tirelessly to ensure that they give assistance and support to all people of the different communities in this province we serve. I also acknowledge the Standing Committee members for their support. We have positive robust engagement with the Minister and his Department.

Mr Deputy Speaker, the DA supports the adjusted estimates for Vote 7. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see the hon member Gillion.

Ms M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker, this Adjustment Appropriation Bill fails to close the gap between the rich and the poor, the haves and the have not's, to bring equality and get rid of the perpetuation of apartheid style, inferior education in our townships. [Interjections.] It is what is not in the Blue Book that should actually be discussed here today. [Interjections.]

Instead of redress, funds are shifted between programmes because of under-spending disguised as so-called cost-saving measures. In the main, the non-filling of vacancies is the order of the day.

I want to call this Department the “Department of Under-spending” due to non-filling of vacancies or understaffing and everyone knows that means under-delivery. [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: That is not true.

Ms M N GILLION: Is it acceptable to say that the funds are being shifted for non-filling of vacancies between programmes and used to fund the compensation of employees to cushion the implications of the 2015 wage agreement, like the Minister is referring, due to the ANC? [Interjections.]

It means, Minister, if it is due to the ANC – especially, Minister, when more than enough money for that purpose was allocated to this province – I doubt if it is the best option.

Another common denominator in this Department is the under-spending as a result of cost-saving measures. This is a veil of improper planning and poor performance on the part of top management and political principals and we are expected to embrace it in this legislature. The ANC cannot do that.

The non-profit institutions are contracted by this Department; therefore it is their responsibility to ensure that NPIs comply with rules and regulations, especially where it relates to and concerns the utilisation of funds.

The cost-saving measures on the new telephone system is shifted to fund payment of leave gratuity, which is not acceptable.

The under-spending caused by delays in the implementation of research projects is not a good enough excuse but it points to poor budgetary practice, management controls and accounting practices within the department and is unacceptable. [Interjection.]

The social welfare services are critical in the service delivery work of this Department. Therefore, each and every cent must be well-spent. The amount of R7.8 million being taken away from this sub-vote vote is regrettable, Minister. This is a distressing and a repetitive action that recurs every year.

I would like to hear the hon member Christians of the ACDP commenting on this matter after me. [Interjection.] He has turned into a DA lapdog and goes out of his way to justify all the blunders and missteps of this Government. And that speaks to the Blue Book. [Interjection.]

Equally, children and family programmes are extremely important. The shifting away of an amount of R5.3 million is worrying, Minister. Many destitute families, children headed households and in general very poor families will be heavily affected in this regard and their plights could have been alleviated. The under-expenditure of R23.8 million which was reported during the Annual Report is not assisting, given the massive volume of challenges facing this Department.

The Early Childhood Development and Partial Care Programme is losing an amount of R6.2 million and R3.3 million respectively. It is regrettable and disconcerting.

The Department must resolve the issue of NPIs not fully complying with the set and rigid regulations as R1.5 million is again taken away from the restorative services as the result thereof.

Youth and Women Development are the beneficiaries of more funds being taken away, to the amount of R246 000 and R884 000 respectively – more than a million rand. This is concerning, given the known challenges facing young people and our women in the province. Not only, Minister, do we need a Youth Café in this province, there is still suffering of women under the triple challenges of unemployment, inequality and under-development.

If the Department has to be sustainable, development and research become essential components of this Department and therefore any funds taken away will cripple and set back these efforts.

An amount of R686 000 is questionable in this regard. We cannot allow this constant cutting of funds and taking away money from votes because of all sorts of other reasons. Again I have to ask: is this due to the bad practice of under-delivery? Surely in today's age there must be better solutions for all of this good money to reach those it is intended for ...

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Give us some examples.

Ms M N GILLION: ... and not get lost or stand over, that may mean this lifeline does not get to them? This Department is known for its chronic pattern of cutting back funds and should really consider new blood and technology to assist it to face and deliver to our defenceless people who are utterly dependent on this safety net. I thank you.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. The hon member Mr Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I just want to congratulate the Minister and the HOD, CFO and Department for the clean audit. I will call on the A-G next year to give the ANC a briefing on clean audits, adverse and disclaimers – how it works – so they will get a lesson next year.
[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: Ja.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: You know they are talking about ... I mean I was impressed with the Youth Cafés. I went and visited them and it is packed and the people working there are equipped. It is something positive.

