
THURSDAY, 16 APRIL 2026

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 hon Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

The SPEAKER: You may be seated. Good afternoon, hon members. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the guests in the gallery but before we proceed, I would like to make some comments about the logistical arrangements. Today's sitting shall be governed by the Standing Rules and in instances where the Rules cannot be applied, the ruling by the Presiding Officer is final.

Hon members, the quorum requirements for the sitting of the House are as provided for in the Constitution and the Standing Rules. The Sergeant-at-Arms will be recording members' attendance. Hon members who are present in the

Chamber and via Microsoft Teams have all the privileges and immunities imparted by law. Hon members, unless there is an indication of unanimous concurrence, voting will be confined to members present in the House and who are entitled to cast their votes in accordance with our Standing Rules. Members who are considered to be out of order by the Presiding Officer will have their microphones muted and will be called to order. When an hon member wishes to raise a point of order, such an hon member may address the Presiding Officer as normal, but must mute his or her microphone when he or she has completed speaking.

The hon members are kindly requested to ensure that their microphones are unmuted when they are recognised by the Presiding Officer and to mute their microphones when they have finished speaking.

I kindly request those who are not members of the House to please observe the decorum of the House. Hon members, for the purposes of this sitting, language interpreting services are available by using the devices at your disposal.

Hon members are reminded that no interjections are permitted during these hybrid sittings and to this end, I wish to draw the hon members' attention to Rule 40 of our Standing Rules. The Secretary and our Administration will ensure that there is a dedicated technical support at all times during the sitting.

We will now proceed with the business of the day and I recognise the hon Chief Whip.

BUSINESS OF THE DAY**(Motions)**

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Thank you very much and good afternoon, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, before we proceed with the business of the day, may I please ask:

That the House reflects in a moment of silence on the passing of the daughter of the hon member Benson Ngqentsu, with your permission.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon members, are there any objections to that motion being moved? No objections. Agreed to. Can I please ask that all the hon members please rise?

[Moment of silence observed.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, please be seated. Thank you very much, hon Chief Whip and hon members. We will now move on to the Chief Whip.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Thank you once again, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, I move in my name:

That the House resolves to revive the consideration of the Constitution of the Western Cape First Amendment Bill [B 1–2021] from the stage it

reached during the Sixth Parliament, and hereby refers the Amendment Bill to the Standing Committee on the Premier and Constitutional Matters for consideration and reporting. I so move.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Chief Whip. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being moved? No objections, agreed to.

I recognise the Chief Whip.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Thank you, hon Speaker. I once again move in my name:

That, notwithstanding the provision of Rule 20(1), precedence be given to the Subject for Discussion in the name of hon B van Minnen.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Chief Whip. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being moved? No objections, agreed to.

We will then deal with the Subject for the Discussion in the name of the hon B van Minnen, as printed on the Order Paper and I recognise hon member Van Minnen.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION

The consequences of the continued understaffing in South African Police Service (SAPS) precincts across the Western Cape, including its impact on crime prevention, community safety and public confidence in law enforcement; the limitations of short-term interventions, such as the South African National Defence Force deployments in addressing systemic policing failures; and the need for urgent and sustained measures to be taken by the National Government to address resource allocation, recruitment and capacity in the SAPS

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): Hon Speaker, this is a very important debate that we are having today on a subject that I think is critical to everybody living in the Western Cape, but let us drop the euphemisms that get thrown around with this issue.

This is not a capacity issue, it is not a resourcing issue. It is a policing failure and, more than that, it is a governance failure, a failure of the ANC-led Government and their inability and refusal to build a proper, effective SAPS for over 30 years and the people in the Western Cape are paying for it with their lives.

On Sunday night, a young mother, Kashiefa, was shot and killed in Bonteheuwel. She leaves behind two young children, aged four and five. At an age when children should be in the warmth of their families, they face the

loss of their mother and are now living with their granny. Not only was Kashiefa shot and killed by gangsters, but when tipped off as to who had shot her and where they were to be found, SAPS and the SANDF turned up and proceeded to search a house on the other side of the street, whilst being watched by the four gangsters who were waiting for an Uber to take them to Manenberg. This tendency to turn up and search the wrong house is already emerging as a trend and begs the question of why SAPS and the SANDF are protecting criminals, not citizens.

Then, yesterday, we saw four children shot in Bonteheuwel, aged 10, 11, 12 and 16. This is a complete circus, and not of the funny kind but of the kind that was held in ancient Rome where people were killed for entertainment. Proudly brought to you by the ANC.

Hon Speaker, let me explain what understaffing actually does. It strips policing down to the bare minimum. Fewer patrols, slower response times, less capacity to protect, detectives overwhelmed with dockets they cannot possibly close and when cases collapse, criminals learn something. [Interjection.] There are no consequences. This is how gangs entrench themselves. This is how communities lose control and this is how fear becomes normalised and once fear becomes normal, the State has lost.

On the flip side, when SAPS loses the respect of residents, when there is no cooperation with the absent SAPS, then the State has also lost. And, incidentally, this results not just in increased crime, but in increased crime

within SAPS, an organisation where the Organised Crime Unit means just that. They organise crime.

With people like Sergeant Fannie Nkosi currently in prison because bail seems like a risk too far, the Minister suspended, and a Commission in Parliament uncovering the most excruciating details of how SAPS is utterly compromised. And is the ANC embarrassed? No. They just try to victim-blame the Western Cape for the issue. So, what is the response from National Government?

Ms N D NKONDLO: Imagine.

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): Send in the Army, deploy the troops to the area with high crime stats or, as the ANC likes to refer to it, the Cape Flats problem.

An HON MEMBER: Brute force.

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): Well, this is what that means. The South African National Defence Force is being used as a substitute ...[Interjection.] for a functioning Police Service because SAPS has failed. Soldiers do not investigate cases. They do not build informant networks. They do not secure convictions. While they patrol, cases go cold. While they march through communities, the real work of policing, intelligence, investigation and justice falls behind, but they do not and cannot fix the system. This is not

policing. This is security theatre. It is a bizarre form of †*Boetie gaan Bonteheuwel toe* [Boetie goes to Bonteheuwel] and once he is there, he searches the wrong house. And while the tragic comic theatre plays out, the real crisis deepens.

If National Government is serious about safety, then it must act where it matters: on staffing, on resources, on capacity and especially on detective numbers.

So here are the demands, clear and non-negotiable: number one, fill every critical vacancy in SAPS precincts across the Western Cape within a defined time-frame.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Look who's talking.

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): Not in theory, not over years, now. To fully staff SAPS in the Western Cape would cost between two and three billion per year. That is less than 1 percent of the National Budget, but the difference between order and chaos on our streets. This is less than the annual VIP protection budget. So it is important to note that this country spends more protecting VIPs than it would cost to fix policing shortages in the entire Western Cape.

An HON MEMBER: Wow.

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): And we need to ask ourselves why VIPs are considered more valuable than the people living in the Western Cape. [Interjections.] Number two, massively expand detective capacity ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order.

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): Massively expand detective capacity, cap caseloads, recruit and train new investigators ...[Interjection].

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Understand the root causes before you ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order.

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): And give them the tech that is needed to do their jobs. We cannot expect justice to be served when multiple detectives are forced to share a single laptop, when vehicles meant to chase criminals are left broken, and when critical investigative software is rendered useless, procured not for quality but through cadre-driven tenders.

Thirdly, rebuild crime intelligence. Without intelligence-led policing, SAPS is always one step behind and criminals are always one step ahead. Target the small number of hotspots that drive most killings and assign deployment to intelligence. Integrate crime intelligence with detectives, anti-gang work,

and prosecutors. We also need real reform, not just more of the same. That means expanding proven models like LEAP, where properly resourced officers are deployed where they are needed most. [Interjection.] It means strengthening provincial oversight so that failure at national level is exposed and acted upon. And yes, it means confronting the bigger question. How many more people must be sacrificed on the altar of ANC vanity before they agree to expand policing powers to the Province so that crime can be rolled back? [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order. Order!

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): Until National Government fixes staffing, fixes resources, and expands power to allow for real change, nothing else will matter; not deployments, not announcements, not spin.

Because in the end, the test is simple. Are people safe? No, they are not. And that is the truth this House cannot ignore. I thank you. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Van Minnen. Order. Order, hon members. Before I recognise hon member Stoffel, while this is a political debate, it is also a very emotive subject on the Order Paper. Can I please ask hon members to be mindful of the families that were victims of this subject in our communities, those members that we represent. So can I please ask that you debate and that you interject with the communities in mind and that we do justice to this subject on the Order Paper. With that being said, hon

Stoffel, I recognise you.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. Greetings to the House and the citizens of the Western Cape.

† 'n AGBARE LID: En daar is boere ook.

[An HON MEMBER: And there are farmers too.]

An HON MEMBER: What?

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): Hon Speaker, the crisis of crime in the Cape Flats cannot be separated from the reality and entrenched social conditions that sustain it. At the heart of this crisis is a failure in governance. Communities in the Cape Flats have been abandoned by this DA Government. There are deep structural problems and poverty, unemployment and inequality that continues to define the lives of the majority of our people. Generations of residents have been left without hope, without jobs and without proper social infrastructure. The daily reality our township is in, is one of despair, where young people are lured into gangs because they see no other path to survive.

Now, hon Speaker, we have to be nuanced when looking at social challenges, because two versions can be true. The one version is that the South African Police Service has limited capacity to confront highly organised criminal networks, gang violence, and drug trafficking, and this is due to limited personnel, inadequate resources and limited capacity on the ground.

Hon Speaker, another version is that the DA has abandoned Black and Coloured communities in this city and the broader Western Cape. They have abandoned them by not providing a clear strategy in combating crime. Crime fighting is upgrading the environment and designed to ensure safety. Crime fighting is providing sports complex facilities for youth, crime fighting is providing entrepreneurship, funding and support for the township economy to ensure that it thrives. Crime fighting goes beyond policing.

So, yes, we can debate SAPS understaffing today and inadequate resources, but let us not leave the role of good governance out of the debate, because there are good examples around the world we can learn from.

In 1999, Portugal faced a heroin crisis. Heroin addiction reached devastating levels, with a portion of the population dependent on hard drugs. Yet, instead of relying solely on a punitive, enforcement-heavy approach, the Portuguese State implemented and coordinated a well-resourced strategy that treated drug addictions as a public health issue. Crucially, this was not a retreat from law enforcement. It was a reinforcement of State overall capacity, combining policing with health services, social support and targeted intervention. The result was a dramatic decline in drug-related deaths, HIV infection and drug-related crime.

Now, hon Speaker, instead of the DA confronting root causes of the crime and violence in the province, they talk of policing powers to be devolved. [Interjection.] The DA has no plan to address the poverty, the joblessness and

despair that feed the crime in the province, because these problems do not affect its core constituency.

An HON MEMBER: Ja.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): The lesson that the DA should be taking here for the Western Cape is clear. No strategy to combat crime can succeed with SAPS alone.

We are not downplaying the challenges faced by SAPS. They are there and significant and need to be addressed. However, an integrated approach is needed here.

Hon Speaker, an ineffective response to crime in the Western Cape must move beyond fragmented and reactive policing. Instead, adopt an integrated whole-of-society approach to recognise crime as both a security and economic phenomenon.

When the President announced the deployment of the Army in the province, we welcomed the move, but also emphasised the need for a long-term sustainable strategy in dealing with crime in the province. The reality is that in many communities, particularly those marked by high unemployment and inequality, crime operates as an alternative economy sustained by illicit markets, organised networks and the absence of viable livelihoods.

Hon Speaker, we have to talk about the sustained pressure by the DA for devolution of power. Instead of complimenting SAPS, they create parallel policing and recruit detectives, senior managers from SAPS, to these private security institutions. Now they want to stand here and debate understaffing at SAPS when they have played a role in that [Inaudible.] about DA. We are quite aware of this orchestrated plan of theirs within the province to cripple the Police Services.

An HON MEMBER: You crippled them.

The SPEAKER: Order.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): The understaffing of SAPS cannot be divorced from the behaviour of the Western Cape Government ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): We say this because, so far, they have been recruiting the detectives and senior management from SAPS, including normal members and members of the Special Task Force, training the Task Force members. To train one member in the Police Force costs 1,1 million. It is done deliberately in order to cripple the system of devolution of agenda.

The SPEAKER: Order.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): The other thing that we have noted, in terms of the conditions that these members are working in, in this province, when it comes to the SAPS buildings in the province, I hope the MEC takes note and I hope the MEC will take a tour in the Western Cape and go and look at these conditions that ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member, your time has expired.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): So that those people can stop resigning from the department.

The SPEAKER: Hon member your time has expired

An HON MEMBER: You must speak to your [Inaudible.] there at National level.

The SPEAKER: Order, order. Thank you very much.

An HON MEMBER: You want to [Inaudible.] crime to get policing powers. Sies.

The SPEAKER Order. Order, hon members. Order! I need to recognise the next speaker on the list. I recognise the hon Stephens.

Ms D R STEPHENS (PA): Thank you, hon Speaker. Greetings, hon Speaker,

hon Premier, hon members of the House, and to all guests in the gallery.

Hon Speaker, let us be honest, our communities are under siege. Across the Western Cape, people are living in fear. Police stations are critically understaffed, officers are overstretched and criminals are operating with confidence because they know the system meant to stop them, is failing. Yes, policing is a national competency but let me say this clearly, governance is not a part-time responsibility. This Government cannot continuously shift blame to National Government while they govern this province. You cannot show up in communities during election season, ask for votes, make promises about safety and then disappear when those same communities are crying out for protection. Accountability does not end at the ballot box. It begins there.

Hon Speaker, we welcome the deployment of the South African National Defence Force. It was necessary and it provided some much-needed relief in high-risk areas, but an intervention of this scale requires more than presence. It requires planning, coordination and follow-through. The army was deployed to areas such as Wallacedene, Scottsville, Kraaifontein, a community that desperately needed intervention. Yet, where is the feedback? Where is the measurable impact? Where is the long-term solution? Our people cannot survive on visibility alone. They need tangible results.

We are not questioning the intent of the deployment. We are questioning the execution thereof in the absence of a clear, coordinated strategy that ensures real, lasting change.

Hon Speaker, we must also confront a reality many are uncomfortable to address. There are elements within the Police Service that are compromised, officers who are working with drug lords, protecting criminal networks and undermining justice from within. In such a context, we cannot simply assume that integrated operations between the army and the police will automatically be effective. There must either be clearly defined, independent operations, or strict and uncompromising oversight, because we cannot allow criminal influence to dictate where law enforcement operates. That is not policing. That is failure.

Hon Speaker, what is urgently required is alignment. The Western Cape Government, the City of Cape Town, Provincial Police leadership. Lieutenant General Patekile and those responsible for SANDF deployment must come together and present a clear, unified and actionable plan, not fragmented efforts, not parallel processes. One coordinated strategy that puts the safety of our people first, because right now criminals are thriving in the gaps between poor coordination and weak accountability.

We acknowledge the severe staffing shortages within SAPS, but we reject the ongoing cycle of excuse-making, of people ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member, your time has expired. Thank you very much.

Ms D R STEPHENS (PA): Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon members, I now recognise hon Gotsell in terms of Rule 214(1) of our Standing Rules. Hon Gotsell.

Mr N GOTSELL (NCOP): Thank you, Hon Speaker. On Saturday night, a disturbing video from one of our Cape Flats communities surfaced. It showed gangsters gathered openly in the streets, relaxed and confident. When members of the SANDF arrived in that area, those gangsters did not scatter or hide, they laughed. They laughed because they understood something that the ANC still refuses to admit, and hon Bans over there said it earlier, the root causes.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: †Hayi-hayi. [No, no.]

Mr N GOTSELL (NCOP): It is that without intelligence, planning and real policing capacity, deployment becomes theatre rather than protection. And in this case, we know that the deployment of troops to the Cape Flats was pure electioneering ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order. Order, hon members. Hon Gotsell, please take your seat. Order. Please stop the clock. Order members.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Do not speak to me. I will respond.

The SPEAKER: Order. I was going to rule on that hon member Bans. Hon

Gotsell, if you want to address an hon member, please speak to me and not directly to the hon member. Otherwise, you will have an hon member responding to you. Can I please ask the hon members also to not drown out - order, I am on the floor. Please do not drown out the speaker on the floor. I am very mindful that this is a political debate, but as I have requested earlier on, to please be mindful. I know that it is very emotive, but there are citizens who are watching this debate because it affects all communities in this province. So can you please treat it with the necessary respect for the people that we are elected to serve. Hon Michels, is that a point of order?

Mr J R MICHELS (NCC): It is a question.

The SPEAKER: Please rise.

Mr J R MICHELS (NCC): Hon Speaker, can I ask the hon member a question?

The SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I will ask the hon member if he is prepared to take a question. Hon Gotsell, are you prepared to take a question?

Mr N GOTSELL (NCOP): I did not bring enough crayons to draw the answer.

The SPEAKER: The hon member is not prepared to take a question. Hon Gotsell. Order, hon members. You may continue.

Mr N GOTSELL (NCOP): So in this case we know that the deployment of

troops to the Cape Flats was pure electioneering theatre by a dying ANC. That is why not even 200 of the originally promised 800 troops have arrived in Cape Town. The Western Cape has dedicated, hard-working SAPS members, but they are being set up to fail by the Minister of Pomp and Ceremony, Angie Motshekga, and a professor who is living his best FBI dream. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order.

Mr N GOTSELL (NCOP): The Western Cape is policing tomorrow's crime with yesterday's resources. In the past two weeks of this R823 million deployment, there have been no material successes. There has been no clear operational plan presented to Parliament and no evidence of strengthened intelligence capability. For the period 6 to 12 ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members. Hon Gotsell, please take your seat. Hon members on my left-hand side, interjections are allowed or permitted, especially during a political debate, but this constant running commentary is unfortunately not allowed. Can I please caution the hon members on both sides to not drown out the speaker on the floor? If you wanted to make a contribution to this debate, you should have had your name on the speakers list. Hon Gotsell, you may continue.

Mr N GOTSELL (NCOP): It struck a nerve. Forty-eight gang-related murders and 35 gang-related attempted murders, and there has been little visible use

of technology, little reliance on proven force multipliers such as trained police dogs, simply because the SAPS does not have these capabilities.

When I visited the Cape Flats on the first day of the deployment, it was notable that a simple force multiplier, like canine police dogs, were not employed and neither was any intelligence, because by the end of the first day, none of the tip-offs had borne any fruit. Why, you ask, hon members? The answer is simple. [Interjections.] Firstly, because the country is still reeling from how Jacob Zuma and his ANC cronies destroyed crime intelligence. And, secondly, because of the ANC's self-enriching anti-economic growth policies. [Interjection.] For the past five years, SAPS has not procured any new operational dogs for critical policing functions. These dogs are not likely ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Gotsell, please take your seat.

Mr N GOTSELL (NCOP): Sure.

The SPEAKER: Hon Bans, can I please ask that you allow the hon member to make his contribution? This running commentary is completely out of order. There is an hon member on the floor and the hon member has got the same rights to make his or her contribution, whether or not you agree with the input of a particular hon member. You cannot drown out the hon member. We all agreed in the beginning of this term to adhere to the Rules and the hon member is on the speakers list and it is my duty to ensure that that

member gets the opportunity to deliver his contributions. Hon Gotsell, you may continue.

Mr N GOTSELL (NCOP): So, for the past five years, SAPS has not procured any canine dogs. These dogs sniff out illegal firearms. They recover drugs. They multiply policing capacity, without requiring additional personnel. Yet, during an oversight visit at Roodeplaats last week, the reason for this failure was plain. The SAPS has not managed to procure dogs because, apparently, suitable breeders are not BEE-compliant. ANC policies are not killing our economy, it is killing our people right here on the Cape Flats. The consequences of these failures are not theoretical, they are painfully real.

Just days ago, six-year-old Yaseemah Trout was shot through the head in Valhalla Park when gangsters opened fire in her community. Last night, 13-year-old Austin Chitter was amongst four people shot dead in Delft, execution style. Two mass murders in one week. So, I have to ask: Minister Motshekga, where are the 800 troops that you promised?

An HON MEMBER: Answer.

Mr N GOTSELL (NCOP): And what is particularly troubling, hon Speaker, is that some hon members in this House respond to these reminders of SAPS failures, not with solutions, but with racial rhetoric. [Interjections.] Good for nothing, but nothing says electioneering quite like a desperate ANC. We saw this hypocrisy clearly during the recent by-election campaign in Dunoon.

This community has, for months, asked that a SAPS mobile truck be stationed closer to where they reside. On the very day that the ANC Minister of Employment and Labour campaigned in that community, a brand new truck arrived, suddenly. But the next day when she was done, the truck was gone too. This is almost as indefensible as GOOD, I mean the Unite for Pocket Change, I mean hon Herron's Safety Plan, which comprises five pages, including a cover page.

Hon Speaker, whilst the ANC and their cronies in this House are playing with people's lives, the City of Cape Town's Metro and LEAP have, over the past two weeks, taken more guns off the street and conducted far more drug busts than the SAPS has in months. The Cape Flats does not need a screaming auntie from Eldorado Park. The Cape Flats needs force multipliers such as K9, Metro Police, who help investigate gun-related gang crime, and LEAP, but the ANC continues to refuse the people of the Cape Flats these very needed force multipliers.

Now, imagine what our dedicated SAPS members could be doing if the ANC would finally agree to our proposal of expanding policing powers to capable governments to help investigate gun-related gang crime. The fact that they are not willing to do this, hon Speaker, leaves this House with only one question. Is this about politics or about people? [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Gotsell. Your time has expired. Order! Can I get some order before I recognise the next speaker on the

speakers list? Order, order! Hon members, there is another hon member waiting to take the floor, but I am not going to recognise him until you have settled down. Hon Michels, I now recognise you. Hon members, members, please, there is an hon member on the floor.

†Mnr J R MICHELS (NCC): *Hon Speaker, agbare lede, dankie. Eerstens wil ek vir hon member Walters gelukwens met sy verkiesing tot die DA se Nasionale Bestuur. Dit is net jammer dat hon member Walters teen Minister Ivan ge-vote het. Agbare Speaker, ek dink die province se mense moet note vat wat vandag ...* [Tussenwerpsels.]

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

Mr J R MICHELS (NCC): Hon Speaker, hon members, thank you. Firstly I just want to congratulate hon member Walters on his election to the DA's National Executive. It is just a pity that hon member Walters voted against Minister Ivan. Hon Speaker, I think the people of the province must today take note what ... [Interjections.]

Hon SPEAKER: Order.

†Mnr J R MICHELS (NCC): Niks in die land is 'n geheim nie. *Even* wat in *Cabinet meetings* gebeur, kom ook uit buitetoe.

[Mr J R MICHELS (NCC): Nothing in the country is a secret. Even what happens in Cabinet meetings, also comes outside.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member, please take your seat. Hon Walters, is that a point of order?

Mr T C R WALTERS (DA): I wanted to know whether the hon member will take a question?

