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THURSDAY, 22 AUGUST 2024

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

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

The House met at 14:15.

The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

The SPEAKER: Please be seated. Order! Hon members, before we proceed I would like to remind members about some of the logistical arrangements. As has been our practice to date, hon members will participate in this Sitting of the House both from here in the Chamber with the Presiding Officer and Table Staff, and via Microsoft teams. Our Standing Rules have accordingly been amended to accommodate such hybrid Sittings.

Hon members experiencing challenges in connecting to the Sitting are requested to contact the WCPP ICT colleagues, who will assist to resolve their connectivity challenges.

Hon members, the quorum requirements for the Sitting of the House are provided for in the Constitution and the Standing Rules. Unless there is an indication of unanimous concurrence voting will be confined to members present in the House and on the hybrid system, who are entitled to cast their votes as per the ATC issued on 11 August 2020. Members present in the House and via Microsoft Teams have all the privileges and immunities imparted by law. Members who are considered out of order by the Presiding Officer will have their microphones muted and called to order.

Hon members, the Serjeant-at-Arms will record the members' attendance.

Hon members, in instances where these directives do not cover a particular eventuality the Standing Rules must apply and in instances where these Rules cannot be applied, the ruling by the Presiding Officer is final. Hon members in the Chamber who wish to raise a point of order, such an hon member may address the Presiding Officer as expected, but must mute their microphones when they have completed speaking. Members, all microphones have been muted and for those hon members participating in the Sitting of the House via Microsoft Teams, you are requested to use the raise-hand functionality of the system when you desire to raise a point of order and I will recognise you.

Hon members participating in the Sitting of the House via Microsoft Teams are requested not to sign into Microsoft Teams on more than one device.

Hon members, the media have also been granted access to this Microsoft

Teams meeting as guests of the WCPP. However, I wish to remind the members of the press that they may not use the chat room or speak or activate their cameras while the Sitting is in progress.

For this Sitting, hon members, Language Translation Services are available in the Chamber as usual and on Microsoft Teams via the respective channels.

Hon members, I wish to draw your attention to Rule 40 of our Standing Rules that no interjections are permitted during these hybrid Sittings.

Hon members, with that being said, I now recognise the hon Chief Whip.

(Motion)

The CHIEF WHIP: Thank you, hon Speaker, I give notice and move:

That, notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 20(1), that precedence be given to the Subject for Discussion in the name of hon Bryant. I so move.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Chief Whip. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion?

No objections? Agreed to.

We will now deal with the Subject for Discussion in the name of the hon D W Bryant, as printed on the Order Paper. I recognise hon Bryant.

## **SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION**

### **The impact of climate disasters on service delivery and infrastructure in Western Cape**

Mr D W BRYANT (DA): Speaker, four years ago, a group of grey-haired grannies from Switzerland, calling themselves the Senior Women for Climate Protection, sailed up the Rhine River. Their mission was to deliver a complaint to the Strasbourg-based European Court of Human Rights. Their complaint was simple. The Government of Switzerland had ignored their concerns and did not adequately take into consideration compelling scientific evidence concerning climate change. This had had an impact on their health due to frequent heat waves, which had not been planned for.

Four years later, in April this year, the European Court of Human Rights ruled that there had indeed been a violation of the women's human rights and that this had put them at risk of dying from heat waves. Speaker, this ruling sets a significant precedent. That is to say that governments that fail to plan and budget for the impact of climate change are in fact violating the human rights of their own citizens. That is why today's debate is so important.

In the years to come, the Western Cape will be hit hard by climate change.

We must be prepared for reduced rainfall, rising sea levels, coastal erosion, increased fire risks and more extreme weather events like floods, droughts and storm surges. If the Western Cape Government does not plan accordingly, it will be disregarding the human rights of South Africans.

The Climate Change Act, which was signed into law recently, provides a framework for coordination between the different spheres of government. Importantly, it also places obligations on municipalities in respect of climate change response planning. This Government must ensure that our Western Cape municipalities comply with the act and develop robust climate strategies that are aligned with our own provincial goals and can be integrated into our land use and disaster risk responses.

Speaker, over the past 10 years, the Western Cape has seen a steady increase in the number of people moving here from other provinces. Some analysts estimate that currently close to 25% of new home buyers are coming from other parts of South Africa, an increase of 5% in the past five years alone. These new residents, often referred to as "semigrants" are moving to the Western Cape in search of a better life after they have seen their own provinces and municipalities collapse due to failing municipal and provincial governments. Hon Speaker, we welcome these new residents to the Western Cape, but, hon Speaker, these people need homes to live in, schools to attend, hospitals to care for them, and it is also essential that they continue to receive the high levels of service delivery that many residents of the Western Cape have grown accustomed to, including sophisticated Disaster Relief

Programmes. As you are aware, Speaker, most Western Cape municipalities are now governed by DA-led administrations, many of which have already put in place localised strategies to adapt to climate change. This has helped our province to survive two consecutive years of severe flooding, but these floods have caused significant damage to our infrastructure and have come at a huge financial cost.

In a recent response to a written question earlier this month, Minister Bredell revealed the staggering costs of this damage from the recent floods. These included the Department of Agriculture, total losses amounting to R2,5 billion; the Department of Infrastructure, R224 million; the Department of Health and Wellness, R9,7 million; Cape Nature, R383 million, and the Drakenstein Municipality alone, R37 million. The Minister further went on to state that, "Once internal resources have been deployed and exhausted, the affected organs of state will submit a funding request to the National Treasury to augment the shortfall." But, Speaker, you may be interested to know that this province is still owed approximately R1,9 billion by National Treasury for the floods of last year. We now have gone through even more severe flooding this season at another huge estimated cost, and we cannot sit back and accept the same treatment from National Treasury this time around.

The Western Cape has the third largest population, but currently receives only the fifth largest share of the national budget. If you couple this with a steady increase in semigration into our province, the current allocations simply do not make any sense and to be blunt are patently unfair. Putting in

place improved disaster management responses and climate adaptation measures will require significant funding. This Province is already facing a reduction of R6,36 billion of the Government's Budget and a reduction of R379 million in our Provincial Equitable Share.

Hon Speaker, it is high time that as representatives, the people who elected us in the Western Cape and regardless of our party-political allegiances, we all speak up loudly and clearly and demand our fair share of the budget.

The Western Cape is not asking for more than other provinces, only for the budget that is needed to help grow the economy, create jobs and lift more people out of poverty and, crucially, Speaker, it will enable us to help protect the people of the Western Cape from the consequences of climate change. How we respond now will resonate for many years to come and will all be captured in the Hansard for our grandchildren to read one day.

Speaker, I look forward to hearing this matter being debated, and in particular the responses from the various Ministers dealing with the impacts of the climate crisis and how they are dealing with the budgetary constraints and, Speaker, I look forward to hearing support from our colleagues across the way for the additional budget that we need in order to protect future generations. Thank you. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Bryant. I now recognise the hon Stoffel. Hon Members, this is the member's maiden speech, so I just want to

highlight that to the House.

Hon Stoffel, would you like the mic? Okay, just give the Service Officer a moment. Thank you very much, hon Stoffel.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): Hon Speaker, esteemed colleagues and fellow citizens, today, I rise to address a matter of critical importance of our province, the impact of climate-related disaster on service delivery and infrastructure in the Western Cape.

Climate change is no longer a distant threat. It is an urgent reality that demands immediate and effective action. Therefore, it is imperative that the climate change be treated with the seriousness it deserves, rather than being relegated to political theatrics.

Climate change has always been an apex priority for the African National Congress. Our commitment to climate change is evident in every ANC policy resolution and manifesto. To demonstrate our dedication, the ANC have recently finalised and adopted the Climate Change Bill which President Ramaphosa signed in June / July this year.

As the ANC Caucus in the Western Cape Legislature, we wholeheartedly welcome the enactment of the Climate Change Act, Act Number 22 of 2024. The milestone marked a significant advance towards sustainable development and environmental guardianship. The Act lays foundations for a longer term



just transition towards a low-carbon economy and a climate-resilient society.

Hon Speaker, the effects of climate change in our rural and urban communities have had major impacts on us, including droughts; depletion of water resources and biodiversity; soil erosion; floods and diminished subsistence economies.

In 2015, Cape Town recorded the highest temperature in a century, which coupled with severe drought, led to catastrophic fires. The prospect of Day Zero in our province starkly highlighted the connection between climate change, service delivery and infrastructure.

The Democratic Alliance's management of the Day Zero crisis exemplifies the connection. During the height of the 2017 drought, the City of Cape Town awarded tenders worth hundreds of millions to two companies for desalination plants. After two years these plants were decommissioned due to substandard water qualities. The situation represents a textbook case of wasteful expenditure by the DA Administration in both the province and the city. The desalination plants failed to make a meaningful contribution to the city's water supply and the mishandling led to exorbitant water tariffs, and the ongoing pipe-levies burdening ratepayers. The suffering of ratepayers is the direct result of the Democratic Alliance's poor handling of climate change issues.

Hon Speaker, as the African National Congress, we are deeply concerned

about the Provincial Government's approach to these pressing challenges. The recent dam collapse in Riverlands, Swartland Municipality, served as a stark reminder of the climate-change impact on our infrastructure. We commend the National Government's prompt response led by Minister Majodina and her department, which is crucial in preventing further disaster.

The decision to lower the dam levels resulted in massive unexpected and rapid release of water, causing floods, was necessary to avoid a potential catastrophic collapse, given ongoing heavy rains.

Community members alerted the DA municipality to the collapse of the whole dam, which had been reported as leaking during heavy rainfalls earlier in the season, but it failed to act - the highly critical failure in our system of disaster-preparedness and response. This lapse in accountability raises serious questions about the responsibility of our municipal authorities and their commitment to safeguard vulnerable communities.

Following the disaster the National Government should conduct safety assessment in all dams and determine their compliance with the norms and standards.

Hon Speaker, it is important to recognise that whilst the Western Cape Government has developed policies like the Western Cape Climate Change Response Strategy, 2015, these efforts have not been sufficient. These efforts

are undermined by the Province's failure to appoint an Environmental Commissioner. The Environmental Commissioner was intended to be guardian over our environmental policies, ensuring compliance accountability, yet the Provincial Government has chosen to ignore this constitutional requirement.

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

The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Hon Stoffel, please take your seat.

The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: I just want to ask, we know it is the member's maiden speech so we do not want to respond to her, but her maiden speech must be neutral and non-attacking.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Like really!

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I am listening very carefully. Hon member, I am just reminding you that in your maiden speech it may not be controversial or political, but I am going to let you continue. [Interjections.]

Hon Nkondlo, I am on the floor. You will have an opportunity just now.

Hon Stoffel, you may continue.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): Yet the Provincial Government has chosen to ignore the constitutional requirements, thereby weakening our Climate Response Framework and leaving our province vulnerable. This matter I raised in the Standing Committee meeting recently, and I will continue to raise it until the Provincial Government does the right thing.

I wish to thank hon member Grant Marais of the Freedom Front Plus to support us in this matter, which shows that there is unity amongst Opposition parties on the need for the Provincial Government to appoint an Environmental Commissioner. [Interjections.] In conclusion... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order! Order, members!

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): In conclusion, while the Province's strategies and framework are steps in the right direction ... [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Get over it now!

The SPEAKER: Hon members! Hon Stoffel, please take your seat, because I am trying to protect you. Hon members, there is a member on the floor.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Talk to the Minister there.

The SPEAKER: Hon Nkondlo, I do not need assistance from the Chair. Hon members, please allow the member on the floor. Hon Stoffel, when you deliver your maiden speech, as I indicated earlier, it cannot be controversial and you have now opened yourself up for that, but it does not prohibit you from having an opportunity to make your submission.

Members, please, do not drown out the speaker on the floor. Hon Stoffel, you may continue. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: ... her maiden speech.

The SPEAKER: Order, members! Hon Stoffel, you may continue.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): In conclusion, hon Speaker, whilst the Province's strategies and framework are steps in the right direction they are not enough without proper oversight and accountability. It is for these reasons that we reiterate our call for the immediate appointment of an Environmental Commissioner. It is only then we can hope to build a resilient and sustainable Western Cape that is prepared to face the challenges of climate change. I thank you, hon Speaker. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Stoffel.

Hon members, before I recognise the next speaker, I just want to also

highlight that this is in fact a political debate, so I am allowing latitude and I am not going to stifle freedom of speech in the House. I now recognise the hon... [Interjections.] Order members!

Mr D W BRYANT (DA): Bring it on!

An HON MEMBER: We found out Ms Stoffel [Inaudible, 00:22:12]  
[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: The roles are muddled. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order! Hon members, I realise that we haven't been here in two weeks time, so I understand that you... [Interjections.]

Mr G P MARAIS (FFP): ...apart from the Freedom Front.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): You must get it right.

The SPEAKER: Are we ready, hon members? The next speaker on the Speaker's List is hon Petrus. He is online. Hon Petrus, I recognise you.

Mr B PETRUS (PA): Am I audible?

The SPEAKER: Hon Petrus, you may continue.

†Mnr B PETRUS (PA): Baie dankie, Speaker. Speaker, net soos die res van die wêreld ervaar die Wes-Kaapse provinsie uitdagings van klimaatsverandering wat aanleiding gee tot droogtes, vloede en veldbrande. Dit opsigself noodsaak herbeplanning van begrotingstoewysings sodat die impak op infrastruktuur en dienslewering beperk word.

Al hierdie natuurrampe het 'n groot impak, nie net op infrastruktuur nie, maar ook op ons mense wat hierdeur getref word. Hierdie situasie vereis dat ons beter begrotingsbeplanning doen wat toekomstgerig is. Speaker, dit is veral die armes wat geraak word. Ons sal as Regering meer geld moet belê in beter beplanning om die impak van natuurrampe te beperk. Ons stel verder voor vir beter beplanning en ontwerp van infrastruktuur, genootskappe tussen die Regering en die privaatsektor, beskerming van ons natuurlike hulpbronne, beter begrotings vir ons noodhulpinstansies, beter beplanning van behuisingsprojekte, veral vir dié van die armes.

Speaker, dit is die voorstelle van die Patriotiese Alliansie. Baie dankie.

[Mr B PETRUS (PA): Thank you, Speaker. Speaker, just as the rest of the world the Western Cape province experiences challenges of climate change that lead to droughts, floods and veld fires. That in itself requires revision of budget allocations so that the impact on infrastructure and service delivery is limited.

All these natural disasters have a great impact not only on infrastructure, but also on our people who are affected by this. This situation requires that we

have to do better budget planning that is future oriented. Speaker, it is especially the poor who are affected. We as Government will have to invest more money in better planning to limit the impact of natural disasters. We further propose, for better planning and design of infrastructure, partnerships between the Government and the private sector, protection of our natural resources, better budgets for our emergency aid institutions, better planning of housing projects, especially that for the poor.

Speaker, those are the proposals of the Patriotic Alliance. Thank you.

†Die SPEAKER: Baie dankie, agbare Petrus.

[The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Petrus.] I now recognise the hon Cassiem, who is also joining virtually. Hon Cassiem, can you hear me?

Ms A CASSIEM (EFF): Greetings, Speaker, yes, I can. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: You may continue. Thank you very much.

Ms A CASSIEM (EFF): Thank you very much, Speaker. Speaker, the topic for discussion presented by member Bryant sounds more like this DA-led Province is blaming climate disasters for their failure to deliver services to the people of this province. It cannot be that for the past 15 years under this DA-Government that climate disasters are to blame for the lack of proper infrastructure like housing, roads, power and water supply among other services, which are still not rendered especially in poorer communities. Yes,



Speaker, climate disasters do impact on service delivery, but climate change has been with us for a while now and by now we should have been able to mitigate the impact of climate change on service delivery.

Speaker, there will be winter readiness statements all over social media released by the same DA, but we know very well when winter arrives there will definitely be chaos across the province due to the continuous flooding and fires because this DA Government is always caught flat-footed and unprepared, despite knowing the impact it will have on thousands of people, especially those in informal settlements.

Speaker, no plan of action has been put in place to ensure their safety during such times and with this, the same main roads leading to these communities will also be damaged because infrastructure in such areas are not maintained. Cederberg's main road and bridge was repaired about a year ago, but the quality of the repairs would not last long enough because the annual winter storm would again hit, damaging the infrastructure and leaving residents stranded with no exit. We know by now that floods, storms and veldt fires do contribute in damaging infrastructure as well as sectors such as agriculture, tourism and health, to mention a few. But the question is, how prepared is this Province when it comes to securing these sectors from climate disasters?

Speaker, the Western Cape needs to establish proper climate disaster response measures through research and investing in the resilient infrastructure, capacity building and skills to future proof communities, and

need to actively pursue policies to help this province adapt to the impact of climate change impacts.

The only way to prevent fires and storms, Speaker, from damaging informal settlement structures is to firstly remove the poor from such areas, secure land which is suitable for building and living, and from there deliver decent housing and adequate infrastructure.

In conclusion, Speaker, a proper job should also be done when environmental assessment plans are being done for all major construction projects, among others, because it is about time that this DA Government, which is in its third administration, starts strategising and planning properly towards climate change, especially when it comes to disasters. However, blaming climate disasters for poor service delivery will not do, Speaker. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Cassiem. Hon members, I now recognise the hon Minister, Minister Bredell.

HON MEMBERS: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Hon Speaker, thank you for the opportunity and thank you for the member for the debate.

We all know the saying "failing to plan is planning to fail." We, as a Government, will in future generations be judged on our ability or inability to plan for the challenges brought on by climate change and climate-related disasters.

†Agbare Speaker, en dit gaan nie help om te baklei oor of *climate change* / klimaatsverandering werklik is of nie en of wie die skuld moet dra nie. Dit gaan nie help om te kla dat ons nie genoeg geld het nie. Die toekomstige generasies gaan ons aksies in 2024 beoordeel oor die koue feite: wat het ons gedoen met die inligting en die hulpbronne wat tot ons beskikking was?

[Hon Speaker, there's no point in fighting about whether climate change / climate changes are real or not, or who should take the blame. It's not going to help to complain that we do not have enough money. The future generations are going to judge our actions in 2024 on the cold facts: what have we done with the information and the resources we had available?]

Speaker, but for us to understand the true scale and the implications of service delivery caused by the recent natural disasters, let us revisit the past 13 months in the Western Cape.

May / June 2023, the province was hit by severe weather. In response to the damages the Western Cape Government reprioritised R147 million and municipalities reprioritised R124 million. Municipalities received R8,5 million from National Government. The storms left us with a financial shortfall of R704 million.

September 2023, storm surges along the Garden Route coastline caused extensive damage. Municipalities received R7,8 million from National Government, leaving them with a shortfall of R31 million.

September 2023, a severe weather system affected large parts of the province and extensive damages were suffered, from flooding and strong winds. The Province responded by reprioritising R102 million and the municipalities reprioritised R11 million. Five municipalities received R144 million from National Government. Those who are not DA-led are now under investigation because the money is gone. [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Jo! Jo!

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: The Province, however, was left with a R1,4 billion shortfall.

June 2024 severe weather struck again and damages of R762 million were recorded. July 2024 severe weather over large parts of this province caused damages, estimated R3,5 billion.

Speaker, if we add all the unfunded damages we get to an amount of R6,4 billion. As a province, we have R6,4 billion in infrastructure damage which is currently not funded. Also keep in mind that each time budgets were

reprioritised, it meant other essential maintenance were not done or new projects were cancelled or stopped.

