
THURSDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2020

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

The sign † indicates the original language and [] directly thereafter indicates a translation.

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

The House met at 14:15.

The Deputy Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Good afternoon, hon members, guests, members in the House and members on the hybrid system. I trust that all of you are connected and that you are able to hear us clearly. I am not going to go through all the procedures as we are quite familiar with the practice of our Rules whilst we are in the system and our Standing Rules and Directives as on 17 April 2020 still apply.

For the purpose of this sitting may I just remind you that it is only the second time we are having this privilege that language translation services are available both in the Chamber as per normal and in Microsoft Teams via the respective channels. Hon members participating in this sitting must please access the language translation services via a second device; that is your cell phone, for example, and if you have earphones available, please use it for the language translation services. The WCPP ICT colleagues are available to assist honourable members who are experiencing challenges with accessing the language translation services during the sitting of the House via Microsoft Teams.

As ruled by the Presiding Officer in the House in the sitting of the House on 23 April 2020, no interjections shall be permitted during the debate. In this regard I would also like to draw the attention of the hon members to Rule 40 of our Standing Rules.

Hon members, I would like to start before we begin with the Orders of the Day with two rulings, as per the previous sitting. The first one that I have considered is related to 3 September 2020. So on 3 September 2020 during Members' Statements, the hon Kama raised a point of order and requested me to rule on whether it was parliamentary for hon P Marais to use the word "lies." Because I did not hear such utterances being made, I undertook to deal with this point of order once I had an opportunity to study Hansard and listen to the audio.

Having now had the opportunity to study the unrevised Hansard and listen to the MS Teams recording, I want to rule as follows: the verbatim Hansard report did capture the word “lies” being used by a member in the House. However, there is no conclusive evidence that member Marais made the utterance and once again, members, I would like to state that members are reminded that the use of the word “lies” in any form in the House is considered unparliamentary and I will leave the delivery of that as it is.

With regards to a second ruling, on the same day on 3 September 2020, during motions the hon Lekker raised a point of order indicating that she attempted to draw the attention of the Presiding Officer before the motion was agreed to.

Having now had the opportunity to study the unrevised Hansard and MS Teams recording, it is evident that the hybrid system may result in some delays within this regard. I therefore accept hon Lekker’s assertion that she had attempted to raise her objection to the motion of hon Baartman before such motion was agreed to. The motion is therefore not agreed to and recorded on the Order Paper for today’s sitting. I trust that that is in order. Thank you, members.

Order! We will now move to the proceedings of the day, and we will start with the Interpellations as printed on the Question Paper. I recognise the hon Minister Simmers.

INTERPELLATIONS

Provision of land for human settlements

1. Ms L M Maseko asked the Minister of Human Settlements:

With reference to a written parliamentary question, the National Minister of Public Works indicated that, since a Cabinet decision in October of 2019 to release 14 000 hectares of land for the development of human settlements, no transfers of the earmarked land have taken place:

(a) What is the impact of this delay on the provision of housing for beneficiaries in the province and (b) what engagements did he have with the National Government on the matter?

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Hon Deputy Speaker, hon Premier, colleagues, but more especially member Maseko, thank you for this interpellation given that this kind of dialogue is needed during the current plight for housing opportunities by the people of our province. With that said, I will shoot straight. I was gobsmacked when I received a copy of Minister De Lille's parliamentary response to the National Assembly dated 20 August 2020. The response clearly illustrates her unwillingness to release the suites of land in the province earmarked for human settlements development. One such example is the portion of the Ithemba site which would have yielded 3 000 housing opportunities as part of our reblocking project for densely populated areas in the Metro area.

This flip-flopping by Minister De Lille's Department in itself is concerning, as more than 123 468 housing opportunities are now in jeopardy of being completely lost should she continue to stall on releasing these pockets of land. I do hope Minister De Lille will have the courage to face the 123 468 beneficiaries that have been waiting patiently for years for the housing opportunity. This is truly sad, hon member Maseko.

†Maar wat dit nog meer so hartseer maak agbare kollegas, agbare Adjunkspeaker, is dat Minister De Lille in haar periode as die Stad Kaapstad se burgemeester die voorsanger in die koor was vir geleenthede wat hierdie spesifieke stukkies grond sou bied, maar dit lyk my sy sing nou 'n nuwe of 'n valse toon.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[But what makes it even more sad, hon colleagues, is that Minister De Lille during her period as the City of Cape Town's Mayor had been the lead singer in the choir for opportunities that these specific pieces of land would offer, but it seems to me that she is now singing a new or false note.]

Hon Deputy Speaker, despite Minister De Lille's concerted effort to backtrack on the National Cabinet decision, and I have brought copies of that decision with the parcels of land, which was approved by Cabinet during October 2019 and also the confirmation which H-2A received regarding these parcels of land, and I need to ask myself, why has this land not been released

for strategic purposes in the Western Cape, because some of these are strategically and well-located and fits well within our planning as a Provincial Government. We have continued to try to engage her Department to find an amicable solution to this stalemate, but this is certainly not a good story to tell to the residents of our province today.

Member Maseko, the (b) part of your question; over the last 16 months to date an assortment of correspondence has been floating between my Department and Minister De Lille's Department and I have brought the various proofs, some dating back to immediately after our Provincial Cabinet and Parliament were constituted, so that gives you a clear indication of how long and how patient I have been. This assortment of correspondence has been floating in between our Departments and at one stage, and in this proof or packet I have brought through to you, I have even asked the National Minister of Human Settlements to engage her counterpart at that level, but needless to say none of these intergovernmental interfaces yielded any results. Once again to the people of our province, this is not a good story to tell. Our 123 468 beneficiaries who would have benefited from these parcels of land are still living in squalor. Yet again, this is not a good story to tell today.

At the end of the day, hon Deputy Speaker, member Maseko, cheap rhetoric and party politics are not going to resolve the plight of the people of this great and beautiful province. Certainly today this is a sad story to tell because we have attempted to reach out to our national Ministers.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is up.

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Hon Deputy Speaker, I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. I recognise hon Maseko.

An HON MEMBER: The Minister of Title Deeds.

Ms L M MASEKO: Thank you very much, Hon Deputy Speaker. Thank you, hon Minister Simmers, this is indeed not a good story for the people of the Western Cape. We know that the DA is committed to providing decent housing opportunities to the most vulnerable in our society and is the only party committed to ending spatial apartheid in the cities where we govern. We both know that Cape Town will look very different if the ANC had not been sore losers in 2011 and transferred all these land parcels to National Government as a cowardly act to deliberately sabotage the DA's efforts to good governance, but their efforts were for nothing. The DA has consistently achieved the highest scores in clean government across the country.

The only people to suffer were those who have been twice denied access to dignified housing opportunities, once under apartheid and again under the ANC. One only has to look at the mess of the restoration of District Six to realise why the ANC is incapable of providing effective redress. It is sad

that despite Minister De Lille personal lobbying National Government for the lease of this land when she was the Mayor of Cape Town, she is now incapable of acting, even though she has the power to do so. Perhaps she should concern herself less with building fences and more with building bridges to real housing opportunities.

I know from personal business that the potential of the Ithemba is considerable and knowing that our Government already has plans for over 100 000 beneficiaries is proof that the DA puts the needs of our residents first. I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

†n AGBARE LID: Hoor-hoor!

[An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Maseko. I recognise hon Lili.

Mr A LILI: [No audible reply.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Lili, are you online?

Mr A LILI: [No audible reply.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can hon Lili hear me?

Mr A LILI: [No audible reply.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Lili, last chance?

Mr A LILI: [No audible reply.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I do not hear hon Lili. I am going to move over to hon Herron.

Mr B N HERRON: Thank you hon Deputy Speaker. Member Maseko and Minister Simmers would like us to believe that this Government is paralysed by the unavailability of land.

They would like us to believe that the only portions of land in the custody of National Government and under the authority of the National Minister of Public Works, can resolve this province's housing problems, but there are two things that we can observe from this; firstly that they are willing to play cynical politics with land, because the main objective is not to access land but to vent their animosity towards Patricia de Lille. They simply cannot get over her and move on.

Secondly, that this entire argument is a fabrication. The Department of Human Settlements has a fully allocated budget and a pipeline of housing projects for years. There is no immediate impact on the provision of housing for beneficiaries arising from land availability. The Department will not immediately use the land, nor will they allocate any additional funding to build more houses if they had the land.

In Dunoon where freight trains cannot run because of encroachment of informal structures on the rail reserve, the Department promised to relocate these residents two years ago. When COVID-19 came, the Department also promised to de-densify overcrowded Dunoon. Neither of these promises has been met, despite the urgency, not because there is a shortage of land, but because the political leaders will not use the land that was earmarked by the City of Cape Town for housing because they say it is too politically sensitive. The availability of land is not the obstacle to housing and spatial redress, it is the anti-poor attitude of the DA in government that is the obstacle.

There are processes that Government must follow to release land. They know that Minister De Lille is following a lawful process in releasing land and they know that the process is underway. This Government just got a brutal lesson in how not to do it in the Tafelberg School case. The Western Cape High Court found every single thing the Western Cape Cabinet did was unlawful.

Minister Simmers must tell us why they have not used Potsdam land to resolve the Dunoon crisis or the land in Woodstock and Salt River to build this... [Inaudible.] [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is up, hon Herron.

Mr B N HERRON: Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon Lili, I do see you there; that is why I did not interrupt hon Herron. You may proceed.

Mr A LILI: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. The issue of human settlements is highly emotive and one that we should not play politics with. We have a housing backlog of over half a million in the Western Cape, with the majority of those residing in the City of Cape Town. We are having this discussion a week after the Western Cape High Court set aside the sale of the Tafelberg site, a prime pocket of land in Sea Point, and ordered the City of Cape Town and the Western Cape Government to draw up policies that address apartheid legacies in Cape Town. Cape Town and various parts of the Western Cape still resemble apartheid cities.

The Provincial Government must release the land it owns as well as land owned by various municipalities for the purposes of human settlements. The problem is that this Western Cape expects only National Government-owned land and properties to be released for the purpose of human settlement while the Province-owned land and the City-land are disposed of for private interest; that is the crux of the problem, hon Deputy Speaker.

The Western Cape Government and the municipalities failed to de-densify informal settlements as means to contain the spread of COVID-19. The National Government properties released for purposes of victim empowerment centres have not been utilised, yet the Province focuses on

the National Government land as if the Province has no role to play in the development of human settlements. The ANC calls for a land audit of all pockets of land owned by Provincial Government and the municipalities.

[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is up, hon member.

Mr A LILI: The MEC must tell us when he is planning to release the land provincially-owned for human settlement purposes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Lili.

Mr A LILI: We also call for a moratorium on the ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you hon Lili.

Mr A LILI: Yes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, order, hon Lili, thank you.

Mr A LILI: Let me just finish the sentence, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Lili, can you hear me?

Mr A LILI: Yes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I now move over to hon member Christians.

Mr A LILI: Okay, alright.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. We have seen so many protests happening in our province, people burning infrastructure and so on and a lot of it has to do with land and service delivery and housing.

Can hon Minister Simmers tell us how many pockets of land were made available under his watch and now with the seemingly stalemate that they have with Minister De Lille and her Department, with all the correspondence, what is he and his Department going to do in order that those 123 468 people are going to get their housing opportunities? What is he going to do, because it seems to me there is a stalemate? What is he going to do further? Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Christians. I recognise hon Maseko.

Ms L M MASEKO: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. I was hoping that member Herron will have some GOOD news for us; that Minister De Lille has finally sent through the power of attorney granting the Western Cape Government the ability to take ownership of the land and implement projects for those 123 000 beneficiaries. Instead we hear yet

more excuses from Minister De Lille. Clearly the ANC / GOOD alliance is more about continuing the project of state capture rather than caring for the residents of the Western Cape.

As the Chair of the Human Settlement's Committee I will be inviting the National Department of Public Works to come and explain their lack of action and to provide clear timelines for the transfer of the land.

This has been nearly ten years of delay and a lack of accountability by the ANC who also have nothing good to offer residents of the Western Cape.

Theewaterskloof community have been waiting for more than ten years to receive their title deeds. Again, I am making a call to the National Minister of Public Works to transfer the land parcels to those communities to have that important sense of ownership. Make it possible for Grabouw to get their title deeds. Lip service will not work with our communities. You need to deliver. Period! If you really care about the poor, showcase, give us the good story, Minister De Lille. Thank you very much, Deputy Chair.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Maseko. I now ask hon Minister Simmers.

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. That was really a feel-good response by member Maseko. Thank

you very much.

†In Afrikaans sê ons, Deputy Speaker, 'n mens moet nie soos 'n *record* klink wat vashaak die heelyd nie, maar ek gaan nou weereens soos 'n herhalende trek-*record* klink, aan die agbare Lili en die agb verteenwoordiger van GOOD, [In Afrikaans we say, Deputy Speaker, one should not sound like a record getting stuck all the time, but I am now going to sound like a repetitive drag record, to the hon Lili and the representative of GOOD,] and that is that firstly, member Herron, you have contradicted yourself because two weeks ago in the House you stated that the land has already been given to our Provincial Government. Yet today you state the National Minister is not following due process, so you have contradicted yourself visibly and openly for the entire Western Cape to see. I can also emphasise that this Provincial Government, be it provincially-owned land or municipal-owned land, and I answered you four weeks ago regarding this matter, we have not only released 300 hectares of land across the province's human settlements development; they are also at different stages of development. So once again we take action! We do not just talk and talk cheap to sound good for certain people in this Western Cape.

Hon Lili, I agree with you, we can overcome the emotive issue of land and housing, if we do two simple things. As members of the House we have oversight. That is why there are Standing Committees and Standing Committees empower our members with the specific knowledge they need

to actually empower our communities, so I will advise you, hon Deputy Speaker, through you, that members who serve on specific Standing Committees must actually attend the meetings, must actually attend the oversight visits, then they can really start participating in the debate. Thank you very much.

[Debate concluded.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Simmers. We now move over to Interpellation 2. I recognise the hon Minister Bredell.

Nepotism and cronyism at local-government level

2. Mr D Smith asked the Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:

What mechanisms are in place to prevent nepotism and cronyism at Local Government level?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: [No audible reply.]

An HON MEMBER: Chair, we do not hear the hon Minister Bredell.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Okay, must I start over?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, please continue.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: These efforts have been greatly supported by the systems, processes and procedures that my Department have developed and successfully implemented over time.

Notwithstanding the initiatives introduced by my Department, there is also legislation... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, if you can just take your seat for a second. I recognise hon Smith who has his hand up, and then hon Kama. Hon Smith, do you have a point of order?

Mr D SMITH: A point of order, hon Deputy Speaker, yes. We could not hear the hon Minister's response from the beginning. It was totally silent when the Minister started to respond, so can the Minister please... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr D SMITH: Can we please ask the Minister to restart his response, please?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Absolutely! Thank you for letting me know, hon

Smith. I will ask the Minister to restart and the Table staff to restart the timing. Please start again, hon Minister, thank you.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, and thank you to hon Smith for the interpellation. In the Western Cape under the leadership of the Executive, all provincial departments and municipalities alike have prioritised clean and accountable governance.

At a Local Government level, clean governance is prioritised by the political and administrative leadership and have over the years entrenched these principles in the oversight practices, business processes and culture systems of their municipalities. These efforts have been greatly supported by the systems, processes and procedures that my Department have developed and successfully implemented over time.

Notwithstanding the initiatives introduced by the Department, there is also legislation and regulations that enable me, in my capacity as Minister of Local Government, to perform my oversight, monitoring and evaluation role, to ensure the prevention of nepotism and cronyism that might impact on clean and accountable local governance.

The legislation that gives impetus to this responsibility is rooted in the Constitution and further strengthened by, amongst others, the Local Governments Systems Act, Local Government Structures Act and the

Municipal Finance Management Act.

The foundation of this oversight responsibility is embedded in the Municipal Systems Act in terms of which I consider the appointment of all senior municipal officials which include the municipal manager and managers appointed in terms of Section 57 of the Municipal Systems Act. Procedural fairness, transparency and compliance with the regulations are taken into consideration to ensure that the appointments are sound. This process provides the platform to prevent nepotism and other similar negative practices at a senior management level. As far as other appointments are concerned my Department provides ongoing guidance and advice to the municipalities to ensure compliance to this effect. My Department has also prioritised the development of a special initiative to directly strengthen the capacity of municipalities to directly and decisively deal with potential corrupt practices. This project was initiated in conjunction with National CoGTA, SALGA, National and Provincial Treasury and other relative stakeholders to support the municipalities within the Western Cape Province with the development and implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy and Fraud Prevention Plans. These plans and strategies, amongst others, incorporate the prevention of corrupt practices including cronyism and nepotism. My Department also provides special training to councils and municipal administrators about the implementation of these policies.

