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THURSDAY, 23 JUNE 2020

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

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

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

The House met at 14:15.

The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

The SPEAKER: You may all be seated. Order, hon members! Welcome in this sitting. I would like to draw the hon members' attention that today we will be using a hybrid model for the sitting. As you can see, I am here in the House with the hon members seated here, but also other hon members are part of the sitting in their homes. Hon members, also you can see there is Table staff in this session. Instead of the three that we normally have, there are two, to ensure that we observe the health protocols and ensure that the social distance is observed correctly. So for the attention of the hon members the

Chamber has therefore been connected to the Microsoft Teams and of course the hon members present here and those that are sitting at home will participate fully with the same rights and privileges as we always do.

Hon members, I trust that everybody has been connected to participate in this regard in terms of Rule 1(a) of the Standing Rules, which all our members in remote attendance by electronic means and those present here understand.

The WCPP remains fully operational as you all know, and I can say that with full confidence that we have executed our mandate and business since the beginning of the lockdown, so this Parliament never locked down.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Hon Speaker, I apologise for disturbing. Just a point of order, there is somebody putting their camera on all the time, Mr Raymond Pretorius, and members are watching it. I am seeing his face on the camera.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Mackenzie. I would like to draw the attention of any other person who is not a member of the House to please refrain from activating their cameras and microphones. So our sitting today would be conducted in terms of the Standing Rules and directives, hon members, as we have done since 17 April 2020, and allow me to highlight some of the important directives in this regard.

- That the Secretary and his administration will ensure dedicated technical support at all times during this sitting.

- The quorum requirements for this sitting are as provided for in the Constitution and the Standing Rules.
- Hon members, unless there is an indication of unanimous concurrence, voting will take place by members present and entitled to vote, to cast their votes by clearly identifying themselves to the Presiding Officer, verbally expressing their votes.
- Members who are present both here in the Chamber and through Microsoft Teams have, as I indicated earlier, all the privileges and immunities imparted by law.
- Hon members who are considered to be out of order by the Presiding Officer, their microphones will be muted and the hon members will be called to order.
- Attendance of members will be recorded by the Serjeant-at-Arms.

Hon members, the Serjeant-at-Arms and the Compliance Officer appointed in terms of the relevant Disaster Management Regulations will ensure that we comply with the health and safety requirements. Hon members who are in the Chamber are requested at all times to maintain social distancing and wear their face masks. This makes it easier for us to receive the necessary support that we need in case of any eventuality, that we do not subject ourselves to unnecessary risks and exposure.

By this I mean that hon members may have to speak a bit louder than the usual in order to be audible. I am sure you can hear me, nè. I am wearing my mask, so if I can be audible I am sure you too will be audible.

In instances where these directives do not cover a particular eventuality, the Standing Rules must apply and in instances where the Rules cannot be applied, the ruling by the Presiding Officer is final.

An HON MEMBER: ...commendable that local labour was incorporated, it is regrettable that the Municipality failed to adhere to the... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Who is talking?

An HON MEMBER: Due to their negligence... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, as I indicated that in instances where the Rules cannot be applied, the ruling by the Presiding Officer is final. Members, all microphones now have been muted for the purposes of this sitting, so the hon members who are participating in this sitting of the House via Microsoft Teams, you are requested to please use the raised-hand functionality. I know there are some members who said they are using a cell phone and it does not have it. You just indicate in the chat room, then we will be able to pick up your wishes to speak or participate, and when you desire to raise a point of order you do the same as you have done, but also we have allowed members to raise a point of order easily through this platform.

Hon members, I would like to bring it to your attention that for those of us who are present in the House, who wish to raise a point of order, you may address the Presiding Officer directly, hon member Mitchell, you are here.

Honourable, the Leader of the Opposition, you are here, and hon member Kama is here, and hon member Mackenzie is here so you do not have to press that button in the computer. You can address me, and hon member Baartman and of course the Minister of Finance. I also wish to say to the hon members that your microphones here will work when you press it, but if you do not use it do not press it, otherwise it will create confusion in the system.

The media, I have already indicated that, please, let us just observe the process and the deliberations here. Do not participate otherwise we are going to remove you from the meeting and that is not what we want to do. For the purposes of this sitting I am requesting that the hon members be sensitive to the language question but we have made provision for the sign language, hon Minister and hon members here, that when we say we do not have translation services, interpretation services, it is because of the limitations of the system we are using, but with this kind of an arrangement now the sign language and the deaf community would be able to understand what we are discussing, what is being dealt with here in this Chamber, and that is in keeping with the statutes of the land to respect and ensure we include people with disabilities in everything we do.

Now as ruled by the Presiding Officer in the sitting of the House on 23 April 2020, via Microsoft Teams, any interjections, hon members, are not allowed and this then also allows me to draw attention as well to Rule 40 of the Standing Rules that you must try and make sure that the hon members, as they speak, that there is no running commentary because then that disturbs

the entire system and it may collapse the meeting. Thank you, hon members, and welcome again.

I recognise the Chief Whip.

(Motion)

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker, I move without notice:

That notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 20(1), precedence be given to the Order of the Day.

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

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Hon Speaker, just a point of order.

The SPEAKER: Hon the Leader of the Opposition.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Your microphone.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Hon Speaker, I would just like to salute you for arranging this hybrid session. What I just want to ask is that normally when we attend the session, we have the Order Paper and the Question Paper on the table. Is there a ruling in that regard because I actually have not noticed that those are tabled? Could you just indicate or clarify for us? Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, thank you honourable, the Leader of the Opposition. Mr Secretary.

The SECRETARY: I just want to make sure that ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: I am just consulting with the Secretary quickly. Thank you, Mr Secretary, hon members and hon the Leader of the Opposition, the copies will be made available to the hon members. What I would like to request though, hon members, we all have a hand sanitiser. Please, hon members, we are in the middle of a catastrophe so let us preach and practice what we preach. You have got that and please when you get the paper that you are going to get, the person that delivers them will be wearing gloves. I am sure they are wearing gloves so that there is no contact between yourself and the paper. Does it make sense, hon members? So I am just talking to the hon members in front of me, hon members, as well as in the MS Teams, so that we respect the process. As a result we are not going to have the glasses here today. Each hon member received bottled water and the hand sanitisers. So we are all safe here. Let us utilise the system that are here before us.

Now let us proceed. Mr Secretary, on the Order of the Day, we are going to proceed.

## **ORDER OF THE DAY**

### **Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill (COVID-19 Bill)**

**(2020/21 Financial Year) [B 4 –2020]**

(Introduction and First Reading)

The SECRETARY: Introduction and First Reading – Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation (COVID-19) Bill, (2020/21 Financial Year) [B4 – 2020].

The SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr Secretary. Hon members, now I recognise the hon Minister of Finance.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, before you proceed, let me just make a disclaimer. There are screens in front of each member sitting here, and therefore the hon Minister may speak without his mask. There is a screen in front of him and all of us have got screens. I choose to wear the mask for now, because I can, but each one has got a screen in front of them, so we may proceed.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker and Deputy Speaker, hon Premier and Cabinet colleagues, hon Leader of the Opposition, hon Leaders of Opposition parties, Executive Mayors and Deputy Mayors, hon members of the Western Cape Legislature, members of the Consular Corps, Heads of Department, municipal managers, special guests and of course the people of the Western Cape.

We could not have imagined the size and the ferocity of the storm on the horizon when we tabled the Main Budget in Parliament. When the Main Budget was tabled, we committed to supporting the Health Department should COVID-19 reach the Western Cape.

We learned of the first COVID-19 infection just one day after the Main Budget was tabled in Parliament. When the storm hit, its size and ferocity were beyond anything we had experienced before in the Western Cape. We now have 86 372 people who have been infected; 71 491 people who have recovered; 1 622 people who are in hospital and regrettably 2 746 people who have died as a result of COVID-19 in the Western Cape.

We have seen some signs that the storm may be subsiding, but while we are hoping for the best, we have to plan for the worst in the Western Cape. We have a plan, and we are executing that plan, which is why we are tabling a Budget to Beat COVID-19 in the Western Cape today in this Parliament, which supports the immediate health response, humanitarian response and

economic response in the fight against COVID-19 in the Western Cape.

Hon Speaker, what Government and the people in government have achieved in the fight against COVID-19, is nothing short of extraordinary, in the Western Cape. We have from the start followed an evidence-based and data-led approach to the fight against COVID-19 in the Western Cape.

We have built three temporary hospital facilities capable of providing 1 248 beds. We have built 19 testing and triage facilities with seven more due to come online, in the Western Cape. We have provided 41 quarantine and isolation facilities capable of providing 4 766 beds. We have screened 900 000 people. We have tested 370 000 people for COVID-19, in the Western Cape. We have employed an additional 620 healthcare workers to care for the sick. We have distributed 130 000 food parcels to households across the Western Cape. We have distributed two million meals through the school feeding scheme. We have responded to 3 833 direct enquiries for assistance from businesses in the Western Cape. We have resolved 915 complaints relating to workplace safety. We have begun the process of rolling out 11 000 COVID-19 Business Safety Kits in the Western Cape.

We have supported the repatriation of 14 095 people on 97 international flights. We have rolled out the most comprehensive communication campaign designed to stop the spread, and we have a coordinated, whole-of-government response to the fight against COVID-19, concentrated in hotspots across the Western Cape.

To make much of this possible, we have provided emergency funding in terms of Section 25 of the Public Finance Management Act, including:

- To the Department of Health for the mobilisation of field hospitals, testing and screening, and more bed-capacity: R1 billion;
- To the Department of Transport and Public Works for the mobilisation of quarantine and isolation facilities: R400 million, and
- To the Department of Education for the mobilisation of school feeding schemes across the Western Cape: R18 million.

We did the right thing and can be proud of the fact that we opened our school feeding schemes during the lockdown, that despite pressure from National Government, we refused to close our school feeding schemes, which provide nutrition to vulnerable children across the Western Cape.

However, this is not all, because Government and the people in Government have been innovative, finding new ways to deliver services more efficiently, including:

- Our innovative Bed Bureau System, the first of its kind in the country, which allows us to monitor and track in real time the availability of beds throughout the healthcare system;
- Our automated ChatBot Application System, developed by Aviro Health, which uses WhatsApp to confirm home delivery of chronic medication and allows high-risk chronic patients to confirm existing appointments

before going to healthcare facilities, so they do not have to wait in long queues;

- Our partnership with Uber, which delivers chronic medication to community healthcare workers who then distribute it directly to patients' homes; and
- Our sophisticated data system to track COVID-19 infections, which makes information publicly available on the COVID-19 dashboard on our website, and provides a model that can be applied to the management of other diseases in the Western Cape.

We could not have done this without strong partnerships with the private sector and with non-governmental organisations, but what Government and the people in Government have achieved in the fight against COVID-19, is nothing short of extraordinary in the Western Cape.

Hon Speaker, when the Minister of Finance, Tito Mboweni, tabled his Supplementary Budget on 24 June 2020, he described his primary fiscal objective as “closing the mouth of the hippopotamus”, or reducing the difference between revenue and expenditure in order to stabilise national debt in South Africa, which is not surprising given the fact that national debt is set to explode to R3,97 trillion or 81,8% of GDP, in 2020/21.

What this means is that debt service costs will skyrocket to R236,4 billion in 2020/21 in South Africa, which, to put the figure in context, is about 3.5 times the size of the provincial budget in the Western Cape.

We are facing a pandemic which is not only costing lives, but is also costing livelihoods. We have not been spared and now estimate we will lose 10,2% in gross value-add, lose R720 million in revenue and lose an estimated 167 000 jobs in the Western Cape.

Hon Speaker, when President Cyril Ramaphosa opened the Hospital of Hope at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, he was clear that cost is not the issue when it comes to the fight against COVID-19 in the Western Cape.

However, when the Minister of Finance, Tito Mboweni, tabled his Special Adjustments Budget, the Provincial Budget was effectively cut at the point of greatest need by R113,1 million in the Western Cape.

Yes, the HIV, TB, Malaria and Community Outreach Grant was increased by R552,2 million to support the fight against COVID-19 in the Western Cape, but the increase was financed principally by cutting the Human Settlements Development Grant, the Education Infrastructure Grant and the Provincial Roads Maintenance Grant in the Western Cape.

What this means in the end, is that we are effectively on our own when it comes to the fight against COVID-19 in the Western Cape, which will be dealt with in a three-phase budget process designed to reprioritise expenditure over time, including:

- Phase 1: focusing on identifying savings from cost containment ahead of this 2020 Special Adjustments Budget;
- Phase 2: focusing on identifying deeper savings from reprioritisation ahead of the 2020 Medium Term Budget Policy Statement; and finally
- Phase 3: focusing on identifying even deeper savings as a result of institutional reform ahead of the 2021 Main Budget in the Western Cape.

So today we kick off the three-phase budget process by tabling a budget to beat COVID-19 in the Western Cape, which is a Special Adjustments Budget to support the immediate response to COVID-19 in the Western Cape.

We have worked hard to mobilise every cent available, and have allocated R3,05 billion to support the fight against COVID-19 in the Western Cape.

We have allocated funding inter alia as follows:

- to the Department of Health for personal protective equipment, temporary field hospitals, testing and screening, and additional bed capacity: R1.8 billion;
- to the Department of Transport and Public Works for the hiring of venues and the purchase of services for quarantine and isolation facilities: R400 million;
- to the Department of Education for personal protective equipment and the sanitisation of schools: R310 million;
- For humanitarian relief: R84 million, including:
  - to the Department of Social Development for an emergency food

- relief programme: R25,9 million;
- to the Department of Education for an emergency school feeding scheme: R18 million;
- to the Department of Local Government for an emergency food relief programme: R17,8 million;
- to the Department of Local Government for the coordination and implementation of the response to the pandemic in hotspots: R27 million;
- to the Department of Economic Development and Tourism to support small businesses, workplace safety, and the screening of passengers at George Airport: R14 million, and
- to the Department of Social Development for personal protective equipment and operational support to old age homes and Early Childhood Development Centres across the Western Cape: R12 million.