The other thing, I just need to say – because sometimes these people must go walk and see what is happening on the ground. [Interjection.] I went to visit old age homes and I had a problem with one particular old age home. I spoke to the Minister, he got in Mr Charles Jordaan, he settled the matter, all the complaints.

What I am saying is, I know what is happening on the ground. [Interjection.] Must I agree with nonsense the ANC's is saying day after day, the negative talk? I can only look at the facts and agree with the facts. [Interjection.] At the moment I must agree with the facts, not lies and untruths. So, Mr Deputy Speaker, this is what I am saying: I am accused of doing a lot of things.

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: But I would rather be accused of a lot of things than to speak with the untruths of the ANC. The negativity. They are bad for South Africa, they are bad for this province. They are bad for this province because all they do is come and moan and groan and do not come with suggestions or alternatives to assist this Department. [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Just one second. Hon member Gillion first. Order! Order! Hon member Gillion.

Ms M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot hear you when a member is talking in front of you.

Ms M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker, the hon member was using the word “lies”, we are spreading lies. Is it parliamentary?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I did not hear that but the member was not referring to a specific member in the House. Did the member say the word “lies” in this case? [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

An HON MEMBER: Ja.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am just addressing the member first.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Sorry, Mr Deputy Speaker, I said the ANC – I did not refer to a member.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I heard the word “untruth”.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: And I said “lies”, I did say “lies”. I said the ANC is spreading lies. So if that is unparliamentary I will withdraw. I will withdraw if that is so, but I did not refer to one member. [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not necessary to withdraw but I take your word for it. [Interjection.] Hon member Joseph. Order! Order! Order!

Mr D JOSEPH: Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you. Can the member of the ACDP just indicate when that workshop will take place? That workshop is very important. [Laughter.] [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. Hon member Joseph, you still have time left. Is it done? Sorry, I have been informed it is finished, unfortunately. Hon Minister Fritz?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: If I can just be protected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! Hon member Beerwinkel, please allow the Minister to start.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I just want to start off by saying completely, categorically this evening, that I want to thank my HOD Dr Robert MacDonald and I want to thank every single senior staff member of the management team. I want to thank every single – as hon Botha was saying – every social worker working in the trenches, every community development practitioner, every one of those people who must in the field when there is a fire, when all of you sit in your nice houses while they are in the field. I want to say thank you for that.

I want to say to the staff, who under the leadership of Dr Robert MacDonald, turned the Department around. It was messed up by this very ANC sitting here. That is why they were voted out. He had to turn the Department around with a great team and I pay absolute tribute to them this afternoon.

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Because these guys do not understand it, they do not have a clue about what is going on. That is the problem. I want to ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: ... continue to say ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon Minister, just one second. Hon member Gillion?

Mr M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker, can you please ask the Minister not to refer to “these guys”. Everybody on this side of the House are also honourable, and if he can stop pointing fingers please.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes. The first part of the point of order is valid, all members are honourable. The second part is part of his speech and his gestures, I cannot control that. Please continue.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: I also just want to comment on what the hon Botha was saying and you know yesterday in the House one of the questions by hon Makeleni was around supporting the Youth Cafés. So one faction in the ANC supports the Youth Cafés and the other faction disagrees with the Youth Cafés. You do not know which side to believe ... [Interjection] ... but I want to say we will continue to roll out the Youth Café Programme. We will continue to roll it out and we do not apologise for developing young people.

We do not apologise for assisting and developing our youth because they are the unemployed – not this ANC who is very comfortable in their new *petit bourgeoisie* positions. [Interjections.] Yes, you are. Little middle class little [Inaudible].