In addition, my Department continues to provide council training, focusing on ethics and personal value systems. This training was well received with

requests to similar training initiatives focusing on ethics and value systems. Councillors have responded in that the training left them empowered with a better understanding of their roles and responsibilities.

Lastly, hon Deputy Speaker, where I become aware of allegations of fraud, corruption and maladministration and have reason to believe that maladministration, fraud or corruption or any other serious malpractices have occurred or is occurring in that municipality, I may, when considered necessary, designate special investigators to undertake a formal investigation. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I now recognise hon Smith.

Mr D SMITH: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Cronyism is generally accepted to mean the appointment of friends and associates to positions of authority and most times this happens without proper regard to their qualifications, while nepotism involves favouritism of relatives and friends of those in power, especially by giving them job opportunities.

Another related term is favouritism, which is sometimes demonstrated in hiring, honouring or awarding contracts to those who may have helped elect a person who has the power of appointment – corruption, cronyism, nepotism and favouritism are deeply entrenched in the Western Cape Government and municipalities. There are endless examples of practices in the Western Cape,

for instance Mr Craig Kesson and the husband of the DA's Chief Whip, hon Mireille Wenger, in the Executive Director for Corporate Services in the City of Cape Town... [Interjection.]

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): A point of order, hon Deputy Speaker.

Mr D SMITH: The R350 million Old Mutual investment by the George Municipality is another example. The son of the DA councillor, Stag Cronjé, made huge sums of money from this investment. The DA played an active role in protecting Stag and former Chief Financial Officer, Keith Jordaan, from accountability, while the Provincial Government claims to take strong action against any allegations of corruption and acting on wrongdoing without fear or favour. There is nothing to show for it as it has not taken any action against those implicated in the George Municipality. Tim Harris, the DA golden boy, a former MP, is heading Wesgro, and was recently awarded with a salary increase of close to a million rand.

These are some of the examples that prove that corruption, nepotism and favouritism are entrenched in the Western Cape and that those in power are promoting it. The MEC must tell us what measures is he going to take to investigate all allegations of nepotism both in Provincial Government departments and entities as well as in municipalities? [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Hon Deputy Speaker...

Mr D SMITH: All the methods that this Government prides itself on have proven to be ineffective to prevent cronyism. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. [Pause.] Hon Deputy Speaker, I am done with my input.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: [No audible reply – connection problems.]

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Hon Deputy Speaker, we cannot hear you.

Mr M KAMA: Can I take over?

Mr D AMERICA: Not you!

An HON MEMBER: And me?

An HON MEMBER: No.

Mr D AMERICA: Definitely not. [Laughter.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, I think you can hear me through the streaming. I am going to keep this on for now until we fix up the system. [Interjections.]

Hon Smith, we did not actually hear half your speech. Can I just have order in the House, please? Thank you. We did not hear the last part of

your speech unfortunately, and I have no idea which part we now have heard and not heard. I think I am going to make a ruling, hon Smith, that you can read the last paragraph of your speech back on record, please.

Mr D SMITH: Let me, thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, can you hear me?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I can hear you clearly.

Mr D SMITH: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the R350 million Old Mutual investment by the George Municipality is another example. The son of DA councillor, Stag Cronjé, made and received huge sums of money from this investment. The DA played an active role in protecting Stag and former Chief Financial Officer, Keith Jordaan, from accountability. While the Provincial Government claims to take strong action against any allegations of corruption and acting on wrongdoing without fear or favour, there is nothing to show for it as it has not taken any action against those implicated in the George Municipality. Lastly, Speaker, Tim Harris, the golden DA boy, a former MP, is heading Wesgro and was recently awarded with a salary increase of close to a million rand.

These are some of the examples that prove that corruption, nepotism and favouritism are entrenched in the Western Cape, that those in power are promoting... [Interjection.]

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): A point of order.

Mr D SMITH: The MEC must tell us what measures he is going to take to investigate all allegations of nepotism... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Smith, hon Smith?

Mr D SMITH: Yes, Chair.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you can just wait. There is a point of order. Hon Wenger.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Hon Deputy Speaker, I also had my hand up.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, you did. Hon Mitchell, what is your point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Hon Deputy Speaker, I want you to please rule, because hon Smith's submission or input is factually incorrect, so he is deliberately misleading Parliament. I want you to please revert to the House with regard to his input because as hon members we cannot deliberately mislead Parliament.

An HON MEMBER: A point for debate.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I hear you. Hon Wenger, your hand is up. What is your point?

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you hon Deputy Speaker. Member Smith is misleading the House and it is completely unacceptable. He is being untruthful and economical with the truth.

An HON MEMBER: Point for debate.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): It is not a point for debate. It is a matter of fact.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon Herron, I see your hand is up.

Mr B N HERRON: Yes, hon Deputy Speaker.

An HON MEMBER: A point for debate.

Mr B N HERRON: There were two points of order from the Chief Whip and the Deputy Chief Whip, but they did not indicate which Rules they were raising these points of order in terms of.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Wenger, I still see your hand is up. Would you like to speak?

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): [No audible reply.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. Hon members, I will tell you what the problem is. The sound was extremely bad during this time. What I would like to do is revert to Hansard on exactly what has happened during this time that hon Smith was speaking and I would be mindful, hon Smith, if that is the case, there will be a ruling next week, so if I can revert back to Hansard on exactly the point of order made and revert next week. But hon Smith, if you are going to continue now while I can hear, I will make a ruling. So I will advise that you are careful with your wording as you finish off your speech.

Mr B N HERRON: Sorry, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just one minute, hon Smith. Hon Herron, what is your point of order?

Mr B N HERRON: Can we please – you are taking a point of order from the Chief Whip and the Deputy Chief Whip without them identifying which Rules they are alleging have been broken. So, can we please have that clarity before you undertake to make a ruling next week when we do not know which Rules have been allegedly broken.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Mitchell, would you like to respond on a ruling?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Yes, thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Deputy Speaker, when we took our oath of office, we acknowledged that we would adhere to the various Rules and Constitution and that we will be honourable in our execution of our duties. There has precedent been set previously that deliberately misleading the house, if hon Herron would refer back to previous rulings of this august House, he would note that deliberately misleading Parliament is unparliamentary. Thank you.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Which Rule? [Interjections.]

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Hon Deputy Speaker ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, can I respond? I recognise hon Herron's hand up again. I recognise hon Lekker. Hon Herron?

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): May I respond, hon Deputy Speaker, in terms of? It is hon Wenger, in terms of what I... [Inaudible – speaking simultaneously.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Herron, then hon Lekker and then hon Kama. Hon Herron, your hand is still up?

Mr B N HERRON: Hon Deputy Speaker, yes, it is still up because the Deputy Chief Whip did not help Parliament or you. He is saying that there is a Rule according to our oath that we would not mislead Parliament, but

you have to first find through a process that Parliament has been misled. So we cannot just take the Deputy Chief Whip's point, assertion that the Parliament has been misled. You would have to have a hearing with evidence before you can find that the Parliament has been misled.

A point of order is raised when the Rules have been broken, the Standing Rules of this House, so can the Deputy Chief Whip inform you and us which Rule of the House has been broken?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Herron. I recognise hon Lekker.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Good afternoon everybody. In actual fact, member Brett Herron has covered me in full. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much and I recognise – okay, hon member Kama has put his hand down. Hon Chief Whip, you wanted to say something? I am not sure if your hand is still up or whether it is hon Deputy Chief Whip? Deputy Chief Whip?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, if you refer to the Code of Conduct that all of us as members of this Parliament signed and adhere to, under Subsection 3 under integrity, a member – and I quote:

“A member shall ensure at all times that the dignity, credibility and integrity of the Provincial Parliament are maintained.”

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Lekker, is your hand still up? Hon members, can we move on from this? Hon Lekker?

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): [No audible reply.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, I am going to stand by what I have just said.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Deputy Speaker?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Lekker, did you want to say something?

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): No, actually I am trying to lower my hand because I had my turn.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay, no problem. What I would still like to revert to is whether a previous ruling has been made in this House and, if so, I will revert back in the next sitting and that is the point; that if there has been a previous ruling made, we remain consistent with the previous rulings and they set precedents for this sitting going forward. Thank you very much. I would like to move on.

I now recognise honourable... Before we continue, hon Smith, did you finish your speech?

Mr D SMITH: I did not finish my speech, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You did not, okay. I would like you to please now finish the last sentence. Thank you very much.

Mr D SMITH: Hon Deputy Speaker, I am not comfortable by being abused in my speech but let me finish with my last sentence. The MEC must tell us... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I mean your last sentence, hon Smith, please, that last paragraph that you were busy with.

Mr D SMITH: Yes, the MEC must tell us what measures is he going to take to investigate all allegations of nepotism, both in the Provincial Department and entities as well as municipalities? All the measures that his Government prides itself of having proved to be ineffective to prevent nepotism. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Smith. Hon Mitchell, can I ask you to lower your hand. Okay, thank you very much. We are now moving on to hon America.

Mr D AMERICA: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. †Anthony Malata is tydelik aangestel as *Local Economic Development and Tourism Officer* teen 'n maandelikse salaris van omtrent R32 000, 'n voertuigtoelaag van R8 000, maar hy maak gebruik van die munisipaliteit se voertuig, en 'n selfoontoelaag van R700 per maand. Hy het geen naskoolse opleiding nie. Hy vervul nie die rol as *Local Economic Development Officer* nie. Hy werk as politieke adviseur in die burgemeester se kantoor. Geen advertensies is geplaas nie en geen onderhoude is gevoer nie.

Johan Muller, die vorige burgemeester en raadslid is tydelik aangestel as sportkoördineerder teen 'n salaris van R28 000 – geen proses rakende sy aanstelling is gevolg nie.

Charmaine September, vorige burgemeester en raadslid, is aangestel as tydelike komiteeklerk teen 'n salaris van R18 000, sy het nog geen notules geneem nie, en werk in die burgemeester se kantoor in Citrusdal.

André Dirkse is aangestel as verkeersbeampte in Clanwilliam, was voorheen by die Matzikama Munisipaliteit, en was in hegtenis geneem vir bedrog in Vredendal.

Erik Koteng is tydelik aangestel as bestuurder-tesourier, geen aanstellingsprosedures of proses was gevolg nie, hy het geen ondervinding van plaaslike regering nie, en is van Kimberley in die Noord-Kaap.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[Anthony Malata was appointed temporarily as Local Economic Development and Tourism Officer at a monthly salary of about R32 000, a vehicle allowance of R8 000, but he uses a municipal vehicle, and a cell phone allowance of R700 per month. He has no post-school training. He does not fulfil the role as Local Economic Development Officer. He works as political adviser in the Mayor's office. No advertisements were placed, no interviews conducted.

Johan Muller, the previous Mayor and councillor was appointed temporarily as sport coordinator at a salary of R28 000 – no process with regard to the appointment was followed.

Charmaine September, previous Mayor and councillor, was appointed as temporary committee clerk at a salary of R18 000, has not taken any minutes and works in the Mayor's office in Citrusdal.

André Dirkse was appointed as traffic officer in Clanwilliam, had been with the Matzikama Municipality previously and was arrested for fraud in Vredendal.

Erik Koteng was appointed temporarily as manager-treasurer, no appointment procedures/process were followed, he has no experience of local government and is from Kimberley in the Northern Cape.]

Hon Deputy Speaker, these are all appointments in the Cederberg Municipality, all ANC cadres. If that is not nepotism and not cronyism, then I do not know what. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. I recognise hon Herron.

Mr B N HERRON: I thank you hon Deputy Speaker. The use of municipal jobs as a tool for intimidation or award for party-political support must be the cruellest form of politics. It is a form of cronyism that is rife in municipalities in this province, and there is no real political will to stop it, because it is also used by DA governments. Municipal employment and EPWP opportunities are being used to intimidate or coerce people to support the DA in Saldanha where the DA must defend a ward in a by-election in November. The DA Speaker and the DA candidate, ward candidate, have threatened EPWP workers that they will lose their jobs or their opportunities for choosing to support GOOD. The DA Speaker has even threatened a permanent employee of the Saldanha Municipality. That employee signed an affidavit which says:

"I was also active within the DA structure in Vredenburg Ward 13 and served on the branch executive. Two months ago, I decided to resign from the DA and carry my freedom of association and became a member of the GOOD party. Since I made this decision my work has been threatened by the DA Speaker of the Saldanha Bay Municipality.

I further state under oath that my work has been threatened because I joined the GOOD party. It was clear that the Speaker was unhappy about my decision. It was also clear she was prepared to use my employment as a weapon against me. The DA candidate who is not an employee of the Municipality, nor is he a councillor, has colluded with the Speaker to threaten the EPWP opportunities of those who have decided to leave the DA.”

The affidavit goes on:

“The following person that called me in was the DA candidate for Ward 13 in Vredenburg, Mr Schaefers. In this meeting he informed me that he had met with the Speaker and a decision was taken that all GOOD members in the Municipality, whether on EPWP projects or permanently employed, are now at risk.”

Hon Deputy Speaker, what kind of leaders threaten the most vulnerable people with the loss of their precarious short-term employment opportunity for choosing to exercise their democratic political rights? They certainly do not belong in office. We have laid criminal charges against the DA Speaker... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member.

Mr B N HERRON: But I am very happy to hear the Minister’s commitment

to acting and I am asking him to intervene and protect the poor. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Herron. I recognise hon Smith.

Mr P J MARAIS: Madam Deputy Speaker, a point of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: One minute, hon Smith. What is your point of order, hon member Marais?

Mr P J MARAIS: Are we going to debate a candidate's behaviour who is not a member of this House against a member of the public? What role has the Minister's got to do with that? Are we going to debate that?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Marais. That is not a point of order. It is a matter for interpretation of what is the debate point here. I cannot actually rule on that. Thank you very much, I recognise hon Smith.

Mr D SMITH: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. The son of MEC Meyer has been appointed as an Assistant-Director in the Department of Local Government and Environmental Affairs. MEC Ivan Meyer, as one of the senior Cabinet members, and a member of the DA's FedEx, enjoys close relations with the MEC Bredell as they have served together in the

Provincial Government and in the DA structures for many years. There are reasonable grounds to believe that there was some form of influence in the appointment of his son in MEC Bredell's office department. The Premier is on record defending this appointment, when he said there is no law that indicates that family members of politicians may not be employed in the Province, provided that they have undergone all the requisite processes.

“If anyone has any evidence that anything untoward occurred in the appointment of this official, I urge them to make this available, and we will investigate. The official was appointed to the post after having undergone all the requisite processes.”

Given this stance by the Premier, we invite him to tell this House if there are any other children or relatives of MECs, MPLs and/or prominent politicians in the DA that are employed in the Western Cape Government, municipalities or Government entities.

Hon Deputy Speaker, with the continued decline of trust in our Government, the response by the Premier to concerns of nepotism in his Government is highly unacceptable and should be condemned with the strongest contempt. The need to fight against nepotism and cronyism in the Western Cape, especially given the examples cited above, has never been so important. Clearly the mechanism to prevent nepotism are ineffective and the ANC calls on the Provincial Government to identify potential occurrences of nepotism and favouritism in the Western Cape and tighten

its measures to prevent all forms of nepotism.

The process should start with an investigation into the appointment of Mr Ivan Meyer Junior into an Assistant-Director post in the Department of Local Government. We look forward to the reply to our questions regarding the qualifications, expertise and experience of other shortlisted candidates for the post. Hon Deputy Speaker, lastly, the DA must come clean as there is ample examples in municipalities like Oudtshoorn and others where former councillors have been appointed to senior management positions, even implicated in investigations against those councillors. I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Smith. I now call on hon Minister Bredell.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Ja, it is actually a disgrace, thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, but let me start off... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Hon Deputy Speaker, my hand is up on a point of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: One minute please, Minister Bredell. One minute. Hon Mitchell what is your point of order?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, I refer you to Rule 59(1) Subsection (b) on the reflection of the integrity or dignity of another member. The hon Smith has done so and I ask you to please rule and revert to Hansard and come back to the House with his reflection on the integrity and/or the dignity of Minister Meyer. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you hon Mitchell. I certainly will consider both as one ruling when I revert next week. Thank you.

An HON MEMBER: There are a lot of points of order today.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Over to you, hon Minister Bredell.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Hon Deputy Speaker, thank you, thank you to the hon America. I think if he had gone on with the list, he could have kept us busy for the whole day because the ANC is the masters of corruption, nepotism, etcetera.

To the hon Herron, I hear what you are saying, and personally if I can show you also to the DA manifesto, I think it is on page 13 on top where it states that the DA public representatives will not be involved in the award of EPWP appointments so that is also accordingly against our own manifesto, so if you have any complaints you can give it to me, we will

investigate but I can also show you, tell you that there is also a complaint in Matzikama where the ANC-run Matzikama now refuses to give a person the EPWP position because the person – and she said it on record and there is a WhatsApp to contest to that - now that she is a GOOD member the ANC will not give her an EPWP post.