†Speaker, na 'n baie nat winter van 2023 het ons baie natuurlike plantegroei gesien en dit het weer gelei tot 'n baie besige brandseisoen in die somer van 2023/24. Ons brandweerdienste is telkemale tot uiterste beproef en het ons 9 500 brande beveg in daardie periode. In totaal het 135 000 hektaar veld gebrand verlede somer. Ons was baie gelukkig om lewensverlies, ernstige beserings en groot infrastruktuurskade te vermy. As ons dus kyk na die huidige winterseisoen wat weereens baie nat is, kan ons weer 'n soortgelyke brandseisoen die komende somermaande verwag.

[Speaker, after a very wet winter of 2023 we have seen a lot of natural vegetation and this again led to a very busy fire season during the summer of 2023/24. Our fire brigade services were every time challenged to the limit and we fought 9 500 fires in that period. In total, 135 000 hectares of veld burnt last summer. We were very fortunate to have avoided loss of life, serious injuries and large infrastructure damage. When we therefore look at th present winter season that again is very wet, we can expect a similar fire season in the coming summer months.]

Hon Speaker, it is clear that we are facing very serious challenges with climate-related disasters. The financial shortfall of R6,4 billion that occurred in the space of 13 months is enough money to fund the entire Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning as well as CapeNature for 10 years.

Hon Speaker, so what can we do to address the crisis of climate-related disasters with the knowledge and resources available to us?

The Western Cape Government has an overarching climate change strategy, but, hon Speaker, it is also important just to touch on the Swartland disaster now just mentioned by the Opposition. Just get the facts right, please, hon Speaker.

Hon Speaker, the facts are the following, the land is in the jurisdiction of the City of Cape Town. The Municipality did not point fingers. They had to act to save lives and to save their citizens, and they have done that. The land belongs to National Department of Rural Development, who was absent till the Monday. By that time, a lot of people would have died if it had not been for the Swartland Municipality. [Interjections.]

The safety of dams and the oversight on the safety of dams is the responsibility of the National Department of Water and Sanitation. [Interjections.]

†n AGBARE LID: Skande!

[An HON MEMBER: Disgrace!]

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Whose responsibility is that?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Where were they all these years? Hon Speaker, and then we run after rumours of so-called community leaders who received zero votes in the by-elections, who then said they reported it? I would love to see where they reported that because they did not know where this land is and who it belongs to and so forth. So they must stop looking at Facebook. We must look at the facts and currently the problem is the community is going to be now two weeks longer without water because of the National Department not listening to engineers and dam specialists and tell them not to open up the fourth dam, because the dam is safe. I was on the dam wall. The other members were not there. I was on that dam wall. It was safe. Everything was calm. We were busy repairing the damage to the infrastructure. It was all washed away again because of the National Department's †*hardkoppigheid* [stubbornness] and they failed the community and I would recommend to that municipality to bring a class action against National on behalf of the 50 families. [Applause.]

†n AGBARE LID: Ja, ja.

[An HON MEMBER: Yes, yes.]

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: You must sue them and get them to take responsibility.

An HON MEMBER: Shame on them.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Hon Speaker, our Western Climate Change Response Strategy set out a clear vision to be a Net Zero Emissions and Climate Resilient province by 2050 and as a member of the Under2 Coalition, a global network of subregional governments, we pledge to achieving a net zero emission by 2050, as guided by a 2050 Emission Pathway Plan that is under development. These goals are woven into a multi-strategy including the Growth for Jobs Strategy, the Department of Health and Wellness' participation in the Global Green and Healthy Hospital Programme; the One Health Global Commitment, the Smart Agri Plan. The 15-year Water Resilience Plan addressed water security for a growing population and a growing economy.

†Speaker, wanneer ons na ons omgewing omsien skep ons 'n buffer tussen ons en natuurrampe. As ons indringerplante uit ons omgewingsgebiede en riviere verwyder kan ons grond meer water absorbeer en riviere kan beter vloei wat oorstromings verminder. Dit verminder die risiko van lewensverlies en skade aan ons paaie en ons brûe tydens swaar reën.

Indringerplante brand teen 'n baie hoër temperatuur as ons inheemse plante. Die brande is baie moeiliker om te beheer en hou 'n groter gevaar in vir ons brandbestryders en die publiek en ons infrastruktuur. Ek beklemtoon weer dat ons 'n sterk nasionale Working for Fire-program nodig het om ons provinsies te ondersteun in hul werk. Ons benodig 'n beter ondersteuning van die



Suid-Afrikaanse Weermag tydens rampe. Ek wil graag samewerking sien met versekeringsmaatskappye aangesien ons elke somer miljoene rande spandeer om eiendom te beskerm teen brande wat deur hulle verseker word.

Speaker, ons moet ook die grense tussen die mens en nedersettings en die natuur respekteer. Elke winter moet ons mense red wat woon in areas wat nie geskik is daarvoor nie. Driftsands op die Kaapse Vlakte is een voorbeeld. Hierdie is 'n ramp wat wag om te gebeur. En ek hoop regtig dat die Opposisie-lede ons sal help om mense uit daardie area te skuif.

Luukse leefstyl ontwikkelings langs die kus en riviere en riviermonde is ook 'n voorbeeld hiervan. Die informele nedersetting by Dunoon in Kaapstad wat onder hoogspanning elektriese torings ontstaan het, is nog 'n voorbeeld van 'n ramp wat wag om te gebeur.

[Speaker, when we look after our environment we create a buffer between us and natural disasters. When we remove alien vegetation from our environmental areas and rivers our soil can absorb more water and rivers can flow better which reduces flooding. It reduces the risk of loss of life and damage to our roads and our bridges during heavy rains.

Alien plants burn at a much higher temperature than our indigenous plants. The fires are more difficult to control and hold greater danger to our firefighters and the public and our infrastructure. I again emphasise that we need a strong national Working for Fire programme to support our provinces and work in them. We need a better support from the South African Defence

Force during disasters. I would like to see cooperation with insurance companies as every summer we spend millions of rands to protect property against fires that is insured by them.

Speaker, we must also respect the borders between humans and settlements and nature. Every winter we have to save people who live in areas not suitable for habitation. Driftsands on the Cape Flats is one example. This is a disaster waiting to happen. I really hope that the Opposition members will assist us to move the people out of that area.

Luxury lifestyle developments along the coast and rivers and river mouths are also an example of this. The informal settlement at Dunoon in Cape Town that has originated below the high voltage electric towers is another example of a disaster waiting to happen.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, your time has expired. Please conclude.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Hon Speaker, this Province is ready but funding is always a challenge. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister, I now recognise the hon Jacobs.

Mr D G JACOBS (NCC): Greetings to all. I greet you all in the name of the

Most High !

Speaker, this information comes from the Provincial side. Now the number of households living in shacks and not in backyards, is about 143 000. The backyard dwellers, roughly about 1,4 million living in backyards, these are mostly Coloured people.

Now hon member Bryant, after the recent floods in the Western Cape the Province Disaster Management took about nine days to complete the reconnection of Citrusdal. Although we understand that damages were excessive, one cannot say the same when it comes to the Western Cape, particularly in the Coloured communities. I personally went to Tafelsig and I saw the damages of the houses. Unfortunately, there is no relief budget for the ghettos.

Now one can take a drive through Bishop Lavis, Mitchells Plain and other areas on the Cape Flats and we can witness the damages to the roads and the infrastructure from the floods of September 2023, which still need attention. The question hon Bryant must rather ask is how does service delivery and infrastructure differ from area to area. The inability of the Western Cape Province to deal with the informal settlements, allowing it to grow under the smokescreen of a prosperous province and the non-attendance to backyard communities – that hampers the service delivery. The flooding and other disasters in the areas that are rich and affluent – that is not the issue. I think when it comes to our Coloured communities; there is a bit more action that is

needed to be put in place. As the NCC, we humbly ask the departments responsible to urgently redesign their plans to alleviate poverty and housing, which in return will lessen the issues relating to service delivery and damage to infrastructure development. *!Aesa!*

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Jacobs. I now recognise the hon Marais.

Mr G P MARAIS (FFP): Thank you, Speaker. Speaker, extreme weather conditions are nothing new to the Western Cape. We should have been better prepared. Its impact on service delivery and its impact on infrastructure in some instances, have been very devastating and costly, as referred to by the Minister. The question that we should ask is whether our preparedness to manage such devastation is to our credit or not. How were we prepared? Municipalities, in fact, are constitutionally obligated to provide service delivery, build infrastructure, but do they have the expertise and the financial capacity to meet these challenges? They do not, and that must be addressed. Climate will not adapt to us. We must adapt and we must make sure that we can address the effects.

It is the constitutional duty of both National and the Provincial Government to support municipalities, to improve their capacity to deal with future disasters. This is in terms of Section 154 of the National Constitution that says it must be done by "legislative and other measures." Recent developments such as the GNU must be seen to support municipalities to

improve their state of readiness to address these disasters. The threefold disaster at Citrusdal was preventable and so were the Riverlands floods. I would like to see a comprehensive study that all farm dams are compliant, and if they are not, it must be addressed as a matter of urgency and the Government of National Unity must take responsibility for the funding required.

The SPEAKER: Hon Marais, your time has expired. Please conclude.

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

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I now recognise the hon Minister, Minister Meyer.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you, hon Speaker, and to the hon members who made their maiden speeches: Congratulations in this House today!

Hon Speaker, I rise to take part in the debate sponsored by hon member David Bryant, and I want to thank him for bringing this debate to this House. I rise also today because there is a sense of urgency, I gather from the various speeches here today because climate change is a pressing issue that demands our immediate action, as indicated by the hon member.

Hon members will know that last year I had to deal with four disasters in

terms of the floods in relation to agriculture. Hon Speaker, climate change is real and it impacts the agricultural sector and my recent experience has taught us that the extensive rains, floods and fires and high winds have become the norm that threaten our exports and jobs in the Western Cape.

Rising temperatures lead to heat stress in crops and livestock. Dairy cows, for example, are sensitive to heat stress. Higher temperatures also alter the growing seasons, accelerating crop maturity and potentially different crops to be grown in some other regions. Due to climate change, hon Speaker, major commodity crops like corn, rice and oats, are expected to have lower yields. We already see it playing out now. Hon Speaker, floods have a significant impact on the agricultural sector causing high levels of erosion.

†Die boere plant en dan kom die vloed, dan word dit weggespoel.

[The farmers plant and then the flood comes, then it is washed away.]

And so many hectares of productive agricultural land are being washed away. I have seen it from two years ago, also in Swellendam area, infrastructure damage to farms, job losses impacting also on farm workers, major crop losses and export reductions.

Members of this House will know that if I have a 5% reduction in exports, I will lose 22 900 jobs in this province and so this has a massive knock-on effect.

Hon Speaker, agricultural damages caused by flooding last year are estimated in the region of R6,5 billion. Hon Speaker, droughts have also led to approximately 30 000 job losses. We have had the seven-year drought. We have seen also 13% to 20% drop in exports due to the reduced impact of the farming output.

Fires, hon Speaker, yesterday in the Cabinet meeting my colleague Minister Bredell warned this Cabinet and this Government and the people of the Western Cape that we are now going to enter a very heavy fire season coming out of Mediterranean regions. Why do we know this? Because research has shown that we are a Mediterranean region and like California, Mediterranean regions are having devastating fires right now. So he has already put some plans into place. They cause a significant damage to infrastructure, including the disruption in harvesting, particularly wine-producing regions, resulting in a substantial economic cost.

Hon Speaker, the Western Cape Department of Agriculture has initiated an Ecological Infrastructure Project to support rural farming communities, conserving, restoring and utilising agricultural natural resources. These projects include invasive alien plant removal, river protection, fence construction, stock watering systems, construction and fire break creation, together with the Minister of Environmental Affairs. These initiatives are also province wide and I am also taking part in discussions and negotiations, partnerships and collaboration with the water user associations. This past Saturday, I handed over R15 million to the water use association in Citrusdal

to clean the river so that the river protection can prevent major future floods in that area.

Hon Speaker, climate change, as the members have indicated, is now real. There is now a permanent item on the Cabinet agenda on climate change. This Government is taking climate change very, very seriously.

What have we done? Obviously we need to do more and so what we have done, we have started a Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Climate Disaster. The Climate Change Youth Summit, I have signed an MOU between my Department and Environmental Affairs; the School of Climate Studies at the University of Stellenbosch. I signed an agreement with the Government of California. I met the Minister of Agriculture. We have signed an agreement on climate change. I initiated a Mediterranean Climate Action Programme.

I am now happy to report to this House that we are now a founding member of the World Mediterranean Climate Action Forum. We signed that agreement in Dubai in December. We are doing it. [Applause.]

But, hon Speaker, I think this House need to adopt in future a resolution. It is too late to have a dialogue on climate change when children are in high school. It is too late to have a dialogue on climate change when children are in primary school. I want to put it to this House that we must discuss climate change at the kindergarten, at the ECD because when there is a flood, there is a child grabbing the mother's dress, *†rok, en daar hardloop die kinders*



[skirt, and there the kids are running.]

It is too late. We need to sensitise children about the impact of climate change when it is much earlier. So, this Government is committed, both Minister Bredell and I signed a Western Cape Government Declaration on Climate Change. We are committed... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, your time has expired. Please conclude.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Hon Speaker, through you, we want more money for climate change for the Minister of Environmental Affairs and I thank you for your approval. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. I now recognise the hon Christians. [Interjection.]

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Thank you. Thank you, Speaker. Speaker, there are individuals and organisations who firmly believe that the earth is flat. Even when faced with proven facts they hold to this misguided view. Adversely, there are people who do not believe that the climate change is real. Therefore, early warning systems must be put in place to meet the demands upon infrastructure timeously.

We must act now. Poor people suffer when it comes to disasters. Students cannot get to school and we know that the Department has issued previously a circular to say children can stay at home because of heavy rains. So, the poor are struggling and suffering when it comes to disasters, but also, Speaker, I want to say that I just read the piece of Citrusdal about the losses and Gerrit van der Merwe, Chairperson of Citrus Growers Association said that last year R430 million in damages was suffered. So it means that there is a price increase. It means that people suffering will pay more so the point is, and this is what the Minister was saying, when there are damages, disasters, the money must follow and I do not know if National Government is serious enough, because when you see there are disasters, money must follow, but Speaker, the other concerning thing is because Citrusdal is known for its superior citrus fruits and products, it is the third-largest citrus producing area in South-Africa and accounts for 14% of the total crop. So people are hit hard. Infrastructure is hit hard. So my plea for this debate is that money will follow from National Government to the Province to municipalities, so that these disasters can be attended to. Thank you. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Christians. I now recognise the hon Herron.

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): Thank you, Speaker.

Speaker, climate disasters have disproportionately affected the most vulnerable and marginalised people in the Western Cape, exacerbating

existing inequalities and adding disproportionate burdens on the poor and this is because of the lasting apartheid legacy of underinvestment and disparate investment and development which most governments, all of our governments, have failed to address, including this one. While we have gone from drought to flooding and the impact on infrastructure is costly and severe, there are still too many people who live without adequate infrastructure or with no real public infrastructure and for these people, climate disasters are perpetual. During droughts, these communities face acute water shortages as they rely on communal taps or water deliveries. During floods and fires, shacks are easily damaged or destroyed, leaving families homeless or forcing them into temporary shelters and for those who have worked in the agriculture sector, droughts and other climate disasters have led to reduced crop yields, job losses and income insecurity, pushing farm workers deeper into poverty and water scarcity and disruptions caused by climate disasters have led to rising costs for basic necessities such as food and water, further straining the financial resources of vulnerable and middle income households.

The province needed a resilient plan yesterday, and the Premier has promised a focus on climate change. The plan will obviously have to address upgrading informal settlements by improving housing quality, flood mitigation, implementing flood-mitigation measures, such as improved drainage systems; and enhanced fire safety through firebreaks, community fire-fighting resources and fire-resistant building materials. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Herron. Before I recognise hon Nkondlo, do you need the [incomplete] for your speech, can I recognise you?

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Is it not my maiden speech? (Laughter)

The SPEAKER: Ja, that privilege is six, seven years later, I think.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): I am new in the Seventh Parliament! Somlomo.  
[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Nkondlo, are you ready?

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Yes.

An HON MEMBER: Two minutes are gone!

The SPEAKER: Alright, hon Nkondlo, I recognise you.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, members of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament, let us recall this month is declared towards women of our country having been led by a group of women of 1956. To make true the words of Alexandra Kollontai:

"...that the new woman the new man are free people, able to rise above the mire of the past."

This quote in this month reigns true for this generation of men and women of this House that at a time, time comes to not weaponise the past to justify the comforts and resist change. We are called to use the moment and its responsibility to pursue human progress.

It is my firm understanding that such calls on us to make choices regarding the responsibility of the oath we sign as members of this House. Member Stoffel has informed this House about the impact of the climate crisis on the vulnerable, the downtrodden, and those who by their social and economic standing, face deprivation of the public policy choices of the day.

This topic, *Somlomo*, further provides us an opportunity to reflect on our collective effort to enable the economy to navigate the turbulent times, but also shield those who are vulnerable to shocks such as climate change.

Allow me, hon Speaker, to actually read a note from Ms Jody Nkonkwana of Gugulethu who runs a programme called Roots for Food in Gugulethu. She says:

"Whose struggles take priority when disaster strikes? Fair minds are triggered by lack of quick response in maintaining it. Then it catapults into catastrophe. Hunger is now used as a weapon to further divide the rich from the poor. Access to healthy food complicates the war against food insecurity. This then speaks to the divide that is South Africa. Unhealthy food is cheaper than nutritious food. Who then controls that access? What informs it?"

This is important to note in this particular conversation what members of the public are saying about the issues that we debate in this House. As we do have this conversation, we must never shy away to tell the truth as the crisis that humanity finds itself in today is of unregulated capital accumulation and its greed. The developed world is leading an implosion of their own economies that has extended severely in the underdeveloped and developing economies, as they must no longer grow within favourable climatic conditions. These economies have for decades been driven by reckless and irresponsible industrialisation that ignored the environment in their drive for unending growth for elites. Corporates have been allowed to run amok in the name of profits with the role of the state weakened against robust regulatory and distributive environment, let alone ensuring inclusivity of the benefit for all.

Global poverty, extreme inequality and joblessness are as a result of these unfettered profit drives.

There is a consensus amongst global leaders that extreme weather and disruption from drought, flooding and conflicts over natural resources disproportionately affect the developing world, particularly the poor and most vulnerable, including women and children, according to an agrarian rural household economy study, a key finding of the research is that most agrarian households are poor and vulnerable. Farm-dweller households are facing systemic inequalities. They are the most vulnerable and impoverished within the lowest incomes from wages or agricultural sales, and are disproportionately female headed. We have been facing unpredictable

weather patterns, severe droughts and devastating floods becoming increasingly frequent, threatening the country's food security. We were informed by the officials recently, in a Standing Committee that we do not have a food deficit but inaccessibility of food. This is quite an anomaly, given that this province is the food basket of the province, but also to an extent, of the continent, and, yet, household poverty, hunger is also a reality here in this province.

Actually, during the COVID-19 period, the same Department of Agriculture in this province appearing in the Parliamentary Oversight over COVID told us that cost of food production is very high and thus this debate must help to drill down and confront this reality. Why are we even shocked and only speak with eagerness on a crisis we've been sitting on for years with drought in 2015 to 2018 and now dealing with unmanageable over-flooding, fires that we know every year during summer season we get in the communities in this province? What happened to the claim of evidence-based Government, as surely if indeed this Government is data-driven, the state of the environment that the Provincial Department of Environment is obliged to produce through the NEMA Act and the historic information and data of our weather patterns are sufficient to have given alert?