We have funded the allocation:

- by committing R1,4 billion from the provincial reserves, set aside for unforeseeable and unavoidable expenditure, service load pressures, and fiscal stabilisation to fund emergency expenditure provided for in terms of Section 25 of the Public Finance Management Act;
- by committing R1 billion in savings realised from baseline reductions, implemented by departments and public entities as a result of reduced spending on travel, on subsistence, on communication, on catering, on

consultants and other funds that could not be spent as a result of the lockdown regulations;

- by committing R605,5 million in national conditional grants made to support the response to the pandemic, including the HIV, TB, Malaria and Community Outreach Grant and the Provincial Disaster Relief Grant; and
- by committing R27.2 million in funds rolled over or retained during the 2019/20 financial year, in the Western Cape;

which results, after taking into account reductions in national conditional grants of R665,3 million, and baseline reductions of R1,2 billion, in a net upward adjustment to the Main Budget of R1,1 billion in the 2020/21 financial year in the Western Cape; which leaves us with R376 million in the provincial reserves for unforeseeable and unavoidable expenditure, which is the minimum required to mitigate further disaster related risks in the 2020/21 financial year in the Western Cape.

We would simply not have been able to support the fight against COVID-19 to the extent that we have, had we not held the fiscal line and built R1,8 billion provincial reserves in the Western Cape.

We still, hon Speaker, have a significant fiscal mountain to climb and going forward we will have to put in place new measures to limit spending, especially on compensation of employees, by ensuring that the only vacancies that are filled are critical vacancies in departments and public entities, and

by maintaining or extending upper limits on spending when it comes to compensation of employees in departments and in public entities in the Western Cape.

Hon Speaker, we have invested significant amounts of money on personal protective equipment for staff on the frontline of the fight against COVID-19 in the Western Cape. We must, of course, be vigilant because there are always risks, and so we have put in place a number of new measures designed to mitigate these risks, including establishing a Central Procurement Advisory Committee to provide support and advice to the main procuring departments; enhancing the surveillance of procurement of personal protective equipment, including mobilising our internal auditors to scrutinise and monitor procurement transactions; and, most importantly, implementing a new Procurement Disclosure Report in the Western Cape.

We are pleased to announce that, for the first time, we will begin making public, regular, standardised automated reports on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis, on the procurement of personal protective equipment in the Western Cape. We will begin by releasing information about the name of the department, a description of the item, the name of the supplier, the unit price per item and the total price in relation to procurement of personal protective equipment in the Western Cape. We consider the Procurement Disclosure Report as a best-in-class example of transparency and another innovative step towards maintaining clean government in the Western Cape.

Hon Speaker, we know that municipalities have experienced major revenue shocks as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Western Cape. We will continue to monitor vulnerable municipalities, and work with all municipalities to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on municipal finances in the Western Cape.

Hon Speaker, we know there are those who simply dismiss Government, and the people in Government in the Western Cape. However, when we look back, many stories will be told, but I hope that the story of the Hospital of Hope will be remembered, because it is a remarkable story. [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: When the project was finally scoped, finally costed, finally planned and finally approved, there were just 17 days left to build the Hospital of Hope. Working together was a team from the Western Cape Government, from the City of Cape Town, from the Cape Town International Convention Centre and from the private sector, who put in long hours, working seven days a week to meet the deadline to deliver the Hospital of Hope.

What many of us do not know is that teams designed and built on the move, mocking up bed-pods on one side of the hall, while building bed-pods on the other, and what emerged in record time... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister...

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: ...as a result of this team effort, was an 850-bed temporary hospital, called the Hospital of Hope. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, there is a point of order, will you please take your seat? Hon, the Leader of the Opposition?

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Hon Deputy Speaker, I would just like... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Your microphone, hon member.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you, hon Speaker. I would just like to ask whether the MEC would take a question in regard to the Hospital of Hope.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister, will you take a question?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: No, I will not take a question. I have a speech to complete.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister, you may proceed. [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: How much are you paying for rent?

An HON MEMBER: There is a Budget Committee after this.

The SPEAKER: You may proceed, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Thank you, hon Speaker. What many of us do not know is that the Hospital of Hope comprises of 1,6 kilometres of dry-walling; two kilometres of copper piping; 1,4 kilometres of rubber matting, 150 electrical distribution boards, with a 1000 plug-points; 13 nursing stations; five storerooms; five treatment rooms; five offices; a linen room; a donning room, a doffing room; a discharge room and a full pharmacy; a fully WiFi-enabled environment so patients can video chat with loved ones, and almost every part of the hospital is reusable, so when the hospital is no longer required its many parts will not be wasted, but instead will be used to support exhibitions and conferences that will take place when we are ready to open again in the future in the Western Cape.

What this illustrates is what Government and the people in Government have achieved, fighting COVID-19 in the Western Cape, and so we would like, hon Speaker, to present a Budget to Beat COVID-19 in the Western Cape to you today, because it is a budget that funds field hospitals; that funds isolation

and quarantine facilities; that funds emergency food relief; that funds school feeding schemes; that funds schools opening safely; that funds businesses opening safely; and, in the end, saves lives and saves livelihoods in the Western Cape.

So now I wish to table the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation COVID-19 Bill, the First Adjusted Estimates of Provincial Revenue and Expenditure, 2020; the Draft Provincial Notice on Amended Allocations to Municipalities and my speech, for discussion and deliberation and debate by this Parliament.

I also wish to thank David Savage, Head Official of the Provincial Treasury, together with Team Finance for all the hard work, especially through weekends, which does not go unnoticed and which is much appreciated by myself and by members of the Cabinet in the Western Cape Government, and I also wish, hon Speaker, to take a moment to pay tribute to all the people inside and outside Government who have found or find themselves on the frontline in the fight against COVID-19, because they are the true heroes in the Western Cape. We salute you.

I thank you. [Applause.]

HON MEMBERS: Hear-hear! Hear-hear!

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear, well done, David!

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Hon members, that tradition has been long missed in the system, so it is back now, hon, the Leader of the Opposition. May I request, hon members, the Secretary to read the Bill the first time?

The SECRETARY: *Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation (COVID-19) Bill (2020/21 Financial Year)*.

The SPEAKER: Hon members, thank you, Mr Secretary. The Bill, together with the papers tabled, would be referred to the relevant committees for consideration and report. Thank you, hon members. [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Hon the Leader of the Opposition?

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you, hon Speaker, just on a point of order, you mentioned now that the documents referred to by the Provincial MEC for Finance would now be referred to the Committee, but I would just like to ask, where are those documents, because normally when we had the budget tabled earlier this year we had a Budget Book and we normally also have the Adjustment Budget, the speech and so on, so could I ask how will we who are at this hybrid session get hold of those copies, and secondly, how will the members who are at home actually receive? Are we going to courier those to members? How will they actually reach the

members and when, given, Chairperson, that we have a challenge in that the various committees actually begin to meet tomorrow, so I would like to ask you for some direction and information on that. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon, the Leader of the Opposition. All the documents have been sent electronically to hon members.

An HON MEMBER: Just read your email.

An HON MEMBER: It is in your inbox.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: When?

The SPEAKER: I do not want that voice. Let me simply respond to the question, of when? I am just asking the administration now to indicate on the “when” so that I give you the specifics, but I have been assured that it was sent to the hon members.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: I thank you, hon Speaker.

An HON MEMBER: It is already in our inbox.

An HON MEMBER: It is in your inbox.

An HON MEMBER: Just read your email.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Ja, read your email.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, thank you hon members. I am told that it is somewhere in your inbox, hon, the Leader of the Opposition, so hon members, I am sure it is there. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: It arrived at 14:56. [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Hon Speaker, on a point of order of clarity, so we are not going to receive hardcopies this year at all? That is my question.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, thank you.

An HON MEMBER: [Inaudible.] Use it!

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members! I have requested that we limit the circulation of hardcopies for obvious reasons. I would not want a situation where there is too much paper going around, given the contact between the paper and the person. So that is one of the instructions from the Speaker that let us not expose members and staff to an unnecessary risk during this COVID-19 period. So as a result then, the copies will be sent to a member on request in a hard copy form, but that is not the intention to bring the hardcopies to members unnecessarily, but it is something that we would be able to do if a member requests that, hon Leader of the Opposition.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you, hon Speaker, I just think this is an important point to clarify. I personally, and I do not speak on behalf of other members, would appreciate a hard copy and that is why my question again is – by when can I receive that?

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon the Leader of the Opposition. That request has been carried and you will get that copy. I would definitely make sure that it reaches you at the end of the House, even whilst we are still here you might get that copy. May I please proceed, hon members? [Interjection.]

Ms N D NKONDLO: Hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Yes, hon member?

Ms N D NKONDLO: Yes, hon Speaker, it is hon Nkondlo.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Nkondlo, yes, Ma'am.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Yes, unfortunately I do not have the hand-function, my apology for that.

The SPEAKER: Yes.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Can I make a request that, like member Dugmore, I would request a hard copy and would have appreciated that when that

decision was made by the Speaker, at least it would have been communicated, saying through an email so that those that would request these books, we help in the processing, because now we are going to have a meeting and tomorrow we are starting with the debates of the different votes, so whilst I appreciate the rationale behind it, I think it would have helped also to provide us that right to make the decision, that we would be able to get these books on time. Thank you very much, but I register my request also for my books hand-delivered, if they can. Thanks.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Nkondlo. You are referring to the Blue Book, hon member Nkondlo, let me recognise, thank you hon member Nkondlo. I recognise hon member Mackenzie, followed by hon member Mitchell.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, Speaker. Speaker, the documents, if you go to [westerncape.gov.za](http://westerncape.gov.za), are also available online. We are living in a new environment, to send books around the whole province to every member, it is available online, [westerncape.gov.za](http://westerncape.gov.za), so that those of us who can have access to the internet can enter it. Members are not going to receive the document by tomorrow; it is common sense, for the drivers to drive around the whole province. It is available online, [westerncape.gov.za](http://westerncape.gov.za).

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Sorry, Chairperson, I do not want to delay, on another point of order. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Ms N D NKONDLO: It is common to a common brain.

The SPEAKER: Order, order hon member Nkondlo. Thank you, hon member Mackenzie. I recognise hon Dugmore.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Ja, hon Speaker, I do not want to delay this meeting, but I asked a question about whether the hard copies were available. The response that I received was that they are available and that you would ensure that by the end of this session my request for a hard copy would be met. I note it now that hon member Nkondlo has asked the same. I think the reality is that we will obviously be able to access these documents online but we also request, because it is often very useful when one is sitting, to make hard comments on these, so the issue is so far we have had two requests, from myself and hon member Nkondlo, to get a hard copy. So all I want to request is that those requests by us are honoured and obviously if other members request, then I am sure you would assist them, but I really do not think it is for hon member Mackenzie to indicate to us how we should or should not work. We have sanitisers, we will take the necessary care, but if the books are available, it makes absolute sense that those members who want them should be able to access them. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon the Leader of the Opposition. I now have

two hands, hon member Sayed and hon member the Chief Whip. Hon member Sayed?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): No, no, hon Speaker, I am sorry, my hand was up incorrectly. Sorry, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: All right. I have lowered it for you, sir. Thank you. Hon Chief Whip?

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, Mr Speaker. The matters that are being raised are regarding the Standing Committees and Budget Committees that could easily be raised after the sitting or electronically on email or via phone call to the administration. I do not think that they should form part of the sitting, and I humbly request that we proceed with the orders of the day.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Chief Whip. I would like to carry that suggestion, the proposal that you are making, with the understanding to the hon members that the arrangement for those members who are able to come through to the building, the copies may be made available, but we are not going to go around the province to deliver them to homes of hon members.

So that is the position that I am making here, so that we understand that. May we now proceed to the Interpellations, hon members? We have one interpellation by hon member Xego to the hon Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, hon Minister Bredell. I

now recognise the Minister.

## **INTERPELLATION**

### *Irregular expenditure: Municipalities in the Western Cape*

#### **1. Mr M Xego asked the Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:**

With reference to the Auditor-General's Local Government General Report for 2018/19 that shows that municipalities in the Western Cape incurred irregular expenditure totalling R2,7 billion:

Whether he can explain how this happened under his and his Department's watch and guidance?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Thank you, Mr Speaker, and thank you to hon member Xego for the interpellation.

Currently in the Western Cape Province there is a memorandum of understanding concluded between the Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, and the Minister of Finance, including Provincial Treasury, in which the parties have agreed that the Minister of Finance will take responsibility for all municipal financial

matters, whereas the Minister of Local Government will be responsible for, amongst others, all municipal governance and service delivery matters.

Premised on the said agreement, a joint working group has been established between the Provincial Treasury and the Department of Local Government to collaborate in support of local governance and sustainability.

The mandate of the Provincial Treasury can be highlighted as follows:

- Compliance with the MFMA by municipalities and municipal entities in the province.
- The preparation by municipalities in the province of their budget.
- The monthly outcome of those budgets.
- The submission of reports by municipalities in the province as required in terms of Section 5 of the Municipal Finance Management Act 2003.

On the other hand the role of the Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, together with the Department of Local Government, in terms of the Constitution and Local Government Structures Act, is to support and strengthen the capacity of municipalities, while the Local Government Systems Act provides the framework for local public administration.

Notwithstanding the fact that questions of irregular expenditure in

municipalities fall within the scope of municipal financial management matters, I will respond thereto with the appropriate input provided by the Minister of Finance.

According to the Auditor-General of South Africa, irregular expenditure is defined as:

“Expenditure that was not incurred in the manner prescribed by legislation.”

In other words, somewhere in the process that led to the expenditure, the auditee did not comply with the applicable legislation. It implies that the auditee received value for money, but that in the procurement process, or the supply chain management process of goods and services, not all the legislative prescripts were complied with.

Put differently, irregular expenditure does not necessarily mean that money has been wasted, or that fraud or corruption has been committed, or put plainly, that money has been stolen. It is an indicator of non-compliance in the process that needs to be investigated by management to determine whether it was an unintended error that led to negligence or done with the intention to work against the required legislation.