I think misusing and using positions to even political scores are always wrong. It does not matter from which angle you look at that, but I think hon Deputy Speaker, I must speak hard about this because it is a complete disgrace to bring in my colleague and I will add, hon Smith, my friend, Dr Ivan Meyer into this conversation.

I have picked up that Dr Ivan Meyer's son works in my Department when the ANC brought it to my attention, because we are not involved in appointments. It does not mean our children cannot have an opportunity when they apply through the right process, and that is what the Premier explained to them. Why do they not look into how many ANC families have we appointed in this because they were the better candidates? And I really did not want to do this, but the hon Smith must stand up because his wife is a [Inaudible.] worker. [Interjection.]

Mr D SMITH: How do you know about the ANC?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: And now, what now, I have

never said anything because she has gone hopefully through the process, but our families, if they go through a legal process, are entitled to work.
[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Hopefully!

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: They are individuals. We cannot ban them from working and I think it is a disgrace to bring in hon Meyer's son into this. He is a young person with a lot of talent and why can we not build his capacity, irrespective of his father's political affiliation? I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

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

[Debate concluded.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. That now brings us to the end of Interpellations. Order! We will now deal with Questions as printed on the Question Paper and just to remind all the hon members that there are four opportunities for follow-up and the person who posed the question will get the first opportunity for a follow-up question and that is the way the process will work. So we now begin with Question 1. I recognise the hon Premier.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY*Work-from-home People Management Strategy***1. Mr R D Mackenzie asked the Premier:**

(a) How many officials in the employ of the Western Cape Government contracted COVID-19 and (b) what is the overall (i) recovery and (ii) mortality rate for those affected?

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker, and thank you very much to the hon member for the question. As at 4 September 2020 the 13 provincial departments have reported a total of 6 273 Western Cape Government employees that have contracted COVID-19 over the period that it has been here in the province. Departments reported that out of this a total of this 352 are active cases at present. Please note that the reporting and timing lags shift these numbers and they can change from time to time.

Then (b)(i): As reported by the Department as at 4 September 2020, there have been a total of 5 831 recoveries amongst the Western Cape Government employees who have contracted COVID-19. Again please note that these numbers can vary, and then item 3, the mortality rate of those affected as at 4 September 2020, the Department have reported that there have been a total of 90 fatalities amongst Western Cape employees and I would also like to use this opportunity to send my condolences to each of their families. Thank

you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier. I recognise hon member Mackenzie.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, before I ask my follow-up question, if you can just pay attention to the hands because I know earlier on member Mitchell's hand was up and you unfortunately did not notice it, so for other follow-up questions, if someone on the desk can just pay attention, but my follow-up question, Hon Deputy Speaker, is I just want to find out from the Premier - and also condolences to all those involved, it is a difficult period for all of us and for the families, particularly those with bereavement - what type of psychosocial services are provided to the family or to the staff members working in Government after they obviously return to work or if they are at home and is there a hotline for example where people can contact them? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much. Within Government, and I have experienced it myself when I also contracted the virus, out of the HR Department a phone call is made to every individual when we pick it up that they are COVID positive, and then we get asked: "Are you okay, do you need any further support?"

Obviously if they need professional support then that will get referred to the Department of Social Development, but yes, the answer is yes, so there is that support coming from our sister with those follow-up calls.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier. I recognise hon member Dugmore.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. Thank you, hon Premier for your response, and from the side of the ANC sincere condolences to those of our Provincial Government officials who have passed on during this time.

I would like to ask in regard to the question concerning the mortality rate if the Premier has any figures or any sense of how many of those who have passed on have in fact had comorbidities, and does the Premier have information about the age category of those who have passed on. Has it been consistent with the provincial and national trends in regard to age, and then the other question about the number of those who have passed on who have had comorbidities? Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Thank you very much and thank you to the hon Dugmore. I actually have the report here, but we do

not report down to that level. So, my automatic response would be probably very similar to the provincial-wide, but of course if the hon member does want the detail we will have to obviously go and get that exact detail for him.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier. Hon Mackenzie.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. My third question to the Premier would be is it safe to say that those who are recovered are back at work and are continuing to provide services to the people of the Western Cape?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Premier?

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker and to the hon member for the question. I want to say, yes, I think as at last week there was 83% of the staff of this province – the workforce – 84 113 members of our workforce, 83% were back at work last week and I do not have the report for this week, but I would estimate now that from a schools point of view, it would now go back to 86% and obviously it varies slightly here and there and as I said, obviously with these reports you could have a slight number here and there but it will probably be around about 86%, but this morning I attended a meeting with all of the employees of the Department of the Premier so we had a meeting with over 700 members of staff, and obviously you can either come into the office or you can log on

and I think today trying to meet in one venue, it would be impossible to bring everyone together right now in one venue, but it is quite amazing that you can pull everybody into a meeting, and in that discussion we are now talking about what that new normal is to us, and I think every single department are looking at that.

So at the moment we know that about 10,3% of the workforce in our Government are operating from home. I presume that should drop slightly over the next couple of weeks [Interjections.]

†n AGB LID: *Bye, bye, Uncle John*, dankie vir alles.

[An HON MEMBER: *Bye, bye, Uncle John*, thanks for everything.]

The PREMIER: ...so we also need to have a look at how we can increase that number to whatever we find as our new normal.

We need to make sure that we utilise this crisis to the benefit of traffic, to the benefit of working hours, of the working environment, and it is I think that codesign space that is going to change over the next couple of weeks and months till we find what that new norm is, and as they say never waste a good crisis, and I do not think that we are wasting it from an HR or a working place point of view, and I think it is going to be quite exciting, the next few months of how we develop that new way of working as a government.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier. Hon member Dugmore, I think your hand is up again?

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: No – no, no, it is not, hon Deputy Speaker. Sorry, I should have removed my hand. I do not have a follow-up, thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No problem. Are there any other follow-ups? There is one more bite for the cherry. No? Thank you.

We will move over to Question 4 which stood over from Thursday last week. I recognise the hon Minister Meyer.

Questions standing over from Thursday, 3 September 2020, as agreed to by the House:

Agriculture strategy on food security

4. Mr R D Mackenzie asked the Minister of Agriculture:

With regard to the Province's agriculture strategy on food security:

(a) What are the details of the strategy for townships and previously disadvantaged areas, such as Mitchells Plain, and (b) how is or will this strategy be implemented?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, and thank you to hon member Mackenzie for this question.

The Department of Agriculture developed the food security programme in order to focus *inter alia* on urban agriculture and the development of the food security programme was informed by the policy on food and nutrition security, which was developed about 2013, and Mitchells Plain forms a part of the COVID-19 hotspot areas, and is therefore a key focus area of the Department of Agriculture.

And since this year, or June in particular, 99 households' food gardens were implemented and demonstrated, as well as an extension in advisory services, and is part of the food garden roll-out process in this province.

It must also be noted that the City of Cape Town has its own urban agricultural policy, which was also approved by the Council on 7 December 2006, and I have also recently made some contact with the Urban Agricultural Unit of the City of Cape Town and we are certainly looking forward in terms of rolling out this project within the 26 Sub-Councils within the City of Cape Town.

And hon members who are interested to start a home garden can approach the Department to complete the necessary household profile forms. People on the indigent list of the municipalities, those who are jobless, women, the youth, and those earning less than R4,500, will be prioritised as part of this

initiative. Demonstrations, training, and extension in advisory services will also form part of this process. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I recognise hon member Mackenzie and then hon member Dugmore.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, and thank you, hon Minister, for the answer.

Hon Minister, I just want to find out, how are these strategies communicated to the people? And I must say thank you very much for your Department in Casidra for the project that you launched in Mitchells Plain recently.

And then secondly, is the Department providing mentorship roles for these gardens? It is obviously nice that they are implemented, but is there a follow-up to ensure these gardens become sustainable? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister Meyer?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker, and to the hon member for the follow-up question, because that is certainly what is very important in the architects of any development, two things: one, sustainability and secondly I think he raises a very important issue relating to mentorship.

What we are currently doing, hon Deputy Speaker, we know that particularly the area of Mitchells Plain is also part of the hotspot, and so my Department is also working closely with the Sub-Council in Mitchells Plain. We will now work more closely with the various Sub-Councils, particularly in the City of Cape Town, and furthermore our officials have also established project networks in the community, project WhatsApps, and we also work on the indigent list of the various municipalities, and in these communities there are also extensive networks that are involved in community development, and we also liaise not only with them, but also with the faith-based leaders and with schools, the Education Department is also very much part of that.

So we also have information and information days, particularly for farmers. Very unfortunate this year that we have those information days more on a virtual or on a digital platform. Hon Deputy Speaker, in this week I have opened an information day on a digital in Outeniqua, but in future there will certainly be much more such opportunities where we can have face-to-face contact with these colleagues.

But we are rolling out lastly through the networks of the municipalities, through the networks of NGO's, civil organisations, and certainly also through the various information WhatsApp groups that we have established.

Hon Deputy Speaker, there is also a question as it relates to are there any further support in the context of mentorship. Yes, there are also follow-up strategies, because one of the very important things of vegetable community

gardens is that you are regularly receiving visits from our agricultural and advisory services; our extension officers on a regular basis visit these colleagues and people who started the vegetable garden.

In addition, once they are looking after their vegetable gardens, particularly what we call the starter pack, we are certainly looking up to a more intermediate intervention. Our advisory services were also acting as the necessary support and as mentors to these colleagues. We are seeing a dramatic change in the appetite for this and certainly we are looking forward to continue with this.

So are there mentors for these colleagues? Absolutely, yes. In bigger scale projects we also bring on farmers, both small-scale farmers and commercial farmers, to partner with us, wanting to make this a very big success. We have seen it this week rolling out in George, rolling it out also two days ago in Mossel Bay and in George, as well as in Albertinia.

So the answer is yes, in terms of the mentorship programme, and we certainly use the extensive network of organisations also starting with municipalities, because particularly what we want to effect is a transition from food relief to food security. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Meyer. I recognise hon member Dugmore.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you very much to the MEC for his reply, and for hon member Mackenzie for the question.

In terms of putting a follow-up question, I noted that the MEC answered particularly on the issue of the focus on home gardens, starter packs for home gardens. I think the key issue is to what extent the Municipality of Cape Town and other municipalities are actually providing land available for farmers to actually lease.

So I would like to ask him, in the Mitchells Plain area, which the question refers to, and in the City of Cape Town, are the Minister and his Department aware of any municipal land that is actually leased out to small and emerging farmers? Besides now the issue of giving support, which we also do support, to home gardens. The issue is municipal land leased out to small-scale farmers within the City of Cape Town and Mitchells Plain in particular. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Minister Meyer?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. This is certainly a new question and I am happy to come back to establish the facts. I know that some municipalities, hon member Dugmore, have normally a policy for leasing on agricultural land, as I have explained earlier in this year or last year, that there are some municipalities that have adopted, they form a policy through the Council on the leasing of agricultural land, but

your question is specific: Am I aware of land being leased to small famers in Mitchells Plain area by the City of Cape Town?

I certainly would like to come back and have the real facts before I answer that question.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Meyer. Hon member Marran.

Mr P MARRAN: Thanks very much, hon Deputy Speaker. MEC, given the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic which had started to exacerbate poverty and has exposed the imbalances between the haves and the have nots. We have seen many people and most of them black, going without food on a daily basis.

Now you know, for instance, the agriculture sector has been declared an essential service during this pandemic, but what we have seen, MEC, is that it has also come where the prices of food have been inflated by shops. It has made it impossible for farmworkers to afford the very food that they had produced, to afford it.

What is your Department doing, MEC, to contain the food price inflation and to make sure that food security is there for all, including farmworkers?
Thanks.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister Meyer?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Thank you very much, hon member Marran.

I think there are a number of issues. One is the issue of demand and supply. We know from economics that when there is a shortage of certain products the prices normally escalate, but I do not think that is what you are talking about. I think when you speak about the food inflation, this is certainly a reality of the day that we have seen some food inflation.

Secondly, I think also very importantly, if we have any evidence of any unfair competitive business practices, I think we have an institutional architecture in South Africa and that is the Competition Commission, and I would be very happy if hon member Marran and I can have a cup of tea, because that is the way I solve problems, and make an impact so that we can certainly look into some uncompetitive business practices that can harm both the economy in the Western Cape, but also the demand and supply chain, particularly as it relates to the farmworkers.

So I would be very happy, if there is evidence to this effect, that we engage with the Competition Commission in this regard. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Meyer. Hon member Mackenzie.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, for giving me the last opportunity on this.

Hon Minister Meyer, food security is obviously dependent on highly skilled individuals and highly skilled individuals coming from good, established agricultural colleges that are properly managed by good government. Given the fact that food security is currently a serious matter in the country and given in the province and given the question on the agricultural strategy for the province, would you be concerned or worried if individuals that have strategically not managed this, would take it over?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister Meyer?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Deputy Speaker, I would like to firstly understand the question properly.

Is the question, am I concerned if agricultural colleges are taken over as it is an FET, by the National Government? Is that the question?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Yes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Mackenzie, can you just – okay. Yes, he says.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Okay. Hon Deputy Speaker, we here in

the Western Cape really value education and training and development.

One of my first strategic priorities as I came to office, and hon members of the Standing Committee of Agriculture will know, the first meeting I had with them I outlined my strategic vision for agriculture for this province, and I have developed what is known as five key priorities.

The number one strategic priority is structured training, education, and training, and for us agriculture is a science and a science needs to be backed up by research. So research for us is significant, it is very important.

But also the issue of agricultural training is fundamentally important, given that we need to transform the agricultural sector through the investment that we want to make here in education and training.

And so we know that the Elsenburg Agricultural Training College is one of the oldest agricultural training institutions on the African continent, and so we certainly are concerned about the latest developments by the National Government, in wanting to take all the agricultural colleges away from the various provinces, and take it to the National Government Department.

Now I have to inform, it is my duty, it is my responsibility to inform this House as the Western Cape Provincial Legislature, that this is a major risk. If this function is taken over by the National Government we can expect a radical decline in the capacity of agricultural training in the Western Cape.

Given the fact that the Western Cape is responsible for 45% of agricultural exports in South Africa, this is a real risk, not a perceived risk, and the question is: Am I concerned?

Hon Deputy Speaker, I am deeply concerned, I am worried, I am nervous, I am stressed about the potential of the National Government Department to take over this college. This will be a huge mistake, and I will certainly engage with my Cabinet colleagues about what we think is the most appropriate strategy to protect our agricultural educational investment institutional architecture, and I have already engaged with one of the members of my Cabinet in this particular regard, and certainly once I have a mandate from the Western Cape Cabinet, I am happy to come to this House to inform this House of what our future plans are.

We have seen what has happened with the nursing training colleges, we have seen what has happened with the educational colleges, and I am deeply worried that if we go on this route, we are going to destroy the educational agricultural training institute, and this agricultural training institute, hon Deputy Speaker, as you know as my predecessor in this position, you know that we are not only training people from the Western Cape, but from all over South Africa, because in the rest of the country many of those institutions have already collapsed. So this is the last institution that we need to protect for the benefit of agriculture in South Africa.

I am happy to come back to this House, hon Deputy Speaker, to give hon

member Mackenzie a detailed reply once I receive a mandate by the Western Cape Premier and the Western Cape Cabinet. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Meyer.

We now move over to Question 7. I recognise hon Minister Meyer.

Drought relief: allocation of

7. Mr A P van der Westhuizen asked the Minister of Agriculture:

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(a) At which date has the contribution of R25 million from the Central Government for drought relief in the Western Cape been received, (b) what is the outlook for any future drought relief, (c) what are the criteria that his Department applies in allocating drought relief to farmers, (d) how is fairness in the distribution of the resources achieved and (e) what measures are in place to fight corruption in the allocation of drought relief?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Deputy Speaker, thank you for this question from hon member Van der Westhuizen.

The R25 million drought support from the National Disaster Management Centre via the work of my colleague, Minister Bredell, from the Provincial Disaster Management Centre, was transferred on 7 July 2020.

The first lot of the vouchers were issued on 1 August 2020, in other words last month, to farmers in extremely critical areas, particularly as it relates to the Central Karoo, the West Coast, and the Cape Winelands, Garden Route, and even the Overberg districts.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the outlook is bleak for additional drought relief budget support in the form of fodder support. The Department did apply to the National Disaster Management Centre via the Provincial Disaster Management Centre in December 2019, for an allocation of R178 million. To date we have only received R25 million to this effect.

Now, hon Deputy Speaker and hon member Van der Westhuizen, all farmers in drought affected areas classified according to the Department's veld assessments, as critical and extremely critical, qualify to apply for drought relief, and farmers applying for drought relief must submit all the required documentation as outlined in the Department's standard operating procedures, in order to be eligible for the support from the Department.