Clearly, the refusal to appoint an Environmental Commissioner shows a lack of foresight and plain ignorance of this Provincial Government on the growing crisis from climate-related disasters.

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Extreme weather events have disrupted transportation networks and supply chains, making it difficult to distribute food from farms to markets. Even worse in poor and informal settlements, where there is no road or any social infrastructure. The rising cost of inputs like water, fertilisers and energy due to climate change can make food production even more expensive, leading to higher food prices. Overall these factors can contribute to reduced food availability, increased prices and potential shortages affecting food security for vulnerable population.

We must caution against absolutism where there is a free right given to business as the Messiah of the economy, whilst evidence lay bare on their involvement to where we are today, instead of inviting business with the very communities to learn, unlearn and relearn from all our experiences, new ways to deal with the crisis that we are finding ourselves in.

Hon members, today we face an urgent crisis that transcends borders and demands our immediate attention, the intersection of climate change and food security. This crisis is not just about infrastructure. It is about human lives and societal stability. As we confront these realities, we must recognise that food security is intrinsically linked to climate action. As the environment becomes more hostile, the challenges to growing enough food become even greater. We urge the Provincial Government to prioritise the poor of the province, as you did with George when there were fires and even mobilised



private sector to go and contribute, as you do in affluent areas.

As member Bryant here in the House asked that there should be more money requested from National Treasury, the question is, is this money for whom because we have not seen this Provincial Government, with the money that you are already having – with the mandate that you are already having. People are basking in cold weather and also in floods here in Nomzamo communities, in Khayelitsha, in Gugulethu, whilst you continue to call for extra money. Why are you unable to actually have the heart of ensuring that the very reaction you give to affluent communities of George and here in Constantia you have the same heart to respond to those that are living in the poor communities and informal sectors in Mfuleni?

As we conclude, hon Speaker, climate change poses a profound threat to food security. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Nkondlo, your time has expired. Please conclude.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): We must rethink food systems, safeguard our planet and ensure that future generations can enjoy a world where food security is not a distant hope, but a guaranteed hope. I thank you.

†AGBARE LEDE: Hoor-hoor!

[HON MEMBERS: Hear-hear!]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Nkondlo. Hon members, I was waiting for the full stop at the end of that sentence. It did not come, so I stopped it at the comma. [Laughter]. Hon, the next speaker is the hon Minister, Minister Simmers.

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Hon Premier, fellow Cabinet members, hon colleagues in the Legislature, both physically here and those that are logged in, our guests, but also those who are following us on our YouTube portal, but also the media.

Today, there is a pressing issue that has increasingly defined our province's landscape over the last number of years, namely the impact of climate-related disasters on our infrastructure and the consequential effects on service delivery.

The Western Cape has seen a surge in climate induced events, particularly floods that have caused widespread damage and disruption to various communities, not just some across our province. The devastating floods from June 2023 till June 2024 are stark reminders of the fragility of our existing infrastructure in the face of climate change. These floods severely damaged our road networks, particularly in rural areas, creating unsafe commuting environments and cutting off vital access routes that connect communities to essential services and economic opportunities. But it is the scale of the damage that was such that various roads have had to be closed, forcing my Department to reallocate much-needed resources urgently to ensure that

strategic routes remained safe and accessible for public use. The aftermath of these floods have shown us that climate change is no longer just a future threat; it is a current reality for our province. The design, construction, maintenance and operation of our road infrastructure must now factor in the increasingly severe impacts of climate change.

Despite our best efforts, several roads are still affected by these events, requiring permanent maintenance and repair. However, the success of these actions is heavily budget dependent and with the reduction in the overall fiscal budget it may well take several years to fully address this damage.

Hon Speaker, it is important to acknowledge that the budget cuts suffered by different departments of our Western Cape Government have further constrained our ability to complete these critical flood-damage repairs. This situation underscores the urgent need for sustained and adequate funding to ensure that our infrastructure remains resilient and that service delivery is not compromised and as we grapple with the impact of these floods, the importance of emergency housing funding becomes ever more important.

When disaster strikes, displacing families and destroying homes, emergency housing is a crucial safety net. The recent floods have shown that without swift action and adequate resources, the most vulnerable members of our communities, both formal and informal, are left without the basic security of the roof over their heads.

Hon Speaker, I have heard much about informal settlements here today. I would kindly like to remind, through you, the hon Cassiem of the EFF that it is her party, who in 2019 started inciting communities to invade land. Many of those parcels of land are actually not suitable for human-settlement development. Prior to 2019, we only had 299 informal settlements across the Western Cape. Up until the end of 2022 this number, due to her party's actions and inciting of various communities, has actually ballooned to 1 046 informal settlements across our province, and yes, we are a data-led province. [Interjections.]

We had a plan, but once you start inciting people to invade land that is never earmarked for settlement development, you can imagine to knock-on effect this will have on our planning as Provincial Government.

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, please take your seat. Hon member, is that a point of order? [Interjections.] Order members, hon member, please rise if you want to raise a point of order?

An HON MEMBER: Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: Speak to me, hon member.

Mr M B NGQENTSU (ANC): The member is out of order.

The SPEAKER: What is your point of order, hon member?

Mr M B NGQENTSU (ANC): He talks about informal settlements; that is a squatter camp. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, members!

Mr M B NGQENTSU (ANC): It is not informal settlements. It is squatter camps.

The SPEAKER: Hon member, there is not a point of order. Hon Minister, you may continue.

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE: Hon Speaker, and again I do thank the point of order which was raised by the member before this, because another member of their party, which has not returned to this Legislature, the infamous poo-thrower, was also involved in inciting people to invade land illegally in the City of Cape Town. So they have actually contributed as a party in opposition to the burden of informal settlements. [Interjections.]

But, hon Speaker, it is with this in mind that I reiterate again to this House and all members, the call for common sense to prevail, and to ensure that emergency housing funding is decentralised, to Provincial Government that is competent but also Local Government that is competent as well.

Hon Speaker, in response to the ongoing threat of climate-related disasters,

the Western Cape Department of Infrastructure has adopted a forward-looking approach. We are committed to the principle of building better or future proofing our infrastructure; ensuring that new infrastructure is more resilient to climate change impacts.

Now climate-resilient reconstruction is at the heart of our infrastructure strategy, focusing on enhancing the durability and sustainability of our projects.

One of the lessons, hon Speaker, we have learned from the June 2023 floods in the Cederberg area was the importance of riverine clearing as the flood damage mitigation strategy, and just for last year, my colleague's Department of Environmental Affairs actually approved over 420 applications to private farm owners who are actually based along certain riverine areas, which means they also have responsibility as part of the Risk Mitigation Strategy.

Now the extent of the damages in this region was partly due to the lack of clearing around rivers, which led to debris accumulating at culverts and bridge abutments. This increased hydraulic action heightened the risk of infrastructure failure and while river-clearing is also a potential job-creation project; environmental limitations have hindered our ability to work within these systems.

However, we recognise that riverine clearing is essential for preventing future flood damage, and we continue to explore ways to integrate this into

our infrastructure planning. That is why on Saturday – this Saturday, 24 August, hon Speaker, I will be visiting the Cederberg Municipality, to be precise I will be visiting Citrusdal, not only to do an inspection of the various access roads that have been affected, but to announce our plan as a Provincial Government and the Department of Infrastructure to effectively deal with these matters. I will also be engaging stakeholders and the media to ensure that the correct message is circulated; not via Facebook, not via WhatsApp. It will come straight through a relevant and credible source.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE: Hon Speaker, the financial implications of these flood disasters are significant. The total estimated cost of flood damage repair from June 2023 to July 2024 stands just in terms of my own portfolio at R1,8 billion. The Provincial Treasury could only assist my Department with R350 million and thus we require R1,45 billion to recover from the overall flood damages. This figure represents not just the cost of repairs, but also the immense economic burden that these disasters place on our province. It is a stark reminder of the need for immediate action and long-term planning to mitigate the impacts of such events. Hon Speaker, it is also the informal settlement and formal settlements being affected and as we address these challenges, it is also important to note the legislative efforts underway to support our goals.

The Draft White Paper on Human Settlements was gazetted in December 2023 and February 2024 by the relevant National Department and we have

commented on various chapters of this legislation, ensuring that their policy is aligned to our provincial approach to ensure that it addresses the needs of our citizens, but also addresses the realities of climate change for our citizens in the Western Cape.

Hon Speaker, in conclusion, the impact of climate-related disasters on our infrastructure is an urgent call to action. The challenges we face are immense, but they are not insurmountable, but we do not need Opposition parties in this province inciting communities to further invade land that is not developable. [Interjection.] You are placing a further burden on our already overstressed infrastructure and we believe that through strategic planning, innovative solutions and adequate funding that we as DA-led Government are building a Western Cape that is not only resilient to the impacts of climate change, but also prepared to protect and serve all citizens in times of crisis.

We will continue to work to ensure that our infrastructure is robust; that our emergency housing is secure and our future is sustainable, but now we need all parties within this House on board. We are well aware we are heading towards Local Government Elections. [Interjection.] We have seen what happened in 2019. I quoted you the mushrooming of informal settlements, which is a cumbersome burden to our Province and to various municipalities. We can ill-afford further incitement by various parties. They must stop that. You are actually exacerbating the human quality of their lives. [Interjection.]



It is deteriorating because of what your actions are, by seeking cheap votes.  
Thank you very much, hon Speaker. [Applause.]

†n AGBARE LID: Hoor-hoor!

[An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister Simmers.

Hon members, order members! Hon members that concludes the debate on this subject. We will now proceed to Interpellations as printed on the Question Paper in terms of Rule 197. I recognise the hon Minister, Minister Bredell.

## **INTERPELLATIONS**

**1. Mr B N Herron asked Mr W A Bredell, Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:**

In October 2022 the Western Cape Cabinet approved the Western Cape Government's Inclusionary Housing Framework:

(a) Since the framework was approved, how many developments have been approved that include an inclusionary housing condition and

(b) How has the framework been implemented?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Thank you, hon Speaker and thank you

to hon Herron for the interpellation. In October of 2022, the Cabinet of the Western Cape Government approved the Western Cape Inclusionary Housing Policy Framework, a clear signal that the need to transform our cities and towns is non-negotiable. I had then, as I do now, set out my commitment to spatial transformation and the need to create opportunities for people to live in better locations, not only as a means of promoting spatial integration to build social cohesion and connected safer spaces in our towns, but also as a means of enabling economic growth. Too many of our households travel long distances to work at great expenses because they are unable to find affordable housing opportunities closer to their places of work and study.

Hon Speaker, spatial transformation is not only an essential element in addressing the legacy of our history as a country, but it is a means to truly unlock the potential of the economy. Inclusionary housing and affordable housing plays a pivotal role in the transformation. This is not just about building homes. It is about building futures.

Given this, I have recognised the need for the Provincial Government to support our municipalities in creating an environment where everyone has access to opportunities, services, and amenities. A key aspect of this support is enabling the development of inclusionary and affordable housing in well located areas. Inclusionary housing is a spatially targeted mechanism that relies on the regulatory system of development planning permissions for property developers to provide affordable housing for sale or rent within their development.

Speaker, through an explicit Inclusionary Housing Policy, a municipality sends a clear signal to the market on where inclusionary housing contributions are required and under what circumstances. Prospective developments then offset the cost of these contributions into the cost paid for the land and the amount of development rights requested from the municipality. Through its Inclusionary Housing Policy a municipality may then offer further incentives to offset these costs through reduced planning requirements, such as reduced parking requirements, expedited decision-making and discounted development charges relating to the inclusionary component of the development.

Hon Speaker, the Inclusionary Housing Policy Framework is the first provincial policy framework of its kind in South Africa. It aims to help municipalities in the Western Cape to facilitate the development of their own Inclusionary Housing Policies. The Western Cape Government plays a crucial role in setting the enabling policy framework for inclusionary housing.

Hon Speaker, since the approval of the Western Cape Inclusionary Housing Policy Framework in October 2022, the Department has proactively stepped up to support municipalities in the development of their own Inclusionary Housing Policies, recognising the need for municipalities to base their policies on solid housing market data; the Western Cape Government has

funded the development of a Housing Market Study. Initially these were developed for George, Mossel Bay, Drakenstein and Stellenbosch Municipalities and we are now further going to support another seven municipalities, Knysna, Bitou, Oudtshoorn, Saldanha Bay, Swartland, Breede Valley, and Overstrand with these studies. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. Minister, that is your first opportunity. I now recognise the hon Herron.

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): Thank you, Speaker. I think that reply from the Minister is kind of like "*ja-nee*", nothing has actually happened. When the Provincial Inclusionary Housing Framework was first introduced, it was clear to me that it was "performative." It was intended to create the illusion of a Government that wanted to do something.

It was introduced as a tool to tick a box of the Western Cape Government's five vision-inspired priorities. That box was mobility and spatial transformation, and this Government has a remarkable ability or a remarkable talent for making announcements, for producing documents that sound like something meaningful and important is going to happen, but from which no impact or benefit is actually derived.

While hundreds of thousands of families live in segregated communities far away from economic opportunities and social amenities, and who are desperately waiting for a home they can afford, not a single housing unit,

affordable housing unit has been built in the inner City of Cape Town. We can add to that that not a single inclusionary housing unit has been built, nor been mandated as a consequence of this policy framework. The reason for that is that because this framework was never intended to have any major impact. It was mostly a copy and paste of work... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Herron, please take your seat. My apologies. Hon Lekker, is that a point of order?

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): No, it is not, I am actually... [audio breaks up]

The SPEAKER: Hon Lekker, I cannot hear you?

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): I raised my hand, hon Speaker... [audio breaks up]

The SPEAKER: Okay, hon Lekker, so there was a member on the floor. Your hand is raised and as per the Rules, I assumed that that is a point of order?

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): My apologies, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: No problem. Can the Table Staff please lower hon Lekker's hand. My apologies, hon Herron, you may continue.

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): Thank you, Speaker. As I said, the reason for

this is that the framework was never intended to have a major impact. It was mostly a copy and paste of work that was done in the City of Cape Town from 2015 to 2018, but it had one major omission. It does not mandate inclusionary housing. No municipality is required to implement it, and no property developer is required to deliver an inclusionary housing unit. It is all show-and-tell but it is pure fiction.

The framework says:

"The goal of this Provincial Inclusionary Housing Policy Framework is to better enable inclusionary housing as a mechanism to contribute towards spatial transformation in the cities and towns of the Western Cape..."

But that goal has not been achieved. The framework also says:

"Inclusionary housing introduces an obligation on developers to contribute towards affordable housing supply using the gains in the value in land, land-use rights and additional density, attributable to location, and the actions of broader society as the resourcing mechanism."

[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): But the framework does not introduce an

obligation on developers to provide inclusionary housing in return for additional development rights or additional bulk. [Interjections.]

These additional rights, which belong to the public – if you can grasp that concept you can grasp inclusionary housing. The additional rights belong to the public, but they are given away freely to the rich and powerful, or as the DA would say, "to friends of the party," also known as "donors." [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Who are those donors?

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): The framework acknowledges that inclusionary housing is one of several mechanisms that can tackle the challenge of affordable housing supply in well-located areas, but without mandating it and for as long as we give away land value... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Herron, your time has expired. That is your first opportunity so you will have another opportunity. I now recognise the hon Bryant.

Mr D W BRYANT (DA): Thank you very much, Speaker. Speaker, having a look through some of the information on the Western Cape's Inclusionary Housing Framework, I mean there is a lot of very, very good detail in here and I have been made aware of a number of examples of very successful projects in Mossel Bay and in George and as well as a number of projects that

are in the pipeline for Cape Town. I know Mayor Geordin Hill-Lewis is steaming ahead with releasing public land that the City is in control of, obviously a lot of that is still owned by National Government but hopefully some of that can also be released for inclusionary housing. But Minister, I would like to find out from you, I mean, are there any more examples of successful projects that you can mention for us in the Western Cape and also is there any other province that you are aware of in the country that has an Inclusionary Housing Framework similar to the one for this province? Thank you.

An HON MEMBER: A very good question.

Mr D W BRYANT (DA): A very good question.

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

An HON MEMBER: This is a sweetheart-question, a sweetheart.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Thank you, Speaker.

"Housing is absolutely essential to human flourishing. Without stable shelter it falls apart."

That is a quote from Professor Matthew Desmond.



Now hon Speaker, the problem is twofold. The one is that we have homeless people all over and it seems that there is no end and also informal settlements, people locating in wrong portions of land, and that is why we have a problem. So what I want to know from the Minister, the Minister said some of the municipalities bought into this. What I want to know from the Minister is what the definite plans are? Are there deadlines put in place in order to incorporate and get this framework going, Inclusionary Housing Framework going?

Secondly, if the Minister can tell us what private developers are involved to make sure that this becomes a reality because we know that people are far from work, and what are the sites closer to work, closer to the CBD in order for them to have extra cash in their pocket and not spend it on transport and also spend more time with the family, if the Minister can just explain that. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Christians, I now recognise hon Lekker on the virtual system.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. The DA has spent the past 15 years in Provincial Government and decades in various other municipalities, actively blocking the development of inclusionary housing on valuable land near key areas of opportunity. A glaring example of this obstruction is the nearly R6 million that the Provincial Government has

already spent on legal battles to prevent the Tafelberg site from being used for inclusionary housing. Despite numerous prior feasibility studies supporting the use of Tafelberg site for such housing, the Government is now initiating yet another study, adding to the wasteful expenditure on this issue.

In addition to the R6 million squandered on litigation, further taxpayers' funds are being used, poured into redundant feasibility studies, highlighting a pattern of mismanagement and resistance to the inclusionary housing solutions. Given this track record, it is no surprise that the Western Cape Government's Inclusionary Housing Policy Framework remains little more than a forgotten document gathering dust on the shelf.

The DA's lack of interest in advancing inclusionary housing is starkly evident in the persistent plight of our people trapped in informal settlements. In and around the Cape Flats townships are areas that are plagued by high poverty, crime, and unemployment. This is not by accident, but it is a deliberate choice to perpetuate the legacy of the apartheid era's spatial inequalities.

In contrast, we applaud municipalities like the City of Johannesburg for leading the way as the first in South Africa to adopt an inclusionary housing policy. [Interjections.] We call on the MEC to provide a comprehensive update on how many municipalities... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Lekker, your time has expired. Please conclude.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC):...the municipalities Inclusionary Housing Policies and how this Department is... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Lekker. I now recognise the hon Herron.

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): Thank you, Speaker. Speaker, as I was saying, without mandating inclusionary housing, it is never going to happen and for as long as we give away land value enhancing additional development rights for free, we will never see it being implemented and the framework is not even taken seriously by our municipalities.

The framework says:

"The Western Cape Government, therefore, requires that municipalities pay close attention to ensuring that their bylaws, their spatial development frameworks, their land use schemes address the requirements set out in SPLUMA and the introduction of the own inclusionary housing policies can assist municipalities in doing so."

The City of Cape Town, which has one of the strongest property markets in the country, which is a key foundation for implementing a viable Inclusionary Housing Policy is currently proposing amendments to its Municipal Planning Bylaw and its Development Management Scheme and

these proposed amendments completely ignore this framework. There is no mention of inclusionary housing, and it is not about releasing land, hon Bryant, and the density overlay zone continues to give away an additional 30% of bulk without any requirement that there be any affordable residential units within a development.