The SPEAKER: Of course. No, no, can you take your seat. Hon Michels, are you prepared to take a question?

Mr J R MICHELS (NCC): No, hon member. No, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The hon member is not prepared to take a question. Order! Hon members, can you please calm down. There is an hon member on the floor and these interjections and conversation across the floor are not allowing the hon member to make his contribution.

Hon members, we have a long day and a long Order Paper ahead. I ask that you please work with me. [Interjections.] Hon members, there are citizens watching this debate because it actually affects them.

Mr J R MICHELS (NCC): Member Walters ...[Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Michels, that is completely out of order. I am trying to protect you on the floor and you are adding to it.

An HON MEMBER: He's got nothing to say on the debate. That's why.

The SPEAKER: Order. Hon members, please settle down, so that we can continue. [Interjections.] Okay, this is the last warning because I have allowed a lot of latitude but this is the last warning, hon members. Hon member Michels, you may continue.

†Mnr J R MICHELS (NCC): Dankie Speaker, ek wil net noem dat *Cabinet meetings, discussions*, lek ook uit in die land en as die *issues* van misdaad in die GNU, in *Cabinet meetings* opkom, dan praat die DA nie in daardie *meetings* nie. Agbare Speaker, wat ons in die Wes-kaap sien is nie net 'n polisiëringskrisis nie, dit is 'n leierskap mislukking, vierkantig aan die voete van die Demokratiese Alliansie. Die DA wil geraas maak oor misdaad, maar wanneer dit by wetlike oplossings kom, bly hulle stil. Hulle het jare, nie maande nie, jare ... [Tussenwerpsel.]

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[Mr J R MICHELS (NCC): Thank you, Speaker, I just want to mention that Cabinet meetings, discussions, also leak out in the country and when the issues of crime come up in the GNU, in Cabinet meetings, then the DA does not speak in those meetings. Hon Speaker, what we see in the Western Cape is not just a policing crisis, it is a leadership failure, squarely at the feet of the Democratic Alliance. The DA wants to make a noise about crime, but when it comes to legal solutions, they remain quiet. They have for years, not

months, years ... [Interjection.]]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Michels, please take your seat. Hon member Walters, is that a point of order?

Mr T C R WALTERS (DA): Hon Speaker, it is actually quite a serious point of order.

The SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

Mr T C R WALTERS (DA): By law, Cabinet meetings of National Government are very confidential. So hon member Michels actually referred here to a serious security breach. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr T C R WALTERS (DA): No, no, I am being dead serious.

The SPEAKER: Order.

Mr T C R WALTERS (DA): It is actually a very, very serious remark about a national security matter. So I really think this should come to the House as a substantive motion, but I honestly think there is a serious remark that has been made. Please take note. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order. Order! Hon members, you are bordering on the line for me to start naming members, because the way that this House is degenerating into chaos is completely unacceptable. So can I please ask for the very last time that you please work with me in order to get through the Order Paper, for those citizens who are watching this debate and who are watching the work of their elected public representatives. We are not here carrying our own jackets, I hope not. Hon member Walters, I will revert to Hansard, then I will come back to the House with a ruling. Hon member Michels, you may continue.

†Mnr J R MICHELS (NCC): Dankie, agbare Speaker. Die DA wil geraas maak oor misdaad, maar wanneer dit by werklike oplossings kom, bly hulle stil. Hulle het jare, nie maande nie, jare in hierdie provinsie gehad en tog leef ons gemeenskappe in die Kaapse Vlakte, in plekke soos Mitchellsplein, Hanover Park, Gugulethu, steeds onder beleg. Hulle het 'n sogenaamde wetstoepassingsbevorderingsplan, LEAP, bekendgestel en dit is aan ons mense as die antwoord verkoop.

Maar wat is vandag die werklikheid? Miljarde rande van belastingbetalers se geld is in hierdie program gestort en steeds duur bende geweld voort, moorde duur voort en dwelmbase opereer vrylik. Volgens verskeie berigte, insluitend dekking deur *Media24* en *Daily Maverick*, het LEAP-beamptes beperkte magte. Hulle is nie SAPD nie, hulle kan nie ernstige misdade ondersoek nie, hulle kan nie sindikate ontmantel nie. Dus, wat ons het is 'n duplisering van hulpbronne, nie 'n oplossing nie, 'n PR-oefening, nie ware veiligheid nie.

Die DA het dit geweet. Hulle het geweet polisiëring is 'n nasionale bevoegdheid, tog in plaas daarvan kom betekenis ...[Tussenwerpsel.]

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[Mr J R MICHELS (NCC): Thank you, hon Speaker. The DA wants to make a noise about crime, but when it comes to real solutions they remain quiet. They had years, not months, years in this province and yet our communities on the Cape Flats, in places like Mitchellsplain, Hanover Park, Gugulethu, are still living under siege. They have introduced a so-called law enforcement improvement plan, LEAP, and sold it to our people as the answer.

But what is today the reality? Billions of rands of taxpayers' money were dumped into this programme and still gang violence is continuing, murders continue and drug lords operate freely. According to various reports, including coverage by *Media24* and *Daily Maverick*, LEAP officials have limited powers. They are not SAPS, they cannot investigate serious crimes, they cannot unmask syndicates. Therefore, what we have is a duplication of resources, not a solution, a PR exercise, not real safety.

The DA knew that policing is a national competency, yet instead of that comes ... [Interjection.]]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Michels, your time has expired. Please take your seat.

†Mnr J R MICHELS (NCC): ... die Nasionale Regering ...[Tussenwerpsel.]

[Mr J R MICHELS (NCC): ... the National Government...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Michels, your time has expired.

Mr J R MICHELS (NCC): [Inaudible.] [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, again, hon member Michels, that is completely unacceptable. There is a time allocated or allotted to political parties based on a formula, based on electoral support, and that is the reason why there is a speakers list with time allocated. When I call you and remind you that your time has expired, I expect members to adhere to that in the interest of the democratic processes and the democratic election that you exposed yourself to on behalf of your political party. I recognise the hon Bosman.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Thank you very much. Hon Speaker, I want to start by telling you a story of a woman in Manenberg. She knows the sounds of gunshots the way most of us know the sound of rain. She has learned to count the shots because the number tells her how close they are. And when they get close enough, she phones the police. She has been phoning the police for years.

She is not alone. Last Thursday, a six-year-old girl was playing outside her home in Bishop Lavis and she was caught in a gunfight between two rival

gangs. Investigators found more than 30 spent cartridges on the scene. That little girl was shot in the head. As we debate in this Chamber today, she is still in hospital. The Army was already deployed when that happened. What she gets, what all of them get, is not a failure of officers who answered. It is a failure of the Government that has left those officers without vehicles, without colleagues and without the capacity to respond. This is not just a policing failure, that is a governance failure and that failure has a very specific address.

Hon Speaker, my colleagues have laid out the evidence, the vacancy rate, the case backlogs, the response times. I do not need to repeat those numbers. What I want to address is the National Government's answer to all of it. Their answer, their chosen instrument, is a soldier.

The Western Cape deployment began on the 1st of April. It will run until April next year, at a cost to the national fiscus of more than R800 million, R800 million. Not for detectives, not for more charge officers, not for training colleges, not for the structural investment this Province has been requesting for years, for soldiers. Every time this Province reaches crisis point, every time pressure from communities becomes too loud to ignore, every time the headlines demand a response, the Cabinet meets ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Bosman, please take your seat. Hon member Adams, is that a point of order?

Mr B ADAMS (PA): Hon Speaker, I was wanting to check if the hon member was willing to take a question.

The SPEAKER: I will ask the hon member. Hon Chief Whip, are you prepared to take a question?

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Unfortunately not right now.

The SPEAKER: The hon member is not prepared. Hon member Adams, I am addressing you on your point of order. The hon member is not prepared to take a question.

An HON MEMBER: He's scared.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Bosman, you may continue.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Thank you very much. Hon Speaker, when that Cabinet meets, an announcement is made, soldiers arrive. And I want to be very clear about what a soldier can and cannot do. A soldier can stand on a corner, they can create a visible presence. A soldier can, for periods of weeks or months, make a community feel that something is being done. But what they cannot do, what a soldier has never been trained to do, is to investigate a murder, to build a docket, to interview a witness, gather forensic evidence, testify in court, or close a case. A soldier is not a detective and no deployment, however large, however loudly announced, however

expensive, has ever been a substitute for a detective.

Hon Speaker, independent analysis published yesterday described this deployment as, and I am going to quote the headline, "*A Plaster on a gaping gang gunshot wound*". From the 9th to the 12th of April, while this deployment was active, while soldiers were patrolling our streets, 49 people were murdered in this province. 49 in four days.

On the 8th of April, an off-duty SANDF soldier was himself a victim of murder in Delft. During the deployment his firearm was taken from him. And in Tafelsig footage emerged of gangsters laughing during a street party, apparently unbothered by the presence of soldiers in their neighbourhood, because those gangsters understand something our National Cabinet apparently does not. Soldiers leave, they always leave and when they leave, the gangs are still there. The networks are still intact. The grip on communities is still unbroken because you cannot arrest your way out of a crisis that a deployment did nothing to dismantle.

It is also worth noting the independent analysis that this deployment coincides with an election cycle. Communities in this province deserve to know whether this is a safety intervention or a campaign strategy. What does this deployment do? What is it designed to do?

The SPEAKER: Hon Chief Whip, please take your seat. Hon Adams, is that a point of order?

Mr B ADAMS (PA): Hon Speaker, just for point of clarity, the hon member is trying to put an assumption that the army is useless, while the DA themselves have welcomed the army.

The SPEAKER: That is not a point of order. Please take your seat.

Mr B ADAMS (PA): It is a wrong assumption that ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Adams, order, hon members. Order! Please, hon members. Hon Adams, that is not a point of order. It is not my duty to interrogate the submissions or the inputs of hon members or to adjudicate on that. If there is a factual disagreement there are other parliamentary mechanisms at your disposal. On your point of order, that is not a point of order. Hon Chief Whip, you may continue.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Thank you very much. Hon Speaker, while Pretoria is managing its optics, the Province of the Western Cape is managing the consequences. Let me be precise about what the Western Cape Government has done within the limits of what the Constitution actually allows us to do.

We have funded and deployed additional law enforcement officers through the LEAP programme from the Western Cape Government's fiscus, not from SAPS, because the National Government has left a vacuum that this Province has chosen to fill because we do not leave communities to manage alone.

[Interjection.] We have developed and implemented a Provincial Safety Plan that coordinates every resource in this province to make sure that we give an alternative, because we cannot wait for Pretoria to act.

Our MECs have raised in MINMECS, in budget submissions, in parliamentary questions and through written representations to the Minister. We have used every single cooperative governance measure available to us.

Policing is not a concurrent function. It is an exclusive national competency. The Western Cape Government does not have the power to hire a single police officer. They do not have the power to set a single SAPS budget item, but the Western Cape Government has taken responsibility.

The SPEAKER: Hon Chief Whip, your time has expired. Please take your seat. Order. Can I just get an indication, is hon Brinkhuis on the virtual platform?

Mr K BRINKHUIS (AJA): Yes, hon Speaker, I am here. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members in the House. Hon Brinkhuis is on the hybrid system. I recognise the hon Brinkhuis.

Mr K BRINKHUIS (AJA): Thank you, Hon Speaker. [Speaking in vernacular.] Hon Speaker, Al Jama-ah states its deep concern and opposition to the DA-run City of Cape Town's invitation to the United States military

personnel to conduct training exercises with police cadets in the city.

South Africans are fully aware of the brutality displayed by ICE and other US law enforcement structures. We welcome efforts to upskill our police officers to effectively combat crime, gangsterism and drug dealings, but we reject any training by foreign governments who are guilty of genocide, racism and illegal military operations of other countries.

We see on social media how communities affected by crime are welcoming the deployment of the SANDF. Al Jama-ah calls on the Province to take advantage of the presence of the SANDF by shutting down the thousands of drug dens and taverns, the springboards for gender-based violence, rapes, gangsterism, crime and antisocial behaviour.

Several police officers are occupied with carrying out community services such as affidavits and certification of documents. There are also community workers qualified to certify documents. Why not deploy them at SAPS stations, libraries and community centres to allow police officers to focus on fighting crime?

The Western Cape Province has the capacity to improvise on combating crime in hotspot areas. Start with cleaning up the townships of illegal drug dens and taverns. These are also interventions to combat crime, but it seems that the bulk of its anti-crime interventions are reserved for the leafy suburbs. I thank you very much, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member Brinkhuis. I recognise the hon member Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Hon Speaker, the Western Cape remains one of the most violent provinces in the country, with approximately 1 160 murders recorded in a single quarter in 2025 alone. Hon Speaker, we are particularly concerned about what continues to happen, one of the highest murder rates nationally. 15.2 murders per 100 000 in recent reporting. But, hon Deputy Speaker, we must be honest. It is just not a policing problem, it is an all-of-society problem.

One of the major problems that we have in our townships is that drug lords are buying up houses in townships. They buy up to 10, 16 houses in one township and they expand the drug trade by having these houses. Drug lords also target the most vulnerable old aged people who are in arrears with utility bills. They pay their arrears and that old person who is vulnerable is indebted to that drug lord, and that is another house where they store drugs, another house where they store guns and ammunition.

I have reported in this House before, our schools need to be sorted out. I visited the school and a primary school because the parents were very concerned. Listen to this. Out of 25 learners tested in a primary school, 21 were positive. Now, if we do not fix that we are going to have a serious problem.

I reported another school, a high school. 120 learners of the high school tested positive for drugs. Now, the problem that we have, hon Speaker, is that they also sell those drugs. So, if we do not cut that, we are going to sit with a problem where drug lords recruit our learners to belong to gangs. I thank you.

[The Deputy Speaker takes the Chair.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Christians. I recognise the hon member G Marais.

Mr G P MARAIS (FFP): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I do not agree with the hon Van Minnen who gives the impression that all police officers are part of the problem. We have good police officers that put their lives on the line every single day for this country. SAPS have become increasingly ineffective, that is a fact, but it is due to understaffing. Understaffing is not a recent occurrence. In 2011/2012 we already had a shortage of 35 000 SAPS officers to serve this country. When police stations are understaffed, it leads to a lack of visible policing. Patrols become irregular, while hard-working detectives carry heavy caseloads to handle, all contributing to the near collapse of our police and criminal justice system.

Hon Deputy Speaker, police arrive hours after a crime ~~scene~~ has happened. Communities are also experiencing difficulties, Afrikaans-speaking communities. The language barrier is creating a problem and affecting the

accuracy of their statements. Middle income communities are now spending funds of their income on private security. We have a major problem in South Africa and the South African National Defence Force cannot make up for the lack of SAPS capacity, not in the time that they are deployed.

With the limited time, hon Deputy Speaker, I want to ask the hon Premier, where is the Safety Plan for the Western Cape?

An HON MEMBER: †Dololo. [Nothing.]

Mr G P MARAIS (FFP): We are looking for better coordination between the National Government and the Province and the DA and the ANC, being the two heavyweight partners in the GNU, have got to carry responsibility for this.

An HON MEMBER: Both of them.

Mr G P MARAIS (FFP): Unless we fix policing capacity, crime will continue to gain and destroy innocent lives.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Marais.

Mr G P MARAIS (FFP): I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I now recognise the hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: Hon Deputy Speaker, the impunity with which many of these criminal groups and gangs operate today did not arise overnight. It is the direct consequence of more than a decade of the systematic weakening of the South African Police Service.

For years, instability within crime intelligence structures has undermined the ability of the SAPS to gather and act on critical intelligence information. Specialised units that once formed the backbone of our fight against organised crime, have been hollowed out. Police stations, particularly in high crime areas across the Western Cape, remain chronically under-resourced. Detective capacity has declined, while case backlogs continue to grow at an alarming rate.

We must be clear. The consequences of the National Government's failure to resource SAPS are not abstract. They are felt every single day in our communities. They are felt when calls for assistance go unanswered because there are simply not enough officers on duty or there is no vehicle available. They are felt when investigations stall because one detective is burdened with more than 400 dockets. They are felt when visible policing is reduced, creating space for criminals to operate with increasing boldness.

At the heart of this crisis lies a simple truth. No system, no matter how committed its members may be, can function optimally under severe and sustained pressure without the necessary resources.

Let me be clear. The ordinary men and women of SAPS are not the problem. They are, in fact, doing their very best under extraordinarily difficult circumstances. They are working long hours, often with inadequate support, insufficient resources and overwhelming caseloads. But no individual, no matter how dedicated, can compensate for the systemic, understaffing and institutional weakness.

The National Government has failed to prioritise the resourcing and capacitation of SAPS in proportion to the scale of violent and organised crime facing our province and country. The result is deeply unjust. The very communities that suffer the highest levels of crime are often served by police stations operating far below the personnel levels required to perform their duties effectively.

Hon Deputy Speaker, when police visibility declines, crime increases. When investigations are delayed, justice is denied. When intelligence capacity is weakened, organised crime thrives. And when communities see that crimes are not prevented and perpetrators are not successfully prosecuted, public confidence in law enforcement begins to erode. The erosion of trust is the most damaging consequence of police inefficiency. Without trust, communities are less likely to report crimes, less likely to cooperate with investigations and less likely to partner with police in building safer neighbourhoods. It creates a vicious circle, one in which weakened policing leads to more crime and more crime further undermines confidence in policing.

Short-term interventions such as the deployment of the South African National Defence Force may provide temporary relief. They may increase visibility for a time, but they do not address the underlying systemic failures within SAPS. Soldiers are not trained investigators. They do not build case dockets. Without a properly capacitated police service, these interventions remain temporary measures applied to a long-term structural problem.

The long-term solution is clear. The urgent and sustained capacitation of the South African Police Service. National Government must prioritise rebuilding investigative and intelligence capacity so that SAPS can effectively confront organised crime and gangsterism. This includes strengthening specialised units such as Crime Intelligence, the Anti-Gang Unit and Detective Services. It also includes the expansion of certain policing functions to municipalities having capacity.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the Western Cape Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety remains committed to strengthening the relationship between SAPS and communities. Through Community Police Forums and Neighbourhood Watches, we facilitate constructive dialogue, encourage collaboration and empower residents to play an active role in their own safety.

The inability of SAPS to consistently utilise intelligence to prevent deadly incidents, coupled with low rates of successful prosecutions, make it increasingly difficult to sustain public trust and this is extremely unfair to

the many hard-working police officers who are doing their best under challenging conditions.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the Western Cape Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety compiles an Annual Policing Needs and Priorities Report. This report provides a comprehensive overview of policing in the province, highlighting shortcomings, identifying ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly conclude, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: And it is formally submitted to the National Minister of Police and the National Police Commissioner. And despite this, nothing has been done to implement these recommendations.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you so much. I now recognise the hon Herron.

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, the Western Cape Government blames crime and the culture of gangsterism in the province on the police to avoid accountability for the consequences of their own ideological and political failures.

The DA has been in government in Cape Town for 20 years and for nearly 18 years in the Western Cape, and the people on the Cape Flats are now paying

in blood for the Government's failures to develop and implement strategies to transform the radically divided and unequal apartheid city, while at the same time manage the global phenomenon of urbanisation.

It is obviously true that Cape Town and the Western Cape would benefit from better policing, but it is a lie that there is nothing that the City or Province could do to fix things, including the alleged skewed police deployments. The Western Cape Constitution and the Western Cape Community Safety Act provide for this Government to move beyond complaining and take action.

It is interesting to hear hon the Minister for Police Oversight, because just three or four months ago, responding to my questions in writing, hon Minister Marais indicated that the Provincial Government's unhappiness about police resources related to skewed deployment within the province. She said the Provincial Government had repeatedly recommended to SAPS that its system of allocations needed to take cognisance of which areas were experiencing the most crime. She confirmed that the Police Act provides for Provincial Commissioners to distribute policing resources. If the Commissioner continues to ignore the Provincial Government, the Constitution lays out a process to have them removed. Where are we with that process?

In 2019, the hon Premier, then the MEC for Safety, initiated an intergovernmental dispute about police resources. Shortly after he was elected Premier in June 2019, he made more noises about it. Seven years have passed. What has this Government done to force the Provincial Police

Commissioner to implement its policing needs and priorities?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly conclude, hon member.

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): They have done absolutely nothing, beyond repeat an intention to declare an intergovernmental dispute. Thank you.

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

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): Hon Deputy Speaker and hon members. I rise in this House today under a heavy cloud of grief. We extend our sincere condolences to the Ngqentsu family on the passing of their daughter Amahle. We also send our heartfelt condolences to the family of Pastor Nosipho Daniels, a devoted member of the ANC and a tireless activist against gender-based violence, who passed away after a short illness. Both families will lay their loved ones to rest this coming weekend. We stand with them in their grief.

Hon Deputy Speaker, this grief is not isolated. It reflects a province in pain. The province of the Western Cape is facing a crisis of safety and violent crimes, not a perceived crisis, but a lived one.

In January alone, 345 people were murdered. In just 11 days in March, a further 82 lives were lost. These are not just numbers. These are human beings whose lives were cut short and as we stand here today, that crisis

continues to unfold in real time.

Just yesterday in Delft, four people, including a 13-year-old child, were shot in the head in what appears to be an execution-style killing. This was not random violence. It was organised, deliberate and ruthless. This is the reality of the Cape Flats communities. They are living in what has effectively become a permanent crime scene, even with the deployment of the army. We must call this what it is, a crisis of violent crime.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the motion before us speaks about understaffing in the South African Police Service. Yes, there are challenges within SAPS. These challenges are known and they must be addressed, but we must not reduce a complex crisis into a single convenient explanation. The narrative that crime in the Western Cape is simply as a result of a shortage of police has already been challenged with facts. Misrepresenting capacity does not make our communities safer. It only distorts the real problem.

Hon Deputy Speaker, as a former member of the South African Police Service, I understand the pressure within the system, but I also know this; even a fully-staffed police service will struggle in communities where the social conditions continue to produce crime. And the hon Minister agrees with me. Violence in this province is rooted in deeper structural realities. It is rooted in poverty. It is rooted in unemployment. It is rooted in inequality. It is rooted in the continued underdevelopment of working-class communities ...[Interjections] where someone allegedly shot a criminal there. You cannot

promise your way out of that reality.

Hon Deputy Speaker, we welcome the deployment of the South African National Defence Force as a force multiplier, but we must be honest. The continued killings in areas like Delft and across the Cape Flats, even after this deployment, shows us limitations.

An HON MEMBER: Ja.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): Short-term deployment cannot resolve a long-term crisis of structural inequality. If this intervention is to have any real impact, it must be intelligence-driven. It must target the networks that drive violence, the gang leadership. Hon Premier, you agree.

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): The drug trade and the growing scourge of extortion that is suffocating our local economies and terrorising communities, thanks to the DA for its initiation in Manenberg.

Hon Deputy Speaker, we must confront an uncomfortable truth. Organised crime does not operate in a vacuum. It thrives in an environment where there are opportunities to infiltrate economic activity and public systems. There are serious ongoing concerns about the extent to which extortion and racketeering have become entrenched in parts of this province

...[Interjection.]