Furthermore, only farmers adhering to the carrying capacity of the farm will qualify for this support. And though this is important, hon Deputy Speaker, that we look into the capacity of the veld in order to continue, one of the things that we sometimes see is after the assessment of the veld, we determine the carrying capacity of the livestock, and if people have more than normal qualifying number of livestock, certainly they will not qualify because they are not complying with the criteria.

Also, all applications are evaluated against the criteria as listed by the Department's standard operating procedure to fodder support, to ensure applicants adhere to the listed requirements. Once applicants qualify for drought relief, the National Disaster Management Framework guides the Western Cape Department of Agriculture as to the Rand value farmers qualify for that is based on the number of animals.

Lastly, hon Deputy Speaker, in the Department's standard operating procedure for fodder support, the process clearly outlines the process for applications in the outline process. There is a definite separation of functions between the District and the Head Office. The applications are received by the District Office which accesses the applications for completeness, and then they recommend it to the Disaster Risk Management Sub-Programme based at our Head Office.

Now this standard operating procedure is followed to ensure independent decision making at the various levels, and what we also do, hon Deputy Speaker, we give vouchers, not cash, which are issued to farmers and are redeemed at the participating suppliers. These vouchers contain all the farmer's details and the amount the farmer qualifies for, and vouchers can only be used to redeem fodder, as stipulated on the voucher, and cannot be used to purchase other goods and services.

After the farmers have received their vouchers, a detailed invoice is submitted for payment, and lastly, invoices are then matched to the vouchers

to ensure no unauthorised purchases were made before payment is processed.
Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Meyer. I recognise hon member Van der Westhuizen.

†Mnr A P VAN DER WESTHUIZEN: Geagte Adjunkspeaker, baie dankie aan die Minister vir 'n deeglike en uitgebreide antwoord wat baie gerusstellend is, veral nadat ons onlangs in die media verneem het van die grootskaalse korrupsie in die Oos-Kaap met droogtehulp.

Maar, Minister, volgens berigte is die weiveld in die Karoo en in sekere dele van die Matzikama-distrik so vernietig, dat selfs as ons nou bogemiddelde reën sou ontvang, dat dit daardie veld nog drie jaar sal neem om weer te kan herstel tot sy normale toestand en my vraag is daarom net, kan ons op korttermyn en van jaar tot jaar wag en verneem of daar droogtehulp gaan wees? Of is daar dalk enige kans dat u 'n beroep kan doen op die Sentrale Regering om nou alreeds voorsiening te maak vir droogtehulp vir die volgende drie jaar? Want ons weet dit is wat die minimum hulp gaan wees wat benodig gaan word vir daardie dele. Baie dankie.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[Mr A P VAN DER WESTHUIZEN: Hon Deputy Speaker, thank you to the Minister for a thorough and extensive reply which is very reassuring,

especially after having learnt from the media about the large scale corruption in the Eastern Cape with regard to drought relief.

But, Minister, according to reports the grazing in the Karoo and in certain areas of the Matzikama district has been destroyed so much that even if we were to receive above average rainfall, it will still take that veld another three years to recover to its normal condition and my question therefore is, can we wait in the short term and from year to year and hear if there is going to be drought relief? Or is there perhaps any chance that you can appeal to the Central Government to make provision now already for drought relief for the next three years? Because we know this is the minimum support that will be required for those areas. Thank you.]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Dankie, agb lid. Minister Meyer.

[The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. Minister Meyer.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. This is a matter that is also equally of great concern to me, because I have been informed by my colleague, the Minister of Local Government, because as you know he is responsible for provincial disaster management in this province, and he work very closely with the National Disaster Management Centre, and I have been informed by Minister Bredell that there are now serious discussions in the National Department of CoGTA that they want to rethink and undo the work that has been done over a number of years, by having a

category of drought support to continue into the future.

South Africa is the 30th driest country in the world, and therefore we certainly need to think, even now despite this good rain and many of our dams, hon Deputy Speaker, as we sit here, are 98% full, but despite this there are still areas in terms of the veld's assessment, the scientific assessment of the velds, that certainly will continue to need support, and so there are two things.

One of the issues is we need to seriously think and liaise with the farmers in terms of the climatic conditions of those particular areas, but I think it will be a huge mistake to remove drought relief from the funding architecture to support provinces. We know that the drought is severe in the Eastern Cape, the Northern Cape, the Western Cape, and the Free State, and I think it will be unwise to no longer have a category of drought relief support, and that is some of the discussions with Minister Bredell. He is currently leading those discussions within the National Minmec, and we are looking for an outcome in this particular regard.

I think from climatic conditions we have prepared our farmers in this particular regard. In addition, we have also established a drought portal to assist our farmers in this particular regard. I am deeply concerned that drought is the reality, climate change is a reality, and certainly we need to continue to support our farmers in drought-stricken areas, particularly as it relate to food security here in the Western Cape.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Meyer. I recognise hon member Mackenzie.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: No, hon Deputy Speaker, I think that was earlier on. Sorry about that.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No problem. Hon member Marran?

Mr P MARRAN: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. MEC, can you tell us how has the contribution assisted affected farmers in the province, and whether the Provincial Government intends to top-up the funding and continue supporting farmers over the MPF?

The second question, MEC, let me also do that, the second question, and you have said that drought is a reality and climate change is real.

Now we would like to understand, MEC, to mitigate the impact of the drought, the climate change strategy introduces crops and animals who can actually handle heat and drought better. Here we are talking about the Nguni cattle and also the Damara sheep, as well as the Soutbos flowers.

Can you tell us, MEC, what has your Department done to popularise and promote these animals and crops, and if so, has your Department spent any money to promote this and how much was spent? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Minister Meyer?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I think there are two questions.

The first question relates to the drought and the impact of drought and the funding and additional funding over the MPF. I would like to confirm, as the hon member knows, that I did mention this during the Standing Committee on Agriculture, that we have received additional money through the Ministry of Finance, and I am particularly happy that the Minister of Finance, my colleague Minister David Maynier, did invoke Section 25 of the Public Finance Management Act, to make money available. I am deeply thankful for that, because that greatly assisted farmers over this particular period.

But I am also mindful that COVID-19 had a massive impact on Education, on the Health Department, and on other related departments, and that the drought also had a massive impact. I am also mindful that our colleague, the Minister of Finance, and the Premier, had a discussion about the issue of additional money that we require to the tune of R5 billion from the National Government. I am also mindful that the Premier and the Minister of Finance are engaging with the Presidency at the moment about additional resources for the Western Cape.

And so over the MPF, this will be a massive challenge and I would certainly not like to put the Cabinet under more pressure and stress as what they

already have in terms of the current fiscal strategy and the fiscal envelope, but I am happy to say that we have received an additional R25 million, but I think it will become more and more, and I have to be realistic, farmers have to be realistic, that it will get over the next three to five years extremely difficult given the current financial situation in South Africa.

The matter that is also of great concern to me, hon Deputy Speaker, and hon member Marran is fully aware of that, and that relates to the issue of drought support not being given specifically to fruit farmers, and fruit farmers particularly in areas like Kannaland; those areas are deeply affected by it, because the drought relief and drought support are largely for livestock farmers, and for fodder, and certainly we have seen great losses in the fruit industry, and this is for us important because if we take fruit, for example, we are the second biggest fruit producer, South Africa that is, in the world. We are the ninth biggest citrus fruit exporter per volume, and so certainly this is something that affects me greatly.

Lastly, hon Deputy Speaker, hon member Marran asked about additional type of animals and stock. What we ask on the sort of allocative efficiencies and the questions about the fiscal envelopes for certain livestock, I regard that as a new question, and I am happy to come back to the House with a full, detailed response to the latter part of his question. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Meyer. I do not see any

other hands around this question. We shall move on [Interjections.]

Mr P MARRAN: Hon Deputy Speaker, my hand is up.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Marran, is your hand up again? Yes, you [Interjections.]

Mr P MARRAN: Yes, yes, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Oh, sorry, hon – one minute, hon member Marran. Hon member Marais's hand is up. I recognise you, hon member Marais. My apologies.

Mr P J MARAIS: Thank you so much, hon Deputy Speaker.

I would like to ask the Minister, if any attention for drought relief has also been considered for emerging farmers? I know that commercial farmers are looked after, but I want to know if it is also extended to emerging farmers who also suffer and need drought relief.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister Meyer, did you hear that? I was not sure if hon member Marais's question was – okay, thank you.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Yes. Yes, hon Deputy Speaker, I did get the question from the hon member Marais, thank you very much for that

question.

Hon member Marais, I think small-scale farmers or emerging farmers, due to the cashflow problems they are normally the hardest hit when it comes to drought and these particular climatic conditions. Absolutely the answer is “yes”. They do qualify, they do apply, and they do receive fodder support. I personally went to Bitterfontein to hand over vouchers, drought vouchers support to emerging farmers in areas like Bitterfontein.

So the answer is absolutely yes, they do qualify and we will continue to support them.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon member Marran, just please, hon member Marran, you did ask two questions. It is only one question. I would have taken that as an extra, but you are now welcome to take the last cherry for questioning Minister Meyer.

Mr P MARRAN: Thanks, hon Deputy Speaker.

Just on my previous question, and I am not sure whether it is regarded as a new question, because the hon member Van der Westhuizen have actually asked four questions, which also speak to what is the outlook for any future drought relief, and I think that particular question that I have asked fits in there.

Hon Deputy Speaker, I just want to check with the MEC, and he has explained basically the criteria and he has also mentioned the standing operation procedures for fodder support; MEC, I just wanted to check with you, earlier this year we had an oversight visit to the Little and Greater Karoo, and that also includes the two farms managed by Casidra, and one of those farms is Amalienstein, and when we arrived at Amalienstein there was a 24-tonner, a truck, standing with fodder for that particular farm, and when Casidra was doing the presentation and we have basically asked the question, “Is it part of the drought support?” and they said yes, and it was basically an exchange where the farm gave water to the community in exchange for fodder support.

Now I have listened to what you said in terms of the criteria for a farm to qualify. We are grateful for the support in terms of water that was given by the farm, but whether that qualifies and whether it is part of the standing operating procedures, and if not, whether it is regarded as a deviation, and if, whether any other farmer, for instance, can also exchange water for fodder?

I just wanted to check in terms of that particular issue that has happened, MEC, thank.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister Meyer?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Hon Deputy Speaker, I am not absolutely sure about that, so I will have to come back. I would also very

much like to ask the Chairperson of the Standing Committee, if there were any minutes and reports of that particular oversight visit, and I would also be very happy to receive a copy of that, but I am happy to come back either to the House or to the Standing Committee in respect of the question of hon member Marran. I do not have the answer now.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Meyer. That concludes Question 7.

We will now move over to new questions, and I now move over to Question 2. I recognise hon Minister Schäfer.

New questions

Public schools: attendance trends

2. Ms L J Botha to ask Ms D A Schäfer, Minister of Education:

What is the general trend in attendance at ordinary public schools since the reopening of schools in June 2020?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, and to hon member Botha for the question.

The trend in attendance has generally been positive since schools reopened in June, taking into account the phasing of grades. I have detailed figures for

every grade from the beginning of the opening to until now. If the hon member would like I can table them, but the general trend has been up, except in Grade 9, which has actually gone down, which is concerning, but I am particularly pleased about Grade 7 and 12 which were the first ones to go back and which had originally showed quite a low attendance rate of 32,5% in Grade 7 and 44,4% in Grade 12, which has now gone up to 76,5% and 87,9% for our matrics. So I am very pleased about that.

Of course, also in understanding the figures one also has to remember several things:

- Firstly, that the figures are for physical attendance at school at least once during the week under consideration.
- That grades have returned on different dates, according to the *Gazette* directions, but some schools did notify the Department of a deviation to bring back additional grades earlier than scheduled, and there are also people who are legitimately staying home because their parents applied for a concession because of comorbidities, or because they were anxious about COVID.
- Learners who display any of the symptoms have also been asked to stay at home.
- And of course, each school has their own temporary revised education plan, which means that people have different days when they are coming to school; different grades or classes.

So it does also make it quite difficult to get accurate attendance figures, but in general it has certainly been increasing. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Schäfer. I recognise hon member Botha.

Ms L J BOTHA: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. Thank you to the Minister.

I want to know, Minister, if you could take us into your confidence of some of the possible reasons for the initial low attendance and later the improvement in attendance figures.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister Schäfer?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Let me turn my screen on. Yes, thank you very much, hon member Botha.

I think generally initially there was a huge amount of anxiety because of the unknowns that we faced with this virus. When some of the grades returned we were still approaching the peak in infections and people were worried about that, and now with the move to Level 2 and talk of possible move to Level 1 and the announcement that we have passed the peak, combined with the statistics we have been keeping of schools, and when we publicised those, I think that also reassured some people that we do not have evidence of the

infections spreading in schools. I think that has made a difference.

Then of course we also had some deliberate misinformation from some people. There were political parties, organisations, and activist groups, and some teachers in fact, who were saying that schools were too dangerous to go to, despite scientific evidence showing the contrary. We had some people sending really horrific messages around communities with inaccurate information, which was spreading fear among people. So I think that really did not help either.

We had low morale and demotivated learners also. There is a lot of evidence from around the world that shows that long school closures during pandemics and natural disasters make it very difficult to keep learners engaged. They get out of the habit of going to school and learning, and it does worry me that we could see dropouts because of that, and it takes a huge effort from teachers, parents, and the Department to try and encourage learners to come back to class.

And then, ja, we just also had the interrupted momentum. We just started getting back into the swing of things in July and then suddenly the President said we were closing again, against the advice of the medical experts and the Ministerial Advisory Committee, and this certainly also disrupted the return of grades and demotivated some other learners and parents also. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I recognise hon member

Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, and thanks to the Minister for the response.

Based on the Minister's response, as well as, if I look at the response to a written question that I posed on 28 August, the response that you submitted, wherein the Minister indicated that districts experienced various challenges with regards to return of learners to school, including low learner attendance at some schools, which are reflected herein as well; late arrival of learners in some instances as a result of the taxis and buses being full. Also, we found that the protocol for managing confirmed cases of COVID were not basically necessarily all being applied correctly. We found that principals were closing schools when they should not have done so. There were those examples that the Minister did basically cite.

Can she indicate then what was the impact of these specific challenges? How many schools were affected – I do not need an exact number, but possibly, if the Minister can probably give us a broad figure, and approximate figure, and how are these being addressed, and how are they being addressed? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister Schäfer?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you very much, hon Deputy

Speaker.

I cannot give you even broad figures on how many were affected over the time period, but yes, we certainly did initially have issues with people applying the protocols. Some did not understand them well enough, despite the fact that we had sent out detailed circulars. I think we need to acknowledge the levels of anxiety that existed amongst people, staff as well, and I think that all contributed to it.

So what we did was we put in place procedures; my HOD was extremely good at making sure that as soon as we did identify any problem, that that was addressed, that our officials went to the school or engaged with the school to try and ensure that they did understand what protocol had to be followed, and we made sure that contractors were on standby in every district to make sure that if there was decontamination required, that they were able to do so. In fact, he was trying to do it, and I think did do it just about on a daily basis. His aim was to make sure that they were done on the same basis that the schools could open as soon as possible.

So obviously they all have a huge impact on every school closure and the prolonged period of closure has had a huge impact on all learners. I do not think we will be able to quantify that. I do not know if ever, but international research has certainly shown that any prolonged school closure period has a huge impact on learners educationally as well as their future earning potential, which is why I have been so concerned about schools being closed

for such a long time.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Schäfer. I recognise hon member Botha.

Ms L J BOTHA: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker.

Through you, hon Deputy Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister, in regard to the low attendance of our learners in schools now, what would the impact be on our number of learner intake for the 2020/21 academic year?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister Schäfer?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon member Botha. The figures are not that low now. Or Grade 9 was a bit low, but as I say it is also difficult to work out whether that is just because at a particular time only half the class is there, but in general our attendance is not that bad and the people who are not there, a lot of them are busy doing work from home, because they have been given permission to stay home. Anyone who was given permission to stay home is required to do work from home, and their parents had to undertake to get work from the school to do that and to make sure that they keep up.

It is not going to have an impact on the 2020/21 intake, because if they have been given permission to stay home, they will remain on the school's register

for next year.

So from that point of view it will not have an impact and you can see that from the number of complaints I am getting from people who are not able to find places for their children next year, but the one impact it may have is obviously on their progression into the next grade, depending on how they have managed to keep up with the work, and if more people maybe are not able to progress to the following grade next year, then that will impact on the intake in those grades for 2021. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. I recognise hon member Botha.

Ms L J BOTHA: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. I would like to request, through you, for the Minister to furnish us with the exact detail of the numbers of learners, low numbers of learners' attendance at schools present.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Schäfer?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: I will furnish the exact percentages from the date that those relevant grades opened, and what they are now. I certainly will table that with the House, thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Question 3 and 4 stand over.

We now move over to Question 5. I recognise the hon Minister Bredell.