In terms of the auditing standards, there is a great responsibility on the audits to do specific procedures on fraud and corruption. The fact that the Auditor-

General of South Africa has not highlighted any fraud or corruption in their audit reports, nor linked it to irregular expenditure, is the highest level of assurance that financial statements are materially free from error.

Irregular expenditure refers to any use of municipal funds that is in contravention of the following legislation:

- Municipal Finance Management Act 2003 and its regulations;
- Municipal Systems Act 2000 and its regulations;
- Public Office Bearers Act and its regulations;
- the Municipal Supply Chain Management Policy, and any bylaws giving effect to that policy.

Examples of non-compliance could include the incorrect establishment of a Bid Adjudication Committee, or inadequate contract management leading ...

[Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, your time is up.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Okay. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Bredell. Hon members, I now recognise hon member Xego.

Mr M XEGO: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Thank you for the Minister's response. If we take a closer look at the 2018/2019 Auditor-General's report on the performance of our municipalities, one can easily see the losses and declining of trends over that period of time.

For example, how does one explain that in the past three years, from 2016 up until to 2018, there are three municipalities: the City of Cape Town, George, and Oudsthoorn, who have consistently experienced increases over that time when it comes to issues of irregular expenditure?

So now what we want to understand is how is that being regarded as a normal circumstance? We understand that you might, Minister, hide behind the fact that there is no corruption attached to this, but there is a serious increase in irregular expenditure over a period of three years in this regard. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Xego. I now recognise hon member America.

Mr D AMERICA: [No audible response.]

The SPEAKER: Your mic, hon member America, it is compromising you.  
[Laughs.]

Mr D AMERICA: My apologies, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: You are most welcome.

Mr D AMERICA: Thank you, hon Speaker. The matter at hand is that irregular expenditure has occurred and not wasteful and fruitless expenditure, as being perpetrated amongst our municipalities.

The Minister, Mr Speaker, has distinguished the difference between irregular and wasteful and fruitless expenditure. I can categorically state, and it was supported by a presentation of Provincial Treasury, that no fraud and corruption were detected in those municipalities where irregular expenditure occurred.

Where it did happen, and it was detected in most of those instances, it can be attributed to the fact that in the process of procurement of goods and services, the relevant processes and legislative framework were not always strictly followed. Needless to say, in all of those instances value for money was obtained.

Mr Speaker, it should be noted that it is premature on the part of hon member Xego to judge any of the municipalities where such irregular expenditure occurred. The Standing Committee order requested information from the Auditor-General's office to provide greater clarity on the nature of irregular expenditure and where it occurred. Therefore, it should not stand on the rooftop and condemn [Inaudible.] municipalities prematurely. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member America. Your time was spot-on, two minutes sharp. [Laughs.]. I now recognise hon member Herron.

Mr B N HERRON: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, the Minister is reported to have said that unqualified audits show that taxpayers' money is going where it is meant to go, and not to lining the pockets of friends and families of politicians or corrupt officials, and audits can be valuable tools, but they certainly do not tell us everything.

Steinhoff and VBS have already shown us this in the private sector, and we see it in the public sector too. They do not tell us how the George Executive Councillor for Finance orchestrated the unlawful investment of R350 million of municipal funds so her son could get a massive commission. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Ja.

Mr B N HERRON: The audit outcome certainly does not show us a political party ... [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: [Inaudible.] was his friend.

Mr B N HERRON: Even harder to audit than these kinds of kickback payments are issues around land value. Land is the new currency of corruption. An unqualified audit would never tell us why a government

discounts land it sells or overpays for land it buys.

Finding out who benefits from these discounts or inflated purchase prices is not easy. The unqualified audit does not show how the City of Cape Town paid a massive R140 million [Inaudible.] to a developer when it sold prime City centre land, known as Site B on the Foreshore, to Growthpoint. R140 million that has never been recovered.

An unqualified audit does not ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Favours for friends.

Mr B N HERRON: ... show millions of Rands of taxpayers' money in Oudtshoorn, money earned from rent and landing fees at the municipal airport, where, with the knowledge of the former Speaker and now incoming Mayor, being diverted to a private trust account instead of being paid to the Municipality. For at least seven years this money has been lost, sitting somewhere in someone's account.

I hope the Minister will tell us how much is in the Oudtshoorn Trust Fund, who has been in charge of the Trust Fund, and why, since 2013 ...  
[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Ja.

Mr B N HERRON: ... it has never been paid to the Municipality. I hope the Minister will explain ... [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: He knows, he knows all [Inaudible.]

Mr B N HERRON: ... why the DA retains an Executive Councillor for Finance in George, when the evidence of financial misconduct is overwhelming.

Whilst we know audits do not show everything, what we can see from these examples is that if you know how to game the system, audits can be used to show nothing at all. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, thank you, hon member Herron. I saw that you were two seconds beyond time, so I allowed you to enjoy that two seconds.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Speaker ...

The SPEAKER: Now ... [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Speaker ...

The SPEAKER: Hon the Leader of the Opposition, is that a point of order?

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Yes, on a point of order.

Mr Speaker, is it parliamentary if one is particularly impressed by a speech that someone has made, like hon member Herron ... [Interjections.] Is one allowed to ... [Interjections.].

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Oh, come on! That is not a point of order.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon the Leader of the Opposition. Thank you, hon members. I am sure that that was just a political statement. May I please, at this stage, hon members, I saw there was a hand up, but hon member Xego, you still have an opportunity to speak. Did you want to raise a point of order?

Mr M XEGO: Yes, it was a point of order, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: I also have hon member Marais. I will recognise you, sir. Hon member Xego, what is your point of order?

Mr M XEGO: I have noted with dismay, Mr Speaker, the manner in which there are regular interruptions from the virtual lines, resulting in us failing dismally to hear. This happened when the Minister was speaking, and it also happened when the hon member America was speaking – we almost heard nothing. That is coming from the virtual platform, which in your opening you made quite clear that there should be no interruptions from our side.

So, there will not be justice in terms of us now responding to whatever has

been said, but we cannot hear anything. There is a very bad echo that is coming through.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Xego. You are indeed assisting the Speaker. I will ask the hon members to observe the directives as we agreed upon, all of them, on 17 April. So I am going to raise it to the hon members whenever this occurs. Thank you for bringing it to my attention.

At this stage I would like to also acknowledge hon member Marais. Do you have a point of order, hon member Marais?

Mr P J MARAIS: No, Mr Speaker, I do not have a point of order. I just saw it is an interpellation. I thought I could enter the discussion, but I see it is interpellations.

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

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, the point is not – I think we all understand what is wasteful and fruitful expenditure, compared to irregular expenditure.

The question is that the A-G, Mr Kimi Makwetu, said that contracts without the correct due processes continue. So what we need to know from the Minister is who are the guilty parties? Who are the culprits continuing to

award contracts without following due processes? We would like to know who the guilty parties are because that is one of the problems that the Auditor-General pointed out, but another point, another section that he has pointed out, he says it continues all the time, it continues.

We want to know from the Minister, and I know we talk about value for money and services are rendered, but if processes are not followed, and we know how that occurs; somebody maybe is not authorised to give you the contract and that person gives you the contract. So, in that there can still be contracts given to cronies because of not following the right processes.

So the Minister must tell us who are the municipalities, who are the culprits, who are the guilty ones that continue awarding contracts without following due processes, and we know that when we talk about irregular expenditure, we are talking about departures from the prescribed regulations.

Are there municipalities that persist – and I know the Minister said now that the Minister of Finance is looking at the financial aspect as well as Provincial Treasury, but we want those municipalities pointed out, and tell us if they continue with it, and bring that to the House, because there are municipalities in the Western Cape that do excellent work, but we will have to sort out these black sheep moving forward. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Christians. I now recognise hon member Xego. Hon member Xego?

Mr M XEGO: Thank you, Mr Speaker. To the Minister, there is also no explanation as to where the audit report of Kannaland Municipality was at the time of the Auditor-General's report.

How does the Minister account for the fact that 100% of the municipalities in the province did not comply with supply chain legislation, resulting in the irregularities such as incompetent, even unfair, procurement processes in municipalities at 93%, and that R21 million was spent on prohibited awards to state officials?

These are some of the major questions that are raised by the Auditor-General's report on Western Cape municipalities. However, what is the Minister's response on the assertion that the Auditor-General has said the money wasted on irregular expenditure in the provincial municipalities would have been better utilised if it was spent on housing provision in order to abate the housing crisis that continues to engulf our province? Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Xego. Hon members, I now recognise the hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Thank you to hon member Xego and thank you to hon members for their participation in the interpellation.

Yes, hon member Herron, I have said that a clean audit is important, but it is only one of the mechanisms to measure. A clean audit definitely does not give you everything, but I wish that we will stop personalising these things because of course there is an investigation in George, there are three forensic investigations. The George contribution towards the R2.7 billion irregular expenditure is R621 million, and it is part of an investigation. The R350 million referred to, I personally handed it over to the Hawks. We handed it over to the Speaker to investigate, because remember our role in spheres of government; we have got oversight, we have got monitoring and support, and through that at the end of the day the Council needs to investigate. So the Council is busy with those investigations, it is an ongoing process.

Contributing also is:

- City of Cape Town with R950 million irregular expenditure.
- Oudtshoorn with R170 million.
- Bitou with R299 million.

So we have got those figures. In total the increase in irregular expenditure increased for the financial year 2017/18 to 2018/19, from R24,38 billion nationally, to R32,06 billion.

So it is a problem nationally for all of us, and we need to take it seriously, and between the Department, myself, and Provincial Treasury, we put measures in place to see how we can curb and how we can deal with this.

So both Provincial Treasury and the Department of Local Government work collaboratively to ensure that the requested support is provided and that municipalities are aided where the Province has identified a need for specific support in this regard. For example; the Back to Basics programme; the Municipal Governance Review Outlook (MGRO), that was initiated by Provincial Treasury, to drive a single-minded focus on clean governance; Cooperative Governance Review and Outlook Report, to address conformance and performance and; Medium-Term Expenditure Committees, to improve cost efficiency in, and the impact of expenditure, should be noted.

Now it is also important, Mr Speaker, where that money should go to. It is not for us to say, there are also services that we can spend it on, like water, like housing, electricity provision, etcetera. Both departments are thus constantly identifying initiatives to address challenges identified through constant monitoring to enhance municipal financial governance and sustainability of municipalities.

In conclusion, I have already requested that a detailed analysis of irregular expenditure be undertaken with the view of developing support initiatives, and interventions to sophisticate and refine municipal financial governance. I thank you.

[Debate concluded.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Hon members, that concludes the

interpellation.

There will now be an opportunity for Questions for Oral Reply. The first question is asked by hon Member Xego to the Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning.

So today, hon Minister Bredell, we are together, the same WhatsApp Group.  
[Laughs.]

## **QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY**

*Question standing over from Thursday, 11 June 2020, as agreed to by the House:*

*Water supply shortages: informal settlements*

**1. Mr M Xego asked the Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:**

What have he and his Department done to address the issue of water-supply shortages in informal settlements and rural areas in the province?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Yes, thank you, Mr Speaker and thank you hon member Xego.

During the Covid pandemic my Department of Local Government gave special attention to ensuring that the most vulnerable communities in the province have access to water.

To this extent, my Department, in collaboration with the Provincial Department of Human Settlements, assisted the Department of Water and Sanitation with coordinating and managing the provision and installation of water tanks in informal settlements in order to increase access to water supply to households.

In order to improve and accelerate the installation of the water tanks and to respond to any challenges, my Department deployed experienced engineers to provide professional support and technical advice directly to municipalities.

As a result, 615 water tanks have been successfully installed in municipalities across the Western Cape. In addition, my Department has also supported drought-stricken municipalities within the province with the development and implementation of drought recovery action plans. In terms of these plans the Department has funded several drought-relief projects over the past three financial years to a total amount of R158 million. These actions or action plans form part of a bigger strategy to address water challenges and to ultimately achieve water resilience in our province.

I am proud of the successes achieved through this programme over the past years, where we ensured that no town in the Western Cape ran out of water.

Lastly, my team is responsible for supporting municipalities in the roll-out of the MIG programme. During recent years, and more specifically now during this pandemic, municipalities have been encouraged to support and prioritise water-related projects.

My Department and I remain committed and will continue with our support in ensuring water security and resilience within our province. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Bredell. I would like acknowledge hon member Xego. Do you have a follow-up, hon member Xego?

Mr M XEGO: Yes, Mr Speaker. I am not sure if the Minister is aware that in the area of Matzikama in Ward 1, there is a squatter camp there, an informal settlement referred to as “JuJu Square”, which does not have access to water. They are still at this juncture getting water from formal houses and they depend on handouts of water. That is happening in that particular municipality.

So I am not sure if you depend on reports that you receive from local municipalities, or if there is a physical understanding of the geographical location and what kind of circumstances our people are facing? Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Xego. I now recognise hon member Van der Westhuizen.

Mr A P VAN DER WESTHUIZEN: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, through you. The Minister of Water and Sanitation, the National Minister, Lindiwe Sisulu, appointed Advocate Terry Motau some two months ago to investigate the numerous reports on findings of fraud in her Department, whilst stating that she has found that there is a culture of non-accountability in water and sanitation.

My question to the Minister is, whether Minister Bredell received any reports of fraud regarding the water augmentation schemes undertaken under his Department? If not, what would he believe to be the difference between the National Department of Water's efforts and that of the Province? Thank you.

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

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Mr Speaker, I will try and deal with both questions. I know Matzikama and obviously we need to provide water within the legal framework, in the constitutional framework, and if hon member Xego has got any information that can help us to talk and to contact the Municipality; they should be hands-on, they should send through their needs, so that we can see where we can support and help them. I will be more than willing to help them.

I know the Department of Human Settlements has also done very well and put

strong efforts into getting water tanks distributed throughout this province as far as possible, but at the end of the day you also need the Municipality to work with you.

So please, hon member Xego, if you can just provide us with more information, we will definitely support and help where we can.