Mr N P MASIPA (DA): ANC sponsors.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): ... including in relation to the awarding of certain contracts to unknown gangsters by the Provincial Government and its municipalities. Does the issue ring a bell in Manenberg, where the DA started it? [Interjection.]

The scale of violence in the Western Cape needs to be ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Lekker, the clock will stop. There is a point of order.

Mr N P MASIPA (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. The hon member is pointing fingers at us. Is it allowed in Parliament, to point fingers?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Hon members, we are drawing this important subject ...[Interjection.]

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Ask your God – Sir, he was pointing fingers here – whether he sees.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Nkondlo, hon members, I will remind hon members that this is, as the Speaker has indicated, a very emotive topic. I sincerely trust that hon members will afford the speaker who is on the floor,

who has prepared input, to conclude and to always remain consistent with the decorum of the House and we will then promptly finish off with the final speaker. Hon member Lekker, you may proceed.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): In actual fact, Deputy Speaker, when you stopped me, the clock was at 02:04, not at 02:06.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have made a note of that, hon Lekker, and you will be afforded your due time.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): Thank you. The ANC has been consistent. The scale of violence in the Western Cape meets the conditions for a national state of disaster. This is not a slogan. It is a necessary intervention to unlock resources, coordinate all spheres of government, and drive a response that addresses both enforcement and root causes of crime. What is deeply concerning is the posture of the DA. They speak as if they are observers, but they govern this province.

They govern the city, and they are part of the GNU. They cannot escape responsibility. For years, we have seen safety plans and large budgets, but where is the impact? Where is Safety Plan 2.0? Where is the change in the daily lived experience of our people? Where is the visible presence of law enforcement in areas that are needed the most? You cannot speak about safety while neglecting development. You cannot demand more powers while failing to use the very same powers you already have, to change the conditions on

the ground.

We acknowledge initiatives such as increased investment in sport and recreation, but it is not enough. The scale of this crisis requires a far greater investment in working class communities. It requires jobs, education, infrastructure and a state that restores dignity. If we continue to treat crime as a policing issue alone, we will continue to fail, and we will continue to fail to confront the structural drivers of violence. We will continue to bury our own brothers and sisters. That is why we reiterate clearly and without hesitation that violent crime in the Western Cape must be declared a national disaster. Not tomorrow. Not sometime in the future. Our people are not statistics.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly conclude, hon member.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): Thank you, Deputy Speaker. They are families. They are children. They are communities living in fear. They deserve safety, dignity and a future. The time for decisive coordinated and people-centred action is now. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Lekker. Hon members, I now recognise the Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker, and thank you very much to all of you who have participated in this debate. The hon Gotsell said, “Do we

choose politics, or do we choose people?" I choose people.

HON MEMBERS: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: I also want to say, following on the hon member Lekker, who spoke about the mothers, and the brothers and the sisters, the families, we side with those families, and we side with them in condolences to the 204 people in this province who lost their lives since the deployment of the military in this province.

You know that week 14 and 15 of this year, are the first two weeks of the deployment of the military to add as forced multipliers in dealing with gangsterism in our province, and crime went up by 3.5 percent in that period. So we have to side with the people. We have to make a plan to change things. So, Deputy Speaker, in November last year, I delivered a statement to this House on the Western Cape Ombudsman's report on Judge Thulare's findings.

That was in 2022. That was where it was about lifestyle audits because of what he said about the policing problems we have. The senior table of police in this province is linked to gangs. We called for that. It was also clear that in that executive statement, there seemed to be a much more serious issue. IPID, post that statement, took two years to even start the investigation. Two years post. Our offer to fund the lifestyle audits were totally ignored by SAPS. We really are trying to make sure that we side with the people.

Mr Deputy Speaker, 14 years ago, my predecessor, before I became the Premier, established the Khayelitsha Commission of Inquiry. The then National Minister tried to stop that process. Went to Court, but lost, which we were grateful for. But when that Commission finished their work in 2014, it provided 20 concrete recommendations to the South African Police Service to improve the functions and make residents safer. To this date, none of those have been implemented. How can that be?

In November last year, I wrote to Minister Angie Motshekga to ask her if the SANDF had concluded or conducted an analysis of the 2019 deployment of the military across the Cape Flats. That message went unanswered.

For months I have warned of the need to do something different this time around. I have said that we have to make sure that while welcoming these extra boots on the ground, this force multiplier, as many people have spoken about, we need to make sure that we learn those lessons, that we use this deployment, alongside real proper intelligence; making sure that we can secure convictions, making sure that we can arrest these high-ranking gang figures, making sure that special courts are put in place. But unfortunately a few days in, we don't have those 800 deployed to our region. We are lucky if in these sites that are deployed, the 17 sites, we get 20 per shift.

Ms A P BANS (ANC): You still don't understand the process you see.

The PREMIER: It is not being managed properly. Hon Speaker, there is a

common thread that leaves me and the residents of this province deeply concerned and very frustrated. Fourteen years since the Khayelitsha Commission. Eight years since the Zondo Commission, and four years since the Thulare judgement. Still in many of these cases, no accountability and no improvement from the National level. Seven years since the last SANDF deployment on the Cape Flats, from which it seems National Government has learnt nothing. [Interjections.]

Year after year, the Policing Needs and Priorities Report, from which we see no concrete action from national SAPS leadership. More than six years, Mr Deputy Speaker, since the falling of SAPS members. We know that there were more SAPS members in 2019 when I became the Premier, than there is today deployed in this province. An 11-year decline in the murder detection rates. Countless reports by national and international civil society, including the Institute for Security Studies, the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organised Crime, and the same thing; focus on investigative capacity, better crime intelligence, interdicting the flow of drugs and illegal firearms into the province, and ensure that we compile watertight, prosecution-ready dockets to put these repeat offenders away. Put them in jail for good, but no lessons seem to be learnt.

It is maddening that these lessons are not taken seriously, or we do not learn from them. For years now, we have known that concrete steps are necessary to fix policing in South Africa. In the Western Cape, we have put our comparative minimal resourcing towards implementing these lessons, and we

continue to innovate. We have announced already on top of what we are already doing in the Safety Plan, we are adding and acquiring standards now that we can start to detect drugs and illegal guns coming into our province.

We are expanding the programme where lawyers are deployed to police stations so that we can get better dockets. We are listening to those reports. We are putting a gang observatory in place so we can have anonymised information into law enforcement agencies, so that we can put those gangsters and extortionists and drug dealers behind bars.

But the hard and brutal truth is that until the senior management of SAPS learns the importance of intelligence-led policing, until National Government guarantees the resources that will fix our broken intelligence capacity, or until capable sub-national governments are given the mandate and the resources to do it ourselves, we will not win. Mr Deputy Speaker ...[Interjection]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly conclude.

The PREMIER: Mr Deputy Speaker, we are serious in the Western Cape about fighting crime. We know that we've got to do it across the country, National Government, Provincial Government and Local Government, and only if we choose people over politics, will we start to get this right. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon Premier. That concludes the

debate. In terms of Rule 197, we will proceed to Interpellations. I recognise the Minister – the first interpellation – the Minister for Mobility, Minister Sileku.

INTERPELLATIONS

Learner transport routes: safety on

1. Mr F C Christians asked the Minister of Mobility:

(a) What measures has his Department implemented to improve safety on learner transport routes and (b) how many incidents involving learner transport have been recorded in the past 12 months?

The MINISTER OF MOBILITY: Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker.

[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order members! We have proceeded. I have recognised the hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF MOBILITY: Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker. Before † ndithethe bendizothanda ukudlulisa amazwi esingxengxezo kusapho lakwaGqugqugu, ooQhinebe, ndingxengxeza ndithi akuhlanga lungehliyo, mabalale ngenxeba. Sikunye nabo nakuyo le meko ngoba ulilungu lale komiti kaMobility.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[THE MINISTER OF MOBILITY: Thank you very much Deputy Speaker. Before I proceed, I would like to offer words of condolence to the Qhinebe clan. I would like to tell them that we weep with their family. This too shall pass and we are with them during this difficult time. I say these words because he was a member of the Mobility Portfolio Committee.]

Firstly, I also need to appreciate the interpellation, hon member, because learner transport safety matters, because it protects children's lives, and ensures they can travel to and from school, without the risk of accident or injury. When transport is safe and reliable, learners are more likely to attend school regularly, which supports better academic performance, since they arrive focused and ready to learn. It also builds trust amongst parents and communities, knowing that children are in secure conditions during their journey.

Safe transport helps prevent risky behaviour such as overcrowding or reckless driving, while also promoting important road safety habits that learners can carry into adulthood. In addition, it reduces legal and financial consequences for transport providers, and ensures equal access to education, especially for learners who live far from school and in rural areas. Most schools and learner transport routes fall within municipal road networks. The Department has therefore integrated its Learner Transport Safety Programme with municipalities and road safety management, ensuring coordinated and

targeted interventions.

Key measures implemented include the following: heightened joint operation plans and executed with municipalities, with a specific focus on learner transport routes and time of peak learners movement; a significant increase in learner transport enforcement operations reflected in the Department's current APP, 2026/2027; registration date of scholar transport vehicles have been loaded onto departmental systems, enabling traffic officers to identify registered versus unregistered learner transport vehicles during operations; targeted route-based interventions on roads leading to schools, focussing not only on registered scholar transport, but also on public transport and private vehicles transporting learners.

During the reporting period, Deputy Speaker, the Department concluded 468 learner transport focus operations; 1 241 public transport operations, which also included vehicles transporting learners; 350 scholar patrol interventions to improve safety at school crossings; 98 road safety education talks conducted at schools; the establishment of 14 junior traffic training centres, also known as JTCCs, to promote road safety awareness amongst learners.

These combined enforcement, education and coordination measures are aimed at improving safety outcomes for learners, both on routes to school and during transportation. Then, over the past 12 months, targeted learner transport operations have resulted in well over 5 000 fines issued, and more than 150 vehicles impounded for serious violations. These include

overloading, unroadworthy vehicles and noncompliance with operating licenses. Each of these interventions represents a potential incident to be prevented. In addition to provincial traffic, municipal traffic services across the province continue to prioritise learner transport operations, ensuring a coordinated and sustained enforcement presence on the ground.

Hon Deputy Speaker, as recently as last week, a joint operation at Cascade Primary School in Mitchells Plain led to over 250 fines issued, and 17 vehicles impounded in a single morning. In one instance, a seven-seater was found transporting 23 learners, and a 15-seater was also found transporting ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly conclude, Minister.

The MINISTER OF MOBILITY: That is not just non-compliance. This is a direct threat to the lives of our children. This is not a system that waits for incidents to be recorded after the fact. It is indeed a system ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF MOBILITY: ... that identifies risk, and removes them from our roads. Thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Based on the interpellations, the Minister will have a second opportunity. I recognise the hon member Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Thank you. Deputy Speaker, that is precisely why I am asking this question. Thank you, hon Minister, for your reply, and also the interventions from your department. When we look at the vehicle checks that are being recorded; and the amount of fines for lack of permits; for unroadworthy vehicles and driver violations – I was astonished to see the amount of learners that come out of one taxi. I feel sorry for those who cannot afford transport.

I am not talking about the Department, where they contract people. I am talking about those in the townships that are vulnerable, that cannot afford transport to get to school, so they put their vehicle – it was recorded that learners were found in a bakkie, and you will know about the accident that happened.

So there's a problem when you don't have the means. Getting my child to school, what do I do? I pay a person with a bakkie. I don't know how we are going to solve this problem because it is a financial problem as well. I did not get my child into the nearest school, I want to get my child to school, there is transport involved, but I do not have the money to pay. So what do I do? It is a massive problem that we are facing especially when you see the 1 200 fines for offences such as vehicles that are not roadworthy, smooth tyres. And our learners are at risk. So, Minister, I think the entire House does appreciate the interventions. But I do not know how – especially in the rural areas – getting learners to school is a massive problem.

An HON MEMBER: Ja, ja.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): The Department does not have the money to – and that is why we have the radius of five kilometres. That is the radius. That is the rule, but what about your child that is four kilometres away from the school? That is the problem we are facing. Now, we have engaged the Department on this and it is going to cost millions. You cannot do that. But somehow, we need to make sure that our learners end up in a school and are travelling in safe transport to get there.

So, I am not denying the fact that you are doing what you are doing. I am just saying, somehow, we will have to get a middle road for those who are left behind, for those who are struggling and getting in – I would rather send my child in a bakkie to get to school, as opposed to keeping her at home or I would rather send my child – we can say it is wrong – but I want my child to be educated. So, what do I do? That is why the amount of fines and all of those, that is why this is so important. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Christians. I recognise the hon Professor Mbombo.

Ms N MBOMBO (DA): Hon Deputy Speaker, road safety is non-negotiable for the DA-led Western Cape government. Before the start of the festive season, between eight and 15 December 2025 alone, 200 integrated roadblocks were conducted. Forty-four thousand vehicles were stopped, and 119 were arrested. During the Festive Season, between 15 to 28 December 2025, 200 more arrests were made. It is evident from these statistics that a significant number of arrests

are being made within short periods of time and that safety on our roads is of paramount importance for provincial mobility.

We do acknowledge the work done by our officers, whose boots are probably worn out, because they never leave our roads. They are working to ensure everyone is protected by making arrests, by conducting vehicle checks and more. We have seen that road fatalities decreased during the 2026 Easter period by 14 percent. In addition, the Department has established junior traffic training centres to curb pedestrian deaths through road safety education at our schools, because child safety is not an afterthought.

Hon Deputy Speaker, through you, I would like to ask the Minister if there are any technological tools that are being made available by the Department that will enable parents to track their children who are using school transport in real time, while they travel to and from school? For me, as a parent, when I am at work from morning until evening and I do not know my child is safe, how can the Department assist to track the vehicle in real time, to know the children are safe? Thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Mbombo. I recognise hon Windvogel.

Ms R WINDVOGEL (ANC): Thank you, Deputy Speaker. While the MEC speaks of enforcement operations, operating license compliance and vehicle checks as safety measures, the real test is whether these measures amount to

a meaningful safeguarding framework for learners, especially those in rural communities who travel long distances under more vulnerable conditions. This concern is sharpened by the fact that learner transport safety is not limited to road crashes or overloading, but should also include the conduct of drivers and the protection of children while in transit.

In this regard, the case in Piketberg, where a learner transport driver appeared in Court following allegations of sexual assault involving a school learner, raises serious questions about whether the Department's approach to safety is sufficiently child-centred and preventative.

MEC, given that learner transport incidents in the past 12 months have included not only road safety risks but also the Piketberg case involving allegations of sexual assault by a learner transport driver, what measures has your Department implemented to ensure that learner safety includes proper safeguarding of children, especially in rural communities? If no formal safeguarding framework exists, how does the Department satisfy itself that its current measures are adequate? I thank you.

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

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Thank you. Hon Deputy Speaker, if the Minister can answer, is there meaningful synergy when it comes to joint planning, shared data, coordinated enforcement across all spheres? Is there that synergy? Do

they chat to one another when it comes to transportation issues? But, also, unsafe learner transport undermines education. It undermines education. When parents fear for the safety of their children, school attendance drops, and learners are faced with unnecessary stress before they even enter into the classroom.

Now, I do not even want to talk about the gang affected areas because safe routes are often the only way of protection to some of our learners that are in violent, crime-ridden areas. So, Deputy Speaker, let me again say, I do not have all the answers. I do not think we have all the answers. But, somehow, we must make sure that our learners get safely to school.

There is no compromise when it comes to the safety of our learners getting to schools, because once a learner is at school, we know, hon Minister, it is a safe space. Now, to keep that learner at home, that learner is vulnerable. What happens at home? Because both parents are working. So, when that learner is at school, it is a safe space. At home, they are vulnerable. So please, and we commend what your Department is doing, Minister but more needs to be done. I know that this is in collaboration with the Education Department and with the money available, but how do we fix the problem to ensure that it is not because of transport. The learner wants to be at school, the parent is worried and keeps the learner home. It is another learner at risk of failure, not because of personal circumstances, but because they cannot get to school. That is the biggest problem. So, this is a serious problem that we are facing, hon Minister. I hope that more will be done to accommodate getting our learners safely to our

schools. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Christians. I recognise hon Sileku, the Minister.

The MINISTER OF MOBILITY: Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker. I will start with an incident that I was confronted with while, I think, a few weeks in office, when I was called to a scene when a taxi overturned. On my arrival, what I was confronted with was two parents sitting next to a wall, crying. Within a few minutes, I was present when the body of a young schoolchild was taken out, because an overloaded taxi overturned. That particular child lost his or her life.

That is exactly what we are doing as the Department of Mobility, together with Education, in developing an app where a particular parent can actually see the movement of that particular child; where you can tap on the contracted transport and you can tap off, and then you are able to get alerts as a parent, to see the movement of your particular child. This would allow learners to tap on and off contracted transport services, enabling parents to receive real-time alerts and monitor the movements of their children.

We are currently piloting that one in Stanford, and in Swellendam in three schools. Currently, we have got about 67 children that are part of that. The uptake is great. Those are the kinds of initiatives that we are trying to bring on, because we do realise the importance of the safety of our children, and

we need to tackle that. That is why we are looking at ways and means, using technology, making sure that as a parent, I am able to track the movement of my child, when that particular child gets on the bus and gets off the bus, because what we want to see is our children return safely home.

Also what is important is that safety is a whole-of-society approach. It is indeed the responsibility of an individual to make sure when your child is picked up by any mode of transport, that that particular mode of transport is in the right condition. That is what is important. We as the Department of Mobility have been in talks with National, because currently what we are doing, all MECs in our country, together with the National Minister, we are looking at legislation, specifically when it comes to scholar transport because of what has happened in Johannesburg, and we do not want a repeat of what has happened.

Currently, anybody can transport our children to school without the Department's knowledge because it can be an arrangement between neighbours and no one can actually stop them. But we are looking at it together with the National Minister, and I think that is what is important.

But what we are also doing from the side of regulation, we are actually embarking on a process of identifying legislative measures that will ensure every individual in our province is safe. There are vehicles, and we are not just talking about public transport, that are not worthy to be on our roads, because the standard of their vehicles can actually cause accidents. Those are

the kinds of things that we are doing to make sure that we keep everybody in our province safe.

It is also important to recognise that we, as neighbours and residents in our different areas, have a responsibility, when we see someone, when you are peeking through a window and you see your neighbour's child being transported by a mode of transport that you feel is not right, or when you see children in a minibus taxi or a bakkie, or a seven-seater that has got 15 people inside instead of seven, that you also play your role as a person.

Because if you are able to do that, and we have a joint effort and a collective responsibility, you can take a picture of that particular mode of transport, registration number, send it to us. We can look at it, and we are able to attend to those issues.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly conclude.

The MINISTER OF MOBILITY: Thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. That concludes interpellation No. 1. We proceed to interpellation No. 2. I recognise the Minister on the hybrid system, hon Minister Simmers.

Land release: affordable housing

2. Mr B N Herron asked the Minister of Infrastructure:

Multiple parcels of land have been released for “affordable housing” by the WCG over the last two years in the City of Cape Town:

(a) How does his Department identify land for release and (b) what proportion of the land identified or released over the past five years has resulted in completed housing units?

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE: Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker. I do welcome the opportunity of presenting to the House details of what is clearly an often-misunderstood process. Let me begin by addressing the premise of the hon member’s question. In the Western Cape, land release is not an event. It is part of a discipline, end-to-end delivery system. Experience, has over many years, taught us that simply releasing land without a plan to develop it, does not automatically create housing. It actually creates stagnation and frustration.

That is why our approach is structured around three key principles, which are as follows. Our first principle, in terms of how we identify the land is done the following way. It is also how we prioritise our land. Proximity to jobs, transport and economic activity; availability of bulk infrastructure; readiness for development within a realistic timeframe.

Hon members, because we all know location matters, that is exactly why we are

unlocking well allocated parcels such as Prestwich Precinct, Leeuloop, Founders Garden. These are not peripheral projects. They are deliberately positioned in areas of opportunity and services created to support a meaningful society.

The second principle is understanding our pipeline. The hon member asked, “What proportion of land has resulted in completed housing units?” But this question reflects a fundamental misunderstanding of how infrastructure delivery actually works. Land release is not the final step. It is the entry point into a pipeline. A pipeline made up of a number of key stages: concept; feasibility; planning approvals; funding alignment; and then construction.

Each of these phases must be completed properly, otherwise, projects fail. What we are doing in the Western Cape is ensuring that land moves through this pipeline efficiently, projects are actively tracked and managed, and bottlenecks are identified and removed. The third principle is what this is delivering for us. This approach is already producing results for us. We have seen major projects like Welmoed, Rhetemba, which have come online, and will be delivering thousands of housing opportunities. The inner-city developments are now moving from planning into implementation, and we have a provincial structure pipeline of over R152 billion, ensuring long term delivery at scale.

Hon Deputy Speaker, if you measure success only by completed units at a single point in time, you are in danger of missing the real reform that is underway, because what we are building is not just projects. We are building a system that

consistently delivers projects. This thinking is clearly set out in three key publications of the Department of Infrastructure as follows: there is the Western Cape Infrastructure Framework 2050, the Western Cape Infrastructure Strategy 2050, and the Western Cape Infrastructure Implementation Plan 2050, or correctly called, the Singular Pipeline.

In closing, hon Deputy Speaker, and let me say this clearly to the House: land release without delivery is symbolism. In the Western Cape, we build the full pipeline, from land to opportunity. That is why we are not only releasing land. We are turning it into real scalable delivery, linked to real opportunities for all the people of our province. I thank you.

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

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): Thank you, Deputy Speaker. I could not agree with the Minister, more. Releasing land without building is symbolic and nothing more. That is the reason for this interpellation. Firstly, to highlight that repeatedly making the same announcements about social and affordable housing is a ruse to give people the impression that there is progress, when there is none. Secondly, to underscore that even if the Province was serious about developing affordable housing, releasing land is the first of many steps required before houses are actually built.

At the current rate of progress, citizens, in desperate need of shelter, will likely remain without proper homes for decades. The hundreds of thousands of people

waiting for dignified housing in this province, attest to the cynicism of our MECs new t-shirts proclaiming, “For You”, on the back. If the Provincial Cabinet was for poorer citizens, it would have a strategy in plan to address the critical housing shortage, that is the province’s greatest existential crisis.

Let us examine the announcements of the Province and its sister, the City of Cape Town, they keep presenting as progress. What does the land identification process entail? It appears to be simply identifying parcels of land, previously identified for housing, rebranding and reannouncing them. It is also about reading through existing plans, picking out the best parts, and presenting it as somehow something new.

Every site that this Government has suddenly started releasing for affordable housing is land that was identified in the 2011 City Centre Regeneration Plan. The groundwork was done, and then the Province did nothing for 15 years. The same goes for the City. Every parcel of land announced for affordable housing over the past year was previously announced in 2017. The Roeland Street Fruit and Veg site was announced in 2017, reannounced in 2022 with a big fanfare, a launch, and then reannounced in 2024.