City of Cape Town: Auditor-General's 2019/20 report

5. Mr D America asked the Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:

(a) What are the reasons for the City of Cape Town's registering of a disproportionately large amount in irregular expenditure for the most recent financial year in comparison with previous years, as contained in the Auditor-General's 2019/20 report and (b) what measures are in place to prevent such an occurrence in future?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: [No audible response.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No problem.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, and thank you to the hon member America for the question.

The City procured legal services for several years through the process which has been found not to be compliant with all the requirements of supply chain management regulations. The City was therefore requested to disclose such legal services procured as irregular expenditure retrospectively for five financial years.

In addition, due to the City's interpretation of the legislation with regards to the disclosure of irregular expenditure relating to amounts paid versus payable, the practice in the City was to disclose amounts paid as irregular expenditure, and the amount payable as a deviation. It was found that both amounts should have been disclosed as irregular expenditure, and the City had to reclassify the amounts payable for deviation to irregular expenditure. This resulted in a decrease in the deviation and an increase in the irregular expenditure amount being disclosed.

The (b) part to hon member America's question. Corrective steps have already been taken and implemented by the City, as set out in page 179 of the 2019/20 Annual Report. The corrective steps which the City had put in place have revealed additional non-compliant matters which the City had to disclose, and these matters are currently being dealt with by the Municipal Public Accounts Committee, as per the stipulations of Section 32 of the MFMA, in order for these breaches to be ratified.

Where appropriate consequence management has been recommended and taken, it should be noted that the City continues to find proactive mechanisms to detect and self-report irregular expenditure. Most importantly, the City did not record any material irregular expenditure. This is typically irregular expenditure that must be recovered from politicians or staff when it is found that they deliberately cause the irregular expenditure. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Bredell. Hon member

America.

Mr D AMERICA: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Minister, could you share with the House that the way it is framed, the “irregular expenditure”? Thank you for the explanation. Is it that it might create a misconception that the City did not get value for their money? Can you just elaborate on that, please?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister Bredell?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Thank you, hon member America. No, that is why I have ended off by saying there was value added to the City. It is more to adhere to the findings within the audit report, so we are not too worried, we keep a close eye on it. Obviously it is a big machine, but the City is also busy with proactive mechanisms to detect any irregular expenditure, the sooner the better, and we will deal with that going forward. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Bredell. Are there any follow-up questions relating to this question? No. Thank you. One minute, hon members.

Hon members, there is not much time to start a new question, so I am going to end it there with the questions, thank you very much. That is the end of

Questions for Oral Reply. Any outstanding replies will be printed in the Hansard.

We now move to the Questions to the Premier without Notice in terms of Rule 204. I now recognise the hon Christians.

QUESTIONS TO THE PREMIER

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, thank you. Hon Premier, just a question. Is your Government's R1,4 billion Safety Plan making communities safer or not? If yes, what are the relevant details? If not, what are the relevant details? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Premier?

The PREMIER: Thank you very much to the hon member Christians for that question, and sjô. I mean if so, what are the details, and if not, what are the details?

Of course you must understand that this is a whole of government plan and response. Every single department. As we have seen a number of the questions actually being put by other members to different departments. It is a very complex question to answer and would be probably perfect in a Standing Committee or in a written question.

But I must say yes, we have to start somewhere. I think a year ago when we came into government in this province, we had oversight and a Department of Community Safety, and we said we have got to do a lot more than just that.

And so, I think in the leadup to the start of COVID-19 I think this province actually, and the departments, every department, went above and beyond putting this plan together. Obviously some reporting disruptions happened during the last six months, but at least the last two months you have seen that the Safety Team is coming together again regularly, reporting, regularly checking.

Now I think the overall goal is to halve the murder rate, because we all know that the murder rate in some of our communities really is one of the worst rates in the world, and we cannot just leave this to the criminal justice system, or the South African Police Services, and although a province does not have that competency, only an oversight, that is why we started to really put this plan and the actions of this plan into being, and you would have seen the first 500 officers marching out into the Athlone Stadium. That was part of the law enforcement officers that we put together with the City of Cape Town. I must say that was a goose bumps moment for me. Within a few months of coming into this term, seeing probably one of the biggest single HR exercises ever to take place in the City of Cape Town, getting those first officers on the ground.

Obviously now during COVID they also had their duties changed. We saw

supporting the lockdown, etcetera, but glad to say that those focuses are back on those hotspots.

Again, the departments, like the Department of Health, on the first thousand days, I think specifically, I think of the Department of Social Development, and specifically Minister Fernandez and the work that she has been doing around gender-based violence, and really moving it from 16 days of activism to 365; really bringing it in to have full Cabinet focusses, and not just the Cabinet meeting. Full Cabinet and extended Cabinet.

So you have district mayors, municipal managers, the City of Cape Town, involved in a Cabinet session which is dedicated to gender-based violence; really trying to bring about major change. That is also a blight and a scourge on our society whereas I say often every one of us should hang our heads in shame, and we have to make a substantial dent and bring about change in this environment.

I could probably speak for an hour on this, but I definitely want to say to you yes, and I have given you some of those examples and focus areas, but every single department has got an area that they are focusing on and of course now that we are in the recovery stage you will have noticed that we are expanding our focus into three areas: in recovery, one of them continuing to be safety; the second one being one of dignity, because when you lose your job and you cannot feed your family you lose all dignity, and how do we create that safety net; and then of course all of these being brought together on how we

get jobs now, the next 100 days – we are probably sitting at 90 now – as a focus since we put that plan together. How do we make sure that we do immediate interventions from our side, but all of them are underpinned by whether we can slowly but surely build a safer society.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier. Hon member Christians?

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, I was driving in yesterday, into Parliament, I heard over the radio, and this is why I am asking the Premier that question, that I think he is aware of that 10-year old boy who was struck in the head by a stray bullet.

Nahemiah Claassen, a 10-year old Grade 6 learner, 11 o'clock in the morning, a Monday, he was struck and he is in hospital, and the various gang factions are still fighting for turf and drugs, and also it is reported that the shooting is nonstop in Parkwood. That is one example where communities are saying that these gangster activities have become the norm, and that is why my question; that is one of the incidents I heard the communities calling out for help in Parkwood. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Premier?

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, and exactly, hon member Christians. You know, when I decided probably a year and a half ago to put my hand up within my own political party and go through a process of applying to

become the Premier candidate, you apply your mind to what would it be where you would like to see a difference? Where would you like to see a difference? What do you think would be the changes that need to come about should you be successful in attaining this position?

And I have – I can tell you quite honestly that the immediate part of that process and my thinking was, “We have got to create a safer society.” You mentioned one incident, but the problem is that is one incident of hundreds and hundreds of such incidents that happen all of the time across our communities of this province, and especially in our gang-ridden areas where learners have to do their homework underneath the dining room table because it is too dangerous to sit at the table, because you could get taken out by a stray bullet.

When young children are either going somewhere in the day or walking to school, and they are stepping over dead bodies, they are all pushing each other to try and find out who this person is, and they know which gang they belong to. These are the things that break your heart when you kind of engage with communities and you have mentioned an incident, but that is exactly why this item became front and centre in the Sixth Term of Government once I got given this opportunity.

That is why even before coming in after this election, I actually at the end of our term applied to go and spend some time with Community Safety, so I could get to understand better our existing systems of oversight and

intervention, and what else can we do?

That is why I keep on calling for extra resources coming to this province. One would imagine that if you are the highest murder capital in our country, this is what is happening to our children every single day, that you would think that there would be allocation of even more resources. Not just an equity in allocation across the province, but more resources, and quite frankly the opposite is the case. We have too few policemen and -women; we have too few POPS policemen and -women; by far the province with the least allocation.

I am not even going to start on the criminal justice system. We should be focusing very differently on our criminal justice system. Let us just even think about how many people are actually let out without completing their sentences, or having any kind of rehabilitation in our criminal system, in our prison systems, and if you speak to our police that are out there, they are under such severe pressure, they are not even told that these criminals are actually being let out early and put back on the streets, and it just exacerbates these crimes that we are having in our region.

It is actually totally unacceptable, and that is why this plan and this real energy on focusing on trying to make a big difference in the lives of so many people in our province. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier. Hon member Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, and the Premier [Inaudible.]

Hon Deputy Speaker, we of course understand the role of SAPS, but we also understand the role of the Province. I have mentioned it, that the Premier made a [Inaudible – connection lost.] for safer communities. We heard the Safety Plan of cutting the murder rate in half, but it seems on the ground there are not safe communities.

Just another example: In Bonteheuwel I know some time there were 100 law enforcement officers allocated to Bonteheuwel, but just reading yesterday again they say:

“The impoverished, crime-ridden Bonteheuwel have been blamed by gangsters and criminals taking over, hampering the needed development in the area. One resident said that, ‘It is too often that crime is reported to law enforcement, with no response.’”

So, hon Premier, I am asking specifically, there is a lot of finances put to this problem, and I know it is top priority, but it seems to us that our communities are not benefiting by this Safety Plan.

So I am asking, I do not know, hotspots and all of that, our children are being injured, our people are not safe, and I do not see the benefits, dividends of this R1,4 billion plan, Safety Plan. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker, and to the honourable member.

I mean let us just look at numbers. So we have 20,000 police officers in our province, who are 20,000 that, I want to say the majority of them are really trying their best to make a difference. We are 4,500, probably from an equity point of view, in policing in our province but probably we should have another five to six to even 7 000 policemen and women allocated to this province if we really want to start to make a dent.

Now we do not have control over that in the province. We keep on calling for it, we have even had inter-governmental disputes – a whole range of issues – but let us just say 20 000. Imagine if we had to put an extra 6 000 men and women on the streets to try to make the community safer, just from a policing numbers point of view, what that kind of budget would mean.

So of course, you are talking about a substantial amount of money in our existing Budget, which is under severe pressure because we are not getting any new allocations from National Government. And in actual fact, the National Government had been running things really badly up until pre-Covid, and post-Covid our finances are going to be in a really difficult situation in South Africa. We saw our growth numbers coming out so you can just imagine what our tax revenues are going to be like.

So obviously I want to say to you that I would love to be able to put an extra few thousand men and women in boots on the ground to actually bring about change quicker. We have to do what we have to do within the framework and the options and balancing out education, health issues, social services issues, all of the other departments and taking on different new mandates that are not really funded.

So these are the difficulties and choices that we have to make and they are going to be even more difficult going forward over the next few months and years, but we will continue to put as much effort and resource into making this province a safer place for the very reason, and very points that you bring up, hon member, because people in our province deserve way better. If they are not going to get that service out of National Government, then we have to then, as an unfunded mandate, really start to put as much resource into bringing about that difference, while we continue with our disputes and pushing.

In actual fact, we would like a unison of calls from across this Provincial Parliament, every single political party should be at one and *ad idem* saying that we need more resources, we need more dedication, we need more focus on crime in this province, because we have to make a difference and, specifically the crime that you are talking about, where gangsters are shooting each other in open warfare in our communities and not just shooting each other, but they are actually destroying lives of families, shooting children etc. as you mention. We definitely need more resources and deserve

better.

We are almost at the second anniversary, almost two years, since the re-establishment of the Anti-Gang Unit. How many of those gang bosses have been arrested and put behind bars in the last two years? Not even going through the court process. Let us just talk about how many have been arrested. And you can walk in any street, in any gang-infested area, where citizens are traumatised by those very gangsters and they will rattle off the names of the gangsters. Everybody knows who they are, and our Anti-Gang Unit seems to be sitting on their thumbs. They do not seem to be able to do anything about it. It is almost that two-year anniversary. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier. I recognise hon Botha.

Ms L J BOTHA: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Premier, I would like to know what are the estimated job losses in the province as a result of the prolonged lockdown and how will the Provincial Government manage this? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much to the hon member for the question. Straight out I was going to say to you in the hospitality industry, 104 000 jobs. Maybe a little glimmer of hope is that in the last discussion with

Minister Maynier it looks like that number has already dropped a little bit, because we have seen the hospitality industry opening up again and we are really pushing very hard for anybody who can – I know that we have been telling everybody for months now – stay at home. Now I am saying, leave your home safely if you can and go and support a business, specifically someone in the hospitality industry. And when I say hospitality, it is not just B&Bs and hotels and restaurants. Remember the hospitality industry is an engine room to jobs in our economy.

It is those people who run little bakeries, who deliver croissants and bread to those restaurants, or those hotels, or those Bed and Breakfasts. It is the taxi driver or the tour guide. I am glad to see that tour guides can now apply online for their registration. Thank you again to the Department of Economic Development for making that available. We are innovating all the time

So that is the biggest sector and we really have to claw back as many of those jobs as we can as quickly as possible. And of course, a lot of those jobs rely on international travel. We do not have it open yet, we will be pushing for the opening of international travel to come, but in the meantime we have got to make sure that we get those businesses back up and running.

The next sector is the construction sector. We have seen a big slowdown, even prior to Covid-19, we saw a slowdown in the construction industry. Over the last few years we have been seeing some of the big companies really into business rescue, and there we are looking at 41 000 jobs. Then in the

informal sector, around 30 000 jobs, 28 to 30 000 jobs and really this is just three sectors where we are seeing big numbers of jobs and that is why now pandemic number 2 is a pandemic.

It is something that in our country we have seen a GDP number come out this week that is mind blowing. We used to get into a panic if we saw a 3% decline quarter on quarter, and now we are seeing 51% decline and I also see some economists talking about whether it is 51 or not but whether it is 40 or 50 or 60, if we panicked at 3%, it is really showing that it is a major disaster. So those are the three main sectors that we have got to really support to get back up and running as quickly as possible. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier, hon member.

Ms L J BOTHA: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I would like to know from the Premier, how will the Province work against the erosion of dignity in our communities as a result of the recent severe economic repercussions, please?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Premier?

The PREMIER: Thank you. So obviously I have mentioned the job losses. We are focusing on, as a government, on three things, as I said in the previous question, continue with safety, jobs and dignity, and this follow-up question, if you lose your job on the one side, you now are in that space where you lose dignity. If you cannot provide for your family, mother or father or both, and

lose your job and you cannot feed your children, you cannot support your mother, really you start to lose dignity, you start to lose hope. So it is about that safety net. We have to focus on that safety net and at the same time we have to really put a lot of energy into clawing back the lost jobs and creating an environment for entrepreneurs to develop whatever the new economy is coming out, post-Covid-19.

In this recovery stage, whether it is supporting someone with a meal or a voucher on the one side, finding some way to get some of those artisans and entrepreneurs back into jobs and at the same time, making it a safe environment. These are the three main focus areas that we are going to be putting our energy into as a government in the recovery phase. Your question about dignity is a very serious one – and I look at some of these numbers and it really does worry me - because over the next few months our citizens are going to be in a bad way. I mean, just look at the suicide numbers and they are increasing.

I was listening to a radio programme this morning where NGOs that get calls for help, SOS type calls for help where people are feeling like maybe taking their own life etc., and they say that their calls have doubled now in this time. So it really is a tough environment in which we have to create this recovery plan. We have got to try and build hope and confidence in the system.

I think that this calls again, battling Covid-19, I said there is no time for

politics here. In recovery, we have all got to stand together, like we have shown we can do, irrespective of political allegiance, religious group, whatever you stood up and you helped during Covid-19, feed communities, we have to keep doing that. We have got to keep supporting each other, specifically over the next short term, as we start to get the recovery going and dignity is a big role because dignity and hope go very much together. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier. Due to time that brings us to the end of Questions to the Premier. I will now be handing over to the Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, hon members, we are now moving to Members' Statements. Hon members, I recognise the Democratic Alliance.

Ms L M MASEKO (DA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Speaker. I rise today to pay tribute to George Bizos, a pillar of justice and a force for good in our world. We all remember Nelson Mandela's iconic speech at the Rivonia trial, and I quote:

“I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all people will live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal for which I hope to live for and to see realised. But, my Lord, if it needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die”.

Not many of us realise that it was George Bizos who advised Mandela to add “if it needs be” It was this closing speech of a monumental trial that set the stage for some of the darkest days which this country has experienced.

We cannot forget that if it were not for the tireless work of the likes of George Bizos, Mandela may not even have had the opportunity to make this speech and may even have been led to the gallows. Many remember the unwavering commitment of George Bizos to the pursuit of justice. He faced a system which was overwhelmingly against him and which made the majority of South Africans pariahs in the land of their birth. He was always there to defend those who stood for the freedom of everyone in our country. He stood for freedom, justice, equality and a non-racial South Africa and these principles he saw carried into the very heart of our Constitution. It was his untiring dedication to them that saw him continue to lobby for justice and human rights and rail against the betrayal of these principles by the party which he had once fought so hard to defend.

He will always be remembered by showcasing the powerful words that changed the shape of our country for the best. Hon Speaker, we cannot just speak hollow words to George Bizos. We must commit to following his example at all times for only then can we truly honour his memory. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Maseko. Hon members, I recognise the African National Congress.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION (ANC): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. We face a massive challenge in regard to providing integrated human settlements and services to many communities. It is most acute here in Cape Town. The context is centuries of land dispossession, forced removals, evictions and decades of apartheid spatial planning.