Hon member Van der Westhuizen, I hope I understand your question correctly. It is well-known that there was under the ANC management of the National Department of Water and Sanitation, under Minister Mokonyane - and there are various ongoing investigations into it - massive fraud and corruption within. If they had done their work, then the Clanwilliam Dam would have been finished, and would have had [Inaudible. – connection lost] capacity in this good rainy season, that would have helped a lot, but more so it would have helped us to establish over 400,000 hectares for small farming.

So it could have done a lot in that area for poverty alleviation, etcetera, and we can pull out many such projects that failed under the National Department of Water Affairs.

Currently, the Province works throughout the municipalities. We have especially put in huge efforts in the Central Karoo area and work with those municipalities. We also had the National Department with us to look at various projects to see how we can work on long-term water sustainability within those areas.

So it is an ongoing process, it is an ongoing programme, and hopefully we will get better cooperation now that we have got a new Minister on a national level. The two of us had a meeting already on the water issues in the province, and hopefully we will now get projects like the Clanwilliam Dam off the ground. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Bredell. There is no further question as a follow-up to the first question?

In that event, I am moving to Number 2. Question 2 is asked by hon member Makamba-Botya to the hon Minister of Health. I now recognise you, hon Minister Mbombo.

*Healthcare workers: protests*

**2. Ms N Makamba-Botya asked the Minister of Health:**

With regard to the protests that took place on 8 July 2020 involving community healthcare workers at a health centre in Site B, Khayelitsha, which resulted in her cancelling her scheduled visit to Khayelitsha:

- (a) What were the demands put forward by the healthcare workers and
- (b) what steps did she take to address these demands?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Can you hear me, Mr Speaker?

The SPEAKER: We can hear you a little bit.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Okay. Can you hear me now?

The SPEAKER: Yes, loud and clear, hon Minister Mbombo.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: All right. Thank you, hon Speaker and thank you hon member for the question.

In regard to the community health workers protest. It was about:

1. The absorption of contract workers on DPSA salary level 5.
2. R2,000 Covid danger allowance for all community health workers.
3. Implementation of Resolution 1 of the 2018 Public Health and Social Development Sector Bargaining Council Resolution.
4. Proper PPE for community health workers.

In regard to the salary level 5 DPSA, some members probably might be aware that this is still being debated at national level because Resolution 1 of 2018 was about salaries of community health workers being R3,500 at the time, and also the requirements then, even for the absorption for that salary, was based on the level of education, and also recognition of prior learning, for those who may qualify around that aspect. So there is still some discussion in regard to that, because it is not only a provincial matter, but it goes also to other provinces.

There is no danger allowance for any staff, from community health workers, to the nurses, to the doctors, in regard to Covid.

For the provision of the PPE, the Department developed various circulars. One particular circular, Circular 835/2020, was in regard to PPE. Community health workers are also accommodated in that aspect, and we are also providing free masks through the project.

We still have to wait for the process of the Bargaining Council to be concluded in order to consider any review of the current Western Cape provisions, taking note that community health workers are the backbone of primary healthcare, and yet we find that this category is the one that has always been left behind throughout.

At the time of primary healthcare in the early '60's you will find that primary healthcare was brought by faith-based organisations and other CBO's at the time. The time that HIV/AIDS epidemic started some of them were absorbed as HIV counsellors, and also during the TB epidemic they were absorbed as DOTS, the direct observation treatment for TB, going door to door. But you will find that at a national health level there has never been any recognition of these categories even for the funding.

Whilst for other health professionals or healthcare workers, you will find that there might be some grants, for example, medical interns, or even nursing, when it comes to these categories, you will find that the only money is that

coming from the HIV/AIDS grants. There is nothing that talks about a grant in order to make [Inaudible.] the realisation of these health workers.

Even where they are absorbed in some provinces, you will find that it becomes an abnormal persal because within the Bargaining Council agreement the resolution is always, on a yearly basis, extended because it is difficult to implement. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Mbombo. I now recognise hon member Makamba-Botya, and after that it will be hon member Philander, and followed by hon member Kama, in that order.

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, and thanks to the Minister with regards to her response.

She has made mention that there are processes that are actually in progress pertaining to the absorption of the contract workers, and she mentioned other matters pertaining to Covid and all that.

So what I want to know from the Minister is, is the Department in a position to hire some of these health workers on a permanent basis at the moment? And number 2, I just want to find out from the Minister, seeing that these protests are actually emanating from townships, very congested areas, overpopulated areas, has the Department made any provisions to prioritise these areas?

I am sure the Minister is fully aware of the conditions that I am referring to, pertaining to the conditions of our black communities and townships. So as a Department, have you made an exclusive provision in terms of combatting what is happening? I am sure you have not seen any of these protests taking place in other leafy suburbs. It is actually happening in these townships over time.

So what is your Department doing with regards to that? Is there any provision that you are directly trying to help these people coming from these areas? Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Makamba-Botya. I now recognise the hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you, honourable member. You will find the protests where the majority of the people are unionised. Generally, even without talking about health workers, that is where you will get most of the protests. For example, the majority of those who are in the townships are affiliated to, for example, to NUPSO, but you must understand that there are contract workers throughout the whole province, it is part of the package. They are ward-based, allocated, they are conducting investigations in terms of the various work that they do.

Now on the issue of where we are when it comes to the absorption of these workers, just to remind you what I said earlier. There are groups that are just

coming into the province now who would have been trained elsewhere. There is no standardisation of training. There are others, many of whom do not have matric and others who might have matric.

There are also those who in the early '80's who were categorised as community health workers, yet they are HIV counsellors and some of them are still within the NGO sector. The same applies to the TB health workers who go door-to-door.

So the first thing that we did when we had the summit was have these engagements on where do we go from here, what would be our approach? For us when it comes to primary healthcare, intersectoral collaboration and public partnership with civil society is crucial.

So you do not want a situation now where you end up using the cadres of people that are supposed to be community-based and then you take them back to the system and institutionalise them. Hence the principle was that whatever happens they still have to remain in the communities and be known to the people who are in the communities, and also in terms of the streets where they are known, especially in cases where there are follow-ups and also with regard to their safety.

So it becomes difficult, unlike with other categories of healthcare workers where you will find that you can advertise and then people apply. Here it must be from the bottom-up, from the community and then up to that level.

Of course, because the majority are women and they are coming from poor communities, it means that you also have to look at salaries and also, because some of them might in their 40's, 50's or 60's, at when they might retire, but they will retire with nothing because of how they are being remunerated.

Therefore we have to keep on reviewing, specifically now. We actually started the process before Covid, related to the Universal Health Coverage. What is the role of each and every sector? You look at the whole of the human resources from the community health workers up to the senior medical specialists in a particular area.

So we are already doing that, but the issue is about the need to fund them at a national level. They cannot give them crumbs, using the conditional HIV/AIDS grant, in order for us to remunerate community health workers as they do work that is beyond that.

They need to standardise, because if you are demanding the entry required in terms of their salary, it would be salary level 5. Salary 5 in the Government, according to DPSA, requires a minimum of matric and yet we know there are many of them who do not have matric, yet those people have been there before. So how do we ensure the standardisation, even the recognition of the prior learning around that aspect? Because we do need them, especially with regards to Universal Health Coverage, because later there might be individuals who can render a service, instead of having this middle man or middle person as a NGO needing to employ them. But they can do home-

based care, or visit older persons, or even cancer patients.

Pay me as a service provider. We have to look beyond that, so that is why I always say that when we talk about health, we also have to talk about the economy, we also have to talk about jobs, and we accept over 4,000 people who are at that level of education, also the category that we will be able to absorb. We want to absorb more not only in the Metro, but throughout the whole of the province. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Mbombo. I now recognise hon member Philander.

Ms W F PHILANDER: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Through you to the Minister. Thank you, Minister, you have touched on some of the points.

In terms of recognition of the community healthcare workers; does the national system in actual fact recognise community healthcare workers? And in the same breath, Mr Speaker, as the request from community healthcare workers was to be permanently employed with benefits, who is ultimately responsible to make such appointments, should it be possible? Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Philander ... [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: I did not hear that part? Sorry, I did not hear

the first part. I only heard the part about who is going to be the responsible. What was that?

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister.

Ms W F PHILANDER: Oh, sorry, Minister Mbombo. Can I ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Philander.

Ms W F PHILANDER: Thank you. Through you, Mr Speaker. Minister, as a request was made by the community healthcare workers to be permanently employed with benefits, who is ultimately responsible for making such appointments, should it be possible?

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Philander.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Yes, all right.

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you. It is part of the Bargaining Council, because all of this is discussed even at the level of the network, in terms of the unions and also with the business sector and all of those. Remember the issue of the R3,500 remuneration was finalised in June 2018 and then was also extended, because it became difficult to apply for those

who were earning less and also working less than 40 hours per week. If you give them R3,500 and then they work 40 hours, yet some would have been working probably maybe two days, or even half a day per week. It would mean they were actually not benefitting.

Or you could probably give all of them that amount, irrespective that they do not even have matric, because the requirement there talks about a matric and also the recognition of prior learning, but it means that you will have to decrease the number, because it is not properly funded, it is not adequately funded.

At the time it was R3,500. So, do you decrease them when you need more? Especially in rural areas where you find that the people are unable to go now and again to a clinic, and there is no need for that, because they have to walk some distance because of the public transport. We rely on the contract workers. So, do you decrease them in order to meet up the R3,500, and then also make them work more *vis-à-vis*?

So, it is part of the Bargaining Council, but within ourselves, because they are part of us. They are part of the health system. We create that environment where we listen and then make this case even at the higher level. For example, for me one of my projects, prior even to when I joined the Government, we established that some of these contract workers should work in KwaZulu Natal, but at the time we were focussing on traditional birth attendance. So, what I am trying to highlight is that there is no way we could

be able to strengthen primary healthcare without community health workers.

However, because of the spheres of government, where most of these are discussed at a national level, and also through their unions and the Bargaining Council, it will affect even those who are not necessarily part of the Bargaining Council. So, it is a whole set of things. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Mbombo. I now recognise hon member Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I think firstly the Minister should be advised to divorce herself of the thinking that people protest because they are unionised, as it undermines the genuine issues that they are raising.

I want to ask, Mr Speaker, and it is linked to what I am saying now, why is it that even on 8 July, since April, you still have health workers, whether they are community health workers or they are your professional health workers; why, until this day, do we have health workers that complain about proper personal protective equipment? Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Kama. I now recognise the Minister.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you, Mr Speaker, honourable member. I repeat what I have just said, because the question from hon member who

sponsored the question was asking why do we see most of the protests in these impoverished communities, and we do not see them in other areas? Yet you will find that the complaints, or the issues are general, in the sense that they are all earning a salary, everyone wants their salary.

What I was responding to is that when they were protesting, they were protesting under the banner of a union. You would have seen them even in Nyanga, where they had a banner of a union, NUPSO.

So, it means that they were unionised. It is just the same as a protest for other categories. It could be there is a protest by the EMS, a genuine concern, but one may ask why is it there in the [Inaudible.] because at the time they would have been protesting under a banner. It is not me labelling them, it is them who are saying, this is our memorandum, and it is under the banner of this union. Just to correct that part.

Why are people still protesting? Everyone is protesting, not only in the province, everywhere, generally because it is a new virus. Everyone is scared by the virus; everyone does not actually trust what they are wearing in terms of the PPE.

The national or international requirements may be A, B, C of PPE, but you will still feel that no, A, B, C is not enough, especially if now I see so many people who might be Covid positive. I need D, E, F, and yet D, E, F is not part of the package.

So now we can understand when they say we demand D, E, F because of that. Also you can understand when they hear that one of their co-workers might have passed on, or there has been an outbreak of Covid, which at least now we see lesser of in terms of the health worker infections, but you need to understand that health workers are also a cluster, just like we see a higher level of infections at the shops, just like as we see the infections in the South African police stations, in the Correctional Services, in the communities.

Community health workers also come from the communities. They might be infected at work or they might be infected in their communities. They protest of course. As I indicated, they are only protesting as such, but what I can do is reassure everyone that in the Western Cape we have got enough PPE to last us for however long this pandemic will last according to the projections.

We projected in terms of the predictions of the modelling, the worst case scenario, and therefore we ended up accumulating a lot of PPE. In addition, we have seen donations coming from the different countries. There is China and tomorrow we are expecting another donation from Taiwan, and then I also received correspondence from Hungary and all of those. So, there is no shortage.

However, having said that, it does not mean that it should be abused. For example, you cannot wear a N95 mask in an area where you are not supposed to wear it, irrespective of the fact that you know that it at least gives you the assurance that, even if the virus is airborne, it will protect you, but a surgical

mask cannot protect you. Unfortunately until the NICD, or there is a national protocol that guides us, you will not all be able to wear white suits because you are scared, and yet you find that in that environment you might have to be wearing an apron.

So, Mr Speaker, what I am trying to highlight is that we journey together with the health workers, because we are all scared and everyone is scared, and we provide psychological support throughout. We have got the buddy system, and we also keep on testing and screening them, and we have prioritised them when it comes to the testing compared to prioritising the general public, except for those who are vulnerable. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Mbombo. I now recognise hon member Makamba-Botya.

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA: Thank you, Mr Speaker, I just want to make a comment pertaining to what hon member Kama raised regarding the Minister's response about making an excuse that these areas are being unionised, that is why there is so many riots and protests that are taking place.

I think it is very irresponsible of the Minister to overlook the real challenges that are actually facing these areas, because the Minister cannot tell me that the working conditions of Khayelitsha and the working conditions of Constantia are at the same level.

So I think for her to make a statement that these protests emanate because of unions, that is so wrong of her to say that, because she cannot overlook what the real challenges are that are faced by these people, because of the conditions. I can tell you right now they are never the same with what is happening in other areas. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Makamba-Botya. I now recognise the hon Minister Mbombo.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Yes, of course they are different. For our staff working in the Khayelitsha District Hospital the conditions would be different from someone who is working in the George Hospital, or in the Wesfleur Hospital.