It would be comical if it was not so painfully cynical. Instead of accelerating delivery, what we have are repackaging exercises. So the question is, where is the progress? Releasing land, as the Minister said, is not delivery. Announcing land is not housing. Identifying land is not justice. The real work begins after the announcement, when bulk infrastructure must be installed, when

communities must be engaged, when planning approvals must be expedited, and when actual homes are built.

That is the difficult part. That is the part that changes lives, and that is precisely where this Government is falling short. Housing delivery has declined alarmingly. If we are serious about being a province that works for all its people, then we must move beyond PR that sells and resells rebranded plans, we must focus on implementation, on accountability, on measurable outcomes. Because the people of this province do not need more announcements. They need homes. Thank you. [Applause.]

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

Mr D J WESSELS (DA): Thank you. Hon Deputy Speaker, the housing backlog affects every province and municipality. Not just in the Western Cape, or not just in the City of Cape Town. In October last year, the Minister of Human Settlements confirmed that the DA-led City of Cape Town has delivered more houses than any other Metro in the country, over the last 30 years. [Interjections.] Even in the last five years, Cape Town built 12 401 houses, more than Johannesburg, Tshwane, and Ekurhuleni combined.

Johannesburg, under the ANC, EFF and PA coalition, only built 4 932. That is 50 percent more than the largest Metro in the country. This is the DA difference: we build houses where we govern. In addition, the DA-led Western Cape has

identified land for more houses. From provincial land alone, nearly 17,500 housing opportunities have been earmarked across Blue Downs, Sea Point, Hout Bay, the Foreshore and the Cape Town CBD.

The DA is determined to deliver on both urban and rural areas. So, Deputy Speaker, maybe the question to the hon Minister should be, why is it that the Western Cape builds more houses than any other province in the country? Thank you very much. [Interjections.]

Ms N D NKONDLO: Are you in the business of oversight?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, order. With an interpellation, the time allocated is much shorter. I did not want to interrupt the speaker. So the continued talking and conversing is interrupting the speaker. Hon member Lekker, you will now have your opportunity.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): Thank you, Deputy Speaker. Clearly, some in the DA are Deputy Ministers, instead of being ordinary members. If we are serious about housing reform, we must stop pretending that the current model in the Western Cape is the only option available. It is not. There are global examples that expose the limitations of this approach.

Take Vienna. In that city, nearly half of all residents live in social or publicly supported housing. Rents are more affordable because the State actively intervenes in land, supply and pricing. Housing is treated as infrastructure,

not a speculation. It is integrated into the city, in case you do not know.

Now, contrast that with Cape Town. Here, despite the repeated housing crisis, the State continues to rely heavily on market-led solutions that have failed to deliver affordability at scale. Well located land remains locked up or delayed, while informal settlements expand further away from opportunity. Hon Deputy Speaker, this is a contradiction. The Department speaks about spatial integration, yet fails to unlock central land. It speaks about opportunity, yet allows housing demand to be absorbed on the outskirts.

It speaks about delivery, yet more than 600 000 people remain on housing waiting lists, while key land remains unresolved. At the same time, speculative pressure continues to grow. Short-term rental platforms and investor-driven pricing are accelerating rent inflation. While regulation remains weak, let us call this what it is: a policy contradiction between what is said and what is done.

Hon MEC, the people of this province are not asking for theories about markets. They are asking a simple question: why, after decades of democracy does the spatial geography of apartheid remain intact, while your Department continues to defend a model that privileges the market and entrenches exclusion?

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

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): Thank you, Deputy Speaker. If we turn to page 457 of the 2026 Budget, we are presented with this robust and exciting social housing pipeline that the Minister spoke about. On paper, it is impressive. It suggests movement, ambition and scale, but in the same breath, it makes it clear that there is no funding to actually implement this pipeline, no funding to build the social housing our residents so desperately need.

So what exactly are we looking at here? We are told that land is being released at speed. We are presented with parcels of land that have been identified, repackaged and announced as progress, but what is the model underpinning the approach? How does it benefit people to hear about land release, devoid of any credible funding plans to develop them?

Land without housing is not delivery. It is political manipulation and delay. What we see is a growing gap between what is announced and what is achievable. With every announcement of land released for mixed uses, including affordable and social housing, we add to this very impressive social housing pipeline, that without any funding is in reality an empty packet.

The 2026/2027 Budget tells us that we have 3 900 new social housing rental units in the Western Cape Government pipeline, and 1,400 new social housing rental units in the City of Cape Town's Mayoral Land Release Programme. But as the Infrastructure Committee heard, none of these are funded by the Consolidated Capital Grant, and until they are, they cannot proceed.

So a pipeline without funding is not a plan. It is just a wish list. It raises the fundamental question, are we building homes, or are we chasing headlines, because communities cannot live in announcements, they cannot raise their families on identified parcels of land. If anything, making the same announcements on repeat, risks deepening frustration and eroding public trust. People are told that progress is being made, yet their lived reality remains unchanged.

Our Government has a number of realities staring them in the face. Growing housing demand and a crisis of affordability. Releasing land for the market solves neither. Instead of focussing on the rapid release of more and more land, this Government should be investing its time and energy in developing a clear and credible framework that ensures every parcel of land released is matched with funding, planning and a realistic time for delivery.

Our MEC for Finance announced the establishment of an alternative and blending finance reserve. R5.18 million has been set aside for this funding source in the MTEF. Unfortunately, there is no mention of this reserve being used to fund or finance the development of housing. Once again, instead of being innovative, the Western Cape will blame the National Government for not fully funding its housing needs, which is a concurrent mandate. Yet it will happily spend billions on a failing policing plan, which is not its mandate.

A more honest and intelligent government would understand the links between undignified social environments and antisocial behaviour, and they would get

building. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Herron. I recognise the Minister, Minister Simmers.

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Again, I do welcome the members' questions posed. But if one looks at Good's two and a half page Housing Policy, Good actually has written a housing manifesto that is full of noble intentions but *delulu* ability to deliver. There is no money. There are no projected funding needs. There are no clear timelines in their own policy, which is sad. They have no delivery machinery to back what they are proposing. They are not realistically bound in the reality of what is happening as we speak.

So they are actually the ones campaigning on slogans and seeking to stir up emotions, whereas this DA-led Provincial Government has a track record of delivery, but also now a track record of innovation in terms of affordable housing. In 2020, as the Minister of Human Settlements, then, hon members of the House, through you, Deputy Speaker, when I became that Minister, I said, "I will now introduce DA policy, focussing on affordable housing, which has its various elements".

Over the years, we have now seen that social housing, which is funded by SHRA, the funding allocation is being reduced, even over this MTEF. But instead of blaming National, as the hon member Herron seeks to create the

intention, or the impression, which we do, I have not done that. In my Budget speech, I clearly outlined the legislative reforms which we are busy with. I have indicated the administrative reforms we are busy implementing, in partnership with the Provincial Treasury.

When I appeared before the Standing Committee, I did indicate that these reforms will seek to fund our singular pipeline, with National grants becoming more unreliable, yet our pipeline of opportunities is there to be funded. It is how do you create an architecture in terms of governance to ensure that affordable housing is less reliant on National Grant Funding, and more and more on alternative blended financing approaches, which we are busy with.

Through you, hon Deputy Speaker, this House will be informed once those reforms are in place, once partnerships have been concluded, so that we can give a specific timeline on what will be implemented by when. So indeed, we have been very clear. We have given policy direction, and that is why more and more partners are coming to the Western Cape, seeking to partner with the Department of Infrastructure, and more so, focussing on our singular investment pipeline, which does include affordable housing and affordable rental options, which is ultimately what social housing is, only an affordable rental option.

Now to hon member Lekker. Sadly, she speaks of the failures of 30 years. I am happy that the ANC, in this House, are finally acknowledging something which the ANC nationally still needs to acknowledge. Their policies have kept our

citizens entrapped in spatial design, because what they seek to fund, how the grant seeks to assist provinces, not just the Western Cape, is based on what their guidelines are.

As much as it is a concurrent function, and we saw two years ago, the unilateral removal, or taking of funds from this province. That is where the problem lies. Provinces understand their demographics, they understand the needs. In the Western Cape, we have stories of success as we rightfully break down spatial segregation. The hon member Lekker speaks of houses. We speak of human settlements, because our people do not just need houses. They need homes and all other amenities that build a cohesive post-apartheid community. That is the true ambition where we are heading towards in terms of affordable housing, which means our people have a dignified life. Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I am allowing five seconds, to ten seconds, as we proceed, seeing that the Minister is also engaged in interpellation three. Minister, I trust that you are ready for interpellation three? I recognise the Minister.

Affordable housing: strategy

3. Ms P Z Lekker asked the Minister of Infrastructure:

In the light of the exorbitant rental costs and the rising cost of living in

the Western Cape:

What is the strategy of the Department to ensure that residents are able to access affordable housing close to areas of opportunity?

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. Thank you to hon member Lekker for the question. The rising cost of living, and particularly rental pressure, is a reality we take very seriously across our entire province. But we must also understand what is driving this. Firstly, more people are moving to the Western Cape, because our economy is growing, and these residents who come to our shores, see a government that actually works for all of its people.

While that success brings opportunity, it also brings pressure at the same time. So our response cannot be short-term or reactive. It must be structural, coordinated and forward-looking. So our strategy rests on three pillars. Firstly, well allocated land being released, and through our Rapid Land Release Programme, we are unlocking State-owned, let me reemphasise, provincially State-owned land, in areas of opportunity. Not far from jobs. Not disconnected from transport nodes, but located where people can access opportunity, because affordable housing far from opportunity is not affordable. It is actually exclusion.

Secondly is our inner-city and mixed-use developments. We are actively developing well allocated land in urban centres in projects like Prestwich, Leeuloop and Founders Garden. These are designed to bring our residents closer

to jobs, public transport and economic activity, because this is about reversing apartheid spatial patterns in a practical, deliverable way, and thirdly, scaling delivery through the infrastructure pipeline.

Here, we are aligning our land with bulk infrastructure, funding and ensuring it is implementation-ready, because all of this through a single collated pipeline is going to pull off to be successful. Because housing delivery does not fail at construction, Mr Deputy Speaker. It fails when these elements are not aligned, and that is exactly what we are seeking to fix in the Western Cape.

This is not abstract to me and my Department. It is about people, families accessing opportunities in developments like Welmoed, residents being brought closer to work, schools and services, and individuals who are no longer trapped by distance and cost. Affordable housing is not just about the number of units. It is about access. It is about dignity, but most importantly, it is about opportunity.

So let me conclude with this, hon Deputy Speaker. Affordable housing is not about distance. It is about access, and in the Western Cape, we are bringing people closer to opportunity. We are not chasing headlines. We are building a system that delivers today, and importantly for all of us to understand, into the future. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

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

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): Exorbitant rental costs and the rising cost of living have pushed and excluded many residents from living in the city. The reality facing tenants in Cape Town is becoming increasingly unsustainable. The latest PayProp Rental Index shows that average rents in the Western Cape are now nearing R12 000, far above the national average of around R9 400 for working families, young professionals and the working poor.

This is simply unaffordable. As a result, thousands of residents are being pushed further away from economic hubs, quality schools and essential services. This spatial apartheid continues to deepen, reinforcing the legacy of apartheid geography in our province. Hon Deputy Speaker, the housing market in Cape Town is not just under pressure. It is distorted beyond recognition. Access to space increasingly determined by income, and policy choices have deepened exclusion, rather than reserve it.

A basic one-bedroom apartment in or near the city can cost between R11 000 and R20 000. Even a small apartment in the CBD is around R12 000 or more. At the same time, in areas such as Ilitha Park and Blue Downs, families are paying thousands for overcrowded and undignified living conditions. What is particularly concerning is the growing impact of short-term rentals, and tourism-driven property markets.

The New York Times recently reported up to 70 percent of residential stock in parts of the city centre, are being used for hotel and short-term rentals. This has the effect of shrinking the long-term rental market, and leaving up prices

for ordinary citizens. Hon MEC, this crisis is not simply the result of market forces. It is reinforced by Government inaction and policy contradiction. Well-located public land, including the Tafelberg site, remains unresolved, despite years of public demand and affordable housing.

So the question is this, why does your Department continue to defend a system where public land is delayed, housing delivery is pushed to the periphery, and the market is left unchecked to determine who can live in the city? What is your actual plan to ensure affordable housing in well-located areas? I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Lekker. I recognise the hon member Wessels.

Mr D J WESSELS (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. There are six inner city social housing projects currently underway in Cape Town. It is expected to deliver more than 2 100 housing units in well-located areas, including Pine Road, Dillon Lane, Salt River Market, Pickwick Street, Newmarket Street, and then the former Fruit and Veg site in Zonnebloem. [Interjection.] This suggests that the DA-led Western Cape Government is making provision for inner city housing.

Recently, the Prestwich Precinct Inner City Mixed Use Affordable Housing Development in Cape Town was also announced. This project, located in the heart of the city centre, is the third major unveiling in just over a year of a residentially led, mixed use, affordable housing development in the Metro,

following the successful launches of Leeuloop and Founders Garden. Can the Minister please explain how many units exactly will be delivered from the Prestwich Precinct Inner City Housing Project? Thank you very much.

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

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): Hon Deputy Speaker, I cannot believe hon member Wessels mentioned Pine Road. Pine Road and Dillon Lane were allocated for social housing in 2011. If you go there now, it's a piece of grass with nothing built.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): Research ...[Inaudible.]

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): Please, hon Deputy Speaker, this is an important conversation. There are two essential elements to addressing our housing affordability crisis; defining what affordable means and enforcing affordability and securing its perpetuity. The Western Cape Provincial Government has done neither.

What it and its stepsisters in the City of Cape Town do rather well is make regular promises about affordable housing, without actually building any. They mouth the word, affordability, as a political pacifier, without even knowing what it means. A good example is the City of Cape Town's amendment to its Municipal Planning Bylaw, which labels a new zoning right, affordable rental

flats, without bothering to define what it considers affordable.

The simple answer to hon member Lekker's question is that the DA-led Government in the City and the Province have no strategies to enable people in the ghettos to access affordable houses close to areas of economic opportunity. If they did, they would not have sold the Good Hope Centre for a pittance to a Nigerian pastor.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Exactly!

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): The real fate of play is that the Western Cape is developing fewer and fewer subsidised homes, fully or partially subsidised. Property prices on the open market are rising exponentially, and the exclusionary short-term rental market is booming. While this is great for the rich, there is no room in the equation for affordability. If the Provincial Government cared about affordable housing, it would have regulated what affordability means, how it is enforced, and how affordable units remain affordable and are not sold off to developers for gentrification.

Announcing the release of public land for affordable housing with none of these regulations in place is therefore purely performative. In Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, Queen Gertrude delivers the immortal line, "*The lady doth protest too much, methinks*". What it means is that over insistence on a matter such as the DA's constant commitments on housing affordability, actually suggests they are lying or hiding the truth. Thank you.

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

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): Clearly there is a policy contradiction in the DA. They are asking a simple question. The people of this province are not asking for theories and markets. After decades of democracy, does the spatial geography of apartheid remain intact? Definitely, the question is yes, what are you doing about it? What are you doing about it, Premier?

Hon MEC, maybe I must ask, will your Department continue to defend a model that privileges the market and entrenches exclusion, or will you implement a decisive programme of well-located social housing, accelerated land release and measures to stabilise rental costs? Because without this shift, this crisis will not improve. It will deepen. Will you please ensure that you dismantle the apartheid spatial planning in the Western Cape? Not only in Cape Town, but in the rural areas as well. I thank you.

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

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker, and thank you to all the members for their inputs. Indeed, hon Deputy Speaker and members of the House, my Department has adopted a multiple-pronged strategy to actually tackle the housing affordability crisis, having now, together with the Department of Local Government, initiated two housing case

studies between the previous term and this term.

The data shows that we need to primarily be focussing on spatial transformation, which we are, bringing residents closer to economic hubs, which we are, and areas of opportunity, which we already are, across the entire province. Because spatial transformation is guided by principles contained in the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, or SPLUMA, the National Development Plan and the Social Act, where these are applicable.

Now, our Department also supports the development of affordable housing in gazetted restructuring zones, and priority housing development areas, or PHDAs, as is gazetted by the National Minister, after consultation with provinces and the municipalities. These are designed to attract investment in well-located areas, and provide rental options at below market rates.

My Department has developed a significant social housing pipeline, and is actively advocating for adequate funding for the implementation of the pipeline, while we are simultaneously investigating and pursuing alternative funding models and sources of funding, as I alluded to in interpellation No. 2. But what have we done over the last three to four years?

The hon member Wessels specifically asks the number of opportunities in terms of Prestwich, but I will answer that, also so that our members get the full picture of what we have been busy with. Not talking, not slogans, not stuck in apartheid mentality, like the ANC's mindsets still are, even though it's their policies that

have been failing our people 30 years down the line.

We have developed over the last three to four years a pipeline that can yield, in terms of affordable housing, well over 14 768 opportunities, hon members. Of this, the affordable component is more than half of that quantum. In terms of Prestwich, hon member Wessels, it is said to yield 310 opportunities. A hundred and twenty were focussed on social and affordable housing opportunities, but what is significant to understand, locked within these figures, you have Conradie Park, which, 1 715 out of three and a half thousand opportunities are social and affordable housing.

Not a slogan, not pipedreams, not planning, implementation with social housing being nearly complete, phase two of that, and we are now moving towards the open market component of our development. If we look at the area of Leeuloop, which I announced earlier this year and last year. Not slogans, not pipedreams, not campaigning. Actually shifting our levers towards implantation with our Cabinet, yesterday concurring to release that land now to the preferred bidder.

Not talking. It's being done. Of 853 opportunities, 363 will be affordable housing, and so, I can make examples of our other projects. As we are, we note the concerns about the funding of our affordable pipeline. We are also seeking solutions, because the Democratic Alliance, as a government in the Western Cape, just like at the City of Cape Town, are seeking to find solutions which do require a different mindset, a different type of financing formula, but most importantly, taking all of our communities on this journey.

Too many of our Opposition are stuck in apartheid. They quote slogans that they cannot deliver, whereas this Government has a proud track record of living quality not quantity. Thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Hon members, that concludes Interpellations, and we will now proceed in terms of Rule 202. [Interjections.] Hon members, when the Chair has the floor – hon member Lekker, hon member Nkondlo, we are about to proceed.

In terms of Rule 202 and as the questions that are printed on the Order Paper, hon members are reminded that if they wish to ask a follow up, that as soon as the Premier or the Minister commences with the answer, they are able to use the ‘raise your hand function’ on the hybrid system, or on the platform. Are you rising in terms of question No. 2?

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Yes, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will do it after question No, 1.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Is it possible for me to rise once to bundle all of them, or would you like me to rise every single time?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, on two, because the Premier is here.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Okay.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: So, you will rise as soon as the very first person that is not in the House, and that is bundled altogether.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: I will pop up and down.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, you can bundle it after the first speaker, who is in the House. Thank you so much, and then there are four opportunities, as members are aware. I now recognise the hon Premier.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

Public immovable assets in municipalities

1. Ms A P Bans asked the Premier:

- (1) What is the Provincial Government's position on the disposal of key public immovable assets in municipalities in the context of the growing demand for public infrastructure and community facilities;
- (2) whether the Provincial Government has any plans to dispose of public immovable assets in the current financial year; if so, what are the relevant details?

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker, and thank you very much to the hon member for the question. It obviously links directly to the last two interpellations as well. The Department of Infrastructure informed me that;

(1) the Department of Infrastructure, or DoI, as the custodian of the Western Cape Government-owned immovable assets, adopts a structured and regulated approach to the disposal of disposal any assets. The disposal of surplus public immovable assets is undertaken to support Local Government in fulfilling its service delivery mandate. This process is governed by the provisions of the Government's Immovable Asset Management Act, or GIAMA, and the Western Cape's Land Administration Act, WCLAA, and its Regulations.

In line with this framework and the disposal of assets, it is subject to the following key principles: properties must be declared surplus to the operational requirements of the Provincial Government; disposal must contribute to and support municipal service delivery, and the development of public infrastructure and community facilities; and the next point, all disposals require approval by the relevant delegated authority in accordance with the applicable legislation and processes.

(2) The Provincial Government has identified a number of public immovable assets for disposal during the current financial year. These disposals are intended to support infrastructure development, service delivery and community upliftment initiatives across various municipalities. That list is of some length, so if you do not mind, I will table it and we can then make sure that the questioner gets the full list as well. Thank you.

[List as tabled by the Premier]

No.	Property Description	Purchaser	Purpose
1	Erf 17639, Mitchells Plain	City of Cape Town	IRT Bus Lane
2	Erf 25872, Mitchells Plain	City of Cape Town	IRT Bus Lane
3	Remainder of Erf 59933, Cape Town	City of Cape Town	IRT Bus Lane
4	Remainder of Erf 59934, Cape Town	City of Cape Town	IRT Bus Lane
5	Portion of Erf 142145, Hanover Park	City of Cape Town	IRT Bus Lane
6	Portion of Erf 19176, Khayelitsha	City of Cape Town	IRT Bus Lane
7	Portion of Erf 5004, Khayelitsha	City of Cape Town	IRT Bus Lane
8	Portion of Farm 619, Philippi	City of Cape Town	IRT Bus Lane
9	Erf 40925, Khayelitsha	City of Cape Town	Water Pipeline servitude
10	Portion of Erf 19431, Durbanville	City of Cape Town & Master Association	Water Pipeline & Stormwater servitude
11	Erf 15324, Strand	City of Cape Town	Stormwater servitude
12	Erf 1112, Strand	City of Cape Town	Water Pipeline servitude
13	Erf 38929, Milnerton	Eskom	Stormwater drainage Pipeline servitude
14	Erf 3425, Gansbaai	Overstrand Municipality	Electrical Powerline servitude
15	Erf 493, Doring Bay	Matzikama Municipality	Sports field facility
16	Portion of Erf 46, Olifantsrivier Settlement	Matzikama Municipality	Construction of a sewer pumpstation facility
17	Erf 3476, Vredenburg	Saldanha Bay Municipality	Vredenburg Urban Revitalisation Programme and a new school
18	Erf 22374, Goodwood	City of Cape Town	Human Settlement Development

19	Portion of Erf 6966, Worcester	CAV Family Trust	Exchange with Private Landowner to rectify school boundaries Acquiring Erf 20836 Worcester from CAV Family Trust.
20	Erf 2549, Onrusrivier	Overstrand Municipality	Community Use
21	Unregistered Erf 24856, Portion of Erf 15350, Tygerberg	City of Cape Town	Substation

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, I see no hands in the Chamber. I see your hand now, but let me first go to the member that posed the question. Her hand is also raised on the hybrid system. Hon Bans.