We are seeing increasing attempts to occupy land. Some of these are driven by genuine frustrations and others by criminal syndicates and opportunists. As the ANC we want to make it clear that we do not support evictions during the period of lockdown. The courts have condemned the City of Cape Town for the brutal way in which they conducted themselves, but at the same time, as the ANC, we are very clear that the attempted land invasions during the lockdown must also be condemned. Our actions and conduct must be guided by the Constitution and by the laws of our country.

But it is clear that the struggle for land, services and human settlements will continue. The DA cannot simply condemn land invasions, yet fail to provide a clear, time-bound and well-communicated ...

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Point of order.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION (ANC): ... housing master plan. The plan must make it clear which parcels of land ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Dugmore. There is a point of order. What is

the point of order hon member?

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, Mr Speaker. I would like to know if the hon member will take a question?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): No.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Chief Whip. Hon Dugmore.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): That is not a point of order.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, thank you hon members. Hon Dugmore, will you please proceed.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION (ANC): I have only two minutes and I have timed this so please allow me to finish. We know that since 2009 there has been no building of human settlements which reverse apartheid spatial planning.

Instead the City has proceeded to sell Council land. Now the Cape High Court has instructed the City and the Province to jointly file a comprehensive report on how to address this challenge by 31 May 2021. That was the Tafelberg judgment.

The ANC appeals to the Premier to respect and abide by this ruling. This may

be our last chance to develop a plan which gives hopes to the City, a comprehensive and transparent land audit of all national, provincial, council, parastatal and well-located private land must be produced and discussed openly with communities. Council-owned golf courses must also be on the agenda. There must be an immediate moratorium on the sale of all City land.

Now, hon Speaker, more than ever, we need a cooperative government approach with all three spheres tackling this crisis together. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Dugmore. Hon members, I recognise the Democratic Alliance.

Mr R D MACKENZIE (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker. The Democratic Alliance supported the initial hard lockdown but consistently called for the gradual safe reopening of the economy. This plea fell on deaf ears for months and led to a dramatic decline of our economy's GDP. Hon Speaker, it is not COVID-19 that caused this decline. It is purely as a result of the ANC's bizarre regulations and failure to implement economic reform to match the needs of our time.

The reality is that the ANC in the Western Cape singled out this province in various calls for it to return to Alert Level 5 of the lockdown. Likewise, the EFF in this province stated that we should not have been permitted to move to lower lockdowns. The truth is that the DA's appeals for the safe resumption of economic activity was the right one.

This is given that we now face a second pandemic of unemployment and an analysed quarterly contraction of the economy by 51%. For the citizens in South Africa this means that economic and employment opportunities are severely hampered. It means that more people join the food poverty line and food packs become temporary relief.

Hon Speaker, the Western Cape Government partners with such heroes in our civil society and together works towards the provision of dignity, jobs and a safe future. I wish to welcome and support the financial assistance of R160 000 to the Plumbago Community Garden in Lentegur, Mitchells Plain from the Department of Agricultural Affairs and Minister Ivan Meyer. This initiative forms part of a greater food security commodity project which aims to empower communities and equip them with the necessary infrastructure and skills to ensure sustainable food security in our communities.

Hon Speaker, the ANC is not serious about restoring the livelihoods of citizens. Their silence on the recovery plans and tender fraud speaks volumes. Just yesterday, President Ramaphosa admitted that such corruption related to PPE procurement is tantamount to murder. But here in the Western Cape we get back to work. We build and support sustainable practices, like food security to empower and provide opportunities for our residents like the food gardens in Mitchells Plain. The DA-led Western Cape Government explores and utilises every opportunity ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Mackenzie.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: ... to support community-based initiatives and improve the dignity of all people. Thank you, hon Speaker. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Your time is up. Thank you. Hon members, I recognise the GOOD party, hon Herron.

Mr B N HERRON: Thank you, hon Speaker. Public land is in the custody of various governments as an accident of history. All three spheres of government have a constitutional obligation to use public land they hold in their custody to advance their constitutional duty to provide adequate housing. This DA Government has openly demonstrated that they do not accept this, or they do not understand this.

Premier Winde has said repeatedly, that he will only release public land for housing if the National Government does so first. This policy is unlawful, and it is immoral. The Premier and the DA are hostile to providing decent housing. Why will they not allocate land for housing when it is so desperately needed, unless the National Government does so first? Yet, they can provide R1,3 billion for policing in the City of Cape Town, when policing is not a provincial mandate and with no condition that National Government must match this.

We will never be a safe city, if we are not a just and a housed one. This Government was caught out by the Western Cape High Court which recorded in its Tafelberg judgment, the former head of the Provincial Department of

Human Settlements saying:

“For the record it needs to be stated that until now no property that resorted under the custodianship of the Provincial Department of Transport and Public Works has been released and used for human settlement development.”

In contrast, the Provincial Department of Human Settlements has already transferred the custodianships of literally hundreds of hectares of service sites to the Department of Transport and Public Works for educational and other purposes.

The Court said that it was apparent that the former HOD of Housing had a good understanding of the imperatives of land reform and housing as contemplated in Sections 25 and 26 of the Constitution. It is really shocking to learn that the Provincial Government had never released land in the custody of its Public Works Department for housing purposes.

If the DA has a problem with the slow release of land and the custody of National Government, then lead by example. Look to the land in your own custody and release it for housing. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Herron. Order hon members, hon members, I recognise the African Christian Democratic Party, hon Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Thank you, hon Speaker. As a member of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament, I have asked the Western Cape Police Ombudsman to investigate a matter regarding the death of a young, innocent boy, namely Leo Williams, aged 9.

We, as the African Christian Democratic Party in the Western Cape, are outraged at the killing of Leo Williams. Leo was shot by a stray rubber bullet reportedly fired by a police officer on 31 July 2020. What shocks us is that he was indoors at the time of the shooting.

On Saturday, 5 September 2020, the St Helena residents held a peaceful demonstration and handed over a memorandum to the Station Commander. Residents are also calling for the Station Commander to step down. What is further worrying is the further dissatisfaction that IPID is dragging its feet.

As the ACDP in the Western Cape, we believe someone should take responsibility for the death because the shots were fired during a service delivery protest. Williams was fighting for his life in the Red Cross Children's Hospital in Cape Town, but unfortunately he succumbed to his injuries two weeks later. Our prayers go out to the family. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Christians. Hon members, I recognise the African National Congress.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, Mr Speaker. The ANC in the Western

Cape is saddened by the news that a veteran human rights lawyer and anti-apartheid activist has passed away at the age of 92. We dip our revolutionary flag and salute him for the pivotal role he played in the struggle against apartheid.

George Bizos arrived in South Africa with his father in 1941, having fled the Nazi-occupied Greece. In 1947 he applied at Wits to study medicine, but he was rejected. That is how he ended up studying law and going on to lead a successful life as a renowned and revered human rights champion and one of the architects of our Constitution. He was respected by Madiba, his fellow prison trialist and the ANC in general. He moved from being Nelson Mandela's legal colleague and later became his legal representative during the famous Rivonia trial and years later he would attend secret meetings with O R Tambo in exile.

He appeared in numerous inquests into deaths in detention during apartheid, including those of Steve Biko, Ahmed Timol and Neil Aggett. He also appeared for the families of mineworkers at the Marikana Commission of Inquiry. He was indeed a gentle giant and human rights champion.

We convey our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends and colleagues and various foundations of former apartheid activists and the ANC in general. Nelson Mandela said about him:

“While I was imprisoned on Robben Island and in other jails, George

Bizos was one of my major lifelines. When I was hospitalised during my time at Pollsmoor Prison, it was he, a whole trusted confidant, whom I could send to assure Oliver Tambo in Lusaka of the preliminary negotiations I was conducting for the release of our comrades and plans to end apartheid.”

I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon Lekker, your time is up. Hon members, I recognise the Democratic Alliance.

Ms W F PHILANDER (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker. At this stage there have been twelve additional attacks on emergency medical staff compared to the same period last year in the Western Cape. Upon a visit to the Worcester EMS Centre on the 3 September, one of the paramedics explained their traumatic experience when responding to a rape case where a minor was left to die. Hon Speaker, this is the brutal nature of the work of paramedics but in addition, they are subject to an increasing level of criminal attacks.

One of the latest attacks on EMS staff came after a hoax call to the emergency call centre. When reaching their provided location, paramedics were held at gunpoint and they were robbed. Hon Speaker, this illustrates that attacks are no longer merely opportunistic or of grave concern, but a matter of special investigation. I am appalled by these senseless attacks. The call to behavioural change in communities towards our paramedics is not enough,

while these men and women continue to put their lives at risk in the execution of their duties.

Over the long weekend last month, EMS in the province responded to over 5000 incidents. Not a single staff member at the centre in Worcester, as informed, went on leave during the Covid-19 period. Hon Speaker, irrespective of the immense pressure and trauma they experience, our EMS personnel continue to serve communities in exceptionally challenging circumstances. What was significant during the visit was the camaraderie amongst these workers and their commitment and dedication towards their service.

Hon Speaker, paramedics and EMS services are invaluable to communities especially where individuals are unable to seek urgent medical assistance. Hon Speaker, as people of this ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Philander.

Ms W F PHILANDER: In conclusion, hon Speaker, today I rise in solidarity with every emergency medical staff member ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Philander, you are done now, your time is up. You only have two minutes.

Ms W F PHILANDER: Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Marais, Freedom Front Plus.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Thank you, hon Speaker. In light of the unacceptably high instances of reported corruption in various provinces, with regard to tenders for the supply of personal protective equipment, the Freedom Front Plus requests that the Premier and his Executive of the Western Cape allow themselves to be held to a higher standard of ethical behaviour and accountability than the rest of the country.

The Freedom Front Plus therefore requests that urgent, decisive action be taken against any officials, members or suppliers who are convicted of corrupt activities during or after the lockdown period. We further call on all political parties in this House to cooperate with the Premier and his Executive in this regard.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Marais. Hon members, I recognise Al-Jama-ha, hon Brinkhuis? Thank you, hon members, I now request any member of the Executive who wishes to respond to the Members' Statements in terms of Rule 145? Is there another one? There is a last one and that is the Democratic Alliance, before the response.

Mr G BOSMAN (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker. This week the Community Safety Standing Committee received a briefing from the Western Cape Police Ombudsman. The Ombudsman presented the status of the Victim Empowerment Service administered by SAPS, which we have come to realise

is in an utter breakdown of this national programme.

Out of ten, seven gender-based violence victims are neither informed of their right to protection nor their right to be treated with fairness and respect at SAP stations. Hon Speaker, victims need to feel safe, secure and protected and given the time and space to talk and come to terms with their trauma, but often times the victims are left to sit in an open space under the glare of everyone to see, like the rape survivor who attempted to report a rape at Athlone police station, but instead had to sit in the charge office for four hours.

In a further incident, a young LGBTQ person was not afforded the opportunity to make a statement and receive support after surviving rape. They were instead told by a SAPS official to go home and not take a bath but to return the following day.

Hon Speaker, such an atrocious status quo speaks to the dire problem that less than ten per cent of members elected to be trained for the National Victim Empowerment Training Programme have been sent for such training by SAPS. Further, none of the survivors were informed of their right to compensation or their right to protection.

When we have cases of rape survivors being refused support and a pathetic 20% of the complainants interviewed in a victim friendly or private room, we cannot be surprised that the trust in our police has eroded. As a result, cases

go unreported and the cycle of violence is perpetuated.

SAPS is the custodian of rape kits and when these kits are unavailable, victims are forced to sit with and to be surrounded by the evidence of their violation. Mr Speaker, they cannot escape the scene of the crime because they are the evidence. SAPS thus fail to protect the victim due to negligence, an unorganised system and just plain corruption. What is meant to be the initial point of entry to the criminal justice system for the majority, has become a hostile environment; where victims of violence ought to receive care, support and a pathway to justice, their rights are instead trampled on. The National Victim Empowerment Programme ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Bosman.

Mr G BOSMAN: Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Your time is up. Thank you, hon Bosman. Hon members, I would like to request at this stage any member of the Executive who so wishes to respond to the Members' Statements, to do so for no longer than five minutes. Hon Simmers?

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Thank you, hon Speaker. For the past four weeks we have had to entertain various members making utterances, utilising very lucrative and creative ways to package their version of the Western Cape reality. Sometimes it was not even based on fact but

very good fiction. And, yet again, over the past four weeks we have been very transparent in responding with facts, because the people of the Western Cape deserve facts, not a story that sounds good to evoke emotions, as sadly member Herron is continuously doing.

Before I became a member of the Executive, I took an oath of office, which means one of those aspects is I must tell the truth and I must act in the interests of the people of this province. Yet, the same member, who has seemingly for the last four weeks tried to weave a story of good intentions for his own outcomes, not in the interests of the people of this province, has now continuously reiterated a fact that is not true. But, hon Speaker, what he did rightfully point out during his statement today is that all three spheres of government have a role to play, and from the Western Cape side this Provincial Government has released provincially-owned land that is in excess of 365 hectares, that is the exact hectarage, for the development of human settlements across the Western Cape.

Municipalities have also contributed their state-owned land, within their boundaries, for the development of state-owned land. Now those are two spheres of government that I am referring to, hon Speaker.

But, furthermore, there are a further three parcels of land or specifically provincially-owned land, in the custodianship of Transport and Public Works in the Western Cape, which has long-gone been known to be earmarked for development, but due to litigation they cannot go to the next stage. These are

the Conradie site, which we already know will yield three and a half thousand housing opportunities; 49% of that is going to be social housing. We are aware of the Woodstock Hospital and all the litigation surrounding that matter. Thirdly, the Helen Bowden site which will yield 302 social housing opportunities.

Hon Speaker, members of this House must not be disingenuous in trying to utilise their warped version or selective information from a specific court judgment to suit their own no-good agenda. The time of playing with the emotions of the people Western Cape is gone. They need to hear the truth, the real truth, not some GOOD story to tell. So the Provincial Government and the municipalities within the Western Cape are playing their part to execute their constitutional mandate when it comes to making developable land available for human settlements development.

Sadly, there is one sphere missing here, the National Department of Transport and Public Works. Yes, we have heard glamorous stories and statements about these 14 000 hectares, when on 20 August, hon Speaker, in the National Assembly, the same Minister had to admit that they are investigating certain matters.

So I would encourage the hon member, before he reiterates and tries to invoke unnecessary emotions, get your facts straight. This Provincial Government is doing what it is supposed to do according to the constitutional mandate. Our municipalities are doing what they are supposed to be doing.

Get on board, get the National Department of Transport and Public Works on board, because then we can truly say all three spheres of government are working together.

Hon Speaker, in conclusion there is an Afrikaans saying: †“Ek kan die donkie na die water vat maar ek kan hom nie maak drink nie.” Net soos ‘n donkie sy kop twee keer teen dieselfde klip moet kap, die agb lid Herron kap dit al vir vier weke. Dit is tyd dat die goeie stories hul einde moet kry na die realiteit en dit aan die kiesers van die Wes-Kaap verkondig moet word. Baie dankie.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

["I can lead the donkey to the water, but I cannot make it drink." Just as a donkey hits its head twice against the same stone, the hon Herron has already been hitting it for four weeks. It is time for the good stories to end and become the reality and be told to the voters of the Western Cape. Thank you.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Order, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Simmers. Hon members, that concludes Members' Statements.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Is there a point of order, hon the Chief Whip of the Opposition?

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, Mr Speaker. I wish to raise a point of order on what member Simmers has just said. He used an idiom in Afrikaans referring to a member of this House as a donkey. Now I would like you to rule whether that phrase is parliamentary.

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members. This is a point of order, let us hear the hon member. Are you done hon Lekker?

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): No, hon Speaker. I want you to rule whether the word "donkey" that MEC Simmers has just used, referring to a member of this House, is parliamentary or not?

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Lekker. Hon members, I wish to rule immediately on this matter. I have just been advised by the Table staff that this is not a reference to a member, and therefore the point of order is not sustained. Thank you very much for that. Yes, my Afrikaans is getting policed hon Lekker, so I know next time it will be A-Grade Afrikaans. I keep learning every day.

May I request, hon members, that we deal with the Motions and Notices of Motion. I recognise hon Marais in the House.

Mr P J MARAIS: Thank you Speaker, for the elevation of my opportunity to speak. I give notice that I shall move:

That in light of several court rulings in favour of illegal land invaders in the Western Cape, that the Western Cape Government, in cooperation with the Metro and rural municipalities, draft a code of conduct for members of the Anti Land Invasion Units to bring their conduct in line with our country's Bill of Rights in respect of peoples' dignity, resisting the use of excessive force and confiscating personal belongings of the evictees;

I further move, that this House requests the Minister of Local Government to engage with Mayors of municipalities and remind them that any operation involving the eviction of people occupying illegal structures should be done with the cooperation of the Court Sherriff as stipulated in Section 4, Subsection 11 of the PIE Act. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Marais. Hon members, I recognise hon Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Speaker. I give notice that I shall move:

That this House debates the taxi wars in the Western Cape. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Christians. Hon members, I recognise hon Marais.