Where they do introduce the right to build affordable rental flats these rights are restricted to areas that replicate the Group Areas Act. Their proposed affordable rental flats development rights is a reflection of an apartheid mentality to spatial planning.

The 20 square metre units which they mandate are restricted to areas like Bonteheuwel, Elsies River, Langa, Mitchells Plain, Khayelitsha, and Atlantis. This is the map. [Interjections.] This map should be a shame! You should be ashamed of this map. It is a Group Areas map that you are introducing, and it is a disgrace.

†'n AGBARE LID: Sies!

[An HON MEMBER: Siss!]

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): What you are actually building or what your City of Cape Town wants to build and which you would now regard as inclusionary housing, is basically migrant labour hostel units. The DA is not serious about spatial transformation. If the DA were serious about this framework, they would make it legislation enforcing inclusionary housing.

Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Herron. I now recognise the hon Minister, Minister Bredell.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Hon Speaker, thank you, and through you to the hon Herron. The test was 29 May, the people voted for the DA. Why? Because we give them hope! We give them hope and they can feel the difference. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: How many did not vote?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: He must go and look at the election results and he will see GOOD has gone backwards, – backwards, because people have no hope in them. They are a lot of noise, but no substance. Hon Chairperson, it is clear... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: It is clear that GOOD's model of inclusionary housing is Knoflokskraal. The DA's model of inclusionary housing is the Conradie site: live, work and play, and he can go and look at

the two and he will see the difference. [Applause.] And then he will understand why the people voted for the Democratic Alliance. [Interjections.]

Hon Speaker, but he asked for examples... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: I will give him some examples. Hon Speaker, you see, and what people must understand, hon Speaker, is that we have spheres of government and not levels of government. We do not dictate. It will happen like with eNatis. They tried to force it onto us and it collapsed.

The Inclusionary Housing Policy is a policy which we discussed because we understand, each municipality, it is different system; it has different challenges and they must buy in, and we take their hands, we do the necessary studies. We take science, we implement it and it will be successful at the end of the day.

Some of the things that happened, and yes, hon Bryant, thank you for the opportunity. We are the only province, the only province who implemented something like this. The others have not, because it is very difficult to get there. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: The market study that we have done is hugely informative and we will discuss that with the Chairperson of the Committee, because it seems like he understands this topic. It is a difficult topic, hon Chair.

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): We want to hear it now!

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: It is an important topic, hon Chair, and hon Chair, the examples of municipalities that we have managed to enable to get there, let us look at Stellenbosch Municipality.

Less than a year after the adoption of the Western Cape Inclusionary Housing Policy Framework and the Stellenbosch Housing Market Study, the Stellenbosch Council adopted its very own policy – the first municipality in the Western Cape to do so. It is a 37-page in-depth policy to support their zoning schemes to get that right. The Municipality has embraced two key urban management mechanisms to enable and require the provisions of affordable housing in well located parts of the municipality. The first is the overlaying zone of the Adam Tas Corridor Catalytic Development and the second is the Inclusionary Zoning Policy, which provides inclusionary housing opportunities for the broader set of well-located areas within the

municipality.

It is worth to mention that the Adam Tas Corridor Overlay Zone is expected to deliver between 2 753 and 3 855 inclusionary housing units over the next 10 years.

Mossel Bay Municipality, turning our attention to Mossel Bay, the Municipality has taken a different approach to the provisions of affordable housing. While Mossel Bay does not have currently a formal inclusionary housing policy the Municipality has effectively facilitated the provision of affordable housing by approving developments that include an affordable housing component.

They do not hide it, hon Chairperson, the Mountain View Project with approximately 200 FLISP units; the Louis Fourie Corridor Project, of which about 2000 units are expected to provide for gap and market segment.

The Diaz Beach, the Municipality sold land with affordable housing conditions in the deeds of sales, making...

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, your time has expired. Please conclude.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Hon Chairperson, I am very proud, the



City of Cape Town is busy with 6 100 FLISP ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. Please take your seat.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: ...and we will implement this policy  
throughout the province. I thank you. [Time expired.]

†n AGBARE LID: Hoor-hoor!

[An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, which concludes Interpellation 1 as published  
on the Order Paper.

[Debate concluded.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. Please take your seat  
...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. Hon members, that  
concludes Interpellation 1 as published on the Order Paper. We now move on  
to Interpellation 2 ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

The SPEAKER: ...and I recognise the hon Premier, hon Premier Winde.

*Sexual harassment measures within the WCG*

**2. Mr M K Sayed to ask Mr A R Winde, Premier:**

In respect of sexual misconduct allegations against senior Government officials in the province:

What specific measures and policies does his Administration have in place to:

- (a) ensure that all allegations of sexual harassment and misconduct by Government employees, especially those in senior positions, are thoroughly investigated in a timely manner, and
- (b) provide protection and support for victims who come forward to report such incidents?

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker and thank you very much to the hon Leader of the Opposition for this question. The answer is as follows.

- (a) The above policy sets out the procedures and timeframes for the investigations of allegations of sexual harassment in the workplace. The WCG has appointed and trained Harassment Contact Advisors (HCA) within each department with whom employees can lodge their

complaints. The HCA's will advise the complainant on the possible recourse and arrange counselling where required. For senior managers, an independent investigator may be appointed to ensure an unbiased investigation without fear of intimidation. Complaints of sexual harassment will also be referred to the Directorate Employee Relations who will fully investigate and conduct a formal disciplinary hearing, where applicable.

- (b) As stated in (a) above, the HCA will arrange counselling sessions for employees who lodged complaints and require such intervention. They will follow up and maintain contact with the complainant during (and after) the investigation and possible disciplinary hearing. Where required, procedures can be put in place as a precautionary measure to protect and/or support staff members until the completion of the investigation and/or disciplinary hearing.

I am not sure if the hon member has got or seen the policy. It is available on our website, but I have brought a hard copy as well for him if he would like it. Also to note, that this question, this is the third time the same question has come up so it has been provided twice before, but, of course, the seat was held in the last term by a different hon member of the ANC. But, of course, this is the start of a new term and absolutely, I thank the hon member for the question.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Premier. I recognise the hon

Sayed.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you very much, hon Speaker and allow me to also thank the hon Premier for taking us through the policy. And yes, hon Premier, I do have a copy of the policy. [Laughter.]

As we celebrate Women's Month, hon Speaker, every political party has been celebrating the role of women in South Africa's history and the role which women play today. From the extraordinary sacrifices made in helping lead our nation to freedom, to the fights for equality that still go on, this month is rightly lauded by all, hon Speaker. Even our Government of National Unity must be a government of non-sexism: equal rights, equal opportunity and equal application of the law are fundamental. However, hon Speaker, championing equality and equal rights requires leadership ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ...and leadership comes from the top. The scourge of femicide, Gender-Based Violence and sexual harassment is worsening across society. So, the systemic sexual harassment and undermining of capable female employees allegedly by some senior male officials within this Western Cape Provincial Government must be addressed and must be taken head on by the leadership.

The high-profile case of our provincial traffic chief, Mr Farrel Payne, who

faces serious charges of sexual assault has exposed a troubling reality. Despite these charges, Mr Payne has remained protected by this Provincial Government. He was never suspended. His alleged victim endures secondary victimisation and has been denied access to the findings of an internal investigation that purportedly cleared Mr Payne of any wrongdoing. ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: *Joh!*

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Payne's matter is still before the Cape Town Regional Court with proceedings continuing on the 16<sup>th</sup> of next month, hon Speaker. ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: *Joh!*

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: This situation ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Honourable, honourable ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ...hon Speaker ...[Interjection.]

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

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ...demands immediate and transparent answers ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Sayed, I just want to draw your attention to not reflect on a decision that is before a court for a decision. So, I am just cautioning you with regards to the remainder of your contribution.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you, hon Speaker. The matter is of public knowledge. Let us mark Women's Month with action, not words. Hon Premier, we want to know why has this particular victim been denied access to the investigation's findings and why is Mr Payne not suspended pending the outcome of the trial? Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much and again, I am going to reiterate my submission to this House that there is currently a case in front of a court that is pending an outcome. Can I please, hon Premier and the remainder of the hon speakers in this debate, snap debate, please be mindful of that in the interests of the Institution. I now recognise the hon Van Minnen. [Interjections.]

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker and I want to thank the hon Premier for his response on what is a critically important matter, particularly as we are standing here during Women's Month.

The fact that our country faces a crisis of Gender-Based Violence is common

knowledge and it will take generations to change the fundamental underlying attitudes that drive this pandemic, but we need to put measures and procedures in place now to protect victims of sexual misconduct. However, we also need to balance the need for due process with lived experiences of victims. When we ask victims to come forward, we know that we are asking them to relive their trauma, but we do so to ensure that what is happening to them is stopped from happening to anybody else.

With this in mind, I would like to ask the hon Premier to explain to the House the process of how the Western Cape Government handles reports of sexual misconduct and how such a report is initiated so that women, and they are generally women, do not get sidelined when they report. But, of course, we also have to remember that the rule of law needs to take place and needs to run properly so that we ensure that both sides are essentially dealt with so that we know that whatever result comes out of it, it is fair and just and actually accords with the legislation of the country. Thank you.  
[Interjections.]

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

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, sexual misconduct is despicable and unacceptable in society. This is an age-old sickness at all levels of society. But, hon Speaker, my question to the hon Premier is: are there checks and balances because sometimes you get

frivolous claims made against a man or a woman, and what are the consequences if there are frivolous complaints against either a man or a woman? That is the first question.

The second question is: still, victims do not have the courage to go and report a matter because they think that they are going to be victimised going forward for promotion and all of that. They rather resign from work and go home because they do not. All the trauma, all the things they went through, they do not want to go through that and their way to promotion is almost zero. If the hon Premier can just elaborate on that. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon Sayed, your second opportunity.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you very much, hon Speaker and let me also thank the previous two hon members who spoke for raising really pertinent matters, especially around the victimisation of victims.

This Government should represent everyone. Not just the boys' club. Unfortunately, we see a similar pattern to the one that I mentioned in the first part with a case involving the Head of Department for Local Government in this Province, where hon Premier Winde and hon MEC Bredell have unfortunately failed to hold him accountable for allegations of sexual harassment against a female staff member.



Despite knowing about this particular case since 2021, the hon Premier has not acted, and we have got documented letters in this regard. Nor has provided support or nor has his Department provided support to the victim who continues to face victimisation within the Department of Local Government. After the victim reported to the HOD in the Premier's Department about this incident and to the hon Premier himself, her performance scores dropped without any justification.

Despite disputing the assessment, she has not received any feedback from the Provincial Moderating Committee, hon Speaker. The hon Premier must make the Provincial Moderating Committee's feedback available to the victim at least. When will these be released?

When hon Premier Winde and hon MEC Bredell failed to act, this particular victim sought the help from former Social Development MEC, hon Sharna Fernandez, in January 2023, two years after the Premier's Office was informed about the allegations. Following this, the victim again faced a precautionary suspension in March 2023. At a meeting which announced her suspension, other employees also voiced concerns about the harassment and their dissatisfaction with the HOD's conduct, but hon MEC Bredell has yet to act.

The hon Premier must act immediately. We will advocate for all victims of sexual harassment within this Provincial Government, following due process of course. Again, I say, let us mark Women's Month with action, not just

words and reiterating policies. Thank you. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Sayed. Hon Premier, I recognise you. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Thank you. Thank you very much. First of all ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

The PREMIER: First of all, to the hon Sayed and obviously, I do recognise the caution that has been made by the hon Speaker. The case that the hon member is speaking about is actually, and I am not speaking to the court case, I am speaking to a secondary case which was in the Labour Court. So that has already got a finding, and it will give you the full process of the initial investigation that was done by the HOD where it was found as not guilty.

That then led to a second process of where a charge was laid and that is the charge that is in the courts at the moment, but of course, the third charge that was laid went through the Labour Court. The Labour Court did and had made a finding, and I am sure I can read out the finding.

“1. The review application ought to have been brought in terms of Section 158(1)(g) of the Labour Relations Act and not Section

51(h) of the Employment Equity Act.

2. It is just and equitable for the Court to intervene in the incomplete CCMA proceedings where the condonation was granted.
3. The application to review the first and second rulings is dismissed.
4. There is no cost orders.”

And, of course, that is a secondary process in this bigger picture and, of course, it is now reverted back to the CCMA. So, we have a court process happening and a reversion back to the CCMA. There were internal investigations. The internal investigations had a finding and, of course, those findings are now being challenged again. That has to be allowed to do its process, but the findings did not warrant any suspension whatsoever.

Then, further to the question from the hon Van Minnen. Thank you very much. It is spelt out quite neatly if you are internal. Obviously, if you are external, we have toll free numbers linked through DSD. We have a record of thousands of women who have been helped through psychosocial support, et cetera, but, of course, the question refers internally how the Western Cape Government employees can report harassment.

Possible two routes: for mediation or formal disciplinary processes. It takes you quite nicely through it in the policy where you see the report. It then gets reviewed. It explains the process by the HCA. It goes to facilitation, then a resolution and/or it takes you through whether it goes into a formal process. That is the informal process. And then, of course, there is a whole

process of a formal process which will then have a finding and can also then result in disciplinary action and also, criminal charges laid. Then, of course, it moves out of the Provincial Government sphere and into the courts as well.

Then, I agree absolutely on victimisation. We have got to be really seriously careful of this. I know that, you know, much of what I am talking about here is around policies, what happens within the administration. Who is in charge of those processes will be the accounting officer in each of those departments.

But I, myself, in the last term, had exactly the same experience but when it was my mandate with a Minister and allegations made. I am very happy that that process went through. I appointed independent investigators, and I fired the Minister concerned. I am concerned that it never went further, and it never ended up in the court processes. Why? Because women are scared of victimisation.

In actual fact, those lawyers said, 'we cannot wait to get you into court. We are going to rip you to pieces.' That is totally unacceptable. I really think there is a challenge to relook at our court processes on how we really do protect women in this specific environment because they do get absolutely ripped to pieces and that is totally unacceptable. I hear the beeper gone and I am pretty concerned ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, your time has expired. Please conclude.

The PREMIER: Can I have one sentence? It is a very critical issue, hon Speaker. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Honourable ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: ...because the hon Sayed asked me about another case.

The SPEAKER: Alright. One sentence, hon Premier ...[Interjection.]

The PREMIER: Okay, another case ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: ...but I cannot give you additional time.

The PREMIER: ...he made the accusations that I did nothing about it. I appointed again an outside advocate, the same Adv Williams, to investigate that case. That case was investigated not only internally, but also externally.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Premier. Hon members, that concludes Interpellation 2 as printed on the Order Paper. We will now move on to Questions for Oral Reply in terms of Rule 202.

But before we deal with the first Question, I wish to remind the hon members that once the hon Premier or the hon Minister has started the reply to the question, as printed on the Question Paper, hon members must use the Chat

facility for the Sitting of the House to indicate that they want to ask a follow-up question for those that are online. For those hon members that are in the chamber, to give an indication by show of hand, if you want to ask a follow-up question. As is custom, the first opportunity for a follow-up question, the questioner will be provided with that first opportunity and then, three subsequent follow-ups per question as printed on the Question Paper.

Hon members, I know that this is the first session that we deal with Oral Questions, so if there is any hon member that is still not or that still needs further clarification, to please give me an indication so that you have an opportunity to fully participate in the Parliamentary Sitting. So, with that being said, the first question in the name of the hon Sayed and the hon Premier will respond to the first question. I recognise you, hon Premier.

## **QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY**

### *Challenges and incidents related to racism*

#### **1. Mr M K Sayed to ask Mr A R Winde, Premier:**

In respect of the ongoing challenges and incidents related to racism in the province:

- (a) What are the specific (i) programmes and (ii) interventions that his Government is implementing to address and combat racism in the

province; and

- (b) What measures are being taken to ensure that these programmes and interventions are effectively implemented and monitored?

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker and thank again, to the hon Leader of the Opposition for the question. I am going to try to paraphrase some of it because it is 24 pages of an answer because it is quite a complex and a detailed question that was asked of me. Hon Speaker, the answer is as follows.

The response to this question has been compiled by including initiatives from various departments within the Western Cape Government.

The Western Cape Government promotes the founding provisions of the South African Constitution and its guiding values of human dignity, the achievement of equality, the promotion of human rights and freedoms, and the non-racialism and non-sexism. It is important to ensure that the way we deliver our mandate in the province is based on the values of diversity, inclusion, and fairness. We take a zero-tolerance approach to racism, to discrimination in any form, including on the basis of race, gender, sex, pregnancy, marital status, ethnic or social origin, colour, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, conscience, belief, culture, language, and birth.

Our commitment to this is reflected in Chapter 10 of the Western Cape Constitution, which states that the Western Cape Government must adopt and

implement policies to actively promote and maintain the welfare of the people of the Western Cape, including policies aimed at achieving the following:

- the promotion of non-racialism in the Western Cape;
- the protection or advancement of persons, or categories of persons, disadvantaged by unfair discrimination; and
- the promotion of respect for the rights of cultural, religious and linguistic communities in the Western Cape.

Structural barriers, created by the past practices in the country, continue to divide communities across race and class. This, combined with competition for scarce resources, fuels inequality, a lack of inclusivity, and racism. To address this requires a holistic approach whereby we create meaningful and sustainable pathways for economic development, social development and self-empowerment. It is only when individuals are given genuine opportunities to join the workforce and invest in the upward mobility of themselves and their families that we can make meaningful inroads in our quest to achieve greater equality and inclusion.

The Western Cape Government also believes in cultivating and sustaining a culture of diversity and equity. By promoting these values among staff, officials are equipped to deliver services and interact with the public in a way that respects racial diversity and combats racism and discrimination. And although this question is for this Government, I have said in this House



that even the leaders in this Parliament, we all have a role to play. You know, we might say it is 30 years of freedom in our country, but it is still evident across our societies, and we all have to play a leadership role in making sure that we build that equality in our society.

Hon Speaker, informed by these commitments and context, the following are the specific programmes and interventions that the Western Cape Government is implementing to address and combat racism, and then I will take you through each of the departments. So, I will start with the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport.

They implement several programmes aimed at combating racism and promoting social cohesion. Here are some key initiatives: anti-racism campaigns and workshops. These initiatives focus on raising awareness about racism and promoting diversity and inclusion through educational workshops, seminars, and public campaigns. There is quite a lot more in that specific point, but as I said, I will paraphrase.

Then there are cultural events and festivals. The Department either hosts, assists or funds various cultural events and by celebrating diverse cultures and traditions, these events and festivals aim to foster mutual respect and understanding among different communities.

Museums across the Western Cape implement various educational programmes and exhibitions that focus on social inclusion, often addressing

historical and contemporary issues of racism and discrimination. Of course, this section goes on and I will obviously give this document to the hon Leader of the Opposition.

There are community conversations that take place within this Department that deal with racism, Gender-Based Violence, xenophobia, et cetera.

Then there are internally: the Department has established an Employment Equity Forum, Training Committee, a Labour caucus meeting and part of the brief of these committees is to oversee any unfair discrimination that is present amongst any of the staff or staff practices within the Department.

Then, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism has the following: General Consumer Rights Awareness Project. This project is aimed at providing citizens and businesses with information on the provisions within the Consumer Protection Act which specifically prohibits unlawful discrimination of citizens during any transactional process.

The Employment Equity Committee: the purpose of this Employment Equity Forum is to consult with employees, as discussed, and make sure that this is embedded in the Department's 5-year Employment Equity Plan.