The Entrepreneurial Programme, Youth Development Programme ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! Hon member Davids, please. Minister, please continue.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: The Entrepreneurial Youth Development Programme, together with Community Chest, together with CapeNature, together with [Inaudible.] University and UWC at the moment, we will continue to build up. We have seen in the rural areas what it means to

young people to be given an opportunity. So we do not still have time to come and debate in this House – we will just do it. As my National Minister always says to me: I like this MEC because he gets the job done and just does it and he will apologise to the opposition afterwards. [Interjection.] Afterwards I will come and apologise to you. [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: You speak so badly about her!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: I do not speak bad about anyone.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Yesterday you spoke negatively [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: I do not speak - I am a Bishop in the church. We will also continue to support the Disabilities Programme. I want to say in this House, we are going to continue to look and find every child who is disabled and locked up in a shack and assist his mother and his father and the family with giving that boy access to the centre of society. We will continue that.

You know, hon member Gillion started talking about the gap between rich and poor and she must take me to one rich area where we spent a cent from this Department. Please physically take me. I will take - [Interjection.] where I spent a cent, where my Department spent a cent. I have not spent a cent in any rich area so I really don't understand this kind of thing. CBD George is a

building we are getting for free. [Interjection.] Your problem is you do not support anything.

Mr Deputy Speaker, let me once and for all address this issue of non filling of posts. Let me just talk – and hon member Beerwinkel, thank you for reminding me earlier.

Are we not supposed to believe in a lean, mean and efficient government? Why are we continuing to bloat this civil service? [Interjections.] Why are we continuing to add and add useless – because you are producing more employees and no-one is thinking independently. Let us stop this nonsense about filling vacancies ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: ... with the little boring tune they sing all the time. They talk about hon member Mr Christians. They sing this boring tune all the time.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Fill the vacancies!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: What vacancies? Does it make a difference to service delivery? You just spoke about impact.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon Minister!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: And then you have a wage demand that is higher than what was budgeted for ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, please address the Chair. Please address the Chair when you speak.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr Deputy Speaker, they then negotiate a higher than budgeted for wage bill... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just one second, hon Minister. Is that a point of order or a question?

Mr S G TYATYAM: Yes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is the point of order?

Mr S G TYATYAM: The Minister must speak through you because ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have just asked him to do that, hon member Tyatyam.

Mr S G TYATYAM: ... the decorum of the House is just ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will look after that, thank you hon member Tyatyam. I have just asked the Minister to speak through the Chair and he has acknowledged that he will do that. Please continue, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: I will keep the House here until six o'clock, Mr Deputy Speaker, because I think they deserve to sit for today. [Interjection.]

The point I want to make about the vacancies is the fact that we are looking at what impact a particular job has. We cannot just do it. They used to give jobs to everyone; every sister, brother and cadre. That is why my Department is filled with jobs, useless jobs you know. I think we must review and I am going to change a lot of those positions to social work positions. [Interjections.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: We are improving people. That is what we are doing.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. And then they come and negotiate an increase higher than what we have budgeted for and when we cannot then they complain.

Let me make another point, Mr Deputy Speaker. We have said that one of the issues with compliance and with clean governance is that people must be able to show that they have delivered and specifically NPOs. So, you know, we heard from hon member Gillion about the ECD NPOs. If they do not comply,

if they do not service the 100 children that we pay them for and they service only 20 children, we must take money away and that is a savings. [Interjections.]

But, Mr Deputy Speaker, is the opposition aware that there is a Treasury note that says we must institute and implement austerity measures? Are they aware of that? That we must actually go and look for savings; that we must stop spending on all this other nonsense that they spend on. Are you aware of that? They do not seem to be aware of it and I really want to urge hon Christians to hold a workshop. Make it compulsory for the ANC members to attend and learn how to run budgets, otherwise we are going to have a problem hon member Christians. And hon Daniels must sit right in front in that class because she is a naughty person in class. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Then the hon Gillion also has a problem and she misinterprets the issues of youth and women. In fact we are spending more – and she has come here and she has misinterpreted it. We will continue to spend more on women and we will continue to spend more on youth and we do not apologise for that.

Lastly, I just want to say thank you to the Committee Chairperson. Hon Committee Chair, will you just pay attention? Thank you very much to the Committee Chair and thank you to the Committee members on this side of the

House and that side of the House. It is important to continue robust discussion but please do it on a factual basis. I thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. [Applause.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! That concludes the debate on this Vote. That also concludes the business for the day. The House is adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

The House adjourned at 15:54.