Mr P J MARIAS: Hon Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That following the briefing by the Police Ombudsman on 8 September 2020 and the testimony of a complainant, Ms Lucinda Evans, I move that this House recommends the establishment of an independent Western Cape provincial task team or committee, mandated by the Western Cape Minister of Community Safety, after consultation with the Provincial Police Commissioner, to randomly and regularly inspect police stations across the Western Cape and to produce a quarterly report to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on safety with regard to the conditions which exist at police stations and the treatment experienced by rape victims and those of the LGBTQ community when cases of assault or rape are reported. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Notice is taken, hon Marais. Hon members, I recognise hon Brinkhuis. Thank you, hon members. Alright, hon Brinkhuis.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Thank you, hon Speaker. I give notice that I shall move:

That despite the many concerns and justifiable objections raised by teachers, trade unions and individuals on the return to school of all learners, schools still have reopened none the less. We are aware that the majority of our schools lack the basic resources to adhere to the COVID-19 safety regulations. When it comes to personal protective equipment, schools are now in full swing but the concerns still remain on a number of matters such as, who sees to it that the transport supplied by the Department adheres to the safety regulations as well as private transport used by thousands of learners; the social support for teachers and learners who may be traumatised by the loss of a loved one or the fear of contracting the virus; that masks be used by all children irrespective of the Quintile school they attend. There are many children from non-affluent homes who attend Quintile 4 and 5 schools. We further urge the Department to work closer with teachers, unions and involve them in doing proper risk assessment at schools. I so move.

Thank you, hon Speaker.

[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Brinkhuis. Hon members, I just want to request the hon members that we distinguish between the members' Notices of Motion and Motions without Notice. If we continue on this trajectory we

might find confusion, and I would like to request that there are no overlaps in this regard and the procedural unit will advise also the party workers to assist, so that the overlap does not continue. So hon members must please assist me in this regard. May I then, at this point request hon Marran.

Mr P MARRAN: Hon Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the information coming forward indicating overpricing, fraud and theft with the procurement of COVID-19 equipment in the DA-run Western Cape and municipal governments. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Marran. Notice is taken. Hon members, I recognise hon Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. I give notice that I shall move:

That this Legislature deliberates on the continued rape and sexual harassment of learners at Western Cape education institutions. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Sayed. Notice is taken. Hon members, I recognise hon Mvimbi.

Mr L L MVIMBI: Thank you, hon Speaker. I give notice that I shall move:

That the House discusses the inappropriate usage of pre-approved contracts to supply COVID-19 personal protective equipment, also known as PPE during the pandemic, in the light of these contracts being awarded by the Western Cape Provincial Government, at least two and half years before Coronavirus, without entering into any additional competitive procurement processes. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Mvimbi. Notice is taken. I recognise hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I give notice that I shall move:

That this Legislature deliberates and examines why National Police Commissioner, General Khehla Sithole, upon request, only received ten competence certificates from about 1200 city law enforcement officers and why the other competence certificates are still outstanding and calls on the Metro Police Chief, Wayne le Roux, to explain why these officers

are deemed to be above the law by not having the legally required certificates. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. Notice is taken. I now recognise hon Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, hon Speaker. I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the Special Report by the Auditor-General on the financial management of Government's COVID-19 initiatives, in particular the findings on the Western Cape Government. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Nkondlo. Notice is taken. Hon members, I recognise hon Nkondlo again.

Ms N NKONDLO: Thank you, †Somlomo. [Speaker.] I give notice that I shall move:

That the House mandates the honourable Speaker to bring to the House, through the Standing Committee on Finance, a progress report regarding the process to develop the Money Bills Amendment Procedure and

Related Matters Bill for the Western Cape Provincial Parliament. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Nkondlo. Notice is taken and it shall be actioned. Hon members that concludes the Notices of Motion. We now move to Motions without Notice. I recognise hon Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Speaker. I give notice that I shall move:

That the House acknowledges the 18-year-old Nyanga school girl, Asiphe Mkhafa, for creating an e-hailing taxi service for women to protect them from gender-based violence.

Hon Speaker, we are referring to a recent article which highlighted how Asiphe started the Women Go service for women to protect them from gender-based violence as well as creating jobs for women. She created this platform, made up only of female drivers, to ensure that women can travel safely to work, although she never experienced violence herself. She is also developing an app that will be available soon. Hon Speaker, with this inspiration to all women in the country, the ACDP would like to wish her well in her future endeavours. I thank you.

[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Christians. Hon members, I recognise hon Brinkhuis.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Mr Speaker, is the motion [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Chief Whip. Hon members, in dealing with the previous motion by hon Christians, I would like to put to the House whether there are any objections? No objections, motion agreed to. Thank you, Chief Whip for drawing my attention to that. Hon members, I recognise hon Brinkhuis.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House recognises 6 to 12 September as BC Week in commemoration of our struggle icon, Steve Biko, leader of the Black Consciousness Movement. Steve Biko was arrested at a roadblock in August 1977 near Port Elizabeth with fellow comrade Peter Cyril Jones; after several days of brutal torture by the white security police, Biko died on 12 September 1977. Thank you, hon Speaker.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Brinkhuis. Hon members, are there any

objections for the motion?

HON MEMBERS: Object, object.

The SPEAKER: There is an objection. The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. Order members. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Yet Helen Zille praises ... [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members. I now recognise hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you very much, Speaker. I move without notice:

That this Legislature notes a senior Treasury official of this Provincial Government appeared in court for the fourteenth time after the alleged rape of a seven-year old minor; notes statements by MECs that members of the Provincial Department of Community Safety Watching Brief Unit attend these court appearances and keep an eye on it; further notes, that I personally attended and checked on the last court appearance, and there was no person other than myself, an advocate who assisted the victims, the victim's parents and the regular court officials; notes too that this means someone is misleading the MEC to believe this serious case is under surveillance by the special unit attending court cases. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Objection. How does he know who our officials are?

The SPEAKER: Thank you ...

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Objection!

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon members, order. Order it is an objection, it is not a debate. If there is an objection the motion will be printed on the Order Paper. I now recognise hon Baartman.

Ms D BAARTMAN: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That this House notes that the Clicks Group and TRESemme of the Unilever Group were recently at the centre of a controversy which assigned positive words to persons with caucasian hair and negative words to persons with afro-textured hair; expresses disappointment that such controversy took place in our society which continues to struggle with racial discrimination; commends the Clicks Group for acting in an appropriate manner by issuing apologies, withdrawing the offensive third party images, taking further steps to engage stakeholders, auditing third party and own promotional material for implicit and explicit bias; ensuring diversity and inclusivity training for their head office

employees and prioritising their diversity and inclusivity training programme; calls on all stakeholders in the hair products industry to evaluate their promotional material and critically reflect on the values which their products promote, so that no one single beauty standard is promoted at the expense of others; condemns the violent action taken by political opportunists which resulted in the destruction of property and loss of economic activity, particularly in the second pandemic of unemployment; encourages the Clicks Group to lay criminal charges against those who called for and participated in such violent action and acknowledges the beauty of natural afro-textured hair and calls on everyone with this hair to feel nothing but pride and joy and to continue to celebrate it every day of their life. I thank you.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Baartman. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion? No objections. The motion is agreed to. Hon members, I now recognise hon Mvimbi.

Mr L L MVIMBI: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the Legislature notes that one person died, and a woman was critically injured when their car got hit by a truck at the crossing of the R44 and R101 at Klapmuts and calls for a probe into the safety of this crossing. I so move, hon Speaker.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Mvimbi. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections? The motion is agreed to. Hon Mackenzie?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House expresses its tremendous grief at the passing of Advocate George Bizos; notes that Advocate Bizos is a shining example of a principled human being who was dedicated to the pursuit of human rights for all and is most well-known for his role in the Treason and Rivonia Trials providing hope for many during the darkest hours of apartheid; notes the vital role and extension of his hope through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission where he fought for justice for victims of apartheid crimes; commends Advocate Bizos's pursuit for a free, equal and non-racial South Africa, cementing these principles as the foundation of our Constitution and Bill of Rights; further acknowledges that Advocate Bizos was never one to ignore injustice and as such, in recent times, was a vocal critic of the high levels of corruption, the lack of principled leaders and the disregard for the human rights of the poor and the most vulnerable in our country; and results in the current sitting, with permission of the Speaker, for members of this House to rise and observe a moment of silence in memory of Advocate George Bizos. I so move, Speaker.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, are there any objections for the motion being read without notice? No objections? Motion agreed to. I would like to request the House to rise for a moment of silence.

[Moment of silence observed.]

The SPEAKER: May his soul rest in peace. You may all be seated. Thank you, hon members. Hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you, Hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That this Legislature notes the ANC welcomes every effort to improve SAPS' services to the people and so does SAPS' leadership; further, the ANC lauds the Western Cape community crime fighting structures for the support given to CPFs in the fight against gender-based violence, and finally notes that the ANC supports the Standing Committee's resolution that a meeting of Social Development, the Department of Community Safety and SAPS, needs to be convened to look into the Victim Empowerment Programme. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. Hon member, are there any objections

to the motion being read without notice? No objections. Motion agreed to.

START OF URSULA

The SPEAKER: ...agreed to. I now recognise hon Maseko.

Ms L M MASEKO: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House conveys its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Juanita Willemse, a 31-year-old mother of three whose life has been brutally taken away from her and her body dumped in a field in Hawston by a person known to the family. The House further urges the relevant law enforcement agencies to leave no stone unturned to ensure that the perpetrator is brought to book in order for justice to be served. May the family and friends of the deceased find solace in the love of the Lord. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Maseko. Hon members are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections? Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes the 10-year-old Parkwood boy, Nehemiah Arries, who was hit in the head on Monday by a stray bullet during a Grassy

Park gang shooting, while playing in the street, died in hospital after life support had been switched off on Tuesday; commiserates with all family and friends who lost somebody dear to them in these ongoing street war by gangs and commends SAPS for taking into custody two suspected men. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections? Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon America.

Mr D AMERICA: Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House condemns the nepotism and cronyism the ANC has displayed rejecting a possible candidate for a job. In a sworn affidavit, unemployed Juliana Farad stated that the Executive Mayor of the Matzikama Municipality, Mathilda Bains, offered her a job within the EPWP program. Subsequent to this the offer was retracted and Juliana is no longer an ANC member. Hon Speaker, the ANC has recently raised the issue of nepotism within a department yet seems to be silent when a municipality under their control, deprives an individual of a livelihood. We cannot allow this bias and nepotism to deprive our people from earning a living. Hon Speaker, that this House further notes that the ANC, through its policy of cadre deployment, has failed Juliana Farad

and many others. It is further noted that Juliana Farad has laid a criminal charge ... [Interjection.]

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): I object in advance.

Mr D AMERICA:

... at the Klawer Police Station on 2 September 2020 against the Mayor and we call upon the ANC and the police to act swiftly in this matter. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

HON MEMBERS: Objection!

The SPEAKER: Thank you. [Interjections.] Thank you, hon America. Hon members, the objection is noted, and the motion will be printed in the Order Paper. Hon members, I recognise hon Mvimbi.

Mr L L MVIMBI: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes that a female bus passenger was caught on Sunday on the N2 near Plettenberg Bay with Mandrax tablets worth more than R700 000 in her possession and she will soon appear in court; and commends the South African Police Service for tightening its circle to

catch and bring drug traffickers to book. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Mvimbi. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections? Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Philander.

Ms W F PHILANDER: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes the commemoration of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Day on 9 September; that the emphasis be placed on the fact that no amount of alcohol is safe during pregnancy; that the House further notes that the FAS disorder is 100% preventable and therefore consuming alcohol during pregnancy is a choice that affects our future generations at large, and Speaker, that we thank the Western Cape Department of Health for their concerted efforts in creating awareness and prevention programmes in our various communities. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

‘n AGB LID: Dop-stelsel.

An HON MEMBER: Dop system.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Philander. Hon members, are there any

objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections? Motion agreed to. Hon members, I recognise hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice on behalf of the ANC:

That the House notes a former station commander of SAPS in Oudtshoorn and Athlone, Brigadier Layona Januari, 59 years old, is one of the latest COVID-19 victims; notes this diabetic who overcame cancer, died after 56 days on a ventilator in a coma; that condolences be sent to her family, friends and colleagues. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections? Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon America.

Mr D AMERICA: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes the plight of the residents of the Matzikama Municipality. The residents have battled under the rule of the ANC, as problems within the Municipality have continued to worsen. Service delivery, amongst others, has seen a rapid decline within the town and the town being left without water for three days a week ago. The ANC

has proceeded to replace the Speaker in said municipality by appointing another illegally. They are now looking to remove the Mayor from power as well. Hon Speaker, that this House further notes that the GOOD and ANC coalition have failed the residents of the Matzikama Municipality. While they continue to fight amongst each other, to have access to resources and positions, critical service delivery and vacancies are not filled. Speaker, I call upon the ANC to desist from viewing the Municipality as a cash cow, restore stability and focus on service delivery. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Objection!

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon members. Hon America, there is an objection ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: You must win elections.

The SPEAKER: There is an objection and the motion will be printed on the Order Paper. I now recognise hon Windvogel.

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes that the non-profit organisation, Gift of the Givers,

has contributed R10 million to spruce up a 60-bed ward at the new Mitchells Plain Hospital. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Windvogel. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Hon Speaker, that last part cut off. Sorry.

The SPEAKER: Alright.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: The last part cut off.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Mackenzie. We heard everything. Maybe it is your part.

An HON MEMBER: It is him.

The SPEAKER: Is the problem with everyone, hon members?

An HON MEMBER: No, I heard it on my side, Speaker.

An HON MEMBER: We heard the motion. We heard the motion, Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Because we heard from this side. So, I wanted to know whether is it a problem that side only? Okay. Alright. Are there any objections to the motion? Who is that? Is that the Chief Whip?

Ms D M BAARMAN: Hon Speaker, it is Deidre Baartman.

The SPEAKER: Hon Baartman?

Ms D M BAARTMAN: You did not see my hand, so I thought I would just quickly try to speak to you directly. Hon Speaker, not all of us have the same connectivity and we do not all have super-fast bandwidth and I would like to support the request just to read the last sentence please. Just so that all of us can be in the same WhatsApp group today. Thank you.

An HON MEMBER: No man.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Baartman. The members were saying they heard the motion. So, if you are also affected then we are going to allow the hon member to go ahead and read the motion again. Hon Windvogel.

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes that the non-profit organisation, Gift of the Givers, has contributed R10 million to spruce up a 60-bed ward at the new Mitchells Plain Hospital. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Windvogel. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice?

An HON MEMBER: Objection!

The SPEAKER: Objections. Who is objecting?

An HON MEMBER: Me.

An HON MEMBER: Objecting to a donation?

An HON MEMBER: I object because we do not know if it is the truth.

The SPEAKER: Who is objecting?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: No objections. No objections.

An HON MEMBER: No, but you must be clear. You object, then no objections.

An HON MEMBER: These issues must be discussed ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order, order.

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

An HON MEMBER: That is why there is a caucus that sits before the ...

[Interjection.]

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

An HON MEMBER: There are two caucuses in the DA. They are divided on these issues.

The SPEAKER: Order, hon member.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: No objections. We are not objecting, Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members. I can see who is talking and I am going to call you by name, and I would not want to do that. Please, let us pay attention and be honourable in our behaviour here so that the House can proceed smoothly. Are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections. Motion agreed to. Hon members, I recognise hon Mitchell.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without

notice:

That the House congratulates the Western Cape Department of Transport and Public Work's Red Dot taxi transport service as they have reached new service delivery milestones. Notes the Red Dot taxi service has conducted over 70 000 passenger trips, over 1,1 million passenger kilometres; welcomes that this service has completed over 10 000 passenger trips for residents who are transported to and from COVID-19 quarantine facilities; underscores the importance of the extraordinary steps the Western Cape Government takes to ensure the safety of its healthcare workers as well as its residents; and extends its gratitude to residents of the province who have heeded the call for individual behavioural change in the light of the health pandemic; and further notes that together with Government, the private and public sectors, we have collectively achieved great progress in decreasing active COVID-19 cases in the Western Cape. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Mitchell. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections? Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes the alleged murderer of the Hawston mother of three, Juanita Willemse who was brutally killed by a boyfriend, appeared in the Hermanus Magistrate Court and that the accused abandoned his bail application and must appear again on 8 October 2020. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections? Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Philander.