The same applies to the EMS staff who are working in Khayelitsha, or EMS staff who are working maybe in Ravensmead. Of course it is going to be different.

The question that you raise is why is it that the people who seem to be protesting more are the ones who are coming from these areas. I am responding that in those areas, what they do is that they hand in a memorandum under the banner of a union. You might find that just the same applies with other categories. There might be some staff structures where they might be protesting more, but it does not mean that the problems are not across the board.

As I indicated, everyone wants to have a danger allowance, everyone will want to have an extra salary, everyone will want to have a medical aid, and everyone will want to have a housing allowance, because these are genuine concerns that are being raised throughout. But you were asking in terms of being seen not only by the media and all of those.

This is where you will find that in some cases the union will have written to me and said MEC, we are sending our members who will be protesting at A, B, C, although some of what they will be raising is not related specifically to the Province, but it is part of the visibility. So, I would have already received the letter from them as a union. That is what I am trying to respond to here because remember in terms of the protesting, everyone has got a right to protest, and also you use the language that might be understood by the employer in order for you to get recognition. So therefore, when you disrupt space and protest, you will find that at least it gets more attention than if you keep on sending letters.

So, there is nothing wrong in terms of protesting, but in some instances, indirectly, it is not necessarily the Province, but it is about the whole package against the health system.

So that is what I am trying to highlight. So, I am not dismissing their truth. Of course, everybody is different, as I indicated earlier. If you work in Khayelitsha, you work in Masiphumelele, or you work in Bothasig, it is going to be different. Whether you are a community health worker, whether you are

an EMS, whether you are a doctor, it will be different. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister Mbombo. Hon members, that concludes this question and the follow-ups to the question.

I now move to Question number 3 by hon member Christians to the hon Minister of Education, Minister Schäfer, I recognise you, Madam.

*Schools: phasing in of grades in August*

**3. Mr F C Christians asked the Minister of Education:**

(a) What is she and her Department doing about the remainder of the grades that are being phased in in August, (b) what measures are being taken to ensure that social distancing is adhered to and (c) how will social distancing be implemented in every school in the province despite the fact that many classes are already overcrowded?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, and to hon member Christians for the question.

The WCED is following the dates for phasing in of grades as gazetted by the National Minister, which of course may change after this evening's announcement by the President.

Sufficient cleaning and sanitising materials, masks, and thermometers for each extra batch of grades, are delivered before the additional learners arrive. Schools are also able to utilise the [0:56:30 Inaudible.] ahead of the phasing-in timetable, as long as they are able to implement the required protocol, as is provided for by the latest Gazette by the National [Inaudible.]

Now in respect of (b) and (c). It is important to note that as the extra grades return, not all of those learners will be in school at the same time every day.

In order to maintain the 1,5 metre distance between learners, the schools have been asked [Inaudible.]. Some of the models chosen include alternating days or [Inaudible.].

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister Schäfer ...

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Yes?

The SPEAKER: Your line is not very friendly to you.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Oh, dear. I do not know what I can do about it, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: It is better now. Yes, now it is better, thank you. Please proceed.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Okay, shall I start with (b) and (c) again?

The SPEAKER: You may please start the question response, please  
[Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: The whole one?

The SPEAKER: ... hon Minister Schäfer.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: The whole question?

The SPEAKER: Start where you ended.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Okay. Schools, a temporary education plans or TREPs, include:

- Considerations of amending the timetable.
- Factoring in teachers for comorbidities and assigning teachers to new classrooms.
- Learners to remain in classrooms with teachers rotating for the different periods.
- Based on available accommodation, learner numbers and teacher resources, schools to decide on the modality of curriculum application, with emphasis on Grade 12 learners present every day.
- Staggered intervals to limit the number of learners outside at one time

and school feeding.

- Taking into consideration learners using learner transport to get to school, bus trips should be optimised.
- Amending the screening plan because more learners will be returning.
- And applying for substitute teachers if teachers fall ill.

Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I now recognise hon member Christians, if you have a follow-up?

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Yes, thank you, Mr Speaker. I could not hear everything, but thank you hon Minister, I heard some of the response.

Mr Speaker, just a question. We have visited a couple of schools, and in Mitchells Plain they said, because of the Grade 12's taking extra space, they do not know how are they going to phase in the other learners because of the school size, it is too small.

I must say that at many of the schools that we have visited, we saw that there are enough masks and sanitisers. Schools have enough and social distancing can be adhered to because of the small numbers, but there were schools that were concerning, and I want to ask the Minister, is she aware of any schools that approached the WCED to say that they cannot cope with social distancing when we phase in the other learners.

So, as I said, there were schools that were doing excellent, and we compliment those principals for their leadership, but there are also schools that have difficulties. Does the Minister know of any of those schools facing those difficulties, and what are the districts doing to assist those schools because some of the principals are also saying they do not get the cooperation from the districts. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Christians. Hon members, I now recognise the Minister.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Speaker. Is my line on?

The SPEAKER: Yes, hon Minister, it is clear.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Christians. I am not aware of specific schools, I know there are schools that have, in general, said that they do have space constraints but the information I have is that every school has submitted a TREP in order to say how they are going to deal with the upgrades when they do come in, but if you have specific schools where you are aware that there are further problems, please will you contact me personally and I will see how we can assist them. Thank you.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker, and many thanks to the Minister for the responses and to hon member Christians also for the question. I just wanted to get a sense, because hon member Christians

mentioned the issue around PPEs and the visits that we made. One concern that came out of some of these visits from some principals was the fact that once grades are going to be phased in more and more, they will most likely run short of the PPEs. I just wanted to get a sense from the hon Minister, does the Department have plans to continue providing schools with PPE moving forward? If so, also how often and when will the PPE supplies to schools be basically replenished?

Then also given the new guidelines for the phasing in of more grades, which says that schools must operate at 50% capacity, which then means that classes must be divided into two, what are the plans that the Department has got to basically achieve this? Also, does the Province, does the hon Minister think ... [Interjection.]

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

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ... that the Province has the capacity and resources to actually achieve this ... [Interjection.]

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Point of order, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Is that a point of order? Hon Sayed ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): [Inaudible.] ... to now give a point of order, because I am done. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Hon Sayed, will you please take your seat? There is a point of order.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: What is the point of order?

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): The hon member has asked two questions, two different questions to the Minister.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): No, it is one. It is one question. It is part of the same question, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you, hon member Wenger. I just want to check now whether the hon Minister wants to respond to the question being asked as one question or it is a different question. I think the hon Minister can help us in this regard, hon Chief Whip.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Speaker. It was two questions, but I will answer the second question by saying I have already answered that one. So the issue of PPEs, we have made provisions for several ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, the hon Sayed was still on the floor.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Oh, sorry.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Sayed, please proceed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): No, no, no, hon Chair, it is fine. I am done, I am done. I was ... [Interjection.]

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

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ... as the hon Chief Whip of the DA came in.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Sayed. Hon Minister, you may proceed.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Speaker. As I said, the second question was already answered in my previous response, but the PPEs, we have made provision for several tranches but certainly not on an indefinite basis. We have also, depending on how long this goes on, made provision for some assistance to schools that have not got the finances, but we do also provide schools with norms and standards funding every year that they are supposed to use some of for normal cleaning material. So they may be asked to use some of that in future, depending on how long the situation endures for. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I wish to draw the attention of the hon members that the next two follow-ups, one comes from hon Botha, followed by hon Christians and that will be the end of the follow-ups on this question. I now recognise hon Botha.

Ms L J BOTHA: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. If the hon Minister can just tell us, we know that the Cabinet would have concluded their deliberations and discussions on the way forward in terms of our schools, but given the delays and confusion in the phasing in of grades, hon Minister, would it not be better to scrap the school year and begin again in 2021?

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Botha. I now recognise the hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Botha. That certainly is a suggestion that has been made by some people, but unfortunately it is not as simple as that. Scrapping the school year would create unsolvable logistical problems. We are already busy placing learners in the 20/21 school year and if we scrap the school year, this simply means that all of those children currently in the system will stay in the system, so where are we going to put the new Grade Rs and 1s ... [Inaudible – connection lost.] already are struggling with space in schools and it is simply impossible. What will then happen with learners and what about matrics? So over and above that, there are also consequences, the children's health ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister ...?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Yes?

The SPEAKER: Your line seems to be in conflict with you. I do not know why it does not like you, because you were audible and then all of a sudden you were not. So, if you can move to a different spot within the same space where you are.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Let me try. Is that better, hon Speaker?

The SPEAKER: It is much better, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: I have put on my headphones, my earphones. Okay. So, I do not know what you heard last but there are some profound consequences to children's health and safety, food security and financial security and future earnings.

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

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, if the hon Minister can just tell us, is she aware of teachers with comorbidities being forced to be at school, because the ratio between the teacher and the learner, because of social distancing they need the numbers. Is she aware of any teachers being forced by principals to be at school even if they have comorbidities? Is she aware of any of those cases? If she is not, I will bring

some of the cases to her, but is she aware, or was it not reported to her previously? Thank you, hon Speaker.

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

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Speaker. The issue of comorbidities needs to be understood within the framework that has been given to us by the Department of Health. We have some teachers who say they have comorbidities, but they are not necessarily the kind of comorbidities that fall within the high-risk category. We have been given very specific criteria, for example hypertension, what the blood pressure readings must be and so on, the same for diabetes and if a condition is actually controlled it does not necessarily mean they should not be at school. So with that said, I am not aware. We have received a number of applications for comorbidities, quite a number, and many of them, the majority of them have been approved. So I am not aware of anybody who qualifies for the concession as a result of comorbidities, who has not been allowed to have it. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Hon members, that concludes Question 3.

*Healthcare facilities in areas with high infection rates*

**4. Ms W F Philander asked the Minister of Health:**

(a) What was the cause behind the reprioritisation of the testing approach, (b) why did the Western Cape move prematurely from mass community testing and screening and (c) how does the hotspot strategy address concerns about contact tracing?

The SPEAKER: For Question 4 I have got hon Philander asking the hon Minister of Health. I now recognise hon Minister, Dr Mbombo.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Can you hear me, hon Speaker?

The SPEAKER: Yes, that is fine.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Okay, †enkosi [thank you.] Thank you, hon member Philander for the question related to the reprioritisation of the testing approach. At the time we had to come up with a reprioritisation as we had a backlog of about 27 000 tests at the time, results that we were waiting for. It meant that the people who were admitted in the hospitals were taking longer because there were persons under investigation. Therefore, we had to prioritise them because the [Inaudible.] would not be able to come up with the necessary interventions in order to save lives.

At the time the backlog meant that even for those health workers who were being exposed and being tested, instead of getting the results on time so that they could go back to work, because the policy, as I say, is about testing on

the eighth day where a health worker has been exposed, and then if the test is negative you will be able to return to work without completing the 14 days. So it meant we had to prioritise that when we could not get the assurance at a national level, noting that the National Health Laboratory Services is a national competency. Provinces do not own ... [Inaudible – connection lost].

Secondly, because we were the frontrunners when it comes to the epidemic in the Western Cape, whilst the others were in what they call Stage 4 at the time, the question of the epidemic ... [Inaudible. – connection lost.] which is a mass community screening intervention for us. So there is a different approach when it comes to the testing, depending where, in which stage, where you are when it comes to the epidemic.

Let me give you an example. Currently most of the provinces now have hotspots. Hence they are where we were when it comes to the reprioritisation of the testing. So at the time, while the others were at Stage 4, we were already at Stage 5 with the hotspots, whilst the others were doing the mass screening and testing. Therefore one had to prioritise the hotspots, the vulnerable groups, because it meant there was already a high level of local community transmission in the area. That is the reason that we had to prioritise them. Thank you, hon Speaker.

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

Ms W F PHILANDER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Thank you very

much, hon Minister. Hon Minister, what I understand, that as the pandemic progresses and extends, that a new approach needs to be activated. Hon Minister, can you please tell us what is the Western Cape Health Department's strategy and approach on behavioural change within the Western Cape? Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Philander. I now recognise the hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you, thank you. Where we are now is about people that have been hospitalised. There have been many deaths and if we are going to talk about the stages according to the national response to the epidemic, we are in a phase where we say re-entry, where we now want to go back to the communities, we are going back to the basics, that we are still going to live with this virus for the next year or two. And therefore, in order to avoid being hospitalised or going to a clinic as we are going towards opening up in the phased approach, for the non-COVID services as well, stick to the basics, which are your mask, physical distancing, avoiding gatherings, staying at home, going out only when it is necessary, especially going for shopping and also the issue of hand hygiene.

So you will have seen that even now, us, as Health, are dishing out masks to get that message out there, as we used to do with HIV Aids where we were dishing out condoms. So the mask is now the new condom, but for COVID, related to the behaviour, because we are permanently in the hotspots. Therefore, people are changing and there are different interventions.

Also, we appreciate that now there is a rapid test using blood samples, which is your fingerprint for virology, for the antibodies. That has been approved. National are still working on the protocol, how we are going to approach it, but generally it is about when you go to a certain area, maybe the taxi rank or a school, if you suspect that there is a high level of infection, you can do random groups just to test them to check whether they have antibodies or not, because we will not be going back to where everyone has to know their status.

At the beginning it was about knowing your COVID status. Now it is knowing your COVID status only if you are in a vulnerable group, meaning you are over 55 years old, you have diabetes or you have other comorbidities. You might be younger but you have got all of those, therefore we have to prioritise them.

So we have to keep on changing, moving with the flow and also responding according to what science determines, because we have to be guided by science.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. There does not seem to be more follow-ups, so I will move to the next question.

The next question is by hon Philander to yourself again, hon Minister of Health. I now recognise Dr Mbombo, the hon Minister.

*Healthcare facilities in areas with high infection rates*

**5. Ms W F Philander asked the Minister of Health:**

(a) What plans does her Department have to curb the high infection rate in Gugulethu and Khayelitsha and (b) how will the availability of three completed field hospitals, and possibly a fourth hospital in Paarl, relieve the pressure on community healthcare facilities, especially in areas with high infection rates?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Yes, thank you. [Inaudible - connection lost]  
... the high infection rate in Khayelitsha and noting that the ... [interjection.  
– connection lost.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister...