The Western Cape Education Department promotes non-racialism in topics dealt with in the curriculum from Grades 4 to 12. Examples of such topics are presented below.

Grade 4: personal experience of working in a group, at school and home; as member of a class, in a school or class or small group or project or activity. And, of course, that has a fair amount of topic that I can go on with.

Grade 5: Concepts: discrimination, stereotype and bias. Violation of children's rights: discrimination, stereotype and bias. And, of course, that has further details on it.

Then there is a programme in Grade 6. Problem solving skills in conflict situations: keeping safe and how to protect self and others; mediation skills; peacekeeping skills. So, that also goes on. If I look further on, stereotyping, sexism, sexual abuse, definitions and concepts.

In Grade 7: Appreciation and acceptance of the self and others. How peer pressure may influence an individual.

In Grade 8: Factors that influence self-concept formation and self-motivation. And so, that also goes on in depth of the Grade 8 programme.

In Grade 9: Issues relating to citizens' rights and responsibilities. Respect for others' rights; people living with different disabilities; reasons that violence occurs in families and communities and among friends and peers. And so that goes on.

In Grade 10: Acknowledge and respect the uniqueness of self and others and respect differences (race, gender and ability). And, of course, that programme has got more detail to it. I will not go into it.

In Grade 11, it focuses more on principles, processes and procedures for democratic participation: public participation and petition processes, governance, the law-making process, rule of law, transparency, representation and accountability.

In Grade 12, the programmes continue. Responsible citizenship: evaluating own position when dealing with discrimination and human rights violations. Taking into account the Bill of Rights: participation in discussions, projects, campaigns and events, and so it goes on. You have even got the Labour Relations Act, Employment Equity Act and Basic Conditions of Employment Act, and so it goes on. Promotion of national symbols and public holidays. So that also goes on. I will not go into it.

Then, there is the Department of Agriculture. The Department of Agriculture has a range of programmes and interventions. Under its sub-programme External Development Initiatives, it implements youth programmes aimed at transformation of the sector and specifically to empower youth from previously disadvantaged groups. And so, this also goes on and it is quite a long component in that space.

Agricultural Partnership for Youth Development (APFYD): based on the high

rate of unemployment amongst our youth, there is a second programme. Graduate internship: 120 unemployed graduates are placed externally with host employers for 2 years. The aim is to create an enabling environment to support the establishment of youth owned and managed businesses. Here they have to deal with what are the complexities in that space.

Bursaries: also giving them the wherewithal and the complexities that affect young people moving into this market space. And so it goes on. There are two more.

I will move on then to the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning. Here again, planning initiatives: the RSEP programme (Regional Socio-Economic Programme) which specifically is a Spatial Development Programme that has pulled in partnerships to make sure that we join communities. And we have a good track record across this province of these spatial interventions.

The support programme for small and micro waste entrepreneurs, and so this also goes on in quite an in-depth policy position and how we actually go to break down those specific barriers that are still persistent across society today.

They are also busy with the next phase of Organisational Culture within their own organisation. There is the Employee Health and Wellness Programme that also deals with specific racism and other areas that they would focus on

within the Human Rights space, Gender Mainstreaming Framework, Human Rights including, as I have just said, Gender Mainstreaming.

Then there is the Department of Health and Wellness and here, there is a Dedicated Unit and Transformation Journey Towards an Inclusive Culture. There is a whole lot of information in that space. This also then includes governance and the culture within the organisation.

The Internal Barrett and Staff Surveys that monitors and measures culture, and the fiscal space how in the fiscal year, each year the report comes back and you deal with that report within your management systems, and how it feeds back in for the next year within your department.

It also links lastly through to the Employee Health and Wellness Programme, which is available to all employees across the Health Department and across this province with free toll numbers for calling in. It offers free counselling services, mental health support, and for employees managing stress and other difficulties.

Then, there is the Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety. Here again, a range of activities both external and internal. If I look at the external, I will go to the second paragraph. Here, we talk about the Chrysalis Academy and the projects and programmes within the Chrysalis Academy. I can say, hon Speaker, I have even been in some of those discussions with those young men and women in those programmes myself. It is really

interesting when you have a discussion about racism and Gender-Based Violence amongst those young people, and seeing the facilitators and how they really do help us with this big problem that we face in society. So, there are many more in this Department, but I will just move on in the interest of time.

Then there is the Department of Local Government, and this has a whole range of Gender Mainstreaming Programmes, Disciplinary Code and Procedures for employees on how to deal with these kinds of issues that are raised within their Youth Programmes.

The Department of Social Development, and here there are even more than the other departments because, of course, the services that they provide externally as well as what they do internally in the Government. And I will leave some of these pages for the hon member to read himself.

Then, of course, there is the Department of Infrastructure. Here, it is a part within their system of recruitment, or as soon as they have had recruitment, to complete training programmes to promote equality and diversity among the departmental participants, Diversity Training, Ethics in the Workplace. And so, it takes it through all of their programmes and across the Department. We can go on. *Sjoe*, it even goes down to how Human Settlements use these programmes in making sure that there is diversity and diversity training, informal settlement upgrade systems.

The Department of the Premier has the following interventions. Section 6 of the Employment Equity Act prohibits unfair discrimination against an employee on arbitrary grounds, including race, sex, disability, age and many others. And so, it sets out in every one of these plans. I will leave this also for the hon member to go through.

The Provincial Treasury also has a range of measures and plans in place to make sure that this is dealt with. It also links through to the Culture Journey, through the Modernisation Programmes within the Department. These measures in (b) are being taken to ensure that the programmes and interventions are effectively implemented and monitored. These programmes are aligned to annual performance targets and are monitored through Quarterly Performance Reporting and Annual Reporting processes. The selected programmes are also evaluated using a variety of tools, such as post evaluation surveys.

So, with that again, I want to say to the hon member that obviously, I have just paraphrased many of these things. The answer to his question. I am sure he will also have some follow-ups. Thank you very much.

*[The Deputy Speaker takes the Chair.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I recognise hon Sayed. Do you have any follow-up question?



The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Yes, of course. Thank you very much to the hon Premier for the lengthy response and I look forward to also studying the response. But it was very theoretical, and we thank him for that.

I want to get to the practicalities, hon Deputy Speaker. Following the two incidents, because the practical is based on the theory. Following the two incidents of alleged racism in schools such as Pinelands High School where African learners were cast in a row of slaves, while their Coloured classmates pretended to auction them off; as well as the Tableview High School incident where it is alleged that an educator used the K-word to refer to learners in a Grade 12 lesson.

Now, the hon Premier's Government said that it was investigating the incidents. This is obviously a while back. Now, what are the updates? Based on that good framework that you were presented with, what are the updates of these investigations? Did they lead to any suspension of the substitute teacher accused of racism, and the learners? What remedial action was taken against the implicated individuals because we want to see action. It is good to have theory, but there must be action. Thank you.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. I want to just read the question that I was asked.

- (a) What are the specific (i) programmes and (ii) interventions that his

Government is implementing to address and combat racism in the province; ...[Interjections.]

- (b) What measures are being taken to ensure that these programmes and interventions are effectively implemented and monitored?  
[Interjections.]

Now, I welcome the follow-up question from the hon member of the Opposition. [Interjections.] But if he wants a specific update on a specific case, then he must ask that specific question ...[Interjections.] and we will give him the exact answer. I can tell him that there have been investigations in both of those, but I do not have the investigation report here. It would be remiss of me to stand here and answer that question just by trying to suck the answer out of my thumb. [Interjections.]

I want to, once again, say to the hon member that we must remember that in both of these cases, we condemn absolutely, racism. Number two, we must also understand that these are learners. These are children in our system, and we have responsibilities to make sure that there is action, but there is also correct information that is put out. So, I really would ask him to put that proper question to me and we will get in every single detail of the report on both of those issues.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see one and two in that particular order. I see

you for a follow-up, hon member Sayed.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker and let me firstly indicate the hon Premier did not respond to the question. That is very, very disappointing because it illustrates that the Head of Government in this Province is not necessarily on top of issues when it comes to racism. Let me say, it is not only children who are involved. There is an educator, and adult educator. A Grade 12 educator that is involved in the Tableview High School incident.

But just let me maybe take us back to the original response. Could the hon Premier then, probably he has examples, could the hon Premier then provide us with specific examples of these Government programmes that he just mentioned, wherein which these Government programmes and these interventions have led to measurable improvements in the communities affected by racism. Thank you.

The PREMIER: So, again I should say that he is asking for detail that should be put into a question, but I have got to draw on what I have got here and what I have got to think about what he is going to ask me. So, he wants some practical examples of how issues are changing in our space and of course, we know that our history brings us from a divided apartheid time in our history and for the last 30 years, we have been building this new South Africa, building this new society. We have got to make sure that these issues are dealt with.

I said in the beginning that we are still, if you listened to the debate earlier speaking about spatial development and how even those lines 30 years later in country, we are still battling to break those lines of apartheid spatial planning. So, what are those things and in that answer, I spoke in the beginning of how it is our responsibility to understand that these are the conflict spaces that lead to racist activities, racist comments and how people engage with each other.

So, I have got two examples, I think, that I will draw on. The one comes out of a press release by the Minister of Finance just a bit earlier this week. It talks about the consequences of procurement and how we use procurement to fix racial problems in the past. It is very interesting, and I will read from this presentation or this press release. It says:

“The Western Cape has already proven that set asides and mandatory subcontracting as envisaged by this Act...”

We are talking about Acts, the Public Procurement Act, that this Act is redundant.

“In the 2023/2024 financial year, the Western Cape Government exceeded National Treasury’s targets of 30% in line with RDP goals. Having achieved in this Government 59,79%...”

So, just short of 60%.

“...of procurement based towards Black-owned companies. [Applause.] This does not include the possibility of Black-owned beneficiaries on the CSD platform who have not submitted their documentation in order to claim for their BEE representation.”

Because we have moved beyond that. It is not about targeting 30%. You can see we are just about at 60% now. This is why it is critical that the Act be reviewed in consultation with provinces and municipalities, in order to address not only the constitutionality of the Legislation, but also the concerns around the impact on service delivery.

Now, here is a practical example of how policies in a government go to break down those barriers. Let me tell you about one other and we have heard a couple of people talk about Women’s Month. You know, I do not, my responsibility is to sign the contract of Heads of Departments of this Government. That is my job.

Once the interview process is completed, the Minister and the department conduct the processes. They then bring the documentation to me. I do not just sign off on it. I actually sit in on the interviews of all of our HODs. I do not sit in the deliberation because that is not my job. I am not to do that. They deliberate, but at least then, I can raise a question when that appointment gets made.

You know, we have appointed four HODs in the last year. Two in the last end of the last term, and two already in this term in the month of Women's Month: four HODs appointed. I sat in their interviews, so I can tell you right now that they competed head on without scoring points to say because they come from a demographic or a gender that they would be advantaged. None of that was in place. They competed head on with anybody and everybody who applied and was shortlisted, and I am super proud that our system delivered what it delivered.

It delivered Marissa Moore, the new Head of Department of the Mobility Department. It delivered Ms Gantana as the Head of Treasury. The first female Head of Treasury in this Government. It delivered in Women's Month, Jo-Anne Johnson as the Head of Economic Development and it delivered in this month, Chantal Smith, the Head of the Department of Infrastructure. [Applause.] Four women, on merit, right there, and there in this Government. So, there are some examples to the hon Leader of the Opposition. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I now recognise hon Van Minnen.

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Premier, you talked about the issue of schools, and you gave a very, very comprehensive answer of how the programmes work in schools. And, of course, the issue of youth is incredibly important. One really does not want

to see the possible clumsy handling of matters that we have seen recently in Gauteng with Pretoria Girls High.

Now, in terms of you having touched on public holidays, in terms of days such as Youth Day, Reconciliation Day, Heritage Day. How would you envision that we can use those in the Western Cape to also build an understanding of non-racialism and a respect for everyone's different diversity in terms of background, going forward? Thank you.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much. I think those are, and as I said earlier to the hon Leader of the Opposition, I think our job, every one of our jobs here as leaders of citizens and communities across this province, we have a role to play to say we need to build this better society. We need to break down these boundaries and these barriers, and we need to step in when cases happen, but we need to lead through this process to build that better.

I think that is an absolutely perfect example of using specific days, but then how do we from some of those comments say specifically from the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport, who put specific programmes in place on those days which talk to social cohesion, which talk to bringing people together, to understanding each other's culture's history, whatever those things are, in this melting pot that we are here, in the Western Cape, and what we are all responsible for as this Parliament.

I think we have got to put our minds to saying how do we take those days and

even take it to the next level of social cohesion because it is only through those practices and those processes, that we will build that society that, I think, we all wish for and that is basically framework in the Constitution of our province and of our country.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The final opportunity in this particular Question 1, hon member Sayed.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker and thanks to the hon Premier. I just wanted to know. Given the hon Premier's responses and in the context of building social cohesion, as well as the national dialogue, what is his Government's position on the calls that have been made from this House as well, for a provincial dialogue to be convened on tackling racism? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: So, it is an interesting question. Of course, we are part of the Government of National Unity and the national dialogue. So, the question is do you want to have separate dialogues on racism and a separate dialogue on whatever else that we want to have, separate to it? I think it should all be into that single dialogue and of course, this Province will play its part in the dialogue that is coming up. We will play our part and, of course, I welcome any other suggestion from the hon Leader of the Opposition. I am just concerned that he is suggesting that we should actually have, we should be, you know, creating separate dialogues bases. I think it should be a key item on the agenda of the national dialogue that takes place



in this province.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: That concludes Question 1. Question 2, I again see the hon Premier.

*Reaching Integrated Resource Plan targets*

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

- (a) How is the Western Cape Government working with municipalities and other stakeholders to reach its Integrated Resource Plan targets

The PREMIER: I do not know if we are going to have any extra time for questions to anybody else in this Cabinet, but *ja*, thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker and thank you very much to the hon Van Minnen for the question.

The Western Cape Energy Resilience Programme (WC ERP), which is guided by the Western Cape Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) that is under development, has five focus areas (Loadshedding Reduction Impact; Demand Side Management; New Energy Generation; Network Development; and Increased Investment in the Energy Sector). The programme constitutes 28 projects. Of the 28 projects, the following have an impact on the stakeholders and in particular, municipalities. Municipalities are engaged with and through multiple channels in the design and rollout of these

projects. They include, for example, the Premier's Co-ordinating Forum (PCF) which we held in Beaufort West this week and Energy was a key component there.

In actual fact, my message there was: we need to find more urgency. We might not have had loadshedding for a while, but we have got to make sure that we, and as I said there, do not take our foot off the gas. We have got to keep these projects going because we know that the Energy infrastructure in our country is number one, under stress, but number two, it is still very coal based. For this province specifically, we need to make sure that we land these projects because they are going to help us with the future carbon border taxes that are coming. We will then not be able to trade, and we will be seen as a market that is undesirable, and we do not want that.

The Western Cape Integrated Resource Plan (WC IRP) is a strategic plan that identifies the Western Cape's electricity requirements from now until 2050. It also considers the investment required to meet the projected electricity demand. Although technology agnostic, it starts to shape the preferred energy mix in the province. The Western Cape IRP defines new energy generation requirements, and the associated network developments linked to demand growth expected to be in the province. It also considers the long-term storage options available to the Western Cape. The first phase of the Western Cape IRP has been completed by the CSIR (funded and procured through the USAID's Southern Africa Energy Programme) and we are finalising agreements with the USAID's Empower programme to fund the

second phase of the IRP development.

Then, of course, I have got the spreadsheets for you. So, we can definitely supply you with each of those which gives you each of the projects and how far we are with them. Then (b), what are the critical risks?

The key risks are as follows:

- The lack of certain elements of regulatory clarity to provide investor and business confidence to invest, and to enable municipalities to procure energy from IPPs. Of course, we have seen there is an objection and a process problem. The City of Cape Town has succeeded in buying from small producers, in other words, their citizens. Of course, the George one has been disallowed and we have got to make sure that we enable that otherwise we are not going to have proper trading platforms.
- Electricity supply and distribution industry reform and market competition is also a risk.
- Municipal financial sustainability in the face of consumers buying less energy from municipalities, is also a risk.
- The lack of capacity and investment in sufficient electricity network infrastructure. The grid is a big risk for South Africa and for the

province.

- The municipal capacity to manage the changing energy landscape is also a risk, but obviously, these are risks that we understand and are busy dealing with. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I recognise the hon Van Minnen who posed the question. Do you have a follow-up?

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): I do, if I may. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. We heard today about the issues with the Census and there does appear to be an undercount. But even going on the current figures, the population in the Western Cape has grown by almost 30% in the last decade, which is enormous, and it is expected to top almost 8 million by 2030. Now, in terms of that, is the IRP flexible enough to accommodate this demand for energy security? Can one do an upscale if the numbers grow like this? Do we envision that some municipalities will have to upscale faster than others, and what are the ramifications of that? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, before the hon Premier answers, I have been very lenient. It is one follow-up question: one. I see the hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much and thank you very much for the follow-up. I think, first of all, *ja*, the Census figures are an issue. I mean,

we have objected specifically to the Drakenstein area, but I think in general, and we are seeing what is happening. We are impacted absolutely as, you know, the three big provinces. If that number is incorrect, I mean, we do not get our fair share of money, and we are already feeling the pinch quite dramatically.

I think your point on whether those numbers are taken into account, the answer is 'yes', and this is a 2050 IRP plan. But, as you see, we are also going into the second phase, and we take everything into account as it changes. In actual fact, the documents say 8 million by 2030, but we already know that it is going to probably be 8 million by 2027 because of the current growth that we are measuring in the system. So *ja*, the numbers are growing faster. That is putting more pressure, but they are being taken into account and the plan itself is a 2050 plan. So, it is looking to 10 million people.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you very much, hon Premier and I thank the hon member also for the question. I just wanted to know from the hon Premier, what specific metrics and benchmark are being used to evaluate the success of the plan in real-time. Thank you.

The PREMIER: Okay, remember the question here is the IRP which is still in formation. So, that just talks about the energy mix. At the end of the day, the measurement will be in 2030 or 2050 as to whether we have got 20%, you

know, green and wind and 15% sun or whatever comes out in the mix. That will be the eventual measurement of this specific plan.

But within the Energy Plan, the measurement is in megawatts. So, last year's measurement was 734 megawatts, which were landed last year and this year, we know that there are 2 000 megawatts in the pipeline towards the 5 700 megawatts. So, it will be measured in megawatts, and we will see by the end of this year whether that 734 becomes 1 500. Of course, megawatts do not just happen quickly. They take time and different municipalities are at different processes or at different stages of their procurement processes. But I think a number of them are at the stage now, that is the 2 000 megawatts in the pipeline, that are in the processes of landing the megawatts. But it will be measured in megawatts.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see hon Van Minnen.

Ms B M VAN MINNEN (DA): Thank you again, hon Deputy Speaker. I just want to say that this programme that has been articulated by the hon Premier, sounds very exciting and whether or not he could possibly just give us some insight into the kind of mix of green energies that one is looking at, actually harvesting and actually harnessing together going forward.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear!

The PREMIER: So obviously, you know, I do not know what the study is

going to come out with at the end, but you can already see what is landing is solar and wind. We are seeing small SSEG, I mean, breaking all records. So, in South Africa, we have got 7,5 megawatts of SSEG has now landed in the last 18 months and that is kind of like probably second to the best ever has been Vietnam, which put it 9 gigawatts in a year. But they spent or they are spending \$13-billion subsidy for 20 years to enable the private sector investment. Here, the subsidies are tiny. It is a tax rebate and a short-term tax rebate, but it is being driven by the necessity of finding power.