Ms A P BANS (ANC): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. In the light of the growing demand for well-located land for housing, how does the Province justify disposing of public land instead of prioritising its release for affordable or social housing development? If the Premier can give a response to that? Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much to the hon member Bans. Obviously, as I said, with the criteria of how disposals happen, depending on who is looking for that specific property and then from there, the policies will be applied. So when the hon member gets the long list, you will see that many of these erven were disposed of for priority bus lanes, or perhaps water pipelines, for servitudes, and some of them obviously for sporting facilities or human settlement development.

It goes through that process, and depending on after departments have had a look, municipalities will then make sure that between the department and the municipality, they then agree on what the usage of that property will be. Of course, the demand is taken into consideration.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier. I see the hon member Lekker.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): Can the Premier confirm whether there have been any public participation processes that have already been initiated for planned disposal in this financial year? If so, can we get the details?

The PREMIER: Thank you very much to the hon member Lekker. I cannot actually answer that question of what those processes are. If you look at the list of all these properties, they all have to go through the GIAMA process. But of course, that would have to be posed for those exact processes to the Minister of Infrastructure, because this question did not ask that specific question, otherwise that answer would have been attached here to the answer. So I think that question would need to be asked separately.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see the hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Hon Premier, can I check in line with this question? How is the Province balancing the need to use infrastructure development as part of the Growth for Jobs Strategy, and the social economic needs for property

and land in the province? What mechanism? What instrument do you use?

The PREMIER: So obviously as part of that GIAMA process, that is exactly what happens, because every department gets the opportunity to engage on that specific piece of land, or not necessarily only what the Department makes available, but could also proactively approach the Department. So I am pretty sure, and that aligns probably to the previous question, if I look at this list, you will see, there is Erf 17639 Mitchells Plain, Erf 25872 Mitchells Plain, remainder of Erf 5993 Cape Town, remainder of Erf 5934 Cape Town, and so this list goes on.

All of those are for the purposes of the IRP bus lane directly into Mitchells Plain. So that connects directly to growth and jobs, the G for J Strategy, because it is how mobility is increased, specifically in a city with so much demand, and we see the increase in traffic, and of course, you see more and more traffic in the city itself. Of course, the same thing goes not only necessary land being available, but the drive that we have had where Minister Sileku and PRASA have been working so hard over the last while to get the trains operational.

I was in Kapteinsklip the other day, and engaging with commuters using the train, and it really makes a difference for that exact purpose, growth and jobs, the G for J Strategy. That is just one component of this answer. Obviously, this is available to the full House, so you can see whether – I mean, water pipelines. That adds to opportunities. Electrical power line servitudes. These all align, or not all of them, because some of them are human settlements, some of them are

community lease, some of them are sports fields. But the other ones which are helping economic investment, specifically infrastructure investment, at the end of the day will align through Growth for Jobs.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The final question. I recognise the hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Thanks, hon Premier for that. Who would then be the final arbiter? Let's say as you indicate, that there would be different departments, other demands or needs of those either properties or land? So when there is competing interest for such properties, who becomes the final arbiter in that case?

The PREMIER: That would end up in Cabinet. I have not had a case like this so far where two departments are demanding the same piece of property in the process. When Cabinet does get to approve that disposal, it has generally worked out. So I would say Cabinet would be the arbiter if there was a dispute. But generally, the DoI, Department of Infrastructure, whose legislation and the ability for them to go through those processes, it generally gets cleared out in that – I would call it the clearing House, as GIAMA kicks in, or the Western Cape Land Disposal Act. As those kick in, the real work happens within the Department of Infrastructure.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier. That concludes question one. I recognise the Chief Whip.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. Agreements have been reached between the members and the Ministers for questions two, five, seven and 11 to please stand over until the next sitting.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just to double-check, seven? Then stand over. I now recognise the hon Minister, Minister Marais.

[Questions 2, 5, 7 and 11 stand over]

State-funded rehabilitation

3. Mr F C Christians asked the Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

In the light of the ongoing surge in gang-related shootings in communities, including in Mitchells Plain, Hanover Park and Delft:

(a) What are the urgent and coordinated interventions currently underway to stabilise areas that are experiencing daily violence and (b) how is her Department supporting Neighbourhood Watches and Community Policing Forums?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:
Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Thank you to hon Christians for this question. The stabilisation of high violence areas is primarily the mandate of the South

African Police Service. However, Community Policing Forums and Neighbourhood Watches play a critical role as force multipliers, supporting SAPS and the Law Enforcement Advancement Plan, or LEAP, officers through integrated crime and violence prevention initiatives.

In Mitchells Plain, the Department facilitated the establishment of the Mitchells Plain Safety and Development Forum in January 2026, following stakeholder engagements since July 2025. The Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety has secured R9 million in funding for this project, to implement community driven safety and development projects from April 2026. These include establishment of five safe zones and hubs, PROMA informed programmes and holiday activities for youth across 16 areas; youth empowerment initiatives, including Safety Ambassador training and exposure opportunities; skills development and employability programmes; community-based support interventions, such as statement taking and victim support, and training for CPFs and Neighbourhood Watches in conflict resolution, first aid, safety and gender-based violence.

In the Philippi or Hanover Park area, an integrated multisectoral approach is being implemented through collaboration between Government departments and local safety stakeholders. This includes targeted interventions to address emerging risks, such as youth involvement in stone throwing incidents, with community led engagement and law enforcement actions, resulting in recent arrests for public violence.

In part (b) the Department supports Neighbourhood Watches through formal accreditation, capacity building, resource provision and funding for safety initiatives, ensuring that they operate as structured, capable and accountable community safety partners in partnership with SAPS. CPFs are similarly supported through basic capacitation in partnership with SAPS, and accessed project-based funding when CPFs apply.

Over the past two financial years, 2024/2025, and 2025/2026, support provided in key areas included Mitchells Plain, seven Neighbourhood Watches accredited, 11 resourced and two trained. Total Neighbourhood Watch funding to four. Neighbourhood Watches R70 000. CPF funding R36 000. The CPF is currently suspended, just to note, with processes underway for a solution. The Neighbourhood Watch remained functional and supported.

In Hanover Park and Philippi, five Neighbourhood Watches accredited, and resourcing provided to one. Total Neighbourhood Watch funding to one, is R25 000 and the CPF is functional and supported through intergovernmental collaboration and provision of resources. For example, radios, equipment and training. Delft, 24 Neighbourhood Watches accredited, 24 resourced and one trained. The total Neighbourhood Watch funding to 40 Neighbourhood Watches in total is R210 000 and the CPF funding is R25 000.

The Delft CPF remains functional and continues to implement safety initiatives within the area. In partnership with SAPS, the CPF collaborated with the Airports Company South Africa, or ACSA, to provide security planning to 40

unemployed youth, thereby enhancing their prospects for potential employment at the airport.

The CPF further continues to implement additional Community Safety projects. Lastly, across all three areas, Neighbourhood Watches and CPFs received ongoing support through training, resources, including equipment and branded materials, and coordinated engagement with SAPS and Local Government to strengthen community-based safety interventions. I thank you.

[The Speaker takes the Chair.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Can I just get an indication from the Table staff? It is hon member Christians then hon member Van Minnen. Are there any further indications? If not, hon member Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Thank you. Hon Speaker, I just want to know from the Minister, and thank you for the very comprehensive answer. Now, it seems to me that the gangs are now moving from area to the area. You build up something in Mitchells Plain and Hanover Park and Delft, and then you get the shootings in Bonteheuwel that took place.

Does the Department, with the other role players, have a proactive role when it comes to certain areas that flare up? So, thank you, Minister for those answers. Do you have a proactive role concerning the other areas of concern? Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member Christians. Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:
Thank you, hon member Christians. As you know, it is all operational from SAPS and our LEAP officers. Our LEAP officers are proactive, but what is also happening is there are various operations happening simultaneously with this moving of crime and killings on the Cape Flats.

The first one is Operation Lockdown No. 3, and the leadership of this operation is outside of the province. They are from Limpopo and from the Northern Cape, to limit the potential of colluding with the gangs, and then Operation Shanela, No. 2, is still continuing. This is our LEAP and law enforcement of the City of Cape Town, as well as our SAPS members, and then also the Ops Prosper, that is with the SANDF, City of Cape Town Traffic, as well as our LEAP officers. I also just want to mention that various firearms confiscations and arrests have been made, and all these investigations are ongoing. So, thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I recognise the hon member Van Minnen.

Ms B M VAN Minnen (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker. I would like to know from the hon Minister, if these wonderful investments that are being made in the Neighbourhood Watches and the CPFs are paying off and actually building resilience? I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:
Thank you. I just want to confirm, is it how much have we spent on the
...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, please take your seat. Hon Van Minnen?

Ms B M VAN Minnen (DA): My question is relating to, is it making a difference
and building resilience in communities?

The CHIEF WHIP: Thank you. Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:
Thank you. I am going to be very honest. It is making a difference. In some
areas, we still have to intervene with different behavioural changes. People are
different, but it is definitely making a difference. I am happy to say that
specifically in our hotspot areas, they are very, very active, the CPFs, as well
as our Neighbourhood Watches. They really are our ears on the ground. Thank
you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I recognise hon member Stoffel and then
hon member Nkondlo.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. MEC, despite LEAP
deployments, residents in Mitchells Plain, Hanover Park and Delft continue to
experience daily shooting. What measurable reduction in gang violence can you

point to?

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:
Thank you. I know it is still a complex problem, and LEAP is really making a difference. I can provide you with the successes they had specifically in the last two weeks. I do not have it on me, but I will let you have all that information. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon member Nkondlo?

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): As the person who has been part of the spot fully ...[Interjection.]

The CHIEF WHIP: Hon member, can you speak to the microphone, just for the record? Sorry.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): My apologies. Through you, hon Speaker. I am interested to know from the Minister, since she has been part of the spot fully. What, in your view, is driving gang violence in those three areas, according to the information and the evidence that you are dealing with, and what is Community Safety doing about it?

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, before you proceed. Hon Nkondlo, I'm going to

ask you to rephrase or repose your question. It is against the Rules to ask the opinion, the view of the Minister, so I am going to give you an opportunity to reconstruct your question.

†UNKsz N D NKONDLO (ANC): Ndithetha isiXhosa, mntakwethu. Mhlawumbi iza kuvakala xa ndiyithetha ngesiXhosa. Umbuzo wam uthi, njengokuba kaloku uMphathiswa, noko, senethuba ephaya, into endizama ukuyi-andastenda uMphathiswa.

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): I speak isiXhosa, my colleague. Perhaps if I ask my question in isiXhosa, it might be clearer. Here is my question: Since the Minister has been in this position for quite some time, I would like to know what drives gang-related violence in those three areas?]

Hon Minister, what drives gang related violence in those three areas? That is my question.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon Minister, you may now answer the question.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:
Thank you, I can say in my view, but what I know is that it is organised crime.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon members. That brings us to the end of question No. 3. I now recognise the hon Minister as we move to question No. 4.

Safety budget: provincial policing function

4. Mr B N Herron asked the Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:

58% of the budget for safety is being allocated to the provincial policing function:

- (a) What (i) activities and (ii) functions fall under provincial policing and
- (b)(i) how many LEAP officers are on active duty and (ii) where are they stationed?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:
Thank you, hon member Herron, for this question. The activities undertaken to advance this mandate are implemented through key programmes, including our peace officer training support, the Law Enforcement Advancement Plan, the establishment of a law enforcement rural safety unit at municipalities, and the establishment and support of municipal K9 units.

Additional activities are carried out through the Community Resilience Programme, the Street Coach and Safety Observatory, and Project Chrysalis Academy. These programmes support community-based safety initiatives,

youth development, violence prevention and evidence-based safety planning and monitoring. The programme also includes the Western Cape Police Ombudsman.

Furthermore, the purpose of this programme is to give effect to the constitutional mandate of provinces in promoting good relationships between communities and the police for the whole-of-society approach, and to ensure that all policing service delivery complaints in the province are dealt with independently and effectively.

Through these programmes, the Province continues to strengthen municipal law enforcement capacity, build safer and more resilient communities, improve cooperation between communities and the police, and ensure that policing service delivery complaints are dealt with effectively and independently.

Then, there are 1 091 officials within LEAP on active duty. Nine senior officers are responsible for command and control, and 953 operationally active officials are deployed into six priority SAPS station precincts, and a roving reaction unit supporting three areas, Hanover Park, Manenberg and Elsie's River. Additionally, a contingent of 129 LEAP officials performs support of back-office duties for operational detachments. LEAP officers are stationed as follows: priority SAPS stations supported, Nyanga, 121; Gugulethu, 129; Khayelitsha, 127; Mitchells Plain, 126; Philippi East, 184; Delft, 129.

The LEAP Reaction Unit, as I have said, is 137, and the support back-office

duties is 129. They are in the armouries, control room, workforce planning, CCTV and administration. The LEAP command and control are nine officers. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. At this point, I have got hon member Herron, hon member Van Minnen, hon member Marais, and hon member Stoffel.

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): Thank you, hon Speaker, and thank you to the Minister for the answers. I would like to start with the number of LEAP officers that are deployed. The Minister spoke about 1 091. The programme was launched with a thousand. It was supposed to have been increased to 1 200 as announced in November 2025, 1 100 in 2022.

But in terms of the 2026 Budget, under Vote 4, we see that the Department talks about 2025/2026 having on average LEAP deploys, I am quoting: “700 trained officers to bolster SAPS efforts”. So what is the discrepancy between what you disclose in your Budget Book and these numbers that you are talking about now?

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: What you are asking is – they are on active duty right now. You must remember, some of them are off duty. They are on sick leave, as well as on holiday. So, that is what they have on at this moment that are on active duty, and they are deployed

throughout the communities.

The SPEAKER: Hon Van Minnen?

Ms B M VAN Minnen (DA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I just want to know what the plans are in terms of the expansion of the LEAP programme and programmes like the Mitchells Plain rollout. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: Thank you. I do not have the exact details of the operational details of LEAP. They do not usually give that to us. But, I would like to invite the Standing Committee to do a walkabout with us whenever you can.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Marais?

Mr G P MARAIS (FFP): Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Minister, the deployment of LEAP officers ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Marais, please switch on your microphone.

Mr G P MARAIS (FFP): Hon Minister, the deployment of LEAP officers and the activities have been noted, but to which degree is it resulting in the reduction of the SAPS deployment in the Western Cape in terms of fighting

crime? Because the hon Premier referred to that previously and I am concerned about the cooperation between SAPS and LEAP to sort out our crime matter. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: Thank you for the question. I am going to be very honest. There was a problem between SAPS and the LEAP deployment, we have resolved that problem.

So at this moment it is going very well, but still LEAP is a force multiplier to SAPS, because SAPS is understaffed. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, and then the last opportunity, hon member Stoffel.

Ms B N STOFFEL (PA): Thank you, hon Speaker. MEC, are LEAP officers adequately equipped and trained to confront heavily armed criminals? And if so, what specific equipment and operational support do they have to match the level of weaponry used by gangs? Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, before you proceed. I am not going to dictate how you answer, but that is a new question. So if you are able to answer it or if you want to answer it I am not going to dictate, but I am just cautioning hon members there is follow-up on the initial question being posed. So, hon

Minister, over to you.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: I am just going to keep it short. Yes, they are fully equipped and they are fully trained. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon members, that brings us to the end of question number 4. I believe question number 5 is standing over. We move on to question number 6 and I recognise the Minister of Health and Wellness, hon Minister Wenger.

[Question 5 stands over.]

Ambulances in the province

6. Ms R Windvogel asked the Minister of Health and Wellness:

In respect to the provision of ambulances in the province:

(a) What is the official waiting time for an ambulance in (i) non-metropolitan areas (rural areas) and (ii) the metropolitan area (in particular in the red zones) and (b) what is her department doing to address the shortage of ambulances in the province?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS: Thank you, hon Speaker. In response to part (a), the Western Cape Department of Health and Wellness

applies a data driven and equitable approach to the allocation and deployment of ambulances across districts. The distribution model is guided by population density, service demand, geography and travel time data, ensuring that both rural and urban communities have access to timely emergency care. In this context waiting time is understood to mean ambulance response time, defined as the time from when the emergency call is received to when the first dispatched medical resource arrives on scene.

The Western Cape Department of Health and Wellness does not apply a single uniform response target for all ambulance calls because response times depend on the clinical priority of the incident, geography, operational demand, mission times and scene safety considerations.

The Western Cape Department of Health and Wellness EMS response times are influenced by a number of factors, including travel distances in rural areas, high demand and traffic congestion in the Metro, prolonged mission times and safety-related constraints in some communities.

EMS dispatch operators are trained to be able to triage the patient appropriately as calls are received. Calls are prioritised as either P1 or P2 based on the severity or acuteness of the condition of the patient, rather than the order in which they are received. This ensures that the most acute cases are prioritised.

Between January and March of 2026, a total of 112 024 calls were received by the EMS dispatch units in the Western Cape. To provide an accurate picture of

ambulance response times the median average has been used. This helps prevent exceptional EMS cases, such as rescue operations, including offshore rescues, from distorting the overall data as these incidents often take significantly longer than routine ambulance responses.

When both P1 and P2 categories are included the average median waiting time between January and March 2026 was:

1. Rural, all calls, 38.65 minutes;
2. Metro City of Cape Town, all calls, 72.52 minutes; and
3. Red zones, all calls, average response 79.75 minutes.

While every case is important and our teams strive to service every call as quickly as possible, P1 cases take priority due to their severity.

When zeroing in on the average ambulance response times in the Metro and in rural areas for P1 calls, rural P1 average response time in minutes is 23.08 and Metro 47.25, red zones 62.73. With regard to red zones. Ambulance response times may increase as ambulances may only enter red zones with police escorts.

Part (b), the Western Cape currently operates functional ambulances supported by rescue vehicles and specialised response units, that together form part of the Province's integrated emergency medical services or EMS fleet.

To improve coverage in rural areas the Department of Health and Wellness has

implemented the following:

- Continuous fleet renewal and distribution with new vehicles allocated to rural districts to ensure reliability and reduce downtime.
- Satellite ambulance stations and deployment points in remote areas to reduce response times and travel distances.
- Centralised call coordination through the EMS Communication Centre, enabling optimal vehicle dispatch based on proximity and severity of the incident.
- Integrated response networks that include aeromedical support, rescue services and Health Net transfers to supplement rural coverage.
- Use of real-time tracking and digital monitoring systems to improve fleet management, route optimisation and dispatch efficiency.

The Department continues to collaborate with local municipalities and the provincial Western Cape Mobility Department, and thank you to my hon colleague, to ensure that ambulance coverage remains equitable, efficient and responsive to community needs, particularly in rural and geographically challenging areas.

However, the Western Cape Department of Health and Wellness does not solely rely on a fleet of public ambulances, but on a broader EMS ecosystem comprising of public ambulances and private service providers. In particular the Department is working with private sector providers around inter-facility transfers. The Department's response to pressures on the platform therefore

extends beyond vehicle numbers, it includes:

- Ensuring the availability of vehicles;
- The availability of appropriately qualified staff to crew ambulance across shifts;
- Improvements in dispatch and coordination; and
- Broader efforts to manage mission times and system pressures.

Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. I recognise hon member Windvogel and then hon member Kaizer-Philander.

Ms R WINDVOGEL (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. †Ek wil net weet van die agb Minister af wat [I want to know from the Minister what] – or what is the current ambulance to population ratio in the province. Then – only one question.

The SPEAKER: You stopped yourself there, hon member Windvogel. Yes, you are correct, only one follow-up question. Hon Minister, over to you.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS: Thank you, hon Speaker. I think that is a new question, so I would encourage the hon member to submit that in writing and I will be able to provide a response.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Kaizer-Philander, hon member Booysen and then hon member Windvogel, the last opportunity again.

Ms W F KAIZER-PHILANDER (DA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, through you to the hon Minister. In what other ways is the department working to improve access to ambulances? Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS: Thank you, hon Speaker, and to the hon member for the question. There are various ways that we are working to improve access, as mentioned inter-facility transfers is one of them, but another keyway that we are working to improve access is by working with communities.

We have a programme called the Emergency First Aid Responder Programme, or EFAR, and we know that many people feel uncertain when there is an emergency, they may not know how serious the situation might be, or when should they seek medical care or call an ambulance or go to the emergency centre, especially if this happens after hours or on a weekend.

So the EFAR helps to bridge that gap by training community volunteers to be able to provide basic first aid, to be able to assess the situation, to help our communication centre in understanding exactly what the situation is on the ground. They are also able to stabilise patients while waiting for the EMS

personnel to arrive. So these are ways that help us to make sure that ambulances remain available for the most acute cases when they occur. It also helps to reassure and calm communities when there are incidents that take place.

So far we have 10 000 EFAR volunteers that have been trained across the province and there is a very strong focus, in particular, in rural areas for after-hours support. These volunteers are very often first on the scene because they live in communities where an incident occurs and they can do that early assessment, as I mentioned, to be able to relay that information to the call centre and this very often helps to improve patient outcomes.

I managed to see this first-hand in Kleinmond when I went to visit clinics there. The need was identified and the teams went and trained EFAR volunteers, and I am happy to say that they are now from the community working as EFAR volunteers and we really value that partnership with communities.

Also to mention, sometimes in very rural districts, so, for example, Prince Albert Hospital in the Central Karoo is another area where we trained a number of EFAR volunteers. The Central Karoo covers around 30% of the province's land area, but only has 1% of the population and so in this case travel distances are quite far, and it is quite evident why these types of programmes really help to create better access.

So thank you very much to the hon member for the question.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. Hon member Booysen.

Mr M BOOYSEN (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, through you, we are aware of PPPs in the EMS space in the Witzenberg area. My question, hon Speaker, is: are there plans for any further expansions within the province? Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, I am not going to adjudicate on that question, but it sounded to me like a new question. [Interjection.] So I am not going to dictate, hon Minister, how you answer it, but I will – order! I do not need assistance. Hon Minister, you may continue.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS: Alright. I did sort of allude to partnerships in my original response, which I think is what the hon member is asking me about. We do not have a formal PPP, but we do have partnerships with the private sector and so the partnerships in the Metro, the West Coast and the Garden Route help us to conduct inter-facility transfers between facilities for low acuity patients.

Also at the start of the financial year, and I think I mentioned it in the House previously, we recruited 30 additional emergency care officers who will be deployed in rural areas in this financial year where the need is greatest. It is an investment of just over R11 million and the officers will focus specifically on inter-facility transfers, and this intervention ensures that areas such as Ceres, Bredasdorp, Knysna, Oudtshoorn, Gansbaai, Riversdal and Beaufort West, have

dedicated teams to manage these transfers, and what it does is it frees up ambulances to be able, or to be available for critical and emergency cases.

So by improving flow into, out of and between facilities we can free up beds quicker, we can reduce waiting times and improve overall efficiency. Since its inception in December last year, so just a few months ago, this partnership has already enabled 3 000 patient transfers.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. †Die agb lid Windvogel. [The hon member Windvogel.]