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: ... and in terms of the fact that it keeps on changing. Can you hear me?

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister. Will you please start your response from scratch please?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Oh, was it a noise? Was there a noise?

The SPEAKER: We could not hear you. Come closer.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Let me remove the pin. Okay, can you hear me now? I have removed it.

The SPEAKER: It is slightly better, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Okay.

The SPEAKER: You may proceed.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: I think it probably was just my headphones. The question was about Gugulethu and Khayelitsha. The question was asked at the time that we are seeing a higher rate of the infections in those particular areas but noting that every area in the Metro does have some high levels of infection, but we find that in some areas, specifically like Gugulethu, and also if you look in terms of the ... [Inaudible.] in terms of the cases of deaths as well, of the population.

So already there are many interventions that are happening there. It is not only about the health; the Cabinet allocated each and every Minister, MEC, in charge of the hotspots, and then in these specific hotspots we zoomed to those vulnerable. That is why the community health workers will find that their scope keeps on changing; now they have to go and find the people who have diabetes and then also might be obese, which we have observed in some people specifically, for example, the over 60s, who are more in Gugulethu. Khayelitsha is a young community, but you will find that there are other

comorbidities that are present there.

This is also why that we are opening up in August for non-COVID cases in this kind of area so that we can go back to basics in terms of TB, in terms of HIV, including as part of the package, screening and testing these communities, but the most important thing is the issue of diabetes.

The issue related to the hospitals, the availability and how it is going to relieve pressure: again, I think these questions were probably asked maybe two weeks ago or so. It is quite long, I mean it is mostly outdated information because these three hospitals, the Thusong Centre, the field hospital, the CTICC and also Brackengate are already taking patients. They are relieving the pressure as we have seen that some of our facilities are less than 80% full, for first time actually, in terms of bed occupancy.

Of course, except for Khayelitsha and Eerste River, where I saw that there is 86% in one of those, but they have actually relieved us. Brackengate is going to relieve us more for the Metro East side, which the CTICC has done for the Metro West, including Mitchells Plain, because most of the patients are coming from Mitchells Plain and for the Thusong from Khayelitsha. So we are opening in the first week of August; the first phase I think is 68 beds which is actually going to relieve pressure so much, not only for the Cape Winelands, because we can also take patients from the Swartland to the field hospital.

Noting there are also some beds that have been allocated to field hospitals that are part of existing hospitals, like the Hermanus Hospital where we used an old underground storeroom, converting it into 32 field hospital beds that will be opening soon. The same applies to the [Inaudible.] in George where we have also added an additional 20 beds in a field hospital. 20 beds also in in Vredendal to accommodate those who are on the West Coast, in the upper area.

But hon Speaker, lastly, I just want to add that it is crucial that we now go back and reconsider those other conditions that had to suffer at this time that we are trying to fight COVID. For example, we have seen a drop in the uptake of ARVs for those people who have tested HIV-positive, the uptake for TB treatment, those who are supposed to come and fetch TB medication. There is a 50% decrease in mental health users, who have not taken up their treatment, meaning that you might have lapses down the line. This is not only in the Western Cape, but generally. For us, as the front-runners, we were able to collect this data.

The same applies to the issue of immunisations, especially measles, the first dose of measles immunisation. So you might find in August that you have more pathways. We will say, if ECDs are open, let us go to the ECDs and check the Road to Health interventions to see that they have been updated.

Thank you, hon Speaker. Thank you, hon member.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Hon Philander, do you have a follow-up?

Ms W F PHILANDER: Hon Speaker, thank you very much. I am covered by the hon Minister in the latter synopsis that she provided. Thank you very much to the hon Minister and thank you very much, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Philander. Hon members, there are no further follow-ups on this question. I now move to the next question by hon Botha to the Minister of Education. I now recognise hon Minister Schäfer.

*Learners not returning to school in the academic year*

**6. Ms L J Botha asked the Minister of Education:**

- (1) How many applications have been received from parents who will not be sending their children to school for the rest of the academic year;
- (2) whether all these learners will be homeschooled; if so, (a) how many homeschooling applications has her Department received in total, (b) what is the status of these applications and (c) how many of these learners have comorbidities?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Speaker. I am advised that

there might be a problem because the House microphone is not muted, if that could assist.

If I can answer the question; thank you, hon Botha. The answer to your question 1 is that the WCED has received 45 257 applications for exemption from public schooling during the COVID-19 crisis. This is in respect of the gazetted directions which do not provide a specific time period for the exemption, so it is not necessarily the entire academic year. An additional 25 applications have been received during lockdown for home education.

Part 2 of the question is: no, only those parents that apply for formal home education will be deregistered from school and undertake home schooling, as it is generally understood. Parents that have applied to temporarily oversee their children's learning at home during the state of National Disaster will not have to deregister their children from school.

Parents choosing the temporary option must take the responsibilities of overseeing the learning of their children at home, including creating a conducive environment for the child to learn at home, accepting the responsibility to oversee the daily learning of their child, including the daily work and assessments, accepting the responsibility of ensuring that they are informed of what work must be learnt and what work must be completed on a daily basis and ensuring that all work and assignments are collected and delivered at school as required and produced by the school.

The figures for the applications that we have received and that have been processed, there have been 25 applications for formal home education received since lockdown, which are currently being considered by the districts. There are 1 083 applications received for temporary exemption from public school attendance because of high risk comorbidity of a child, of which 1 000 have already been processed and approved, and then there are 44 174 applications for temporary exemption from public school attendance because parents are anxious about COVID-19. 11 850 have been approved; 1 644 have not been approved for various reasons, including incomplete paperwork, no signatures and the like, and the remainder are still being processed. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I now recognise hon Botha, followed by hon Christians and then hon Sayed, in that order.

Ms L J BOTHA: Thank you very much, hon Minister, for the response to the question. I would like to understand, hon Speaker; hon Minister, how many learners in regard to the grades that are now already back in the classroom, have not at all attended school yet when their grades have been phased in to the schools, please.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Botha. Hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thanks, hon Botha. That I do not have. That is a very detailed, specific question which I will try and get you the

answers for, but I will have to give them to you separately. Thank you.

Ms L J BOTHA: Thank you, hon Speaker.

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

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Speaker. Just to the hon Minister: those parents that are anxious to send their children to school, now those children do not have comorbidities, but the parents are anxious, and I heard the hon Minister talk about a temporary exemption. What does that include, a temporary exemption? And if a parent is anxious and she wants to keep her child at home and there is the correct supervision, is that allowed for the remainder of the academic year? Thank you, hon Speaker.

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

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Speaker and hon Christians. Yes, as I said, that is one of the categories that we are processing. That was the 44 000 applications and, as I said, there is no timeframe that has been specified, so we do not yet know whether it is for the rest of the academic year or not, or for a month or two, but we have not specified a time. It will be assessed from time to time depending on the progress of the outbreak, but that certainly is an option and 44 000 applications have already been received in that regard. Thank you.

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

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Speaker, can you hear me?

The SPEAKER: Yes, loud and clear, hon Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Speaker, and thank you to the hon Minister for the responses and to hon member Botha for the question. Hon Speaker, following on from the hon Minister's response to the follow-up question by hon member Christians, I just wanted to get an idea whether the hon Minister is able to give – it does not have to be in detail - a rough breakdown or an idea of these applications for home schooling in terms of the Quintiles, as per Quintiles as well as the districts.

How many of these applications are from Quintiles 1 to 3 and Quintile 4 or 5? What are the stats, not in numbers but just in terms of whether more were in 1 to 3 or more were in 4 to 5 and how many were from the Metro East and the other districts with learners coming from a poor background? And what are the reasons for these application trends, in the hon Minister's view, particularly the low applications from learners from poor families? Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Sayed. Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Speaker. No, I cannot

answer that because we have not finished processing them yet, of course, and I do not have that information, but I can ask for that to be given to me as well once they are completed. So there is no indication yet for that statement made by hon Sayed that there are fewer applications from poor communities, but I can try and get him that information. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. The last follow-up question is by hon Kama who is here in the House.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you very much, hon Speaker, and thanks to the hon Minister for the answers that have been provided. My follow-up, hon Speaker, would be: what communication has taken place with parents to alert them to the various options they have?

I am asking this because, I think last week, I saw a post on the Pauw Gedenk Primary Facebook page that speaks about parents that must come and collect documents and it also had to do with the temporary exemption? When I asked one parent whose child is not going to school about the options they had taken, they did not know any of the options available but were part of that community that is anxious in sending their kids to school because of fear of the pandemic. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. I now recognise the hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Speaker and hon Kama.

Well, first of all, I have done public statements on the matter. Secondly, our HOD has sent detailed communication to schools and we are relying on school principals to ensure that their school communities are informed of the options. I know many have been. So if that school has not, then we will follow that up. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Hon members, that was the last bite on the Questions for Oral Reply. As of now we have concluded our time. The remainder of the responses to questions will be printed in Hansard. Now we are going straight to Members' Statements and the hon Deputy Speaker will now take over. Thank you very much, hon members.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. We now move over to Statements in terms of Rule 145. I recognise the DA. Hon members? Hon members, you know your sequence? The DA?

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, I condemn in the strongest terms the alleged attack of motorists on the N2 and the R300. The visuals tell the shocking story of intolerance and a serious lack of due consideration for others occupying the shared space that is our roads.

Whilst protest action is a right, we ought to respect that these acts of criminality cannot be tolerated and infringe on the rights of our law-abiding citizens. Our law enforcement agencies must ensure strong action has been

taken against perpetrators and anyone responsible for these actions must be brought to book and prosecuted.

We cannot remain silent, hon Deputy Speaker, when residents intimidate and threaten innocent motorists. Now is the time to stand together and to provide support to community members who are returning to work and helping to rebuild our economy.

Hon Deputy Speaker, I also want to take this opportunity to applaud the good work of the Provincial Transport Department. We have witnessed an increase in sanitisation efforts of taxis in the province. This helps to keep commuters safe and to reduce the risk of transmission of the Corona virus. The proactive approach of the Provincial Department is further exemplified in its ongoing engagements with the taxi industry. I applaud the work of Minister Madikizela in providing this bridge between the different taxi organisations that will ultimately lead to enable us to realise a long-lasting working relationship between these organisations, their management, drivers, and further promote the safety of our commuters.

This is a sterling example, hon Deputy Speaker, of working in collaboration with key stakeholders within the transport industry. I thank you.

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

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you, hon Deputy

Speaker. The audio recordings provided to the Opposition by a whistleblower provide clear evidence of the systematic and selective targeting of certain DA councillors and local government officials under the direct instruction of MEC Bredell. The overall conduct of the DA, under the leadership of Bredell, clearly shows that they are hell-bent on capturing elements in the Hawks and the Public Protector in the Western Cape.

The targeted individuals are the former Mayor of George, Melvin Naik, as well as the current MM, Mr Trevor Botha. We also now see an attempted pushback by MEC Bredell, who constantly harasses ANC-led councils. The ANC has now taken over seven municipalities in the province as DA factional battles increase and DA voters become disillusioned. In George we have a situation where the CFO was found guilty for his role in unlawful facilitation of an investment of R350 million of municipal funds with Old Mutual.

The question is: why have criminal charges not been investigated? The DA Mayco member of Finance, Stag Cronjé, whose son benefited from the unlawful Old Mutual investment, was not pursued at all. Why did MEC Bredell and HOD Paulse not request the Hawks to investigate as they did with Melvin Naik and Trevor Botha?

I am pleased to report to the House that the Public Protector has apologised for not investigating my complaint against MEC Bredell and have now interviewed me yesterday. There is no doubt in my mind at all that MEC Bredell has breached the Code of Ethics. In these recordings, Head of

Department Paule is heard to say: “The Minister is breathing down my neck to say you are not helping me. You are not helping me because, besides all of the other stuff, I am under political pressure.” The ANC has outlined a set of eight steps to take to follow up on these damning revelations, including that our MPL for Local Government ... [Interjection.]

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

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: ... has written to Derrick America, we are writing to the NCOP and we will provide a full dossier to the Minister of Police.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you. And in conclusion, we want to appeal to every official ... [Interjection.]

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

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION:: ... of this Government to come forward with information and expose the rot and corruption within the DA.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Come on, your time is up. Hon Dugmore, I said

three times that your time was up.

An HON MEMBER: He could not hear.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Ja.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I do not believe that ...[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Okay. I apologise, hon Deputy Speaker, I only heard you saying it once and normally one is allowed to conclude the statement.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right. Thank you very much. We move over to the EFF.

Mr M XEGO [EFF]: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. The EFF calls for the Western Cape DA-led Government to desist from conducting illegal evictions against residents in the Western Cape informal settlements. The EFF calls for the DA-led Government to stop utilising law enforcement structures in the province to conduct these illegal evictions against our people.

Instead of offering our poor people houses and land for occupation, the DA-led Government has instead illegally deployed law enforcement agencies, masquerading as apartheid security forces, to brutally, forcefully humiliate and remove our people from their homes. They do all this in total disregard

and disrespect of South African laws aimed at regulating and prohibiting the illegal evictions against land occupiers, as confirmed by the High Court in the Helderberg and Emfuleni rulings.

The conduct of these DA officials is further confirmed in a media release, dated 22 July 2020, by Ward 13, Vredenburg, Saldanha Municipality DA Ward Councillor, Elderman Van Tura, who ... [Inaudible.] that in her resignation from the Municipality and the party, outlined the powers of DA white *baasskaps* within the party leadership who took unilateral decisions to cut housing projects meant for poor communities such as ... [Inaudible.]. She also outlined how our people or the indigenous people in the province within the DA live in constant fear to challenge the decisions of the DA within the cabal that is leading the Province.

We welcome her decision and that of the entire DA Executive Committee, 13 members, who resigned from the DA. Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Hon members, before we continue, hon Christians is that a point of order or are you just waiting for a chance to speak?