The big problem with it is that it actually exacerbates the Gini Coefficient. So, what happens is they are middle class households that put solar panels on or put inverters in, and it is businesses that put power in. Poor people cannot afford to do that. So, what happens is with the power system, actually poor people suffer the most and the Gini Coefficient gets worse. So, there are some very big concerns. But I think the mix at the end of the day, at the moment is wind and solar. Battery is probably the next big storage driver, but it is also in our province. I really hope to see hydro power or hydro storage also being developed. I think that is another major contributing factor to agricultural investment and energy investment at the same time. Especially, in some rural areas which are battling to get grid transmission to them.

Then, it is going to be interesting. Green hydrogen is the big name across the planet. Are we able to land it at the same time as Australia is trying to land it and, you know, Egypt is trying to land it? And everybody is trying to play

in this market. I think the biggest indicator is we have got R110-billion worth of investment out of two companies already and there will be six companies altogether in the pipeline for green hydrogen investment. That is really exciting. So, it shows that we are moving fast and it is also driven by the necessity of loadshedding that really kickstarted it. But I think that is, for me, if we can play a part there in the world economy which looks like we are going to between us, the Northern Cape and Namibia, and the Eastern Cape now is also coming on board. I think that is going to be a major game changer for us in the region. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: In the absence of any further hands, I now see the Chief Whip.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Hon Deputy Speaker, I move that the following Question be stood over as agreed to by the hon Minister responsible and the hon member.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you so much. Question 4. I now see the hon Minister Mackenzie.

*Harnessing the potential for sport and recreation*

**4. Mr M B Ngqentsu to ask Mr R D Mackenzie, Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport:**



In relation to harnessing the potential of sport and recreation in working-class townships for the purposes of addressing crime and other social issues:

- (a) (i) What is the state of the sport and recreation facilities and (ii) where are they concentrated in the province and
- (b) what are the (i) integrated approaches and (ii) partnerships that are in place to ensure that we have a sufficient number and that these facilities are not only maintained well but also contribute effectively to community development and crime prevention?

The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker and thank you to the hon member for the question. In relation to hon Benson's question that he asked me, I will wait for the hon member to return to the seat so I can respond to him.

Thank you for the question, hon member, in relation to the question the hon member asked us, to harnessing the potential for sport and recreation. If I can just indicate on the response, hon member, it is common knowledge that the state of sport and recreation facilities across various parts in our province is a concern. While certain areas benefit from well maintained and modern facilities, many working class townships and rural areas face challenges such as vandalism, accessibility, and poorly maintained facilities. This can hinder the effective use of sport and recreation as tools for community development and crime prevention, as sport and recreation infrastructure is a key

determinant in the success of sports-based social interventions.

(a)(ii) The concentration of the facilities: sport and recreation facilities are situated in all municipalities across the Western Cape, with some concentrated in more developed urban areas and some in rural areas.

Point (b)(i) The integrated approaches in terms of Schedule 5B of the Constitution of South Africa, the provision of maintenance of local sport facilities falls within the ambit of local municipalities. However, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport has been playing a crucial role in supporting municipalities in the Western Cape through an integrated approach that includes the following.

The Department works closely with mostly Category B and C municipalities to identify priority areas for sport and recreation infrastructure development and maintenance, particularly in underserviced communities. DCAS provides transfer funding as a contribution to the establishment and/or refurbishment of municipal sport infrastructure.

The Department's officials provide training and capacity-building initiatives to municipal officials and community sport leaders on the management and operation of sport and recreation facilities.

The Department facilitates and participates in community engagements (public participation) to ensure that facilities provided meet their needs and

that there is local ownership, which is critical for sustainability.

The Department monitors progress on the establishment and/or refurbishment of municipal sport infrastructure it is involved in by conducting regular site visits and compile reports on project progress, providing oversight for both funding streams to ensure compliance and effective implementation.

However, we are now pursuing a change in the approach to the development of facilities. The Municipal Infrastructure Grant is currently a significant funding mechanism initiated by the South African Local Government to support municipalities in improving service delivery and address basic sport and recreation infrastructure needs.

To fully realise the goals of the National Sport and Recreation Plan and meet the evolving needs of municipalities, a more flexible and collaborative approach is required. We believe that by considering a transfer of the ring-fences allocation to provinces and allowing municipalities greater access to advanced infrastructure funding, the Government can better support the development of sport and recreation facilities that are critical to the health, wellbeing and social development of South African communities.

(b)(ii) Partnerships. To enhance the impact of sport and recreation facilities on community development and crime prevention, DCAS has established strategic partnerships, including with NGO and civil society collaborations, with municipalities, with Provincial and National Governments, partnership

with the Western Cape Department of Education for shared sport and recreation facilities.

In conclusion, while the responsibility for local sport facilities rests with municipalities as per Schedule 5B of the Constitution, DCAS remains committed to playing an active role in supporting the development, maintenance and effective use of these facilities to enforce community development and combat crime. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I recognise hon Benson Ngqentsu. Do you have a follow-up?

Ms M B NGQENTSU (ANC): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker and thanks, hon MEC for the response, but I would like to describe your response. Actually, your response is constitutive of a description of the problem. That is the first thing.

The second thing, that you outlined plans and even such plans are vague. The question is posed on the basis that there continues to be, because you describe the problem, there continues to be areas, but not working-class areas, with sports grounds which are not maintained, nor functioning ablution facilities. Hermanus or Zwelihle playgrounds are one such an example. We hear your broad plans, but specifically beyond the areas of the reach of the working-class community. What are the plans to ensure that the youth of Zwelihle, Hermanus have got a functioning sport ground with functioning

toilet facilities.

Also, you go to Scottsville, right? ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member, I have been very lenient. It is one follow-up question.

Ms M B NGQENTSU (ANC): Yes, okay. The issue is around the state, and we ensure that those existing, are maintained and also, facilities are functioning. Thanks very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, just before the hon Minister responds, it is one follow-up question, but I will allow for you to set a narrative as briefly as possible. I see now the hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Thank you very much. The answer was in the first question, so I am going to perhaps more simplify it. There is, currently, as the hon member would know, there are transfers to municipalities through the Local Government Grant, but we believe it needs to be relooked at so that facilities such as what you are talking about, need to be better coordinated and better assisted by us, as the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport. So, I agree with you. There are facilities that are not in optimal states, but we need to relook at the funding model where it is currently sitting at the National Department, it must be transferred to the Provincial Government so that we can have a better input

into how it is maintained.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I now see the hon Walters.

Mr T C R WALTERS (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. As a follow-up to this question. I think it is an important question. You responded in terms of partnerships being created, the funding models there. I happen to believe that part of ensuring continuous maintenance for facilities is to maximise participation, youth. In the Committee, you presented to us specifically an objective of yours to reintroduce school sport, to have mass participation which I think aligns with the follow-up question there as well. But I would like to recast the question slightly.

Given the challenges that we have with some sporting facilities, what is the Department doing to improve the situation specifically in relation to reintroducing school sport and participation? Thanks.

The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Thank you very much, for that question. What is our Department doing? We have a partnership model that we are doing with the Department of Education, Basic Education in the Western Cape. We have shared facilities that we are using. There is a lovely facility that the Standing Committee wishes to visit in Lavender Hill. There is also one in Lentegeur. It happened to be Mitchells Plain. Some lovely facilities that you can visit.

And you know, the future model, I certainly believe, we should look at and how we should fund it from our current infrastructure grants that we get from the National Department. So, the funding model, hon members, I think that certainly will help and assist more of what we are doing in Mitchells Plain, Lenteguur, that beautiful, shared facility with the Department of Education and the one in Lavender Hill. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Bryant.

Mr D W BRYANT (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Through you, to the hon Minister. The hon Minister recently attended a street tennis tournament in Mitchells Plain. I know he is passionate about Mitchells Plain and I was quite interested to see what was taking place, a sort of integration of sport and public open spaces. Can he tell us a little bit more about that and how he envisages forming that linkage between public spaces and public sport?

The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Thank you very much. That certainly was. I must be honest I did not win that tennis match. [Laughter.] I lost the game that day. I think the hon Deputy Speaker won his match. He is a veteran of the streets there in his tennis games. But I do believe on the question that you asked, using of public spaces. I am a big believer in that and that has certainly, on that particular day, built around the social cohesion for the community particularly in that area. I believe there is a future plan as to how we can broadcast that more.

We have incredible public spaces in the Western Cape, including yesterday, we presented our plan to the Standing Committee on our libraries. How we can use our libraries whether it is for chess or for example, for pool or any other indoor sport that one can use. We have incredible opportunities in our libraries and how we can use the 376 libraries to expand our sporting codes.

But on public spaces like our streets, we have seen that before. We have seen when we do open streets, how safe they become for our communities. So, we should certainly use that more to promote not only tennis, as you saw in the street, but any other sport in more of our communities to enable our youth and our elders.

For example, I was in Beaufort West the other day, and somebody came to ask with a proposal a few nights ago, about how do we get the elders and the seniors more involved in sport in public spaces. So, I do think when our communities bring solutions, we need to partner with them. So, that is certainly something that we all will do, and I invite all hon members to the indigenous games. I know all of us are very much younger, but it is certainly incredible to participate in those sports in our communities, also in the streets.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The final opportunity, hon member Ngqentsu.

Ms M B NGQENTSU (ANC): Broad plans are noted, hon MEC. Definitely, this coming weekend, local teams in Zwelihle, Hermanus, will be playing and



there are no functioning ablution facilities. What intervention, alright, do you intend to make? And I have not done my mind that potentially, they are watching or listening to this debate. It is important as parliamentarians here, to ensure that we instil confidence in our people when we present and account in this Parliament. Thanks.

The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Excellent question and I thank you for that question. I know the hon members in this House have lost quite a few seats. I know they do have councillors in Hermanus, and they are welcome to ask their councillors to write to the Mayor and ask them those questions because that is obviously a local government issue. But from our side as the Western Cape DCAS, we will certainly provide any assistance they need to ensure that those sports, the sports weekend comes out successfully and he is welcome to send us the details, and we will instil confidence in the community by providing whatever support they need. But infrastructure, municipal infrastructure, it is in the name: municipal infrastructure. Thanks.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see the Chief Whip.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Hon Deputy Speaker again, I request as I am consulted by the hon member, that this question stands over.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: And by the same token, for Question 6 as well.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Exactly, hon Deputy Speaker. That Question 6 presented by hon Christians, stands over as agreed to with the hon member. And 7.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: And 7? Duly noted. I now see the Minister of Agriculture, Dr Meyer.

*Outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease*

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

Given that parts of the Eastern Cape, including the Kouga and Kou-Kamma Municipalities located on the border with the Western Cape, have been designated as disaster management areas due to the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease:

- (a) What are the details of his Department's plans to ensure that the province remains free of foot-and-mouth disease and
- (b) what potential challenges could arise if farmers do not adhere to the measures that have been put in place?

†Die MINISTER VAN LANDBOU EN LANDELIKE ONTWIKKELING: Agb Adjunkspeaker, baie dankie aan my Voorsitter van die Staande Komitee oor

Landbou, agb Noko Masipa, vir die vraag wat hy hier op die vraelys gestel het.

Agb Adjunkspeaker en aan ons agb lid van die Voorsitter van die Staande Komitee. Beamptes van Veeartsenydienste in die Wes-Kaapse Departement van Landbou beman die padblokkades en inspekteer dan die voertuie wat diere vervoer om toe te sien dat die diere gesond is en in die provinsie, die voertuie wat binnekom, om die beamptes dan in kennis te stel, sal hulle ook opleiding ontvang. Ek is baie bly dat ons ook kyk na die korrekte dokumentasie.

[The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT: Hon Deputy Speaker, thank you to my Chairman of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, hon Noko Masipa, for the question that he put on the Question Paper here.

Hon Deputy Speaker, and to our hon member and Chairman of the Standing Committee. Officials of Veterinary Services in the Western Cape Department of Agriculture are checking road blocks and inspect vehicles transporting animals to see that the animals are healthy, and the vehicles entering the province; to notify the officials they will also receive training. I am very pleased that we also look at the correct documentation.]

When a truck with animals comes into the Western Cape from an area that has been declared as a foot-and-mouth disease area, there are two important documents. A declaration of origin (where does this truck come from) and a

declaration of destination. I have personally inspected it, and I went to the weighbridge, and I want to thank my colleague, the hon Minister of Mobility, hon Isaac Sileku, who accompanied me on these journeys. When you go to a weighbridge, you inspect the technical detail that is punched into the computer. You only see the declaration of ...[Interjections.] Hon member, this is a learning experience for you. ...[Laughter.] And so ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please, speak to the Chair. [Laughter.] Please, speak through the Chair, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: We are learners and scholars in this House and therefore, we will be lifelong learners. I learn as my friend over there is learning. The more we learn, the sharper we get, the more we get seats, not lose seats, ...[Laughter.] as the hon member has indicated. [Interjections.] If you listen, you can make an impact on the voters. You get more seats. More seats get more representivity. More representivity means more funding allocated to your caucus. The more funding you have, the more you can impact on the voter-base, the more you can take over this Government. This Government can be taken over. We are happy, ...[Interjections.] but not without a fight. [Interjections.] I think the hon Premier is right. We want a serious Opposition, and a serious Opposition is one that is willing and able to learn.

But let me get back to the question. I think hon member Noko, the Declaration of Origin is important because when you declare a disease

management area, a DMA as we call it, you know where the foot-and-mouth disease area is. So that is why we check in the documentation and thank you to my colleague, the hon Minister of Mobility, because he assists me to look at the Declaration of Origin.

But I am interested in the declaration of the documentation of destination. Why, because I want to see where the truck is going to, to which abattoir because I want my steak that is at the abattoir to do further checks in case there was a mishap. I am afraid, at the weighbridges I have seen a weakness. This is something that we need to address, but some of the truck drivers refuse to give us that documentation. I am happy that in consultation with the hon Minister of Mobility, he is a new Minister, but a no-nonsense Minister. He will put his foot down and I am happy to cooperate with him in this particular case.

Hon Deputy Speaker, when we see trucks coming that they suspect are from a specific area, there are the necessary measurements that are put in place, but I do not want a truck to enter. That is why, hon member, I wrote a letter to the MEC in the Eastern Cape. As you know, foot-and-mouth disease broke out in Humansdorp, Kouga, in the Eastern Cape. My job is to protect the livestock industry in this province. In South Africa, it is a R70-billion industry and I must make sure that our livestock industry is protected, particularly the dairy industry on the border of the Eastern Cape. You can imagine George and that area, what would happen.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, if you can take your seat. I see hon Stoffel.

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

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): Hon Deputy Speaker, I think I need protection here. The hon member referred to me with his hand and officially, it is not parliamentary.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you so much.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): Can you rule on that, please?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you so much.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, I will ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: That is the number of ...[Interjection.]

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): I am a woman. [Interjections.] It is August.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, honourable ...[Interjection.]

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): No abuse.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: ...speak through the Chair. You may continue.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Guys, if I hurt the feelings of the hon member, but I want her to know that I love her as an hon member of this Legislature, 42 members: I love you.

Hon Deputy Speaker, I think it is important that we make sure that we put the necessary security mechanisms in place. I wrote a letter, as I rightly indicated, to my colleague the MEC for Agriculture in the Eastern Cape. I said in the spirit of the GNU, in spirit of cooperative governance, let us work together. I did not have the mentality of not in my background. I said let us protect the livestock industry in the Eastern Cape. Let us protect the livestock industry in the Western Cape. The spirit of cooperative governance, the GNU, is at work. I wrote to her to just enquire what mechanisms they put in place, so I wrote to her.

But animal health is also a national responsibility, so I wrote to the National Minister, John Steenhuisen, and I said please, hon Minister, this is a dangerous situation we have at hand. We export also veterinary products, so I also wrote to him and requested him for an urgent intervention as the National Minister in terms of animal health. I asked him to issue a

proclamation to declare a DMA, Disease Management Area. I am very happy that he has done so because when you declare a Disease Management Area, as the hon member will know, no animals from that particular area may leave that particular area. So, I want to thank him also for that cooperation.

Hon Deputy Speaker, every year I sit down with my Head of Department, and I ask him one question. Hon member Brinkhuis, I ask him, 'What is the one thing we are going to focus on this year?' He said to me, 'Minister, let us make biosecurity the priority.' So, that is what I have done and that is what I am concerned about. There were many provinces, the Eastern Cape, Northern Cape, Limpopo, the Free State: foot-and-mouth disease. This is a R70-billion industry. There is no way you can let these things go. So, Minister Thoko Didiza has appointed a task team. A report came out on biosecurity. I not only read the report, I studied the report. ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, are you able to conclude?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Well, the hon members are so interested! [Laughter.] I mean ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have noted hands for follow-ups, however, there will be no follow-ups, and the hon Minister will conclude.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND



TOURISM: Oh, I am disappointed with that. [Laughter.] I am disappointed, but as a scholar of parliamentary democracy, constitutional democracy, I respect the ruling by the hon Deputy Speaker, so I conclude. The Minister has indicated in a report that the institutional implementation architecture for biosecurity in South Africa, has collapsed completely.

Now, when you have that information as an MEC, you must do something about it. You cannot just sit here because animals, livestock, are travelling over the borders. This morning, I met with the hon Premier. I told him that at the next Cabinet meeting, I will table a Cabinet submission to ask for an in-principle approval that I table a law to protect our industry here in the Western Cape. I am determined to bring it to the Chairperson of the Standing Committee, but I will draft a Western Cape Provincial Veterinary Law, and I communicated it this morning to the hon Premier. That is my intention. That is my purpose. I will table it at the next Cabinet Committee meeting.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you so much, hon Minister. That is the end of Questions for Oral Reply. Outstanding replies will be printed in Hansard. The time is up, hon member. I have noted quite a few hands. However, the time has expired.

Hon members, in terms of Rule 145, there will now be an opportunity for Members' Statements. I now recognise the Democratic Alliance.

#### **STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS**

Ms W F KAIZER-PHILANDER (DA): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. The rise in attacks on social workers in our province has reached a critical point. We are now seeing nearly one attack per week, an alarming statistic that reveals how these dedicated professionals are being targeted by criminal syndicates while performing their essential duties.

Hon Deputy Speaker, these attacks are not just crimes against individuals, they are attacks on the State itself. Social workers are the backbone of our social support system, assisting vulnerable communities under challenging and often, dangerous conditions. The Democratic Alliance believes that these heinous acts should be classified as crimes against the State, warranting harsher penalties.

To address this crisis, the Western Cape Government, through the Department of Social Development and the Department of Mobility, has already taken steps to protect social workers. Government vehicles used by social workers are being unmarked and fitted with hidden tracking devices to reduce the risk of hijackings. Additionally, the City's Law Enforcement teams, including LEAP officers, are stepping in where the South African Police Services fails offering escorts to social workers entering high-risk areas.

Despite these efforts, the operational and psychological toll on social workers remains a significant challenge. The pressures they face can lead to understandable disruptions impacting service delivery to our most vulnerable

communities. It is crucial that we ensure the safety and wellbeing of those in this essential profession.

This is why the Standing Committee on Social Development led by the DA and supported across party lines, has resolved to approach the National Government. We have called on the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development to classify these attacks as crimes against the State, to protect those who are committed to this vital work and to encourage future social workers to join the field with confidence. I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you so much. I recognise the ANC.