Ms W F PHILANDER: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes that the Standing Committee for Health, on 9 September 2020, conducted an unannounced oversight visit to the T C Newman Community Day Centre; that the multi-party committee unanimously resolved to congratulate the Western Cape Department of Health and the facility management on the management, procedures and protocols in place to best serve the health needs within the community; and further notes that the Committee further resolved that the T C Newman CDC is indeed a sterling example of healthcare excellence. I so move Speaker.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Philander. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections? Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House commends the Ahlul-Bat Foundation of South Africa and the Gift of the Givers for their generous contributions, working with the Cape Town Central and Atlantic Seaboard Parliamentary Constituency Office, which has made it possible for food to be provided to more than 1 000 Imizamo Yethu residents, who lost their homes due to fires in the early hours of Sunday morning. I so move, hon Speaker.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Sayed. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections? Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes law enforcement officers of Cape Town who do not have the legally required competency certificates, must cease all work and join with the Metro Police as they may only operate with SAPS as the leading agent; and notes the majority could not produce these competency certificates when required and that Cape Town rogue units had to be summoned to appear last week at a parliamentary portfolio committee to examine the humiliation of a Khayelitsha resident who was arbitrarily evicted, pulled naked from his dwelling and publicly assaulted, thereby violating the COVID-19 lockdown laws. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Objection! This is misleading the House.

An HON MEMBER: Objection.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon members. [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: All the certificates were handed over to the police.

The SPEAKER: The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. I now recognise hon Kama again.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Objection in advance.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): †Hayi, hayi. Mka! [No, no. Go away!]

Mr M KAMA: Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: Hon Min Fritz. Order, hon members.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Hon Speaker?

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members. You cannot object to the motion before it is raised.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: I withdraw. I withdraw.

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

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Hon Speaker, I do not know if I misheard what the hon Chief Whip of the Opposition said, but I heard an unparliamentary word ...

Mr R D MACKENZIE: She did say it.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): ... during those utterances. So without

casting aspersions on the member, I would ask if you could ask the member if she in fact did say so, and then revert back to the House.

The SPEAKER: What did she say?

An HON MEMBER: He is not even sure.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): She said “kak”, Speaker. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Haybo! No man!

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members. No. †Hayibo! [No man!] Order, order hon members. Hon the Chief Whip of the Official Opposition, do you want to ... [Interjection.]

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Yes, Mr Speaker?

The SPEAKER: ...tell the House exactly what you said?

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, Mr Speaker. First let me say I find it very, very mischievous of the Deputy Chief Whip to assume that I have used a swear word in this House and therefore I would first say that he must withdraw as soon as I finished responding as to what I said. Now, this is what I said, “Hayi, hayi. Mka.” Now when you say *mka* in Xhosa you are saying: “Go away”. So I wish hon Mitchell can then go back to what he said

... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order, thank you.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...and take back that word. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Lekker. Hon members, that is the statement to clarify what hon member Lekker said. Are there any further points of order?

An HON MEMBER: Hon Speaker, there was a request.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Speaker, if I may?

The SPEAKER: Hon Mitchell.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker. As I stated when I raised your attention to that, I deliberately said that I do not want to cast aspersions on the member if I did not hear correctly. So I have no objection to withdraw that insinuation.

An HON MEMBER: Withdraw.

The SPEAKER: So you are withdrawing that insinuation?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Yes, absolutely, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. I just wanted to hear the withdrawal. Thank you, hon Deputy Chief Whip (DA). Alright. Hon Mackenzie, your hand is up. Is it inadvertently up?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Hon Speaker, may I address you?

The SPEAKER: Is that a point of order?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Yes, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: You may continue, hon Mackenzie.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Hon Speaker, I would honestly prefer if the Speaker would listen to Hansard and provide this House with a clear ruling because I heard something similar. Now we are allowed to mishear. We do not all have the same ears, but I would prefer you go back because that was hard and loud and ... [Interjections.]

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Can I ... [Interjection.]

Mr R D MACKENZIE: I would prefer you to come back to the House. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, order hon members. I have already ruled on the matter. Let us proceed. [Interjections.] Hon members, the matter was clarified by both members and there is an agreement reached. The Deputy Chief Whip of the DA accepted the explanation and the motivation to what was being said and that he would ... [Interjections.] Now let us proceed as hon members ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Hon Speaker ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: ...and get on with the business of the day. I now recognise hon Nkondlo.

An HON MEMBER: Hon Speaker?

The SPEAKER: Hon Mackenzie?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: No, my hand was up on the same point of order. Now the Deputy Chief Whip cannot withdraw on my behalf and I raised the same point of order, hon Speaker.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Can I address you, Speaker?

The SPEAKER: Alright. Hon members, do you want to sit here until tomorrow? I can give you that.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Not really ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Because what is happening now, we are having a debate on a matter that has already be resolved. So, hon member Mackenzie you are saying you are not satisfied and that is what you are saying. I do not want to recognise any other person. I have already ruled on this matter and I am proceeding. So, if a member is not happy, you need to follow the Rules to engage the Speaker. Let us proceed. Hon Nkondlo.

An HON MEMBER: Hon Speaker...

Mr N D NKONDLO: Thank you. Apologies, hon Speaker ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order, order hon members. Hon Nkondlo, please stand down. There is hon Kama that I have omitted. He has two motions following each other. Hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes three young victims were shot and killed yesterday in a Grassy Park fish shop. An armed man followed two people into the shop and started shooting randomly. The third victim worked at the shop. The shooter then fled; calls on SAPS to ensure that justice prevails. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections? Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House calls on the hon Premier Alan Winde to engage with Cape Town Mayor, Dan Plato, to reconsider the stance of the City to not review the current water tariffs that are high and punitive, given the above 95% dam levels due to the recent good rains; notes this is critical as a reprieve to many households and businesses in this constrained economic climate, but also to support economic recovery.

I so moveX.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Nkondlo. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections? The Premier says he will talk to the Mayor. No objections.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Motion agreed to, with that statement that the Premier will talk to the Mayor. Hon members, I recognise hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes and lauds SAPS who followed a hijacked courier truck to Kraaifontein and arrested three suspects with stolen goods valued around R1 million and two guns illegally in their possession. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. Are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections? Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Dugmore.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSTION: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes with deep sadness the passing of the legendary human rights lawyer and anti-apartheid activist, Advocate George Bizos; and in sending its sincere condolences to the family, friends and comrades further notes the immense contribution made in defence of the victims of apartheid over decades, as well as the astute defence provided to leaders of the ANC and the broader liberation movement; notes that his life was one of sacrifice in that he forsook privilege and took hands with all South Africans, committed to establishing a united

non-racial democratic non-sexist South Africa; and further that this House expresses the wish that the legal profession of today continue to try and emulate his example of selfless service to the most vulnerable in our society who seek access to justice. May he rest in peace. †Hamba kahle mkhonto. [Go well spear.] I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon the Leader of the Official Opposition. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objection?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: No, no, Mr Speaker. Just a point of clarification Mr Speaker, if I may?

The SPEAKER: Yes, hon Minister Fritz.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: I think that was now the fourth motion on the same topic and I mean, we all completely concur with the ...
[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Yes, yes.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY:: ... sentiments that were expressed. Is there not a rule to a limit to all the stuff?

The SPEAKER: Yes. Hon Minister Fritz, yes, there are four. I have no guarantee that we do not have four more and the problem here is that hon members crafted them the way they wanted. They are all differently structured for the same person. Until the Rules that we are busy reviewing, led by hon Mitchell, tell us otherwise, the Rules Committee must guide us and lead us in this process and then only shall we arrive at a different conclusion. For now it is in line with the Rules.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Thank you.

An HON MEMBER: Min Fritz must be patient.

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon members. May I put the question again? Are there any objections to the motion being read without notice?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: No objection.

The SPEAKER: No objections. Motion agreed to. [Interjections.] Order, hon members, the ones in the Chamber, order. You see I have got two Houses, the virtual and the Chamber, so, I need to indicate which one I am addressing. Hon Lekker, your hand is still up. Is it inadvertently up? Can I lower it for you?

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Yes, please.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you, Madam. Thank you for allowing me to lower your hand, hon Lekker. Now, I recognise hon Windvogel.

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes the 22 COVID-19 related deaths yesterday in the Western Cape pushed the total to over 4 000 patients that died and that the total now stands at 4 016 mortalities and that this province has had a total of 107 624 confirmed cases since the pandemic spilled over to the Western Cape. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Windvogel. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections. Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes various rogue EFF sympathisers were arrested demonstrating at Clicks outlets in George on Monday and Goodwood on Tuesday; also notes the reports which indicate that at one incident in Port Elizabeth an old lady waved a gun and caused panic; applauds SAPS for bringing calm to the situation and making the necessary

arrests. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections. Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Mvimbi.

Mr L L MVIMBI: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes Archbishop Emeritus of the Anglican Church, Desmond Tutu and his wife Leah Tutu, escaped unscathed after their retirement house in Hermanus caught fire on Wednesday due to a faulty gas heater; and wishes them well for the rest of their retirement. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Mvimbi. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections. Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Bans.

Ms A P BANS: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes two years ago dams in the province were at an all-time low due to the severe drought, but thanks to good rainfall recently most of the dams in the province are almost full or overflowing, the best in years and calls on all residents to use this natural resource with caution. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Bans. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections. Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes a Bonteheuwel shooting killed a 25-year-old woman, Shakeena Karriem, who early on Sunday morning sat in her car when shots were fired. Calls on all involved in the criminal justice system to ensure that justice prevails. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections. Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Windvogel.

Mr R WINDVOGEL: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes a former worker at the George Hospital has been sentenced to 10 years in prison of which 5 years are suspended; besides this sentence for tender fraud, Jacob Claassen also got 5 years suspended time for corruption; and 36 months correctional service – a form of house arrest. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Windvogel. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections. Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes the Western Cape police are looking for two men who were said to have shot and killed a Malawian national shop owner near Wilderness in Touwsrante during a robbery. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections. Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Smith.

Mr D SMITH: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes an entrepreneur lost all his savings of R87 000 when he paid for a so-called tender project to a Cape Town official only to find out it was a scam. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Smith. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice? No objections. Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes that the African National Congress maintains that a proper investigation should be held to examine the backroom extension of the Head of the Education Department's contract by the hon Premier Alan Winde and by the Minister of Education in the Province that includes at least the Public Service Commission; and welcomes the Education Standing Committee meeting that is to take place next Tuesday with the Premier and with the Education MEC on this matter. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Objection.

An HON MEMBER: Objection. Objection. You must get the facts first.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Sayed. [Interjections.] Order, hon members ... [Interjection.] There is an objection and the motion will be printed on the Order Paper. I now recognise hon Kama. Hon Kama, are you winning there? Alright, let us proceed.

Mr M KAMA: Hon Speaker, I am done. Sorry, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Alright. I recognise you, hon Kama. Please proceed.

Mr M KAMA: Hon Speaker, I was indicating that I am done with my motions.

The SPEAKER: Okay. We have recorded that now. You remember the other day you said you were done, and you were not. Thank you, hon Kama. Hon members, I recognise hon Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes the inhumane evictions in Hangberg that are taking place under DA-led City of Cape Town, which is a violation of the court order in favour of the Human Rights Commission. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

HON MEMBERS: Objection

The SPEAKER: Hon Sayed, there is an objection. Your motion will be printed on the Order Paper. Hon members, I now recognise hon Lekker. Hon, the Chief Whip of the Official Opposition?

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Mr Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes the half-hearted so-called policy conference held by the DA over the weekend; that no policy was produced and that they disposed of all policy and notes the problem-ridden DA is still like a ship without a rudder on the stormy seas. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

An HON MEMBER: Objection. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

‘n AGB LID: Ek het geweet! Ek het geweet!

An HON MEMBER: I knew it! I knew it!

The SPEAKER: Hon Lekker, there is an objection. [Interjection.] Your motion will be printed on the Order Paper. Hon members, I now recognise hon Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House commends the Grade 12 Q class of the Windsor High School in Rondebosch East for their spirit of ubuntu to come to the rescue of a disadvantaged learner who lost his cell phone in a robbery and could not afford a special matric jacket, by collecting enough money to replace his phone, buy the jacket and donate the rest of the money to him. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Sayed. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being read without notice?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: No, but they did not socially distance. But no objection.

The SPEAKER: No objections. Motion agreed to. I now recognise hon

Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes the 51% decline of the GDP in Quarter 2 as reported by Stats SA this week; further notes, many economists and experts had cautioned that this represents annualised performance which means as per Phillippe Burger, Vice-Dean; Faculty of Economics and Management Sciences at the University of the Free State, “the annualised number means what would the yearly decline be if the Quarter 1/Quarter 2 rate of decline extended for a year”; and calls on the DA to stop its pedestrian posturing informed by its desperation to deliberately misconstrue economic data and score cheap political points as they dismally fail to be of any true alternative to SA political and economic realities. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

HON MEMBERS: Objection!

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon Nkondlo. As there are objections to the motion it will be printed on the Order Paper. I now recognise the hon Leader of the Official Opposition.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you very much

again, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes with deep sadness the passing of Achmat Dangor, writer, poet and activist as well as the former CEO of the Nelson Mandela Foundation and expresses its sincere condolences to his wife, Audrey, son, Zachary and the broader family and comrades. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon Dugmore. Hon members, I now recognise hon Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, hon Speaker. That was my last motion. I do not have any other. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon Nkondlo. Hon Lekker?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Hon Speaker?

The SPEAKER: Hon members ... [Interjections.] order hon members. Hon Mackenzie?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Hon Speaker, definitely no objection to the motion by member Dugmore, but you did not ask if there was any member objecting to it, but there is definitely no objection to it. But just as a matter of process.

The SPEAKER: Is there an objection to the motion? Alright let me do this, hon members. Thanks, hon Mackenzie. Hon members, are there any objection to the motion being read by hon Dugmore without notice? No objections. Motion agreed to. Thank you, hon Mackenzie and hon members. Hon member Lekker, the Chief Whip of the Official Opposition.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): I am done, Mr Speaker. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Alright. Thank you. Okay. Hon members, that concludes the motions without notice. Now we deal with the Order of the Day. I recognise the Secretary.

The SECRETARY: Consideration of Report of the Conduct Committee on the failure of Hon Member G Brinkhuis to submit disclosure forms timeously (2020).

The SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr Secretary. Hon members, I have been informed by the Chief Whip that the programming authority resolved that there will be no speakers' list and that parties who wish to do so, would be afforded an opportunity now to make a declaration of the vote for a maximum of no more than three minutes. Now I give an opportunity to the ANC. And that is if you so wish to speak. ANC? None? The EFF is absent for today. The GOOD party.

Mr B N HERRON: No, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Herron. ACDP?

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Speaker. The ACDP concur with the report from the Conduct Committee. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Christians. FF Plus, hon Marais? Are you on the virtual platform? Alright. Thank you, hon Marais. Hon Brinkhuis, Al Jama-ah? Thank you. The DA?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, at a Conduct Committee held on 15 May 2020, the Registrar for Members' Interests, Advocate Burgess presented a report on members' submission of disclosure forms for the 2020 calendar. In the presentation of the Registrar's report, only one member, the hon Brinkhuis failed to submit disclosure forms timeously as is required in terms of the Provincial Code of Conduct.

The Committee then deliberated on the matter of the Registrar's report and found that by failing to return his disclosure forms timeously, the hon member was in breach of Section 11(2) of the Provincial Code of Conduct. This decision concurred with the recommendation of the Registrar that the hon member Brinkhuis had indeed breached the code by failing to submit his declarations timeously. The hon member was then afforded the opportunity to make written submissions in mitigation of the penalty to be recommended by the Conduct Committee and was given seven days to provide such.

Member Brinkhuis explained that he struggled to obtain his completed forms from his office at 7 Wale Street, Cape Town, due to the national lockdown and on 11 May 2020 he obtained access to 7 Wale Street and submitted his completed forms on the said day. It must be noted, hon Speaker, that the hon member apologised for the late submission. The matter was then deliberated on by the Conduct Committee on 14 August 2020 in which we considered the reasons provided by the hon Brinkhuis and took into consideration that this is the member's first time of contravening the code and has shown contrition.

During these deliberations, the Committee resolved to recommend that hon Brinkhuis receives a reprimand in terms of Section 32(1) of the Provincial Code of Conduct. I therefore encourage this House to accept the recommendation of the Committee. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon Mitchell. Hon members, are there any objections to the report being adopted?

An HON MEMBER: No.

The SPEAKER: No objections. The report is agreed to. Now, at this point hon members, I would like to thank the hon members who attended the memorial service for the late former Deputy Speaker, Oom Piet Meyer, and also requests that the hon members who wish to sign the condolences book which has been provided for this purpose, do so as you leave the Chamber so that we are able to hand it over to the family. For the members who are not

here today, there will be an opportunity to do so. You will be advised by the administration on the cut-off date. I have communicated with them, but the details will be communicated to the members. At this point hon members, we have concluded our business and the House is adjourned.

The House adjourned at 18:05.