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Sorry, hon Chair. I will lower my hand, though I kept it up for a previous one.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. No, you are on the list. Thanks very much, we move over to the DA.

Mr D AMERICA (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. You know, George Orwell said, and I quote:

“The party seeks power entirely for its own sake. We are not interested in the good of others; we are interested in solely power.”

It is those in power who sometimes selfishly use a proverbial good crisis for their own ends to achieve more power and for its own sake. We see worrying signs of this through the backdoor entry of the so-called District Development Model by the National Government.

Without due consideration to the Constitution, the ANC has begun to deploy its National Ministers and Deputy Ministers to municipalities as so-called political champions ... [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: It is across the whole country ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr D AMERICA: Well, they assume. The ward-based Corona virus ... [Inaudible.] [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Just an interjection, not a point of order.

Mr D AMERICA: ... structure for National Government to dictate to municipalities. This seems to be an attempt to create a parallel set of governance by taking advantage ... [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: It is called cooperative governance.

Mr D AMERICA: ... of the current lockdown under the ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon members.

Mr D AMERICA: We do not know the scope of the mandate for District and Provincial Command Councils. Hon Deputy Speaker ... [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: It is called the District Development Model.

Mr D AMERICA: Hon Speaker, we need to consider the purpose of these command councils. We cannot allow the centralisation of power and encroachment of National Government onto the local sphere. Neither can we subvert the rule of law and flout basic tenets of a democratic state,

[Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: We are trying to help everyone.

Mr D AMERICA: Municipalities in the Western Cape have mustered some sterling efforts in their fight against COVID-19. These include business relief, provision of food parcels, support for the homeless and the rollout of sanitation facilities.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time has expired, hon member.

Mr D AMERICA: Okay fine, thank you. Hon Deputy Speaker, it is my urgent appeal that we all, as public representatives, remember where our mandate derives from. It is not a mandate rooted in the pursuit of power. It is ...

[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you, hon member. You are way over time.

Mr D AMERICA: Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, if I can just ask you to be mindful because it seems that the microphones in the House are much louder than the ones on the screen. So if there are interjections, which is fine, be mindful

that I cannot actually hear the person speak.

We are moving over to GOOD.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Maybe the mask will help, if I use the mask when I interject.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, it will help if you do not interject.

Mr B D HERRON (GOOD): Hon Deputy Speaker, I have no statement. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay, thank you. I recognise the ACDP.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, the ACDP strongly condemns the torching of a Grade 5 classroom and the library of the Marconi Beam Primary School in Democracy Way, Milnerton.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the ongoing destruction of schools and vandalism of our schools put the Western Cape in a peculiar manner, being that it is detrimental to the wellbeing of society. Our children need education in these trying times and breaking down our schools does not help.

Where the WCED must spend money to repair schools, they cannot improve

our school facilities because of fences being broken down, buildings being burnt down and, hon Deputy Speaker, the call from the ACDP is that communities will have to stand together in order to stop the destruction and vandalism of our schools.

Hon Deputy Speaker, in the Western Cape we are struggling with classroom space. We are struggling to have learners in our schools and have classes under 30 and 35 ratios. But, hon Deputy Speaker, communities will have to come forward and to point out, because communities know who the perpetrators are, they need to point them out so that they can be caught and sent to jail where they belong. I thank you.

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

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. The ANC condemns the wanton destruction of property associated with the ongoing land evictions against [Inaudible - connection lost].

Hon Deputy Speaker, the ANC caucus in the Western Cape Legislature condemns the wanton destruction of property [Inaudible. - connection lost] illegal land invasions in various parts. The ANC acknowledges the genuine cries of people for housing, opportunity and dignity which they have been denied by the Democratic Alliance [Inaudible.] racial and systematic under-development of poor communities in the province, who remain extremely disturbed by this invasion as they rob other poor people because these

pockets of land are earmarked for development and [Inaudible.]. We are vehemently opposed to criminal elements that have hijacked and tarnished the genuine struggle of the poor for their narrow, selfish interests.

The DA has failed to produce a master plan for human settlement and land release in the city. Instead, they continue to sell public land to private individuals. We demand an immediate suspension of the sale of public land. We call for the City to produce this master plan and table it for discussion in the Council.

Of major concern to me is that these invasions are taking place [Inaudible – connection lost] and coronavirus virus and consequently presents a major risk of widespread community transmission. In this regard we call on the Provincial Government and the City of Cape Town to put measures in place to prevent the widespread transmission [Inaudible.] in others who have not had basic sanitation since last year.

A case in point is a pocket of land near Philippi Plaza which has been occupied since last year. The owner of the land is willing to engage with the State to find common ground that will allow the City of Cape Town to render services and water and sanitation, but the City of Cape Town refuses to engage and therefore, as the ANC, we demand the master plan ... [Interjection.]

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

An HON MEMBER [ANC]: I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I recognise the DA.

Ms L J BOTHA [DA]: Hon Deputy Speaker, I am afraid that the vacillating decision-making process by National Government on the reopening of schools sets learners up for precarious futures, delays and uncertainty and existing anxiety at this time. In the absence of decisive leadership evident in the DBE's indecision, I understand the worries of some parents in sending their children to school. National Government should be joining the provincial efforts to reassure families of safety and undertaking of all necessary precautions. Mixed signals incite fear during an already uncertain time.

Last week the media informed the nation that Cabinet would deliberate on a decision to close schools, after which it was reported that the National Minister of Education is still locked in meetings. One can only wonder if the Minister is deliberating in the best interests of schoolchildren or the whims of party and union colleagues who have already announced victory.

Hon Deputy Speaker, I hereby welcome the WCED's situational analysis as the World Health Organisation agrees with us in saying that each context should be viewed in light of its own circumstances. This analysis of the Western Cape shows that only 0.1% of learners have tested positive and under 1% of teachers and numbers are currently decreasing.

The Standing Committee conducted oversight visits and confirmed that the majority of these schools have found extraordinary and innovative ways to promote learner safety to continue learning in our province.

The closure of schools will have devastating effects on learners for years to come. It is vital that we take decisions in the best interests of the next generation's future, not in the interests of the next election.

I wish to thank teachers who are now the frontline tools, who go over and beyond their mandate to ensure we continue teaching and keep learners safe, and call on National Government to fulfil their obligation towards the rights of learners.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member.

An HON MEMBER [DA]: I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I recognise the Freedom Front Plus.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Thank you so much, hon Deputy Speaker. The Freedom Front Plus, noting the escalation of land invasions in the Western Cape and the absence of effective law enforcement to prevent such lawlessness, wishes to express its serious concerns and calls for harsher penalties to be imposed for such illegal actions, as such unlawful actions are

in direct conflict with Section 25 of this country's Constitution regarding security of land tenure. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I recognise Al Jama-ah.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. The Al Jama-ah wants to call on the Western Cape Government and condemns the inequality existing in the Western Cape and make sure that each and every ward gets its own own budget. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I recognise the DA.  
[Inaudible.]

Ms L M MASEKO: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Maseko, if you can just wait one minute, please.

Ms L M MASEKO: Okay.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: If the Table staff can just turn the sound down. It is echoing on all our microphones and it has a tremendous amount of feedback. Thank you very much, hon Maseko, you may continue.

Ms L M MASEKO (DA): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon

Deputy Speaker, we are witnessing the unprecedented spike in land invasions. We have continued to see an increase in the torching of public property and invasion of land which is, in many instances, earmarked for public housing. Land invasion is wrong, intolerable and unconstitutional. It has the capacity to disrupt our economy, divide communities and bring about tremendous instability.

On a very practical level, it delays the handing over of homes to beneficiaries, many of whom have been on the waiting list for years. Law-abiding residents are already frustrated and stressed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. What we do not need now is fuel added to the fire by criminal elements, a minority who would rather not see the good progress continued to be made by this Government and are determined to destabilise the province.

The spate of illegal land occupations in the Western Cape must be addressed before it spirals out of control. It is an effort that requires all three spheres of government to work together. Instead of cooperation from National Human Settlements, we have double standards from Minister Lindiwe Sisulu. The Minister sought any opportunity to attack the Western Cape for upholding the rule of law in efforts to curb land invasions. It is worrying when national leaders hold on to double standards, but hypocrisy becomes incredibly clear.

Where was Minister Sisulu's outcry over evictions in Johannesburg and Ethekewini in March and April? Why did she not turn to Twitter then and threaten legal action as she did to the City of Cape Town?

The evictions in Kokotela, Merenthal, Cato Manor and other areas in and around Durban and Johannesburg were illegal in light of the regulations gazetted by ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is up.

Ms L M MASEKO: ... Minister Sisulu's own Government. We urge National Government to support our efforts.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

Ms L M MASEKO: I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. That brings us to the end of Statements. In terms of Rule 145.6, I now give a Minister present an opportunity to respond to any of the Members' Statements for not more than five minutes. Are there any Ministers? Okay, I am going to assume that there are not. Thank you very much. And thank you to the Table staff, they have fixed up the sound. It is now perfect.

We now move over to Notices of Motion in terms of Rule 151. I have my list in front of me. As per the sequence, I recognise the hon Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Hon Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the illegal land invasions in the Western Cape. I so move.

*[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. That is fine. I recognise the hon Windvogel. Hon Windvogel?

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Deputy Speaker?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, hon Lekker?

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): The hon member indicated to me five minutes ago that she is disconnected. I have since written a message for IT staff to attend to her.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. We can come back to her at the end of the notices of motion.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I move over to hon Bosman.

Mr G BOSMAN: Hon Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the efficacy of Social Development interventions during the COVID-19 pandemic, with particular reference to the support of vulnerable children, persons with disabilities and the elderly. I so move.

*[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice taken. I move over to hon Makamba-Botya.

Ms M NAKAMBA-BOTYA: Hon Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the housing crisis for the poor in the Western Cape. Thank you.

*[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice taken. I move over to hon Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I move without notice on behalf of the African National Congress:

That the House discusses the ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: A point of order.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ... ongoing unease ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member, could you just hold in. I hear a point of order.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): I know, it is – sorry. It was to move with notice, I misread it, hon Deputy Speaker. Can I ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Corrected. Can you please read that again then for the record?

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

That the House discusses the ongoing unease of all parties at public schools in the Western Cape with the perceived inefficiency by the Western Cape Education Department to timeously deal with decontamination after a Corona-positive patient is discovered and the frustration of people like that at Riviersonderend Primary who waited for five days to get their facility closed and cleaned. I so move.

*[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice taken. Hon Bosman?

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

That the House at its next sitting debates the crisis of gender-based violence and domestic violence in this province. I so move.

*[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice taken, thank you. Hon Botha?

Ms L J BOTHA: Hon Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the effects of prolonged school closures on the economy and future opportunities of our youth. I so move.

*[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice taken. Hon Xego.

Mr M XEGO: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the insourcing of all workers who work in the

Provincial Government departments of the Western Cape. I so move.

*[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice taken. Hon Van der Westhuizen.

Mr A P VAN DER WESTHUIZEN: Hon Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House at its next sitting debates the impact of the recent wine sales ban on the economy, job creation and the future of SMMEs in the province. I move.

*[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice taken. Hon Makamba-Botya.

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the challenges faced by our provincial health facilities in the fight against COVID-19. Thank you.

*[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice taken. Hon Xego?

Mr M XEGO: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the illegal evictions carried out by the Democratic Alliance Government in the Western Cape Province. I so move.

*[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]*

Mr M XEGO: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the provision of water and sanitation in all informal settlements in the Western Cape. I so move.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice taken. Is hon Windvogel back online?

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Yes, hon Deputy Speaker. Let me speak ...

*[Interjection.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I recognise you, hon Windvogel.

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. I give notice that I shall move on behalf of the ANC:

That the House discusses the double standards of this DA Government that uses Cuban professionals like engineers, to deliver services to the poor, but badmouths Cuban medical staff and even refuses Western Cape students to be trained at medical schools in Cuba. I thank you.

*[Notice of motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice taken. We now move over to motions without notice. I recognise the hon Christians.

#### **MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes that our prayers are with the family of Lunamandla Sithonga, a Grade 6 pupil at the Eastville Primary School in Mitchells Plain, who went missing on 9 July 2020. To date there is still no word about her whereabouts. She was last seen by her mother, boarding her transport in front of their house on the way to school. She lives in Site B, Khayelitsha. We as the ACDP pray that she will be found unharmed and reunited with her family. I thank you.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. I recognise the hon Kama.

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

That the House notes South Africa's Rugby Captain, Siya Kolisi, is named as World Ambassador in the fight against women abuse and violence; also notes that this appointment was made by the United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, at the Nelson Mandela lecture and celebrations over the weekend; further notes that it is part of the United Nations' spotlight initiative to engage other men in fighting the global scourge of violence against women and young girls, and pledges our support against this pandemic threatening our mothers, sisters and daughters. I so move, Deputy Speaker.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: My apologies. I got thrown off there for a second. I did not hear the whole thing. So I will actually – I wonder if I should actually get hon Kama to say it again, so that for the record I can agree to or ask the question. Please may I ask you?

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

That the House notes South Africa's Rugby Captain, Siya Kolisi, is named as World Ambassador in the fight against women abuse and violence; also notes that this appointment was made by the United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, at the Nelson Mandela lecture and celebrations over the weekend; further notes that it is part of the United Nations' spotlight initiative to engage other men in fighting the global scourge of violence against women and young girls, and pledges our support against this pandemic threatening our mothers, sisters and daughters. I so move, Deputy Speaker.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very, very much, hon Kama. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Makamba-Botya.

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes the tragic passing of award winning rugby commentator and former Junior Springbok captain, Kaunda Ntunja. Kaunda passed away on Monday 20 July 2020. His passing comes just

four days after he buried his father on Thursday 16 July 2020. Ntunja gained popularity in South African rugby through his work as a former anchor of the SuperSport Xhosa commentary team. His animated commentary, nuanced with popular Xhosa poetic phrases and expression, made him a household name in South Africa as he delivered rugby right into the people's homes. We send our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends and colleagues. May his soul rest in peace. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Allen.