Mr M B NGQENTSU (ANC): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon members and guests, today I rise to commend the exceptional efforts made by the South African Police Service in thwarting a serious threat to our community safety. In defence of our people in our economy, on 5 August 2024, a well-coordinated police-led operation thwarted a cash-in-transit heist in Town Two, Khayelitsha.

The ANC commends the decisive police response that led to the death of eight criminals and the arrest of five others. This commended intervention was a project of an integrated operation constitutive of SAPS, the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation, Special Task Teams and other security agents or authorities.

In the operation, the police were able to confiscate heavy weapons including AK-47, R5s, R4 Rifles and various explosive weapons. The type of weapons underscored the gravity of the threat our police and our people faced. Given what appears as the circulation of such weapons on our streets, as the ANC we call for an urgent Government intervention at all levels. Against this background is a movement headed alliance in the Western Cape caucus that calls for a concerted effort to generate regulations governing the sale and distribution of ammunition, as well as to intensify operations aimed at removing illegal firearms from our communities.

Therefore, we challenge the Provincial Government to develop a Safety Plan response capable of contributing in the removing of all illegal firearms from our communities. Despite the successful nature of the police operation, the ANC Legislature was appalled and still condemns the release of such dangerous criminals on an account of procedural technicalities. Given the impact of these mistakes on the police capacity to conduct effective investigations, we call for accountability.

The ANC-headed alliance calls on the Provincial ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude, hon member.

Mr M B NGQENTSU (ANC): ...in the Western Cape to exhaust every possible effort to ensure that the remaining criminals are brought back to court to face justice. Thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you so much. I now recognise the PA. Hon PA member either in the House or online. Two minutes per political party for a Member Statement. I now see the Democratic Alliance.

Mr N P MASIPA (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. The Clanwilliam Dam project was initiated to ensure a reliable water supply for existing agricultural operations and to provide additional resources for emerging farmers in the area. Notably, 75% of the additional water yield from this project is earmarked for the benefit of emerging farmers. The Democratic Alliance in the Western Cape remains deeply concerned that despite the feasibility studies for raising the dam by 30 metres being completed in October 2007 and an initial tender of R2-billion, the project remains unfinished. The costs have escalated to R3,9-billion with the completion date now pushed to April 2026.

Agriculture is the cornerstone of the Western Cape's economy and water projects like the Clanwilliam Dam are essential to ensuring that the agricultural sector continues to contribute significantly to the provincial economy bolstering employment and alleviating poverty. It is clear that the Western Cape Government can do much more if it is given access to the requisite resources.

National Treasury's failures to allocate a fair share of resources to the Province continues to hinder our ability to fulfil our constitutional mandate

and obligations. The timely finalisation of this vital infrastructure is crucial to sustaining the rural economy and supporting the livelihood of our farmers and farming community. I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

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

Ms A CASSIEM (EFF): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The EFF?

Ms A CASSIEM (EFF): Thank you. The EFF would like to take this opportunity to wish all women from all walks of life a happy Women's Month. The role women play in building, shaping and nurturing society is not only valuable in the existence of nature, but it also remains unparalleled. Today, you still find women in the most remote rural areas in the land, still fetching water in the river while also preparing homestead chores and making sure that there is food on the table for the family. We find women in boardrooms of large corporate and business entities engaging in leadership roles, as well as in all walks of life and professions. Gone are the days when women would only be confined in the four corners of a house and told their role is only in the kitchen and nowhere else.

However, hon Deputy Speaker, despite progression in life and many told and untold stories involving women, our lives and existences are threatened due the scourge of Gender-Based Violence and femicide at the hands of men.

This continued threat is not only happening amongst older persons, but also manifesting itself within teenagers and young children.

Just a week ago, we learnt about the murder of a 16-year-old Deveney Nel whose lifeless body was found in a school storeroom in the Overberg. The story of Deveney follows that of an 11-year-old Monneashia Prins whose lifeless body was also found buried in the mud inside a canal on Old Fourie Road, after being raped by a 55-year-old man. There are many similar incidents taking place in our country on a daily basis and they make women, and a girl-child remain in a state of fear.

In conclusion, hon Deputy Speaker, the celebration of women should also be coupled with the celebration of the emancipation from constant attacks and abuse at the hands of men. This true emancipation would only occur when all men take a positive stance and initiate against Gender-Based Violence and femicide. Until then, the plight of women and a girl-child is far from being over. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Cassiem. I now see the NCC.

Mr D G JACOBS (NCC): Thank you. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I am a bit confused with the Statements, but what I want to say is a nation can rise no higher than its women. When you strike a woman, you strike a rock and when you teach a man, you teach an individual, but when you teach a woman,

you teach a nation.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you so much, hon member Jacobs. I see the ANC.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Enkosi, Somlomo. The latest Quarterly Labour Force Survey of Quarter 2/2024 paints a grim picture of unemployment performance in the province. Official unemployment in the Western Cape has increased to 22,2% with expanded unemployment at a staggering of 27,3%. These figures starkly contradict the DA's self-congratulatory claims of the Western Cape as a province for jobs.

The Eastern Cape, Western Cape and Northern Cape were the only provinces that recorded losses in employment with decreases of 75 000, 37 000 and 9 000 respectively during the same period as per the report of the Stats SA. Year on year, the official unemployment rate increased by 0,9 of a percentage point. The official unemployment rate increased in seven provinces, with the Western Cape and Eastern Cape sharing 1,3% points each, in terms of the increase.

The expanded unemployment rate also increased by 0.7 of a percentage point in Quarter 2/2024, compared with Quarter 1/2024. The largest increases were recorded amongst other provinces which is the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal at 1,2 percentage points each. Interestingly, when this self-grandeur happens, this province is selective in manipulating data to drum up their ego



through fake news. [Interjections.]

Hon MEMBERS: No, no!

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): There is a powerhouse for job creation and that is fake news. Whilst busy patting your backs, please make time to deal with the increasing numbers of unemployment in real terms in this province. The Growth for Jobs Strategy is starting on a difficult footing if we consider the Quarter 2 Labour Force survey performance. And whilst the excuse of seasonality is used for job losses in agriculture, the recent debate we had in this House already demonstrated the true reality of uncertainty within the agri-sector and the challenges this particular sector ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): ...is facing due to climate change. And therefore, as the ANC we call on very innovative ways to deal with job creation in the province that is inclusive. Thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Nkondlo. I now see the DA.

Ms N MBOMBO (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. A year ago, our Metro was brought to a standstill by a taxi strike that left thousands of residents stranded, unable to access schools, hospitals, and workplaces. The

strike exposed how deeply our economy depends on workers living furthest from economic hubs, workers who without reliable transport, could not keep the City moving. The disruption underscored the need for a more integrated transport system, one that gives commuters real choices. We cannot allow any single model of transport to hold our City hostage.

Central to this integration, is getting our rail services back on track as rail remains the most efficient and affordable means to move large numbers of people. Yet, National Government's mismanagement has allowed this vital service to collapse ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear!

Ms N MBOMBO (DA): It is time for passenger rail to be devolved to capable local governments that understand the needs of our communities and can deliver reliable, safe and well-maintained rail services. The City of Cape Town remains committed to expanding the MyCiTi bus service as part of this integrated system with continued investment in extending routes and increasing coverage to reach more communities. Alongside these efforts, we must professionalise the minibus taxi industry and rethink our spatial planning to bring work, living and recreational spaces closer together. These measures are essential not just to avoid future disruptions, but to build a resilient striving City that works for everyone.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the lessons from last year's strike are clear. We need

integrated, diversified and locally controlled transport solutions to secure our Metro's future. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. I now see the Freedom Front Plus.

Mr G P MARAIS (FFP): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. The Freedom Front Plus remains committed to the foundation principles of the GNU and our pledge to the electorate. We will strive to put this country's interests above selfish party interests. We promise the electorate to work towards rebuilding South Africa and strive towards achieving consensus between opposing parties and its various ideologies.

Any attempts to diminish the GNU status into a mere coalition is politics of expediency. We do not view the GNU as a temporary, but rather a lasting solution if we are serious about finding lasting solutions for South Africa. It means putting South Africa's best interests first. Political gamesmanship could destroy our chances of much need economic recovery and real progress. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. I now see Al Jama-Ah.

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. *Bismillah-ir-Rahman-ir-Rahim*. We have a population of 600 000 people on the Housing waiting list, of whom the majority are in the City of Cape Town. In 2019, about 20 000 farm dwellers faced evictions from their

homes on various farms in the Drakenstein alone. According to the 2022 census, there are about 14 000 living on the streets and this figure could have been increased since then.

Recently, in the heart of winter, a family of six (a pensioner couple, their two daughters and young children) were evicted from their home in Ruyterwacht and more families from there are facing evictions. This particular family has been living there for more than 15 years. No alternative accommodation was offered to them. The eviction and sale of the Communicare properties have been ongoing. In Brooklyn and in Milnerton, social housing units have been sold and the tenants were removed. These people cannot afford higher rentals and many members from such families resort to life on the streets.

In Bishop Lavis, the Huis Alleyne, which houses elderly tenants, face similar fates. They, too, will be joining the numbers of homeless people on the streets. We understand that homelessness is a complex issue, but there should be more cooperation with other departments, such as Social Development. There are several critical reasons for homelessness, such as unemployment, poverty, domestic violence, and no access to affordable housing or alternative accommodation.

Al Jama-Ah calls on the DA-run province to show empathy towards the elderly, women and children who are left homeless under these circumstances. I thank you very much, hon Speaker.

*[The Speaker takes the Chair.]*

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

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Hon Speaker, the ACDP in the Western Cape is encouraged to see that the Standing Committee on Social Development made a resolution and is treating the matter concerning the attacks on social workers in the Western Cape, very, very seriously. This should be in the case with attacks made on all officials in Government on national, provincial and local level. It is bad enough that citizens themselves are daily having to deal with the rampant crime in the province and the country. These attacks against the officials employed by Government are attacks against the wellbeing of the residents they serve.

ACDP calls on persons who commit acts of violence against Government officials such as social workers, ambulance services, police services, to stop their attacks against the same person who are serving them, their families and their communities. Service delivery to the poor and residents at risk is delayed by these attacks.

Criminals who attack officials of Government, no matter which officials they are, should know that the full might of the law will be against them without fear or favour. These very officials themselves, must be assured that Government is not only concerned about their safety, but is also doing everything in their power to make sure that they are protected. The ACDP

supports the recent resolution by the Standing Committee on Social Development, to approach the Minister urging that attacks on social workers be classified as crimes against the State. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I now recognise GOOD.

Mr B N HERRON (GOOD): Hon Speaker, we have no Statement. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I recognise the Democratic Alliance.

Mr D J WESSELS (DA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. In the wake of the recent disasters that have struck the Western Cape, we have been reminded of the strength and the resilience of our communities. It is often said that the greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members. This rings especially true when we reflect on the residents in our province that go above and beyond to uplift those around them.

I think of community activists, like Rosemary Michaels, who runs a soup kitchen in Ward 16, George, proving a lifeline to those in need. In Pacaltsdorp, the Solid Rock group is making a difference by supporting women and children in challenging circumstances. Then, there is Cheri-Lynn Speelman from Conville who secured a bursary opportunity and is now the head facilitator at an institution, giving back to students like Fredlyne from New Dawn Park who walks approximately 6 kilometres to pursue and educate

and uplift those around her.

These are the stories that showcase the heart of our communities, yet while we celebrate these everyday heroes, we must also question the so-called Government of Local Unity that is being touted in some areas. What good is talk of unity when it fails the most important unity of all: the community itself.

Through you, hon Speaker, to the hon Premier, as our Ministers traverse the province, travelling the beautiful, tarred roads laid by hon Minister Simmers, let us pause now and then to acknowledge and celebrate the citizens who actively contribute to making the Western Cape a better place. These local heroes are the foundation on which our province is built and is the driving force behind the ideas that we bring in this House. The Western Cape works for you, but the Western Cape can only flourish because you are with us. Thanks. ...[Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon members. Hon members, in terms of Rule 145(6), I now give one or more hon members of the Executive an opportunity to respond to Members' Statements for not more than five minutes, if they so wish. They do not wish to take up that opportunity in terms of the Rules.

Hon members, that brings us to the end of Member Statements. Hon members, before we proceed to Notices of Motions, I wish to request the hon

members to familiarise themselves with the provisions of the Rule of Anticipation in terms of Rule 64 and the same Question Rule in terms of Rule 149 when submitting motions for consideration.

Essentially, the set Rules are designed to prohibit the anticipation of a matter already on the Order Paper and to prevent a matter being proposed which is the same in substance as a matter on which the House has already taken a decision. Hon members, I have requested that the Secretary ensures that the application of the set Rules form part of the Orientation Programme of our new and returning hon members at the earliest opportunity.

## **MOTIONS**

The SPEAKER: Hon members, in terms of Rule 151, all Notices of Motions by hon members are required to be delivered to the Secretary for placing on the Order Paper. These motions have been duly submitted and published on the Order Paper below the line.

## **MOTIONS WITH NOTICE**

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates discipline in schools noting the inter-related crisis of learner-on-learner violence and the escalation of gangsterism activities in schools and noting with concern the escalation of violence



erupting at schools that is multifaceted and emanates from bullying and the infiltration of gangsterism at schools.

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

Mr M B NGQENTSU (ANC): I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the high crime rate in the Western Cape, its impact on the economy, as well as the effectiveness of the Government's response to these challenges.

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

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

That the House debates the high unemployment rate and workforce inequality in the Western Cape.

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

Mr G P MARAIS (FFP): I give notice that I shall move:

That the House adopts, in principle, the drafting of a pledge or a Charter for Women's Rights in the Western Cape in consultation with the Office of the Premier and the Western Cape parliamentary committees to

champion the rights of women in the Western Cape, and that such pledge or charter be displayed at every provincial state institution that provides a public service to its citizens and its women in particular.

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

The SPEAKER: We now move on to Motions without Notice in terms of Rule 150. I would like to inform you that in terms of the Standing Rule 150 pertaining to Motions without Notice, condolence and congratulatory were submitted to the Programming Authority prior to this plenary of 20 August 2024. Hon members are also reminded that Motions without Notice pertaining to congratulatory and condolence, will not be allowed in this Sitting and that have not been processed by the Programming Authority.

I have been informed that in the Programming Authority meeting of 20 August 2024, political parties did submit the names of the hon members in the desired order of speaking and who had wished to move a Motion without Notice in this Sitting of the House. I will therefore, just for noting and for 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 D G Jacobs, hon D G Jacobs, hon W F Kaizer-Philander, hon W F Kaizer-Philander, hon D J Wessels, hon G Brinkhuis, hon A P Bans, hon N D Nkondlo, hon R Windvogel, hon B Stoffel,

and hon F Kamfer.

## **MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

Mr D G JACOBS (NCC): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the SA Olympic team in their quest for gold at the 2024 Olympic Games; notes that, carrying the hopes of a nation, the gold, silver and bronze medals are a sign that no matter your circumstances, you can overcome; notes that, from dusty streets of Worcester to the rural towns of the Western Cape, we bow to those whose sacrifices saw them putting gold, silver and bronze medals around their necks; and we celebrate your achievements.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

Mr D G JACOBS (NCC): I move without notice:

That the House notes that the Olympic team returned from Paris on Monday morning 12 August; notes that we were rudely awoken by the very sad and tragic news that one of South Africa's young and up-and-coming break dancer and an ambassador of the South African Body of Dance (SABOD), Ruben Jansen, had been shot and killed in Eerste River; notes that his electrifying performances lit stages worldwide; notes that, and as pillar of the community, he will be missed; and notes

that we dip our spear to mourn the untimely death of Ruben and send our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

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

That the House sends its deepest condolences to the friends and family of the three women who were found dead in a house in Ceres; notes that, according to reports, the women had carried coal into a home on Uitsig Street and hours later their bodies were found; notes that the police confirmed that an inquest docket was under investigation; and may the souls of these three beautiful women forever rest in peace.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

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

That the House congratulates the Department of Social Development for successfully launching the new Social Worker Integrated Management System, also known as the SWIMS app; notes that, recognising the crucial role of social workers in maintaining the dignity and well-being of our communities, the Department of Social Development identified the need for a system to streamline the Alternative Care Management Process for Children; and notes that this innovative app addresses

several key challenges faced by social workers and will help alleviate these issues by significantly enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of social work in the Western Cape.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

Mr D J WESSELS (DA): I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the Department of Infrastructure for speedily reconnecting the town of Citrusdal to the N7 after floods washed away the MR310 last month, leaving the town and community completely cut off; and further notes that, while this is an active construction site, one-way traffic with stop-and-go traffic accommodation is in place until the repairs have been fully completed.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): I move without notice:

That the House notes the recent selection of Salmaan Moerat as the Springbok captain; further notes that he is from Paarl and matriculated from Paarl Boys' High School; acknowledges that the coach and Selection Committee chose him for this prestigious position and that he is the second Springbok captain from the Paarl region – the first was Pieter de Villiers; further acknowledges that, for the Moerat family,

rugby runs in their veins and his skills from a young age were inspired by elders, including his father who was a well-known rugby player; further acknowledges his hard work not only proved him to be a gifted team player, but an exceptional team leader who has the ability to read the rugby game well; recalls that many sportspeople from previously disadvantaged communities faced many challenges to move into significant rugby positions; notes that more investments must be made in all sporting disciplines, especially in poor communities; and congratulates him on a commendable achievement.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

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

That the House notes with deep sorrow and profound sadness the untimely passing of Mr Sibongile Bakubaku; notes that Mr Bakubaku was not only a revered father figure to many in the ANC caucus, but also the beloved husband of ANC PEC Member and former member of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament, Hon Gladys Bakubaku-Vos; and extends heartfelt condolences to his cherished wife and soulmate, their children and the entire Bakubaku family during this time of immense loss.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

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

That the House notes with immense pride and extends its heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Mia le Roux on being crowned the new Miss South Africa; notes that Mia, originating from Sasolburg in the Free State, spent her early years in Oudtshoorn after her family relocated and she currently resides in Rosebank, Cape Town; notes that Mia, diagnosed with profound hearing loss at the age of one, received a cochlear implant to assist with her hearing; notes that her participation in the 66th Miss SA pageant marks a significant moment for South Africa, reflecting our nation's ongoing commitment to inclusivity, diversity and empowerment; and commends the organisers of Miss SA 2024 for their courageous and visionary decision to embrace such an inclusive milestone, which has resulted in our country's first Miss SA from the deaf community.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

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

That the House expresses profound sorrow at the tragic murder of Deveney Nel, a 16-year-old Grade 10 learner at the Overberg High School in Grabouw, who was discovered deceased on Wednesday 7 August 2024 in a storeroom on the school's premises; notes that her untimely death has ignited serious concerns regarding school safety in

the province; notes that it has come to light that Nel, who was part of the school's first-aid team during a sport event, was reported missing before her death; notes that reports indicate that Nel was brutally attacked, suffering multiple stab wounds to the neck and chest before being dragged into the storeroom; calls upon law enforcement to expedite their investigation into Deveney Nel's murder and to ensure that those responsible are swiftly brought to justice; and, in addition, extends deepest condolences to her family, classmates, friends and all who were touched by her presence.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

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

That the House extends its warmest congratulations to Team South Africa for their remarkable achievements at the 2024 Olympics in France; notes that, securing six medals and achieving 44th place in the overall medal standings, is a testament to their dedication and skill; offers special recognition to Tatjana Smith for clinching South Africa's only gold medal, as well as to all other medallists who have brought honour to our nation, particularly we celebrate the outstanding performances of athletes from the Western Cape: Mogamat Zain Davids, Ryan Oosthuizen, Justin Geduld and Dewald Human were integral to the South African rugby sevens team, which secured a bronze medal, and in addition, Jo-Ane van Dyk's impressive silver medal in the women's



javelin event exemplifies the exceptional talent emerging from our province; notes that their achievements not only highlight their personal excellence, but also bring pride to our country and province and inspire future generations of athletes; and further calls on the Provincial Government to invest additional resources for sport development at grassroots level so we can get more Olympics medallists from our province.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

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

That the House notes with immense pride and extends its heartfelt congratulations to Rochica Sunday, a remarkable 15-year-old from Lavender Hill, who has achieved a historic milestone by securing a bronze medal at the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Africa Youth Championships that was held in Botswana last month; notes that Rochica's accomplishment is particularly significant as she has become the first South African player to win a medal in the under-19 category at this prestigious tournament; notes that, since beginning her table tennis journey at the tender age of nine, Rochica has demonstrated exceptional talent and dedication, earning her a place in both the South African national table tennis junior and senior teams; and notes that her remarkable achievement not only highlights her individual prowess, but also brings great pride to her community of Lavender Hill, our province

and our nation at large.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I now put the motions duly submitted and approved by the Programming Authority to the House. Hon member, are there any objections? No objections, agreed to. The motions will appear in the Minutes of the proceedings and in Hansard, in each individual member's name as if that member had read them out aloud.