Me R WINDVOGEL (ANC): †Baie dankie, agb Speaker. [Thank you, hon Speaker.] I want to understand from the hon Minister, she mentioned about the waiting time for ambulances. What concrete measures has her department implemented to ensure that residents in red zones still receive timely emergency care? Because up until yesterday people were waiting eight hours just for an ambulance. Even in the rural areas the same thing is happening, because you do not have enough ambulances.

So I really want to understand how do they monitor that? Thank you, hon Speaker.

†Die SPEAKER: Die agb Minister.

[The SPEAKER: The hon Minister.]

The MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS: As mentioned, if we look at both P1 and P2 categories, the average median waiting time between January and March of this year for rural all calls is: 38.6 minutes, Metro City of Cape Town 72.5 minutes, red zones 79.75 minutes, and when we look at P1, which is the highest priority calls, in rural that is an average response time of 23 minutes, and in the Metro 47.2 minutes, for red zones it is 62.73 minutes.

So it definitely takes longer because we have to wait for that police escort and we have seen – I am looking at the average times from January to March 2026, the average median waiting times because we have to wait for a police escort that often compounds the waiting time, which is not ideal, but we have to make sure that the emergency personnel as well as the patients can be kept safe.

We are very grateful for the cooperation of communities. Following a recent attack, the community came together and helped us to track down the perpetrators, who are now seeing justice. So I think with these types of collaborations with communities, we can reduce the number of attacks on emergency personnel, which will lessen the number of red zones, and that will then also help improve response times. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. Hon members, that concludes question number 6. I have been informed that question number 7 as printed on the Question Paper will stand over. We then move on to question 8 as printed and I recognise the Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism, hon Minister Meyer.

[Question 7 stands over.]

Township Economy: funding and growing of

8. Ms N D Nkondlo asked the Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism:

In the light of his department's Strategic Priority 5: Improved access to economic opportunity – Pathway 1: Entrepreneurship, including the township economy:

(a) What concrete measures is his department implementing to fund and grow the township economy meaningfully beyond the allocation for furthering studies in the sector and (b) what timelines are attached to these interventions?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you, hon Speaker, and thank you to hon member Nkondlo for the question number 8.

My response is as follows: the Department collaborated with various Western Cape Government departments, including Infrastructure, Health, Wellness and the Provincial Treasury and municipalities and national agencies, such as SANParks, to host supplier open days in areas such as KwaNonqaba, Mossel Bay, Pacaltsdorp in George, Stellenbosch, Malmesbury, Langebaan and

Plattenberg Bay. These events provided a platform that focused on integrating businesses into formal procurement systems through showcasing procurement opportunities in dealing with systemic barriers to their participation.

The sessions also aim to help businesses understand the compliance, how to register on the public procurement database, and to transact with Government, but also to learn about available economic opportunities and to access related public sector services.

The Department ensured that organisations such as the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission, the CIPC, and the South African Revenue Services were part of this engagement. The Department does not operate in isolation, but builds an enabling system and ecosystem through collaboration with the National Department of Small Business Development and agencies such as SEDA, the Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency, to expand the reach and to deepen the impact.

To this end the Department collaborated with the National Department of Small Business Development to strengthen and maximise the uptake of national support instruments within the Western Cape. This collaboration focuses on actively facilitating access to local entrepreneurs to key programmes such as the Asset Assist and the Spaza Shop Support Fund.

Through targeted awareness, coordination and the referral mechanisms, the Department ensures that the Western Cape businesses are better informed and

are able to access these funding and support opportunities, thereby expanding the reach and the impact of both National and Provincial interventions in the Western Cape.

Hon Speaker, the Department will also implement an area-based Entrepreneurship Development and Growth Programme. This is specifically to align with the LED, the Local Economic Development Programme, within municipalities and within the various districts, and this programme strengthens the growth and the sustainability of medium, small and micro enterprises in targeted local areas by providing businesses with the necessary development and support.

The initiative will be implemented in collaboration with strategic partner organisations to broaden the reach and effectiveness of the supporting system, and ensuring that these interventions are both contextually relevant and operationally responsive.

Through the mentorship programme, practical training, coaching, and market readiness and support, these programmes build management capability, business resilience, and a clear pathway for growth.

The Department is also in the process of developing a Township Economic Development Strategy to provide an evidence-based, coherent provincial framework and an implementable strategy that defines the Western Cape Government's collective approach, aligned to the township economies, very

important economies. The strategy will clarify the role and the responsibilities of the Western Cape Government departments.

As you heard earlier, our hon colleagues, the Cabinet members, have frequently during the question time and during the interpellations referred to the whole-of-society approach. That also applies in respect of this question.

The strategy will also align how Government supports township economies, expands economic participation, unlocks opportunities within the township economies and drives inclusive sustainable growth across the Western Cape. The Department will continue to collaborate with other departments and agencies to roll out the programme facilitated by the Provincial Treasury, namely the supplier open day sessions, during the 2026/2027 financial year.

The Department will implement the area-based Entrepreneurship Development and Growth Programme during the 2026/2027 financial year, which was also a focus of my recent Provincial Budget speech for Economic Development and Tourism.

In addition, hon Speaker, the Township Economic Development Strategy will be finalised during this current financial year and it will form part of the Department's approach towards the township economy, But, this Department is not waiting for the strategy to be finalised. We have already engaged in certain targeted areas, to which I have referred, and we will continue to collaborate with the National Department and with SEDFA to improve awareness and

access to the National Support Programme to increase the uptake and the impact in the Western Cape. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. I recognise the hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Thank you, hon Minister. If you say you will be implementing the strategy in the 2026/2027 financial year, please help us understand when we can expect the strategy to be tabled, either to the Standing Committee or to this House? Because as you would know, we have been waiting for a township strategy for, I do not know, more than 10 years now. The question asked was about the timelines of the interventions you referred to. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you very much, hon member Nkondlo. I think you will be happy to hear that the National Government, at its most recent Cabinet meeting, that is in this month, approved a draft Township and Redevelopment and Revitalisation policy for public comment. My Department will now also comment on this draft policy as township and rural communities play a significant role in the Growth for Jobs strategy in the Western Cape.

I have seen the latest *Government Gazette* and the Government Report on the

communication coming from GCIS, which records recent decisions. In the latest one, the draft Rural and Revitalisation Strategy was published for comment, and my Department will now submit comments on this draft policy, as it forms an important part of the work of economic development. I agree with hon member Nkondlo, this plays a very significant part in the Growth for Jobs strategy.

Many of these township economies create jobs and provide for the livelihoods of many people. I want to thank hon member Nkondlo for raising this matter privately with me, as well as on numerous occasions in the Standing Committee and in debates in this House, including the most recent debate during my Budget speech.

I appreciate that she will now also comment on the draft strategy of the National Government, as I have seen that she is keen that we also align our strategy with the National strategy because we are in the Government of National Unity and we want to achieve synergy and unity of purpose. I now also know she does not just simply talk and that she will act and, like me, make a meaningful contribution on this topic.

I think people are familiar that the policy is designed to transform local economies from consumption areas into productive, vibrant hubs by integrating them into the mainstream economy. It aims to also foster sustainable entrepreneurship, create employment and reduce poverty through a targeted and coordinated approach.

This policy is aimed at certain critical areas, namely, for example, the development of sustainable development and rural entrepreneurs,; also to guide the development of a well-coordinated collective ecosystem approach, and also increase access to economic and market opportunities. For me this is very important. We have to see that small scale businesses get opportunities for market access and we have seen through our process of the economic Market Access Support Programme and the expansion of export capabilities, that many of these companies, small scale companies, have now been empowered by my Department to also increase their export capabilities. We have run this programme throughout the various districts and I am particularly happy.

Hon member Nkondlo, asked specifically when we can expect a date for the final approval of this policy. This will certainly take place in the second quarter of this current financial year, and I am looking forward, as she is, to the launch of the strategy.

†Die SPEAKER: Baie dankie, agb Minister. [Thank you, hon Minister.] I recognise the hon member Masipa.

Mr N P MASIPA (DA): Thank you, hon Minister. I do appreciate your answers. Cabinet has recently approved the National Entrepreneurship Strategy and I think the question really is how does this strategy become an enabler to all the initiatives that fall directly under the Department's Strategic Priority Five in order to achieve those priorities in the township economy, entrepreneurship and access to economic opportunity, as well as addressing the questions that were

asked by hon member Nkondlo? Thank you, hon Minister.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you very much to the hon member. The Township and Rural Economic Development and Revitalisation Policy is not a policy that stands alone. It is integrated into the Small and Medium Enterprise Development Strategy, because we have realised in South Africa – I am also very thankful to the National Department – that small business development and the rural economy are integrated.

It is for that reason, we have, for example, recently launched a Local Economic Development Academy to ensure that small entrepreneurship development happens in support of promoting the rural economy. But rural economies also require technical, administrative and normative skills in building local economic development, and we have launched the first Local Economic Development Academy in Swartland Municipality to expand the capacity of entrepreneurship.

If you look at where economies grow the fastest in the world, it is where small and medium enterprise development is linked to rural economic development. The countries that do this the best are Kenya and India. If you look at the whole economy of India, the whole economy is built on small and medium enterprises, and it is based on the rural economy.

There is a specific reason why I mention this, because I appreciate that the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations have now declared 2026 as the Year for Women in Agriculture, and I am very pleased that we are now linking the role of women in agriculture directly to both rural development and to small and medium enterprise development, and there are successful examples around the world, also in South America, where this is working very, very effectively.

So to answer the question, rural economic development, township economic development and SMME development are part of the same ecosystem, as part of the Growth for Jobs. This notion that only big companies are fundamentally driving economic growth is a myth. It has been demonstrated through research and evidence that small and medium enterprises globally are now driving economic growth. This is why there is now a detailed focus in the Western Cape that mayors of towns must champion economic growth. That is why I held a Municipal Economic and Tourism Summit to centre stage the role of mayors in economic development and tourism. So these things are interrelated and interconnected as part of the Growth for Jobs strategy. I thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Are there any further – I recognise hon member Nkondlo and hon member Masipa.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): They did a disservice to you in that conference. Anyway, hon Minister, in the LED that you have just spoken about, which is

very important to anchor township economy, to anchor small business, because all of these are indeed at that level of governance, I am interested to understand whether, in as far as LED across municipalities of the province, whether there are existing and efficient LED institutions, or institutional capacity, to anchor that strategy that the department is going to be developing and implementing? Because without those, with the Department of Economic Development in the province, one cannot believe that there would be capacity to implement the types of strategy you are referring to across the province in those area-based spaces. So do you have LED functioning in the municipalities in the province?

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member Nkondlo. Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you, hon member Nkondlo. When I am physically present we will have a nice cup of tea together and have a good laugh.

Firstly, I think in terms of local economic development there are different models. We have a director in the Western Cape Department of Economic Development that deals specifically with local economic development. What she does: she provides technical skills to municipalities, she provides normative development skills and she provides administrative support to local economic development., and I am very impressed with the work that she is currently doing in the municipalities, and we follow an approach that we have seen work very successfully in Bavaria, specifically at the Technical University of Munich, TUM as it is called. They work with a philosophy known as startup

hubs and that is a philosophy that we want to see: any person with an idea or small business development, must not just have an idea without research, without technical support or without financial support.

When you have an idea, we have to take it to the university and say, “Let us test this idea,” so that it is supported by scientific data and an evidence-based approach.

If that happens, in other words, we do give you a laboratory, we test the idea through a university, and if it passes that test, then we say, “Let us now look at the viability ...” [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, my apologies for interrupting you. Can I please ask that you conclude, the time for oral questions has expired.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you very much. I will certainly have a cup of tea with my friend, hon member Nkondlo. [Applause.] [Interjections.] She knows I love her and I love to have detailed conversations with her about this thing, but I want to conclude.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: No, I am not yet done. I would very much like to conclude my last

sentence.

The SPEAKER: No, hon Minister, the time has expired. I have allowed you an opportunity to conclude your sentence, so I need to move on.

Hon members, that concludes the time allotted for oral replies and outstanding replies will be printed in Hansard. Hon members, we now move on to Statements by Members in terms of Rule 145 and I recognise the DA.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mr M BOOYSEN (DA): Hon Speaker, I rise today to highlight an important innovation that is transforming the way in which our social workers deliver services across the Western Cape, the Social Work Integrated Management System, better known as the SWIMS app. This app is a practical tool that is improving how Government responds to the needs of our people.

Through the SWIMS app social workers are able to securely capture and track their interventions, build a clearer picture of community needs and generate reliable data that helps guide provincial priorities.

Hon Speaker, our social workers are often on the move, travelling between homes, communities, courts and healthcare facilities. By reducing the administrative burden and time spent on paperwork, the SWIMS app allows them to focus on what matters most: supporting people, strengthening families

and protecting the vulnerable.

I also wish to commend the Western Cape Department of Social Development in partnership with the Department of Health and Wellness, for expanding the use of this app to health social workers. This is a clear example of a whole-of-government approach where departments work together to improve service delivery.

Since its launch in April 2024 the SWIMS app has grown significantly. It now includes the Western Cape Education Department and the Provincial Department of Health and Wellness. In bringing three departments onto one single integrated system, today more than 1 300 social workers are already making use of this platform.

Hon Speaker, this innovation demonstrates how smart practical solutions can enhance service delivery, improve coordination and ultimately ensure that our residents receive the care and support they deserve. I thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I recognise the ANC.

Ms R WINDVOGEL (ANC): Hon Speaker, the situation unfolding at Knoflokskraal must be approached with honesty, not political convenience. The ANC does not support illegal land occupation. However, we refuse to ignore the lived reality that thousands of our people are not criminals but victims of deepening poverty, unemployment and a collapsing housing system.

Today between 15 000 and 20 000 people live at Knoflokskraal. They are there because they have nowhere else to go. Instead of responding with compassion and developmental urgency, the Provincial Government and the national department have chosen to run to the courts, seeking containment orders rather than solutions. This is a technocratic response to a human crisis. It does not build houses, it does not restore dignity, it merely freezes suffering.

Hon members, this crisis did not fall from the sky, it is the direct result of policy failure. The housing demand database in the Western Cape has ballooned from 591 000 in 2021 to 643 000 in 2025. At the same time delivery targets are shrinking and budgets are underspent. There are now 1 274 informal settlements across the province, with 828 in the Cape Metro alone. This is not incidental, it is systemic. It reflects a deliberate retreat by the DA Government from its responsibility to build houses for the poor.

Knoflokskraal is not an isolated problem, it is a mirror reflecting the housing crisis in the Western Cape. The ANC calls for urgent human intervention that prioritises land release, housing delivery and dignity for our people, not court papers. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I recognise the PA. Hon member Adams.

†Mnr B ADAMS (PA): Agb Speaker, agb Premier met die pienk kouse, ek staan vandag hier met 'n eenvoudige maar belangrike boodskap vir die mense

van die Wes-Kaap wat meer verwag van hierdie Parlement.

Agb Speaker, reg oor ons provinsie is daar gemeenskappe wat nog elke dag sukkel met werkloosheid, armoede, behuisingsnood en 'n gebrek aan werksgeleenthede. Vir baie mense voel dit asof hulle jare lank wag vir verandering wat nooit kom nie en dis nie net hartseer nie, maar ook baie teleurstellend van die DA Regering.

Agb Speaker, ons sien hoe kleinboere sukkel om ondersteuning te kry, veral in die Stellenbosch-area waar ek verlede week 'n besoek ~~by~~ gedoen het, het ek gesukkel om 'n vergadering met die agb Minister te kry oor hulle bekommernisse. Ons sien jongmense wat hul studies voltooi, maar steeds nie werk kry nie. Ons sien gesinne wat jare wag vir behuising terwyl daar projekte is waar huise leeg staan, byvoorbeeld in Pacaltsdorp waar 200 huise al leeg staan vir amper sewe jaar.

Hierdie Parlement moet 'n plek wees waar die werklike probleme van ons mense aangespreek word, nie deur woorde en verklarings nie, maar deur konkrete optrede. Ons moet eerlik en groot genoeg wees om te erken dat ongelykheid steeds diep gewortel is in ons samelewing.

Agb Speaker, ek het in 'n hotel 'n paar honderd meter hiervandaan gestaan en 'n Britse man het vir my daar gesê dat hy kan sien hoe die ongelykhede in die Wes-Kaap en in Suid-Afrika nog altyd heers. Baie van ons mense begin steeds die wedloop van die lewe ver agter ander as gevolg van historiese onreg en

voortdurende uitsluiting, soos by Knoflokskraal, waar die Demokratiese Alliansie 20 000 van ons Khoi-mense wil *evict* van hulle erfenisgrond af.

Agb Speaker, die mense wat ons hierheen gestuur het verwag van ons om vir hulle te veg vir waardigheid en regverdigheid, en vir 'n beter toekoms.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[Mr B ADAMS (PA): Hon Speaker, hon Premier with the pink socks, I stand here today with a simple but important message for the people of the Western Cape who expect more from this Parliament.

Hon Speaker, all across our province there are communities who every day still struggle with unemployment, poverty, housing needs and a lack of job opportunities. For many people it feels as if they are waiting for years for a change that never comes and that is not only sad, but also very disappointing of the DA Government.

Hon Speaker, we see how emerging farmers struggle to get support, especially in the Stellenbosch area which I visited last week, I struggled to get a meeting with the hon Minister about the concerns. We see young people completing their studies but still not finding employment. We see families who are waiting for years for housing while there are projects where houses are standing empty, for example in Pacaltsdorp where 200 houses have been empty for almost seven years.

This Parliament must be a place where the real problems of our people are addressed, not through words and statements, but through real action. We must be honest and humble enough to acknowledge that inequality is still deeply rooted in our society.

Hon Speaker, I stood in a hotel a few 100 metres from here and there a British man said to me that he can see how the inequalities still exist in the Western Cape and in South Africa. Many of our people still start the race of life far behind others as a result of historical injustice and continued exclusion, as at Knoflokskraal, where the Democratic Alliance wants to evict 20 000 of our Khoi people from their heritage land.

Hon Speaker, the people who have sent us here expect us to fight for their dignity and justice and for a better future.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member, your time has expired. Please take your seat. I recognise the DA.

Mr L D VAN WYK (DA): Hon Speaker, the Western Cape continues to lead the way in sustainable governance by embracing world-class financial innovation. I would like to highlight the launch of Africa's first nature-linked outcomes-based bond, a R2.5 billion market signal that natural capital is now considered as mainstream finance in our province. This groundbreaking Cape Water Bond is the first of its kind globally, where investor returns are directly tied to verified ecological restoration.

By focussing on clearing invasive alien plants in the Boland's Groot Winterhoek area, this initiative will significantly increase streamflow of water into our dams, which is one of the most cost-effective ways to secure our water supply. Water security is a non-negotiable pre-requisite for economic growth. This model transfers execution risk away from the public purse and ensures that private capital only rewards measurable real-world results.

Beyond water security this project will drive green job creation for our rural communities, specifically targeting women and youth, serving as a blueprint for a climate-resilient province. It proves that when we marry the needs of the environment with the sophistication of capital markets, we protect both our economy and our future. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I recognise the NCC.

†Mnr J R MICHELS (NCC): Dankie, agb Speaker. Vanoggend het inwoners van Knoflokskraal in 'n waardige en vreedsame stil protes byeengekom op die N2 om hul ernstige kommer en verwerping uit te spreek teen wat hulle beskryf as 'n plan van inperking, gedwonge verskuiwings en indringende hommeltoesig, dit is nou *drones*, wat onder die regering van die Demokratiese Alliansie in die Wes-Kaap toegepas word. Die protes weerspieël toenemende frustrasie en vrees onder die gemeenskap wat voel dat hulle geteiken, gemarginaliseer en uitgesluit word van betekenisvolle betrokkenheid by die besluite van hulle huise, bestaansmiddele en menswaardigheid, asook die reg op grond deur 'n *reclaim process*.

Die beleid en optrede wat verbind word met agb Minister Dean Macpherson, agb Premier Alan Winde, agb Minister Tertuis Simmers en agb *Mayor* Lincoln de Bruyn, het ernstige kommer onder inwoners laat ontstaan; almal leiers van die DA.

Die stil proses dien as 'n kragtige simbool van verset teen wat inwoners as onregverdig en ongelyke bestuurspraktyke beskou. Dit doen ook 'n beroep op 'n dringende ingryping, deursigtigheid en betekenisvolle openbare deelname in alle toekomstige beplanning- en ontwikkelingsprosesse wat Knoflokskraal en soortgelyke gemeenskappe raak.

Knoflokskraal is 'n *reclaim*-proses en dit is nie soos ander areas waar grond van die Departement van Openbare Werke beset word en misdaad op groot skaal plaasvind, en daar nie sulke optredes in plek gesit word nie. 'n Klomp areas van die departement in hierdie *province* word ook beset en daar word nie tenders vir *drones* uitgesit om daardie areas dop te hou nie.

Wys die misdaadstatistieke van Knoflokskraal waarvan die DA praat, want die DA wil te kenne gee ons mense wat daar bly ...[Tussenwerpsel.] is kriminele.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[Mr J R MICHELS (NCC): Thank you, hon Speaker. This morning inhabitants of Knoflokskraal gathered in a dignified and peaceful, quiet protest on the N2 to express their serious concern and rejection of what they describe as a plan

of restriction, forced eviction and invasive drone supervision, that is now drones, that are applied under the Government of the Democratic Alliance in the Western Cape. The protest reflects increasing frustration and fear in the community that feels that they are targeted, marginalized and excluded from meaningful involvement in the decisions of the houses, means of subsistence and human dignity, as well as the right to land through a reclaim process.

The policy and action that are associated with the hon Minister Dean Macpherson, hon Premier Alan Winde, hon Minister Tertuis Simmers and hon Mayor Lincoln de Bruyn, led to serious concern amongst inhabitants; all leaders of the DA.

The silent protest serves as a powerful symbol of opposition to what inhabitants regard as unjust and unequal management practices. It also calls for an urgent intervention, transparency and meaningful public participation in all future planning and development processes affecting Knoflokskraal and similar communities.

Knoflokskraal is a reclaim process and it is unlike areas where land of the Department of Public works is occupied and crime takes place on a large scale and such actions are not put in place. A large number of areas of the Department in this province are also occupied and no tenders for drones are put out to supervise those areas.

Show the crime statistics of Knoflokskraal of which the DA speaks, because

the DA implies that our people who live there [Interjection.] are criminals.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member, your time has expired. I recognise the ANC.

CHIEF WHIP OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, the situation exposed by the recent investigation by *Independent Online*, must be confronted with honesty, not spin.

The ANC will not accept a narrative of a well-run City when thousands of our people in Cape Town are forced to live without basic services. In communities such as Imizamo Yethu and Gugulethu, residents are living with raw sewage in their streets, unreliable access to water and inadequate sanitation. These are matters we have raised in this House. Last year it was Philippi.

These are the daily lived realities of our people. This is not just a service delivery issue, it is a dignity crisis.

HON MEMBERS: Yes.

CHIEF WHIP OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: No child should grow up surrounded by filth, no family should have to walk long distances just to access water. Yet this is the reality in 2026. What is most concerning is that these conditions persist, despite repeated complaints. Communities have spoken, reports have been written, but the response has been slow, inadequate and in some cases completely absent. This is not accidental, it reflects a systematic

failure to prioritise the needs of the poor. It reflects a government that works well for some, but not for all.

Hon Speaker, we cannot normalise this inequality, we cannot accept a city where basic services depend on where you live. The ANC calls for urgent intervention, accountability and a clear plan to restore dignity through reliable water, sanitation and basic services for all our people. I thank you, hon Speaker.

†Die SPEAKER: Baie dankie aan die agb lid. [Thank you to the hon member.]

I recognise the DA.

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): Hon Speaker, through you to my colleagues, the hon member Thomas Walters, who may not like what I am about to say, but credit must be given where it is due.

At first glance, Hoërskool Stellenberg's recent rugby success may appear to be an overnight achievement, but as is so often the case, true success is built over time through vision, discipline and sustained commitment.

In the space of less than a month this Bellville-based dual-medium co-educational school, founded in 1986, has recorded remarkable victories against some of the country's most prestigious rugby institutions; Paarl Gym, Grey College and Paul Roos, along with a commanding performance against Worcester Gym, has rightfully turned heads across the school rugby landscape. Yet behind this lies the result of a long-standing project driven by dedicated

individuals who believed in building something meaningful from the ground up.

Central to this journey is Doepie du Preez, the school's head of rugby, who has been at Stellenberg since 1995. His vision, perseverance and willingness to make difficult decisions has laid the foundation for today's success.

Hon Speaker, we must also recognise the broader context. Schoolboy rugby in South Africa has become increasingly competitive, with significant financial investment and bursaries shaping the landscape. Stellenberg competes with long-established rugby powerhouses such as Paarl Gym, Paarl Boys High and Paul Roos, schools with a proud history of producing Springboks, and yet, despite these challenges, Stellenberg has shown that success is not only about resources, but about leadership, teamwork and consistency.

The story is about what can be achieved when educators, coaches and communities commit to developing young people with purpose and integrity, and it reminds us that excellence is not accidental, it is built. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member Van Minnen, your time has expired. I recognise the Freedom Front Plus. The Freedom Front Plus? I move on to Al Jama-ah.

Mr K BRINKHUIS (AJA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. The Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam (peace be upon him) said that

[speaking in vernacular] will help his slave to the extent that the slave helps his next brethren. Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. I do recognise – hon member Marais, I did see you unmuted yourself, but by that time I had already acknowledged hon member Brinkhuis. So I am going to give you an opportunity, if you so wish, to make a statement.

Mr G P MARAIS (FFP): Thank you so much, hon Speaker. The Freedom Front Plus notes April is a month of freedom. This freedom is not being expressed by or experienced by our communities on ground level. They live in fear of their lives every single day and we call upon the GNU and the big role-players, the DA and the ANC, to work together to solve the crime crisis in the Western Cape.

We need to create a South Africa that is free from racial discrimination, extreme poverty and crime, and the Freedom Front Plus remains committed to playing its role to rebuild South Africa, to come forward with solutions, with proposals that will be in the interest of building a better future for all our children, our grandchildren and future generations. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I recognise the ACDP.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Hon Speaker, no statement from the ACDP, thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I recognise GOOD. I then move on to the DA.

Mr D W BRYANT (DA): Hon Speaker, our province is witnessing the systematic erasure of our natural heritage. The scale of this biological plunder is staggering. Since 2018 over 2.5 million poached plants have been seized in the Western Cape. Even more alarming is the shift towards industrial scale seed harvesting, with over 1 million seeds stripped from our landscape in just five months.

To date seven species and two sub-species are already functionally extinct in the wild. We are fighting a sophisticated international syndicate that treats our biodiversity as a currency for organised crime. These networks deploy up to 150 poachers in a single night and disguise rare flora as common agricultural products to reach global markets. Yet while syndicates scale up, our frontline defenders are being hollowed out.

In the Malmesbury Stock Theft and Endangered Species Unit personnel have dropped from 10 officers to just four. These dedicated individuals must police vast landscapes using vehicles with over 750 000 kilometres on the clock. We cannot win this war with a fragmented response. We need a whole-of-government approach that treats biodiversity crime as a threat to national security.

Most critically we must address the prosecution gap. Enforcement is only a

deterrent if it leads to a conviction. We urgently need specialised environmental crime courts to ensure these syndicates face the full might of the law.

Hon Speaker, our biodiversity is our living infrastructure. We must provide our rangers and our police with the technology and the judicial support required to ensure the Western Cape's natural wealth is not sold off box by box to the highest bidder.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member.

Hon members, that brings us to the end of Member Statements, but in terms of Rule 145(6) I now give one or more members of the Executive present an opportunity to respond to Member Statements for not more than five minutes collectively, if they so wish.

I recognise hon Minister Maynier.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Speaker. I would like to associate myself with the statement made about Stellenberg High School. Their thrashing of rugby powerhouse, Paul Roos, has certainly put them on the map. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I recognise the hon Minister of Finance, hon Minister Baartman.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: I just want to say thank you for the Member Statement from hon member Van Wyk, and I know finances is not always sexy, but we're going to keep on bragging when we talk about alternative and blended finance. I am so excited, hon Speaker, for this Cape Water Bond.

So on behalf of my colleague, hon Minister Anton Bredell, and myself, we really must applaud RMB for launching the CapeNature-Linked Outcomes Bond. It is Africa's very first. Clearing alien invasive plants is one of the most cost-effective ways to increase water into our dams. It is a performance-based bond of R2.5 billion, and the Nature Conservancy South Africa is also going to bring matching donor funding.

It will support our water resilience plan, it is going to support our provincial goals, it is going to create jobs, it is going to benefit the agriculture sector, it is going to start in the Boland's Groot Winterhoek area, and our CapeNature entity is going to be the beneficiary.

So I want to thank the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning and CapeNature for really taking the ABF framework and really championing it in our government and taking it seriously. This is what we mean when we say we want private sector and public sector to work with one another in order to make sure that we further the interests of our people in our province, and I hope after this bond we can roll it out to the rest of South Africa. Thank you.

†Die SPEAKER: Baie dankie aan die agb Minister. [Thank you to the hon Minister.] I now recognise the hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. The start of the sitting today dealt with issues like murder, gangsterism and responding to the statements of two hon members of this House, especially when it gets to illegal land occupation.

Illegality is illegality, the rule of law is the rule of law and it is something in our country that we are allowing to slip. So it is illegal to murder someone. It is illegal. Gender-based violence is a massive scourge in our country. We need to stand up against it, but just so we also need to stand up against other illegalities.

So the hon member of the NCC asks, “So what is it around Knoflokskraal?” Well, we know we have got, number one, a court order, which is called a containment order, which seems to be ignored. We also have criminal cases: 166 of the fifth month 2021; 245 of the third month 2021; 248 of the eighth month 2021; 53 of the ninth month 2021, and 206 of the ninth month 2021. These are police-investigated cases on specific illegal activity with regards to Knoflokskraal. We need to make sure that the rule of law is adhered to.

We also need to make sure that statements made in this House are true. We hear that this is a land claim. We have no record whatsoever of a land claim, but what we do have are records of plots sold by individuals, and some of them

very close to this House. We have sale of plots where the owner of the land, which is the people of our country, a public ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The PREMIER: Public Works have the title to that piece of land and individuals sell pieces of land to other gullible individuals. That is illegal activity. Properties built without plans, illegal activity. The rule of law must stand as sacrosanct in our country if we are to move forward. We can deal ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The PREMIER: ...with issues like Knoflokskraal, like we said, and it is not about eviction, it is about making sure we adhere to the court ruling of containment and that we actually go through a process of understanding ...[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The PREMIER: ...who is there and why they are there. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Are there any further – order, hon members! Order! Hon members on my left-hand side. Order! Order, hon members. [Interjections.] Hon members, you had an opportunity – order, hon

members! Hon members on my left-hand side. Hon members, this is the responses to Member Statements made by hon members. There is a Rule allocated for time for this. This is now not the time to debate, this is the response from the Executive, in terms of the Rules. [Interjection.]

Then you will have another opportunity in another parliamentary mechanism to come and challenge the contents or the inputs, but this is now the opportunity, in terms of Rule 145(6), for the members of the Executive, whether you agree with it or not.

Hon members, that brings us to the end of Members Statements. We now move on to Notices of Motions in terms of Rule 151. In terms of Rule 151 all notices of motions by members are required to be delivered to the Secretary for placing it on the Order Paper, and these motions have been duly submitted and published on the Order Paper below the line.

MOTIONS WITH NOTICE

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the killing of vendors linked to extortion gangs targeting small traders, highlighting the growing crisis of criminal intimidation, violence and its devastating impact on township economies and livelihoods in the Western Cape.

[Notice of Motion as printed on the Order Paper.]

Ms B STOFFEL (ANC): I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the growing water crisis in the Western Cape.

[Notice of Motion as printed on the Order Paper.]

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the widespread service delivery failures in the City of Cape Town, including ongoing sewage overflows, and the deepening hardship experienced in vulnerable communities, which continue to undermine dignity, public health and socio-economic well-being.

[Notice of Motion as printed on the Order Paper.]

Ms A P BANS (ANC): I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the alarming number of road fatalities in the Western Cape.

[Notice of Motion as printed on the Order Paper.]

The SPEAKER: We now move to Motions without Notice in terms of Rule 150. I would like to inform you that in terms of the Standing Rule 150, Motions without Notice, condolences and congratulatory was submitted to the Programming Authority prior to this plenary on 14 April 2026.

Hon members are also reminded that Motions without Notices pertaining to congratulatory and condolences that have not been processed by the Programming Authority, will not be allowed in the sitting.

I have been informed that in the Programming Authority meeting of 14 April 2026, political parties submitted the names of hon members in the desired order of speaking, and who had wished to move a motion without notice in the sitting of the House.

Hon members, I will therefore – and just for noting and for the purposes of the minutes, call out the hon members whose names have accordingly been submitted and approved. The following hon members' motions have been approved by the Programming Authority as follows: hon member B M van Minnen, hon member B M van Minnen, hon Minister M M Wenger, hon member N P Masipa, hon member N P Masipa, hon member G Bosman, hon member B M van Minnen, hon member B M van Minnen, hon Minister M M Wenger, hon member W F Kaizer-Philander, hon member B M van Minnen, hon member N P Masipa, hon member D W Bryant, hon member B M van Minnen, hon member N P Masipa, hon member K Brinkhuis, hon member R Windvogel, hon member F Kamfer, hon member M K Sayed, hon member R Windvogel, hon member M

K Sayed, hon member M K Sayed, hon member A P Bans, hon member P Z Lekker, hon member N D Nkondlo, hon member B Stoffel, hon member R Windvogel, hon member B Stoffel, hon member A P Bans, hon member B Stoffel and the hon member B Stoffel.

I now put the motions duly submitted and approved by the Programming Authority to the House. Are there any objections? No objections, agreed to.

The motions will appear in the Minutes of the proceedings and in Hansard in each individual hon member's name as if the hon member had read it aloud.

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): I move without notice:

That the House notes and commends the diligent investigative work of Wynand Carelse of the Lwandle Police Station, which led to the successful conviction and sentencing of Sandiso Bhushu in the Somerset West Regional Court; further notes that Bhushu was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment on 28 January 2026 for the murder of a 29-year-old man in Lwandle in May 2024; acknowledges that this conviction followed thorough investigation and collaboration by members of the South African Police Service; and commends the officers involved for ensuring that justice was served and for reinforcing public confidence in the criminal justice system.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates all artists, technicians, festival-goers and role players on the successful 2026 Klein Karoo National Arts Festival, which was presented in Oudtshoorn; further notes that the festival has played an important role in celebrating and promoting South Africa's diverse arts and cultural landscape for 30 years, while also making a significant contribution to the Western Cape's creative economy, local economic growth and tourism; acknowledges the five-year milestone of the Karoo Maps Initiative, a community-driven project that preserves local stories and history and which recently received the Blue Fiesta at the Fiesta Awards; and thanks all role players, such as the Western Cape Government and the Oudtshoorn Municipality, for their support in promoting the arts, culture and community development.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms M M WENGER (DA): I move without notice:

That the House extends its gratitude to Mr Simon Kaye, Chief Financial Officer and Deputy Director-General of the Western Cape Department of Health and Wellness for his years of dedication, wisdom and humanity, in service of the people of the province; notes he has had to navigate exceptionally constrained and complex fiscal environments, and has been a steady, disciplined and deeply trusted hand, providing guidance and

insight that have added value to every decision; notes that he has embodied a selfless style of leadership that has rippled across the department and Government; and expresses gratitude and wishes Mr Kaye well for the future.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Mr N P MASIPA (DA): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the PremUbuntu non-profit and the Prem Rawat Foundation on distributing over 1,7 million meals to vulnerable communities across the Cape Flats between November 2024 and February 2026; further notes that the Food for People Programme, operating from its kitchen in Epping, provides essential nutrition to children, senior citizens and people with disabilities in areas including Bishop Lavis, Manenberg, Lavender Hill, Retreat, Hanover Park and Langa; commends the Facility Manager, Mr Colin Barends, and the team of 35 dedicated volunteers for their tireless efforts in ensuring that thousands of residents receive meals; and further notes that PremUbuntu joins a global network of humanitarian excellence that fosters dignity and health in under-resourced communities.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Mr N P MASIPA (DA): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the Western Cape Government on the swift tackling of the foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) crisis in the province; notes that the Province has successfully administered over 180 000 vaccine doses across more than 600 vaccination sites; commends the introduction of the live FMD vaccination dashboard as a landmark innovation, providing the public and agricultural stakeholders with real-time transparency and data-driven tracking of the vaccination progress across the provincial herd; acknowledges the collaborative efforts of the Joint Operations Centre (JOC), Provincial Veterinary Services and 29 private veterinarians who have worked tirelessly to implement the 21-point response plan, including 24/7 border monitoring and strict movement controls; and extends its appreciation to all law enforcement partners and industry stakeholders for their vigilance and cooperation in safeguarding animal health and economic stability during this challenging period.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Mr G BOSMAN (DA): I move without notice:

That the House notes with profound sadness the passing away of Judge Taswell D Papier of the Western Cape Division of the High Court on 7 April 2026, as announced by the Office of the Chief Justice; further notes his lifelong commitment to justice, including his early work as a student activist, his legal practice serving vulnerable communities, and his representation of those persecuted under apartheid; acknowledges his

pioneering role in advancing access to justice through pro-bono legal work, and his leadership in institutionalising such practices in the legal profession; recognises his distinguished service on the Bench, marked by integrity, fairness and a deep commitment to constitutional rights and administrative justice; commends his contribution to the legal fraternity, including his mentorship of generations of legal practitioners and his involvement in professional bodies such as the National Association of Democratic Lawyers; expresses its heartfelt condolences to his wife Joy, his children Roscoe and Kayla, and his extended family, friends, colleagues and the broader legal community; and resolves to honour his legacy as a jurist who embodied compassion, dignity and unwavering dedication to the rule of law.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): I move without notice:

That the House notes and celebrates the Cape Town International Jazz Festival, held annually at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, as one of the premier jazz events in the world; further notes its growth since its inception in 2000, now attracting over 30 000 attendees and featuring more than 40 international and African artists across multiple stages; acknowledges its reputation as “Africa’s Grandest Gathering”, showcasing an eclectic mix of local and global jazz talent; recognises the festival’s role in nurturing emerging talent through workshops and developmental

platforms; and commends its significant contribution to tourism, job creation and the positioning of Cape Town as a leading global destination for arts and culture.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): I move without notice:

That the House notes with concern the tragic shooting that occurred on Wednesday 8 April 2026 at approximately 22:20 in Kokerboom Street, Delft South, in which a 37-year-old male victim, who was a member of the South African National Defence Force and who was off duty at the time, sustained multiple gunshot wounds and was declared deceased on the scene; further notes that the circumstances surrounding the incident are under investigation; notes that preliminary investigations indicate no link to Operation Prosper, and that the suspects remain at large; and calls on the South African Police Service, specifically the Delft detectives, to continue their diligent investigation to ensure that those responsible are brought to justice.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms M M WENGER (DA): I move without notice:

That the House extends its sincere condolences to the family, friends and loved ones of the late Dr Gio Perez, former Head of Metro Health Services of the Western Cape Department of Health and Wellness; notes that Dr Perez was a dedicated leader who played a critical role in strengthening healthcare and ensuring that services reached communities where they were needed most; notes that he was deeply loved by all who knew him; notes that he leaves behind a legacy of service, compassion and leadership that continue to shape the work we do today; and honours Dr Perez for his profound contribution and extends sincere condolences to his family, his colleagues and his loved ones.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms W F KAIZER-PHILANDER (DA): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Adriaan Wildschutt, a native of Witzenberg, on becoming the first South African to win the New York City Half-marathon; further notes that this historic achievement is a source of pride for Witzenberg and a powerful reminder of the talent that emerges from South Africa's rural towns; acknowledges the discipline, resilience and determination required to reach this milestone and the inspiration it provides to young athletes in the community; and extends best wishes to Adriaan Wildschutt and his family for continued success on the international stage.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): I move without notice:

That the House notes with profound sadness the passing away of Soli Philander at the age of 65; further notes his immense contribution to South Africa as a versatile entertainer, including his work in productions such as *Let's Fix It*, *Vat 'n Kans* and *Liriekeraai*, through which he brought joy, laughter and reflection to audiences across the country; acknowledges his role as a respected actor, writer, radio and television personality, and activist who used his platform to uplift and inspire others; and conveys deepest condolences to his children, his former wife Toni, his extended family, friends, colleagues and all who were touched by his life and legacy.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Mr N P MASIPA (DA): I move without notice:

That the House welcomes the proposed R24 billion expansion of the V&A Waterfront, a visionary project set to reinforce the precinct's status as Africa's most visited destination and a primary engine of the Western Cape's tourism economy; notes that the expansion at Granger Bay involves the strategic reclamation of 3,8 hectare of land, supported by world-class marine engineering and a dedicated coastal protection infrastructure to

ensure the long-term stability of our shoreline; commends the V&A Waterfront's commitment to sustainable urban planning, including the integration of micro-mobility, improved public transport links and the promotion of workforce housing to mitigate traffic congestion and to enhance accessibility for all residents; further notes the proactive environmental approach taken by the developers, including the use of scale-model testing and specialist marine studies to protect local biodiversity; and extends its support for this transformative opportunity to reshape Cape Town's most famous shoreline and encourages all stakeholders to participate in the public comment process to ensure the project delivers maximum socio-economic benefits for the people of the Western Cape.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Mr D W BRYANT (DA): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the Elandskloof community and the project partners on the unveiling of their pioneering community centre near Citrusdal; further notes that the structure is the first of its kind in South Africa to be built using innovative bricks made from invasive black wattle biomass, effectively turning an environmental hazard into a durable building solution; commends the collaborative efforts of the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, the CSIR and nonCrete in developing this low-carbon construction system, which reduces carbon emissions by up to 75%

compared to conventional concrete methods; and acknowledges the significant environmental benefits of the project, including the clearing of 8,5 hectare of invasive vegetation, which has improved freshwater supply and reduced wildfire risks in the Groot Winterhoek Strategic Water Source Area.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): I move without notice:

That the House welcomes the hosting of the Two Oceans Marathon in the Western Cape on 11 and 12 April 2026, globally acclaimed as “the world’s most beautiful marathon”, which sees thousands of athletes from across South Africa and around the world in both the ultra-marathon and the country’s largest half-marathon; further notes the iconic route featuring Chapman’s Peak Drive, showcasing the province’s natural beauty; and commends the organisers and all stakeholders for delivering a world-class event that boosts tourism, supports local businesses and reinforces the Western Cape’s reputation as a premier destination for international sporting events.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Mr N P MASIPA (DA): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Dr Kyle Corbett on obtaining a PhD degree in Food Science from Stellenbosch University; notes that his doctoral research provides critical insights into the pathogen *Listeria monocytogenes*, which remains one of the most dangerous foodborne threats to public health; acknowledges the severity of listeriosis as a foodborne illness, recalling the devastating national impact of the outbreak linked to processed meat products in previous years and the necessity of robust scientific intervention; commends the invaluable work of the Centre for Food Safety at the Stellenbosch University in fostering the high-level expertise required to monitor and mitigate such biological hazards in the national food chain; further notes that Dr Corbett's research maintains a vital industry focus, ensuring that academic breakthroughs are translated into practical safety protocols for the food and agri-processing sectors; and extends sincere congratulations to Dr Corbett for his academic excellence and his contribution to making food production safer and more resilient for all South Africans.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Mr K BRINKHUIS (AJA): I move without notice:

That the House notes that prodigy hurdler and sprinter Naeem Jack has shattered the African junior record in the 110 m hurdles; further notes that 19-year-old Naeem won the U20 men's final in 13,02 s at the Athletics Gauteng North (AGN) Championships in Pretoria in March 2026;

acknowledges that, in 2025, he broke the South African men's under-20 record in the 110 m hurdles (13,16 s); further acknowledges that he broke his own national and continental mark of 13,16 s set in Cape Town last year; recognises that he hails from Colorado Park in Mitchells Plain and Ottery; further recognises that he attended the Mondale High School in Mitchells Plain and is associated with the UWC Athletic Club; acknowledges that he competed in his first World Athletics Championships at the age 18; further acknowledges he is now the eighth fastest junior athlete in history in the sprint hurdles; recognises that he secured his spot at the World Athletics U20 Championships from 5 to 9 August 2026; and wishes him well during the World Athletics U20 Championships.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms R WINDVOGEL (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House notes with deep sadness the passing away of Nosipho “Mhizana” Daniels, a fearless Langa community activist, pastor and champion in the fight against gender-based violence; recognises her unwavering commitment to protecting the most vulnerable, her spiritual leadership and her service through Malihambe Women Outreach, where she was a powerful voice against injustice and a source of hope and guidance to many; notes that her passing away is a profound loss to the people of Langa and all those committed to building safer and more just

communities; conveys heartfelt condolences to her family, friends, congregation and the wider community; and honours her legacy by intensifying the fight against gender-based violence.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Mr F KAMFER (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House notes with shock and outrage the brutal murder of 25-year-old Entle Manzi, who was allegedly stabbed to death by her former partner in Parow Valley; notes that this senseless killing is yet another painful reminder of the ongoing crisis of gender-based violence in our communities, where women continue to be targeted and killed, often by those known to them; notes that her death underscores the urgent need for stronger action to protect women and hold perpetrators accountable; condemns this heinous act in the strongest terms; conveys deepest condolences to her family and loved ones; and calls for justice as well as urgent and decisive interventions to end gender-based violence.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Mr M K SAYED (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Salmaan Moerat on his outstanding contribution to Western Cape and South African rugby, as he concludes

his chapter with the Stormers; recognises his leadership as captain, his commitment to excellence on and off the field, and his role in elevating the stature of the team and inspiring young athletes across our province; notes that, over his career, he has earned over 70 captaincies and served with distinction as both Stormers and Springbok captain; notes that his move abroad marks not only a new chapter for him and his family, but also reflects the global recognition of his talent and leadership; wishes him success in his future endeavours; and acknowledges that his legacy in the Western Cape will endure.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms R WINDVOGEL (ANC: I move without notice:

That the House notes with deep sadness and outrage the tragic murder of psychiatrist Dr Jane Luck (71) and her husband, geophysicist Rolf Luck (77), in their home in Plettenberg Bay; recognises their lifelong contributions to society through their respective professions; notes that their senseless killing is a stark reminder of the ongoing crisis of violent crime affecting communities across our country; notes their passing is a profound loss to their family, friends and the broader community; and conveys deepest condolences to their loved ones.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Mr M K SAYED (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Mr Phindile George, Chairperson of the Khayelitsha Community Policing Forum (CPF), on receiving a prestigious award in recognition of his tireless efforts in combating crime and promoting community safety; acknowledges his leadership, dedication and unwavering commitment to creating safer communities in Khayelitsha; recognises that his work serves as an inspiration to community leaders and young people across the Western Cape; notes that his achievements highlight the critical role of community-driven initiatives in strengthening safety, justice and social cohesion; and commends Mr George for his service, applauds his outstanding contribution to crime prevention, and encourages the continuation of his exemplary work in building safer communities.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Mr M K SAYED (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the women's team of the Gugulethu Cricket Club on being crowned champions of the Western Province Cricket Association First Division A and securing a historic promotion to the Premier Division, an unprecedented achievement for a township team in the association; recognises that this milestone reflects not only exceptional skill, discipline and unity on the field, but also the broader potential of township sport to inspire young athletes, to expand

opportunity and to elevate women's cricket in the Western Cape; commends the players, coaching staff, officials and supporters for their dedication; celebrates this landmark success; and encourages continued excellence as they prepare for competition at the Premier Division level.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms A P BANS (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House notes with deep sadness the passing away of Andile Mbali of Bitou, former Provincial Secretary of the ANC Youth League in the Western Cape; recognises him as a dedicated public servant and community leader, who served in various roles, including Acting Manager, Economic Development in Bitou Municipality, as well as positions in the National Youth Development Agency and the Office of the Deputy Mayor of Bitou; notes that he was committed to his work and to serving the people of Bitou with humility and passion; further notes that his passing away is a significant loss to his family, friends, colleagues and the broader community that he served; conveys its heartfelt condolences to his loved ones; honours his dedication and service; and acknowledges the positive impact he had on his community.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Mr P Z LEKKER (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House notes with profound sadness the tragic passing away of Amahle Ngqentsu, the beloved daughter of member Ngqentsu; conveys deepest condolences to the Ngqentsu family and loved ones; and offers support during this profoundly difficult time.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Dr Naledi Pandor on her appointment as Chancellor of the Nelson Mandela University, effective 1 April 2026; recognises her distinguished career as an academic, activist and public servant, as well as her lifelong commitment to advancing education as a tool for transformation, dignity and social justice; notes that her appointment reflects the confidence in her leadership and her ability to uphold the values and vision of the institution at both national and global level; commends Dr Pandor on this achievement; and wishes her success in her new role.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Xolani Diniso, Ward 86 Councillor, on receiving recognition at the LAGMA Awards 2026 for his contribution to

community development and public service; acknowledges his dedication to serving the people of his ward, his role in bridging the gap between the community and local government, and his continued commitment to improving the lives of residents; and notes that his recognition reflects the importance of community leadership and the positive impact of consistent, people-centred service.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms R WINDVOGEL (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Tobias Kleinhans-Le Roux, a social worker from Kuils River, on being recognised as one of the seven regional winners of the Hope Bearer (Hoopdraer) Award; acknowledges his dedication to supporting vulnerable individuals and families, often under difficult conditions; recognises the meaningful impact of his work in bringing hope and assistance to those in need; notes that his achievement highlights the critical and often underappreciated role of social workers in addressing social challenges and strengthening communities; commends Tobias Kleinhans-Le Roux for his compassion, commitment and service; and wishes him continued success in his important work.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House notes with deep sadness and shock the tragic killing of Councillor Lazola Gungxe, who was fatally shot after attending a community meeting in Crossroads, Cape Town; recognises his service to the community as a public representative; notes that his killing is not only a loss to his family and colleagues, but also a blow to community leadership and democratic participation; and conveys heartfelt condolences to his family, friends and all those affected by his passing away.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms A P BANS (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House notes with deep sadness the passing away of comrade Selinah Qamngana; notes that her passing away is a significant loss to her family, comrades and all who knew her; notes that she will be remembered for her dedication, strength and the role she played in her community; conveys heartfelt condolences to her loved ones during this difficult time; and honours her life and contribution.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Phindile George on his swearing-in as a PR Councillor in the City of Cape Town; notes his long-standing commitment to community safety and public service; notes that his elevation to this role reflects continued confidence in his leadership and his dedication to serving communities; wishes him well in his new responsibilities; and looks forward to his continued contribution to improving the lives of residents.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House notes and congratulates the outcome of the by-elections in Ward 104, Dunoon, where the African National Congress emerged victorious and welcomed Councillor Bulelwa Mayende as the newly elected councillor; recognises the democratic participation of residents in the ward; acknowledges the trust placed in their chosen representative to advance community needs and local development; wishes Councillor Mayende well in her new responsibilities; and looks forward to constructive engagement in service of the people of Ward 104.

[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

The SPEAKER: I will now afford the opportunity to hon members to move Motions without Notice as per Standing Rule 150(3)(d) and, hon members, this could also include motions without notice that were not approved in the Programming Authority meeting.

Hon members, you are reminded that only 30 minutes as per Standing Rule 150(3)(d) will be allowed and will start now. I recognise the hon member K Brinkhuis.

Mr K BRINKHUIS (AJA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House recognises that the City of Cape Town's invitation to US Marines to train Metro Police cadets raises serious legal and constitutional concerns; further recognises that the Constitution states that municipal police services must operate within a national legislative framework; notes that the South African Police Service Act makes it clear that the National Commissioner determines the standards and training for municipal police; further notes the City has no authority to implement training arrangements outside of that framework; acknowledges that the crime prevention methods used by the US structures such as ICE, are inhumane, based on racism and they use extreme brutality measures against innocent victims; further acknowledges that ICE's tactics smacks of the old apartheid policies.

I so move. Thank you, hon Speaker.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

HON MEMBERS: Yes.

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

I recognise the hon member Walters. Hon members, you do not need to engage on motions. I put it to you, if you do not agree you indicate so and then we move on. Hon member Walters.

Mr T C R WALTERS (DA): Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes that the recent Federal Congress of the Democratic Alliance, at which party leadership was duly elected and a range of policy resolutions were adopted; recognises that open contestation, transparent processes and the peaceful transfer of leadership are central to any healthy democracy; further notes that robust internal debate and member participation strengthen accountability and public trust in political institutions; affirms that democratic practice must be lived within parties

as much as it is defended in government and that credible governance begins with credible internal processes. It therefore welcomes the reaffirmation of constitutional values, the rule of law and responsive governance reflected in the Congress outcomes; further notes that this was the largest congress ever held by the Democratic Alliance and that there was immense national and international interest in the event, which will have a significant impact on the future of South Africa; resolves to support efforts that deepen democratic culture, promote active citizenship and ensure that elected leaders remain accountable to the people they serve.

And then, perhaps on a personal note, the DA offers its services to all the parties here who fail to have internal elections.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. [Interjections] Order! Order! Order! Order. Hon members, you only have 30 minutes. Hon members, in terms of the Rule you only have 30 minutes and I am not going to compete with you. I have been competing with you the entire sitting. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

HON MEMBERS: Yes!

HON MEMBERS: No!

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

Mr D W BRYANT (DA): Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes in the DA-led City of Cape Town, the Zandvliet Wastewater Treatment Works near Khayelitsha has been completed, is fully operational and is serving communities, including Khayelitsha, Delft, Blue Downs, Mfuleni and surrounding areas; further notes that this R2 billion project provides improved and dignified sanitation services, while expanding capacity to accommodate future growth in these fast-growing parts of the City.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): I will take you to Makhaza.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objection.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): Object, object!

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

Mr D W BRYANT (DA): Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That this House notes the successful inauguration of the 2026 George Junior City Council by the DA-led George Municipality, providing a meaningful platform for young people to participate in local governance and develop leadership skills; further notes that this initiative reflects the DA's commitment to building an active citizenry, empowering the next generation and ensuring that young voices are included in decision-making processes; acknowledges that while many municipalities across South Africa struggle to deliver basic services, DA-led governments continue to invest in programmes that strengthen democratic participation and develop future leaders; further notes the DA-led George Municipality's commitment for setting a standard in youth development and civic engagement, contributes to building a capable and accountable state.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Yissus, object.

An HON MEMBER: Objection.

The SPEAKER: According to the Rules and practice, I must put the question to you before you can object. So for as long as hon members are not going to adhere to the Rules, I will educate you as we go along.

So I am now putting the question to the House, are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Yes, an educated objection.

The SPEAKER: There is an educated objection on my left-hand side and it will be printed on the Order Paper. I recognise the hon member Wessels.

Mr L D VAN WYK (DA): Hon Speaker, I move without notice that in terms of Rule 67 the House permits me to take charge of the motion standing in the name of hon member Wessels, who has authorised me to do so.

That the House notes the official opening of the R693 million Malmesbury Bypass; further notes that this major infrastructure project will improve road safety, reduce travel times and boost economic activity in the Swartland region; acknowledges the creation of jobs and support for local businesses during construction; notes the DA-led Western Cape Government's commitment to delivering infrastructure that drives growth and creates opportunities.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): What an insult, what an insult.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Objection.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

AN HON MEMBER: There is an objection.

The SPEAKER: There is an objection and the motion will be printed on the Order Paper, and at some point will be debated in the House. We move on to hon member Johnson.

Mr P JOHNSON (DA): Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That this House notes the outstanding achievement of Nicolaas Steenkamp, a learner from Hoërskool Stellenbosch, who won a gold medal at the International Festival of Engineering Science and Technology in Tunisia; further notes that this achievement reflects the strength of education and innovation in the Western Cape; acknowledges that investing in quality education and opportunities in science and technology enables young people to compete and succeed on the global stage; further acknowledges the DA-led Western Cape Government for continuing to build a capable, future-focused education system that empowers learners to excel internationally.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

An HON MEMBER: Leave politics aside and congratulate them.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member Johnson. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

An HON MEMBER: Object.

The SPEAKER: There is an objection and the motion will be printed on the Order Paper. Order! Hon members, there is no need for debate. You will have an opportunity once it gets to the House to debate it. We move on to hon Professor Mbombo.

Ms N MBOMBO (DA): Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes the 14% reduction in road fatalities in the Western Cape over the 2026 Easter period as a result of increased visible policing and stricter enforcement; further notes the proactive efforts of traffic officers, including vehicle checks, arrests for driving under the influence and the removal of unroadworthy vehicles from our roads; acknowledges that while progress has been made continued vigilance is needed to address reckless driving and protect vulnerable road users; further acknowledges the DA-led Western Cape Government commitment in prioritising road safety and taking decisive action to save lives.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon members, are there any objections

to the motion being moved without notice? No objections, agreed to. I recognise the hon member Kaizer-Philander.

Ms W F KAIZER-PHILANDER (DA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes the oversight by public representatives is a constitutional responsibility intended to strengthen accountability, improve service delivery and protect the rights of citizens, and that this function must at all times be exercised within the framework of the Constitution, applicable legislation and the Rules and ethical standards of this Provincial Parliament; further notes that oversight must remain firm but orderly, lawful and respectful of institutional processes and that conduct which is disruptive, intimidatory or exceeds the scope of established oversight authority, risks undermining both the integrity of institutions and the credibility of oversight itself; further notes that particular care must be exercised in settings serving children and other vulnerable citizens, who are entitled to heightened constitutional protection, and therefore calls for continued adherence to proper oversight protocols, appropriate coordination with relevant authorities and the safeguarding of dignity, privacy and safety during all oversight engagements.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Object.

The SPEAKER: There is an objection and it will be printed on the Order Paper. I recognise the hon Kaizer-Philander.

Ms W F KAIZER-PHILANDER (DA): Thank you very much, Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes that 16 April 2026 marks World Voice Day; further recognises the importance of amplifying the voices of vulnerable groups, including children, marginalised communities and those whose concerns are often unheard; calls on all relevant stakeholders to promote initiatives, programmes and policies that ensure every citizen has the opportunity to be heard, respected and empowered in shaping their own futures.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

†Die SPEAKER: Baie dankie, agb lid. [Thank you, hon member.] Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

HON MEMBERS: No.

The SPEAKER: No objections, agreed to. I recognise the hon member Kaizer-Philander.

Ms W F KAIZER-PHILANDER (DA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes the engagement held in Saldanha by the Ad Hoc Committee on Child Protection Reform as part of its oversight programme to assess the availability and effectiveness of child protection services across the Western Cape; further notes the concerns raised by families regarding delays in foster care placements, gaps in child safety services and the strain on frontline workers; acknowledges the candid testimonies and practical solutions put forward by community members, practitioners and stakeholders; recognises the strong turnout and active participation as a reflection of the deep concern for the well-being of children; further acknowledges the valuable contributions made by various stakeholders, including Government departments and entities.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections, agreed to. I recognise the hon member Van Minnen.

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes with deep sadness the passing of Mr Christopher Solomons, long-serving team manager of the DHL Stormers; further notes his dedicated service to Western Cape rugby over many years, during which he played a pivotal role in supporting players and management, contributing to the professionalism and success of the team; acknowledges the respect and admiration he earned across the rugby fraternity for his commitment, humility and work ethic; recognises his contribution to the broader sporting community in the province and the pride he helped bring to its people; extends its sincere support to his family, friends, colleagues and the entire Stormers and Western Province Rugby community during this difficult time.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member Van Minnen. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

HON MEMBERS: No.

The SPEAKER: No objections, agreed to. I recognise the hon member Van Minnen.

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes the official proclamation of the historic Javia Masjid

at 43 Market Street, Strand, as a Provincial Heritage Site, effective 27 March 2026; further notes that the mosque, constructed between 1850 and 1870 by freed slaves is the oldest surviving place of worship in the Strand and a cornerstone of the Muslim community's heritage in the Western Cape; acknowledges its role not only as a place of worship, but also as a centre of education and social cohesion; recognises its architectural significance as a rare example of 19th-century clay-brick construction; further notes the hardships endured by the community during apartheid, and commends all stakeholders involved in preserving and recognising this important cultural and historical landmark.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member Van Minnen. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

HON MEMBERS: No.

The SPEAKER: No objections, agreed to. I recognise the hon member Kaizer-Philander.

Ms W F KAIZER-PHILANDER (DA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes with deep sadness the passing of Mr John

Ntshibilikwana (4 September 1938 to 12 April 2026), born in Robert Sobukwe (Graaff-Reinet), a respected interpreter at the Western Cape Provincial Parliament; further notes his longstanding service in the Provincial Parliament where he played a vital role in assisting hon members of Provincial Parliament by bridging language barriers, and ensuring full and effective participation in parliamentary proceedings; acknowledges †*Oom* [Uncle] John's commitment to public service, accessibility and inclusivity in democratic processes; recognises his contribution to the cultural life of his community through music; extends its heartfelt support to his family, friends, colleagues and all who knew him. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections, agreed to. I recognise the hon member Windvogel.

Ms R WINDVOGEL (ANC): Hon Speaker, on behalf of the ANC I move without notice:

That the House notes with grave concern the ongoing sewage overflows in Philippi and surrounding areas, where residents have been forced to endure raw sewage flowing through streets for prolonged periods, creating intolerable living conditions; further notes that communities, including

those in Wesbank, have reportedly been exposed to contaminated water for weeks and even months, resulting in serious health risks such as skin infections, while also negatively impacting livelihoods as residents are unable to work due to illness; acknowledges that this situation constitutes a severe public health crisis, undermines the dignity of affected communities and reflects persistent service delivery failures in sanitation infrastructure; further recognises the urgent calls from residents for immediate intervention, including the deployment of emergency repair teams, provision of temporary sanitation relief and a comprehensive assessment of the failing sewer systems; calls on the City of Cape Town to act with urgency in implementing sustainable interventions to resolve sewer blockages, provide immediate health and sanitation support to affected residents, accelerate infrastructure upgrades and ensure proper maintenance of sewer systems, while also accounting transparently to the public on clear timelines and measures to prevent a recurrence of such a crisis. I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

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

An HON MEMBER: There is an objection to the motion being moved without notice.

The SPEAKER: So there is an objection to the motion being moved without notice, not to the motion itself. The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. I recognise the hon member Lekker. Hon member Lekker, I recognise you.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. †Julle kan maar *object in advance*, nè? [You are welcome to object in advance, right?] I move without notice:

That the House notes with deep concern the growing frustration among residents of Gugulethu regarding the continued delays in the handover of housing units, despite long-standing promises made to beneficiaries; further notes that more than 70 completed houses at the F8448 site remain unallocated, with residents having waited since as early as 2018 for the completion of the project, while some were promised handover as far back as December last year, yet no clear timelines have been provided; acknowledge that many affected residents, including elderly and vulnerable individuals continue to live in overcrowded and undignified conditions, with some families sharing small spaces or being forced into informal settlements, highlighting the severe human impact of these delays; further notes the growing perception among residents that they are being unfairly excluded from accessing housing opportunities, deepening mistrust in the City's administration and processes; further recognises that access to adequate housing is a fundamental constitutional right and that the continued delays in housing delivery undermine the dignity of the people of Gugulethu, and reflect the ongoing failures in the

implementation and management of human settlements projects; calls on the Provincial Government to urgently account for the delays in the handover of housing units in Gugulethu, provide a clear and transparent timeline for allocation, prioritise rightful beneficiaries, accelerate the completion of outstanding housing projects and engage meaningfully with affected communities to restore trust, and ensure that residents receive the housing they have long been promised.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

An HON MEMBER: Object.

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

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. I move on behalf of the ANC without notice:

That the House notes the increase in the National Minimum Wage to R30.23 per hour, which came into effect on 1 March 2026, as announced by the Minister of Employment and Labour, representing an upward adjustment from R28.79 per hour; recognises that this increase is aimed at

improving the livelihoods of millions of low-income workers, including domestic and farm workers, who remain among the most vulnerable in our economy; further notes that while the increase is a step in the right direction many workers continue to struggle under the rising cost of living, highlighting the need for a living wage that restores dignity and economic justice; calls on Government to strengthen enforcement mechanisms to ensure full compliance by employers and to continue engaging social partners to progressively improve wages and working conditions for all workers.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections, agreed to. Hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House notes the significant milestone that from 1 May 2026 South African exports will enjoy full zero-tariff access to China under the China-Africa Economic Partnership Agreement, marking a major step forward in strengthening trade relations between South Africa and one of the world's largest economies; further notes that this development opens access to a vast consumer market valued at approximately R3.5 trillion, presenting meaningful opportunities for South African producers, manufacturers and

exporters to expand their reach, increase competitiveness and stimulate economic growth; recognises the potential of this agreement to boost key sectors of the economy, support job creation and advance South Africa's broader economic transformation and industrialisation objectives, particularly for emerging and small-scale enterprises seeking entry into global markets; calls on the Provincial Government to actively support and capacitate local businesses to take full advantage of these new trade opportunities, ensure that the benefits of expanded market access are inclusive and reach historically disadvantaged communities and implement targeted interventions that will maximise export growth and sustainable economic development.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

HON MEMBERS: Hear-hear!

The SPEAKER: Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? Hon Chief Whip, is that a point of order?

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Yes, hon Speaker. I have got no objection to the motion being moved without notice. I'd like to just ask your guidance in terms of Rule 156 to Rule 158 of the Standing Rule. If I may add an amendment to the motion and what that process would be?

The SPEAKER: You can put your proposal or the amendment to the House

and with the approval of the hon member we can then amend the motion. With the approval of the hon member. Not the House, the hon member. So please put your amendment.

The CHIEF WHIP OF THE MAJORITY PARTY: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move then, in terms of Rule 156 and 158, to amend the motion by the hon member Nkondlo to add:

And further thanks Minister John Steenhuisen for his leadership and contribution in this regard.

I so move.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member – order, hon members, there is a process underway in terms of the Rule, so please allow me to deal with the process. Hon member Nkondlo, are you happy with that proposal to amend your motion?
[Interjections.]

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): I educatively object to that addition of a matriculant of a Minister. I object.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. The hon member is not prepared to amend her motion and therefore I will put the motion as delivered by the hon

member to the House. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objection, agreed to. I recognise the hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House notes with grave concern the growing scourge of extortion targeting small business owners and informal traders, particularly in vulnerable communities, where criminal elements exploit poverty and desperation for financial gain; recognises that such acts not only rob families of their loved ones, but also undermine livelihoods, instil fear in communities and threaten local economic activity; acknowledges that informal traders and small business owners are the backbone of township economies and that their safety and ability to operate without intimidation is essential for community stability and economic survival; therefore calls on the Provincial Government and law enforcement to urgently intensify efforts to combat extortion syndicates, strengthen visible policing in affected areas and ensure swift investigation and prosecution of those responsible, and implement targeted interventions to protect small businesses and restore safety and confidence within communities.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

The SPEAKER: There is an objection and the motion will be printed on the Order Paper. Can I just get – just for Hansard, can I get an objection in record?

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. I recognise the hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House notes with concern the reported disparities in individual land ownership in the Western Cape, where ownership is indicated as 66% White, 17% Coloured, 8% Indian, 6% Other and 3% African, reflecting enduring spatial and economic inequalities within this province; further notes that such disparities are rooted in the historical legacy of apartheid land dispossession and spatial planning, which continues to shape patterns of land ownership, access to economic opportunity and generational wealth distribution; acknowledges that equitable access to land remains central to achieving meaningful economic transformation, social justice and spatial redress, as well as improving livelihoods and inclusive growth for all communities in the province; calls on the Provincial Government to urgently strengthen land reform and land disposal programmes, accelerate the release of well-located land for human settlement and economic use, and implement targeted interventions to address historical

inequalities in land ownership, in order to advance an inclusive and equitable development across the Western Cape.

[Motion as moved by Member.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

HON MEMBERS: Yes.

Ms N D NKONDLO: It's so obvious. [Inaudible.] That is why we object. You are so comfortable.

An HON MEMBER: 700 [Inaudible.]

Ms N D NKONDLO: 66% of white people own land in this country and it's in this province.

The SPEAKER: Order! Hon members, order! Hon members. Order, hon members! There is an objection and the motion will be printed on the Order Paper.

Hon members, are you done? There are six minutes six seconds remaining. I cannot – hon member Bans, I cannot acknowledge you, the time has expired for motions. That brings us to the end of motions without notice. That concludes

the business for the day, and the Secretary will now end the meeting and all the hon members will be exited from the sitting. The House is adjourned.

The House adjourned at 18:30.