I will now afford the opportunity to the hon members to move Motions without Notice as per Standing Rule of 150(2)(d). This could also include Motions without Notice that were not approved in the Programming Authority meeting. Hon members are reminded that there are 30 minutes as per Standing Rule 150(2)(d) which will start now. I recognise the hon N Constable.

Hon, before, can you just stop the clock. Hon member, is that a point of order? The Notices without Motion have been agreed to between the Chief Whips and I am accordingly working through that as submitted by the Chief Whip of Parliament. I recognise the hon N Constable. Order, hon members. Hon Constable?

Mr N CONSTABLE (PA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House extends its heartfelt congratulations to the athletes who represented our nation with such distinction at this year's Olympics; notes that the athletes' dedication and excellence have not only highlighted their personal achievements but also elevated our country's pride on the global stage; notes that we also acknowledge the pivotal role played by Minister Gayton McKenzie in revitalizing the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture; notes that his leadership and focus have greatly enhanced the performance and outlook of our entire Government; notes that it is with immense pride and gratitude that we celebrate the remarkable contributions of our athletes ...[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.] Hon member, hon members in the House, I am not able to hear the hon member that is participating virtually. You will have an opportunity once I put the motion to the House, to raise your objections. There is no need to do so now. Hon Constable, you may continue.

Mr N CONSTABLE (PA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

That the House notes that his leadership and focus have greatly enhanced the performance and outlook of our entire Government; notes that it is with immense pride and gratitude that we celebrate the remarkable contributions of our athletes and the renewed spirit of hope and progress in our nation; and we congratulate all athletes for their

exemplary representation and success. Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

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

Hon MEMBERS: Objection! Object!

The SPEAKER: There is an objection ...[Interjection.]

Ms A CASSIEM (EFF): Object.

The SPEAKER: ...and the motion will be printed on the Order Paper. I recognise the hon Bryant. Order, hon members. We have moved on already. The motion was not agreed to and hon Bryant, you may continue.

Mr D W BRYANT (DA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That this House welcomes the new leadership of Beaufort West and that this House will work with the new leaders to bring stable governance to the Municipality, which for years has been wrought with allegations of corruption, mismanagement and poor service delivery; notes that the DA

not only won the three wards in Beaufort West and Murraysburg, but support for the party also increased substantially and this marks the first time that the Beaufort West Municipality will be governed outright by the DA. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

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

Hon MEMBERS: Object!

An HON MEMBER: No!

The SPEAKER: There is an objection, and the motion will be printed [Interjections.] Order, hon members! [Interjections.] Order! Hon members, you are taking your time in the 30 minutes as per the allotted time for motions. There is an objection, and the motion will be printed on the Order Paper. I now recognise hon Ngqentsu. [Interjections.] Order, hon members. Hon member, are you going to move a motion? [Interjections.] Hon members, in the interest of time, I am going to move on, and I will come back to you after this motion. I recognise the hon Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Thank you. Thank you, hon Speaker. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members!

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Can I be protected?

The SPEAKER: You are protected, hon member. [Interjections.] You may continue. [Interjections.]

Ms N D NKONDLO (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes and welcomes Eskom's significant achievement of maintaining over 100 consecutive days without load shedding, this milestone represents a critical moment for us to appreciate the progress made in addressing our nation's energy challenges; notes further and acknowledges that the 100 days without load shedding highlight the effectiveness of the Energy Action Plan, introduced by President Cyril Ramaphosa in July 2022, and the dedicated efforts of Eskom engineers and staff; notes further and appreciates that this milestone is also a testament to the collaborative efforts of the National Energy Crisis Committee and other stakeholders and commends the hard work and resilience of all those who have contributed to this success and extends our appreciation to Minister Ramokgopa and his team, Eskom's engineers, staff, and all involved in the energy sector for their commitment to improving our energy infrastructure. I so move.

*[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?

An HON MEMBER: Objection!

The SPEAKER: There is an objection, and the motion will be printed on the Order Paper. We now move on. Hon member, I recognise you.

Mr M B NGQENTSU (ANC): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes with deep concern the recent violent attacks on foreign shopkeepers in the Imizamo Yethu informal settlement in Hout Bay. Further notes that on Friday, 16 August 2024, three Somali men, who were shopkeepers at different spaza shops, were tragically gunned down by unknown criminals and six other individuals, who are presumed to be relatives of the victims, were injured in the shootings. The attacks, which occurred simultaneously around 7:30 PM at three locations on Molokwane Street, are believed to be linked to extortion gangs; therefore, we condemn these brutal attacks which have caused considerable fear and tension within the community of Imizamo Yethu and calls upon the Provincial Government and the SAPS to take

immediate and coordinated action to address this alarming trend of extortion-related violence in the Western Cape. I so move.

*[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. Hon members, can I just ask the Table Staff to please just stop the clock.

Hon members, there is a process when it comes to Motions without Notice as per the agreement between the Chief Whips and the Programming Authority. So, what just happened was and it gets recognised in the order of submission. So, the hon member just submitted a motion that is only later on in the submissions. So, in the interest of fairness, I am going to allow this now because it is the first Sitting, but please as the motions were submitted for approval, that you please stick to that order. I am sure the Chief Whips of the political parties are aware of what I am talking about, and I count on your support to make sure that that, in fact, does happen.

Hon members, I now move on, and I recognise the hon Lekker.

Ms P Z LEKKER (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes with a heavy heart the tragic discovery of a



partially naked woman's body in Bo-Kaap this week; notes further that the body, discovered on Strand Street near High Level Road, appears to have been the victim of a violent attack and that the details surrounding her death are deeply disturbing and indicative of a broader, troubling pattern of violence against women and highlights the urgent need for increased focus on the safety of women in our province; I also wish that those affected by this heinous act and calls on the Provincial Government to allocate increased resources for women's safety and on SAPS to speed up investigation to bring perpetrators to book. I so move.

*[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 hon Windvogel.

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

That the House warmly welcomes the official inauguration of the new Thuthuzela Care Centre at Mitchells Plain Hospital. Notes further that Thuthuzela Care Centres (TCCs) are vital 'one-stop facilities' designed with a victim-centric approach to reduce secondary victimisation and the opening of the Mitchells Plain TCC is particularly noteworthy as it provides a crucial service to the local community, which previously had

to travel to the Heideveld TCC to access similar support; acknowledges that the new centre will facilitate easier reporting of rape cases directly at community clinics or hospitals, ensuring that victims can lodge complaints with dignity and without fear; and commends the National Government for their dedication to this cause and extend our gratitude to Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development Andries Nel and National Director of Public Prosecutions Advocate Shamila Batohi's commitment to improving the quality of services for victims. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Windvogel. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections, agreed to. I recognise hon Windvogel.

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

That the House notes and welcomes the swift investigation by the South African Police Service, which led to the arrest of a 17-year-old suspect linked to the murder of Overberg High School learner Deveney Nel; further notes that Deveney disappeared two weeks ago during a school sports day, and her body, which had been concealed in the school's storeroom with stab wounds, was subsequently discovered; acknowledges that the suspect was known to Deveney and to the rest of

Hoërskool Overberg in Caledon; conveys condolences to Deveney's family, classmates, and the entire school community; and calls on the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) to prioritize school safety by ensuring that all schools are equipped with functioning CCTV cameras and other necessary security features. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Windvogel. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections, agreed to. I recognise hon Ngqentsu.

Mr M B NGQENTSU (ANC): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes with great pride and elation the election of Pat Marran, the ANC's formal Regional Chairperson in the Boland region, for being elected as the Deputy President of the Boland Rugby Union; Pat Marran serves as a dedicated ANC PEC Member and former Member of the Western Cape Provincial Legislature and has consistently demonstrated his unwavering passion and his love for sport throughout his tenure in this House; the ANC extends heartfelt congratulations to Pat Marran on his well-deserved achievement; wishes him every success as he undertakes his new responsibilities; and expresses confidence that he will vigorously champion the development of rugby at grassroots

level in the Boland and will reposition it to ensure that it serves the interest of the working class youth, not the White rich. Thank you very much. I so move. [Interjections.]

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

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

An HON MEMBER: Objection.

The SPEAKER: There is an objection, and the motion will be printed on the Order Paper. [Interjections.] We will now move on. [Interjections.] I recognise the hon Bans.

Ms A P BANS (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker. On behalf of the people's movement, the African National Congress, I move without notice:

That the House notes and welcomes the steady progress made by the Prasa in getting passenger trains back on track along the Central Line, with the completion of refurbishments at several stations; further notes that, after four years without passenger trains, services have resumed, providing affordable transport from Cape Town to multiple stations, including Stock Road, Mandalay, and Nolungile; acknowledges that

operations at a total of 11 stations on the Central Line corridor – once the busiest in the Western Cape – were suspended due to rampant vandalism, infrastructure damage, and the establishment of informal settlements on rail tracks, issues that escalated during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown; and commends the Prasa Board and the National Government for their exemplary efforts in restoring these vital services. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Objection.

The SPEAKER: There is an objection, and the motion will be printed on the Order Paper. [Interjections.] Thank you very much, hon members. I am not going to compete with you. I have asked how many times to please cooperate. We are all adults; we are all hon members. I am not going to continuously ask for your cooperation. It is going into the allotted time and I now recognise the hon Stoffel.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): Listen to this one. Ja, ja. [Interjections.] hon Speaker, ...[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: We object. ...[Laughter.]

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): Never. I move without notice:

That the House notes with pride the historic appointment Mandisa Muriel Lindelwa Maya as the first-ever female Chief Justice of South Africa; notes further that this appointment marks a significant milestone in the advancement of women in South Africa, reflecting the progress we have made in gender equality and women's empowerment; appreciates that Justice Maya's rise to this esteemed position is a testament to her exemplary service, unwavering commitment to justice, and the outstanding contributions she has made throughout her judicial career; welcomes the fact that her appointment not only shatters longstanding barriers but also sets a powerful precedent for future generations of women who aspire to leadership roles within our judiciary and beyond; celebrates this proud moment for our country, as it highlights our collective commitment to fostering an inclusive and equitable society where all individuals, regardless of gender, can achieve their highest potential; and extends our heartfelt congratulations to Chief Justice Maya and wish her every success as she undertakes the crucial responsibilities of her new role. I so move. I thank you.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Stoffel. Are there any objections

to the motion being moved without notice?

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): There cannot be. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: No objections, agreed to. Hon members, the next motion is hon Cassiem who is online. Hon Cassiem?

Ms A CASSIEM (EFF): Thank you. I move without notice:

That the House notes the burglary that took place at the Public Order Police Headquarters in Faure which is a specialised South African Police Services Unit in the Western Cape. Further notes that the thieves managed to break into the firearm safe and steal a gas canister launcher, stan grenades, rubber bullets as well as their belts. The shocking part is that there were no witnesses at the scene of the crime, and it also does not look like there were any working surveillance cameras in the building. Moreover, it is disturbing that we live in a country where our policing system is not only incapable of offering protection to citizens, but it is equally incapable of safeguarding its own resources which should enable the police to carry out their duties; and calls on the establishment of a Commission of Inquiry to investigate all these burglaries which continue to take place within the SAPS buildings and thereby continue to threaten the sovereignty of the State. I so move.

Thank you.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Cassiem. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections, agreed to. I recognise the hon Stoffel.

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

That the House notes and welcomes the successful vote of no confidence against the former DA Mayor of Oudtshoorn ... [Interjection.]

The PREMIER: You were doing so well! [Laughter.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): Hon Speaker?

The SPEAKER: I am protecting you, hon member.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): Please!

The SPEAKER: Please, speak to me. [Interjections.] Order, hon members.

Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC):



...Mr Macpherson, which took place on 1 August 2024. This motion of no confidence was brought about due to ongoing concerns and grievances raised by former coalition partners regarding Mr Macpherson's governance and his undermining of collaborative efforts within the coalition; extends its warmest congratulations to Mr Allers, who has been elected as the new Mayor of Oudtshoorn, and to Mr Mziwoxolo Tyatya from the ANC, who has been elected as Deputy Mayor, and Ms. Suzanne Jansen from the PA, who has taken on the role of Speaker, acknowledge the significant roles assigned to smaller parties, including Advieskantoor and the Oudtshoorn Gemeenskap Inisiatief, within the new Mayoral Committee; and calls upon all members of the new leadership team and their respective parties to unite in their efforts and demonstrate dedication to rendering quality services to the people of Oudtshoorn. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

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

†Me B N STOFFEL (ANC): Dit het ek verwag.

[Ms B N STOFFEL (ANC): That I have expected.]

An HON MEMBER: We were clapping hands. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members. Hon members. Hon members! There is an objection, and the motion will be printed on the Order Paper. Before we continue, hon Stoffel, why do you not take your seat. You are not allowed to put on your microphone and then continue with your interjections. That is unparliamentary. Hon members, that motion was not agreed to, and it will be printed on the Order Paper. I recognise the hon Van Wyk.

Mr L D VAN WYK (DA): Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes with sadness the loss of legendary educator William Smith, who passed away peacefully and surrounded by family yesterday. From 1990, Smith was a regular feature of The Learning Channel on SABC, an educational programme which sought to bring quality lessons in key subjects to the nation at large. For 16 years, countless South African children excelled in their education thanks to Mr Smith's innovative and caring approach to teaching Mathematics and Science and doing so using methods which inspired millions. His passion for knowledge and his dedication to sharing it changed the lives of generations of school children and earned him the Order of the Baobab. The House should take the opportunity to send its best wishes to Mr Smith's family, and to celebrate the life of 'South Africa's favourite teacher'. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Van Wyk. Hon members, are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? There is no objection, and the motion is agreed to. I recognise the hon Walters.

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

That the House notes the recent theft of less-lethal ammunition, teargas grenades, and other materials from the Faure SAPS base in Eersterivier, as well as the recent arrest of three suspects in the matter and expresses deep concern at an apparent serious breach of a supposedly secure environment and should call for a comprehensive investigation into the incident, with the goal of ensuring that other SAPS facilities in the Western Cape do not fall victim to similar incidents of theft. I so move.

*[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? There is no objection, and the motion is agreed to. I recognise the hon Walters.

Mr T C R WALTERS (DA): I just tried to save my motion. I move without notice:

That the House commends the work of SAPS in swiftly apprehending a

suspect in the murder case of 16-year-old Deveney Nel, a Grade 10 pupil from Caledon who was tragically found deceased last week. The untimely death of any resident is a tragedy, but the tragic loss of one so young is always particularly shocking. The House should call for justice to take its course and should also call for the similar swift apprehension of suspects in the many cases of violence against minors which remain unsolved. I so move.

*[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? [Interjections.] There is no objection. [Interjections.] Order, hon members! [Interjections.] Hon members! Hon member! That is unparliamentary. If you want to address the House, please rise and switch on your microphone. There is no objection to that motion, and the motion is agreed to. I recognise the hon Wessels.

Mr D J WESSELS (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That this House ...[Interjections.] that this House notes that on the 6 August 2024, the Minister of Infrastructure handed over new houses in Wolwedans to beneficiaries who had been displaced following heavy downpours in November 2021, and further notes that the Minister also concluded a visit to the Garden Route District in which he had several

key engagements designed to advance the Department's mission of accelerating infrastructure delivery and enhancing community development throughout the district. I so move.

*[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 Wessels.

Mr D J WESSELS (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That this House notes that the City of Cape Town's Human Settlement directorate has delivered some 2 000 title deeds in just two months, it further notes that these title deeds form part of the City's Human Settlements title deeds campaign which includes tracking and tracing qualifying title deed residents by visiting areas and going door to door, that this House further notes that the City aims to deliver another 12 000 title deeds in the coming months. I so move. Thanks.

*[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? 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, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That this House notes that the Provincial Minister of Social Development met with the provincial management of the South African Social Security agency (SASSA); notes that in this first engagement between SASSA and the Provincial Minister, the discussions revolved around the relationships between the agency and the Western Cape Department of Social Development, challenges experienced by SASSA and ongoing solutions, and the way forward; and further notes that a commitment has been made for monthly meetings between SASSA and DSD management. I so move, 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? There is no objection, and the motion is agreed to. I recognise the hon Kaizer-Philander.

Ms W F KAIZER-PHILANDER (DA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That this House notes that on 8 August 2024, the Western Cape Minister

of Social Development and Minister of Health and Wellness visited two Thuthuzela Care Centres in Wynberg and Stellenbosch. They were joined by the National Prosecuting Authority's Special Director of the Sexual Offences and Community Affairs unit, Advocate Bonnie Currie-Gamwo and notes that a total of nine Thuthuzela Care Centres are operational across the province, with a tenth one to be opened later this month in Mitchells Plain; and also notes that these centres are non-stop facilities that provide psychosocial, medical, and legal services to victims of Gender Based Violence; and further notes that since 2019, over 21 000 people per year received psychosocial support from these centres and the Department of Social Development. I so move, 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? No objections, agreed to. I recognise the hon Kaizer-Philander.

Ms W F KAIZER-PHILANDER (DA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move without notice:

That this House notes that the Provincial Department of Social Development, the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (PRASA), and the Non-Profit Organisation, A21, conducted a joint Trafficking in

Persons Awareness Day event on 29 July 2024 at the Inter-Provincial Bus Terminal in Cape Town; and notes that during the 2023/2024 period, 13 survivors of human trafficking accessed support services from DSD-funded shelters for victims of violence and abuse in the Western Cape. I so move, 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? No objections, motion agreed to.

Hon members, just on motions. I think it would be remiss of me not to remind hon members in terms of the Rules, what the purpose is of a motion. I understand that this is the first Sitting, but please, hon members, please be mindful that motions are not Member Statements and that there is a format for motions. To please bear in mind for the next sitting. I have allowed it today, as I said, because it is the first Sitting, but please just be mindful of that.

With that being said, hon members, that concludes the business for the day. The House is adjourned, and the Secretary will now exit all hon members. Thank you very much.

The House adjourned at 17:58.