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

That the House welcomes the Neighbourhood Watch Safety Improvement Project that was launched on Saturday 11 July 2020 by the Provincial Department of Community Safety in Khayelitsha. I further note that this project aims to advocate social distancing, encourage the use of protective equipment and creates awareness of community compliance with safety protocols and especially welcomes the ability to patrol during the new curfew to promote the safety of our residents. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Bakubaku-Vos. Hon Bakubaku-Vos, are you there? I am going to move on. Hon Xego.

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

That the House joins the country in celebrating a life well lived, the life of Isitwalandwe Andrew Mlangeni who passed on at the age 95-years old on Wednesday morning; that Mlangeni's passing represents the end of a long era characterised by selfless, courageous and morally upright freedom fighters; despite the sacrifices he has made, that Mlangeni never felt entitled to any form of positioning and benefits. He is part of the generation that took a vow to fight and realised freedom in their lifetime; an essential inspiration we take as the EFF. May his soul rest in peace. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Maseko.

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

That the House notes with sadness the death of Chantelle Matthews, aged 8, of Hillside, Grabouw. She died after stepping on an open live

wire as a result of illegal electricity connections, whilst playing with her sister and friends. We send our deepest condolences to her family and friends and loved ones; we further wish a speedy recovery for her younger sister, Chante, aged 7, who sustained electrical burns on her hands while trying to pull her sister away from the live wire. May her soul rest in peace. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. I recognise the hon Kama.

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

That the House notes this DA-led Government overreaches to extend the rule of party political aligned Neighbourhood Watches, elevating them by putting such rogue and vigilante groups with private arms and even legitimises and authorises their use of flashing lights, but contemplates banning legal flashing lights like that used by escorting police vehicles. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

An HON MEMBER: Objection.

HON MEMBERS: Objection!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are objections, the motion will be printed on the Order Paper. I recognise the hon Makamba-Botya.

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House takes notice of the recovery of 93-year old Catherine Dorothy Newman from COVID-19; Aunty Dorothy was born in 1926 in Claremont and over the nine years she has been a resident of Huis Nuweland, a home of the elderly. On 2 June she started feeling ill and upon testing, it later transpired that she had tested positive for COVID-19. Her health deteriorated over time and she was admitted to Groote Schuur Hospital and later transferred to Cape Town International Convention Centre Hospital, where she was cared for until she was fully recovered. Aunty Dorothy remains the oldest survivor of COVID-19 and we wish her well; EFF would like to thank the medical staff at those two hospitals and also the caregivers at Huis Nuweland for their hard work and their continued support. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Bosman.

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

That the House extends its sincerest condolences to the families and loved ones of the 8-year old girl Abieda Paulse, who drowned in the Vygieskraal Canal in Athlone; that the House further extends condolences to the family and loved ones of Mr Yusuf Kiriboto who bravely attempted to save Abieda but also tragically passed away. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Lili. Hon Lili? No. I move over to hon Baartman.

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

That the House expresses its heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of 7-year old Dameon and 5-year old Kaylie de Vries; the young children of André and Odette De Vries who tragically drowned in a dam on the farm Vlooikraal in the Baardskeerdersbos area near Gansbaai on Sunday, 19 July 2020. It is our prayer that André and Odette, their families and friends find solace and strength during these trying times of

bereavement. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Xego.

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

That the House notes the excitement of the EFF at the beheading of the statue of the colonial par-excellence Cecil John Rhodes on the Rhodes Memorial Site; as the EFF we have for the longest time been calling for the Government to remove these colonial and apartheid symbols, as they continue to inflict untold pain and suffering of the families of those who have for centuries been violated by the murderers who are represented through these symbols; the EFF calls for the removal of all colonial symbols and changing of all towns and street names across the Western Cape Province. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Nkondlo.

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

That the House notes and call for the Provincial Department of Economic Development to investigate and report to the Ad Hoc Committee the impact of COVID-19 on local and regional economies in the province and further presents the hotspot strategy, in particular in reference to how that strategy is rescuing small businesses in the Cape Flats. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Botha.

Ms L J BOTHA: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House extends our sincere condolences to the family and friends of former councillor Abraham Jacobus Stephanus Richter, affectionately known as “Oom Apie Richter”. He served in the Bergrivier Municipality from 2001 to 2006 and also served two full terms as a ward committee member. His service to his community is sincerely appreciated and our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Riana, and the rest of the family. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Kama.

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

That the House conveys its condolences to the family of the Western Cape Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union Secretary, Mncedisi Mbolekwa and friends and also notes that he recently fell ill and succumbed on the morning of 16 July 2020 in hospital. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Van der Westhuizen.

Mr A P VAN DER WESTHUIZEN: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House extends its deepest sympathies to MEC Anroux Marais, her family and loved ones on the passing of her mother Miemie Strydom; Mrs Strydom passed away last night at the age of 96-years and was cared for by Minister Marais in her last years. We wish the MEC and her family much strength and comfort at this time. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Marran.

Mr P MARRAN: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes that today, 23 July 2020, marks the second year since ANC councillor and leader Victor Malosi was brutally gunned down for his relentless efforts to fight against corruption, especially in the Knysna Municipality; further notes that former councillor of Ward 4, Velile Waxa, who had close relations with the DA and former municipal official Mwanda Makala and Vela Patrick Dumisa, were convicted for his murder; we also remember comrade Malosi as a revolutionary and a selfless leader who was committed to the cause to emancipate and develop his people and to root out DA corruption in municipalities; we also call for the Knysna Municipality to be renamed after him to honour and appreciate all he stood for. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice?

An HON MEMBER: Yes, yes, Objection.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are objections. It will be printed on the Order Paper. Noted, thank you. I recognise hon Allen. [Interjections.] Order please. Hon Allen.

Mr R I ALLEN: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House strongly condemns the surge of attacks on public facilities and infrastructure in the Metro Area over the last number of days; that we further call for urgent public order and send a strong message against the destruction of property; these attacks not only hamper the continuation of services and have serious financial implications, but also compromise the safety of workers and residents. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House commends SAPS and the Stellenbosch University for their swift action after a Matie medical student appeared in court recently, accused of the sexual assault of a fellow student and that the suspect is out on bail until his next appearance pending further

investigations. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Botha.

Ms L J BOTHA: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House welcomes the High Court's decision to resume the school feeding scheme and notes that the Western Cape is the only province who has gone the extra mile to feed learners throughout the lockdown period; that this House commends the Western Cape Government for upholding the value of responsible governance, especially towards our vulnerable children. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? [Interjections.] Are there objections? There are objections. It will be printed on the Order Paper. I recognise hon Nkondlo. Hon Nkondlo? Okay. I am moving over to hon Bosman.

Mr G BOSMAN: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House applauds the efforts of the Cape Town based non-profit organisation Ladles of Love, which set a new world record on Mandela Day, 18 July 2020, for making the most sandwiches in an hour. The record is now at 304 583; that we further applaud the efforts of this charitable organisation and its volunteers for providing over 3.7 million meals to vulnerable individuals. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Botha.

Ms L J BOTHA: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House acknowledges the extraordinary and innovative measures by Oaklands Secondary School as well as Groenvlei Secondary School, respectively, to safely welcome learners under the new normal; both schools have gone beyond what is required and I wish to thank all staff for their efforts. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. I do not think hon Nkondlo is here, so hon Botha. It is to you again.

Ms L J BOTHA: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Megan Amon who obtained a Bachelor Degree in Pharmacy Studies from the University of the Western Cape, and wishes her the best in her future endeavours. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. I recognise the hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House commends the South African Police Services for the speedy arrest and bringing to the Blue Downs Court last week, a 24-year old murder suspect after the death of a 6-year old Kraaifontein girl, Gaylin Cupido, who was hit by a stray bullet in a weekend gang shooting. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections . Agreed to. Hon Philander.

Ms W F PHILANDER: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House welcomes the City of Cape Town's new mobile testing units as well as the expansion of clinic facilities across the Metro in an effort to best manage the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in the Metro. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Smith.

Mr D SMITH: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes the destabilizing of many local governments and to resolve to investigate the role played ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Objection!

Mr D SMITH: ...by the Province in that space. Thank you.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

HON MEMBERS: Objection.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are objections. The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. I recognise the hon Mitchell.

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

That the House notes that Provincial Traffic Chief, Mr Kenny Africa, will begin retirement this month, after 46 years of outstanding service to the citizens of the Western Cape; further notes that the House wishes Mr Africa well in his much deserved retirement and that we thank him for the immense contribution he has made to our Provincial Traffic Department in keeping our citizens safe. May the best wishes of this august House accompany him and his family as he enters the next chapter of his life. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes a strong upset in taxi murders and violence on the DA watch with about 30 people dead and notes high expectations are not backed by DA leaders with the political will to finally bring the killings

and rivalry to an end. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved ... [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: You do not know what you are talking about. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are objections. [Interjections.] Hon members, the motion will be printed on the Order Paper. [Interjections.] Thank you. Thank you.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Can the hon Madikizela speak to members through the Chair.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please. Hon Sayed. Thank you. We are moving over to hon Van der Westhuizen [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): He must speak through you.

Mr A P VAN DER WESTHUIZEN: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes the outstanding work done by the Redelinghuys Farm and Neighbourhood Watch in the West Coast in protecting our farmers and rural communities; furthermore, that this House recognises that with the increase in farm attacks and violence in communities, our key priority remains that all citizens are protected. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Botha.

Ms L J BOTHA: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House strongly condemns the burning of parts of Marconi Beam Primary School and Sinenjongo High School; that this House notes the cut to the EIG grant and that these senseless attacks post further threats to the educational services. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Lekker.

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

That the House urgently investigates the abhorrent and seemingly ruthless overcharge of taxpayers by multi-million rands per month for the otherwise idle Government-owned CTICC to be used as a temporary COVID-19 hospital. I thank you.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

An HON MEMBER: Objection.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections – there are objections. [Interjections.] The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. I recognise hon Bakubaku-Vos. Is she here? No. Hon Smith, you are next.

Mr D SMITH: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House discusses the leaked tapes of the DA caucuses and gamesmanship by Local Government MEC, Anton Bredell, as well as misleading this Legislature on receiving a forensic report from Stellenbosch and censures him for doing so. [Interjection.]

HON MEMBERS: Objection.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. I recognise that there are objections. The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. I recognise hon Nkondlo. Hon Nkondlo? No. Hon Kama. No?

Mr M KAMA: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes the recent illegal abuse of human rights by municipal officials who tore down dwellings, destroying poor people's possessions and evicting them in wet and cold weather; further notes these councils use employees they think cannot be held accountable from outside the municipality, and resolves to fulfil this Council's oversight functions by calling them to account at the relevant Legislature committees. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

An HON MEMBER: Objection!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: We are doing an investigation! Objection!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are objections. The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. Hon Kama, you might as well stand up again. I think hon Nkondlo is not here. So you are next. Hon Kama?

Mr M KAMA: Deputy Speaker, I would like to indicate that I have finished the motions I wanted to move for today.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. We move over. Hon Nkondlo. Hon Kama. I have got hon Kama and hon Nkondlo all over. Then I move over to hon Windvogel. Are you there?

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes the Barrydale community picketed against gender based violence and demonstrated outside the Swellendam Magistrate's Court this week where a 37-year old man appeared after the body of a 14-year old girl was found on Saturday, at the Barrydale dumping site. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Hon Dugmore. Hon Dugmore?

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Deputy Speaker, could you

give me an opportunity a little bit later on in the session to move my motion?

I am still reflecting on its content.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): No! Be prepared. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: It should have been submitted already.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Yes, exactly.

An HON MEMBER: It should have been in.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Alright. Thank you, hon members. I am moving over. We do not want to waste time. I am moving over to hon Windvogel.

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. [Audio connection lost.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Windvogel, I cannot hear you. One minute. If you can just check your sound. Hon Dugmore, could you just check that your sound is not still on, because the minute – there we go. Perfect. I can hear you now, hon Windvogel.

Ms R WINDVOGEL: Hon Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes the insult directed at the Cuban medical group that joined the Western Cape Province to deal with the Corona virus

epidemic when it was at its fiercest and this Legislature brought untested allegations of their remuneration, which was proved by the Treasury as false and calls on those hon members of this House to apologise without reserve to all Cubans that helped in this battle against the killer virus around the globe. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

An HON MEMBER: Objection.

An HON MEMBER: Why do you not relocate to Cuba? [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. There are objections. [Interjections.]

The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. I now recognise hon Lekker.

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

Thank you Deputy Speaker. My apologies. Just a minute.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sure.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): I move without notice:

That the House condemns all crime and destruction pertaining to property or lives and calls on all to assist to bring the perpetrators to book and be dealt with by the independent courts. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Windvogel. No. Okay. Hon Sayed.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Deputy Speaker. I move without – Chair, can you hear me? I think my signal has gone ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I can.

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

That the House notes the strong perception that the Western Cape Education Department only decontaminates a school after a fight with parents and the public, where we have COVID-19 positive patients being reported; further notes that Vooruitsig Primary School in Darling had two positive patients and that the school also had basically teachers who were in self-isolation and who were absent due to the Coronavirus pandemic, and notes that at schools like Paul Joubert Secondary in Paarl, spraying and fogging are done while learners are sitting in the same classrooms. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections  
[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Objection.

An HON MEMBER: Yes, objection.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are objections. The motion will be printed on  
the Order Paper. Hon Sayed, you are up again.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Am I up again? Thank you, Deputy  
Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes the frustration by Western Cape schools with all  
the departmental circulation letters pouring down on them and notes  
many educators and school governing body members experience these  
instructions as being intimidating and threatening of their viewpoints. I  
so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

An HON MEMBER: Objection.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections [Interjections.] There are objections. The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. Hon Dugmore, you ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): They want to continue bragging ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Ag shame!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Dugmore, you are up for your second motion? Are you going to ... [Interjection.]

Mr R D MACKENZIE: You are making a statement.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members can I ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Member Mackenzie, please speak through the Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Sayed, I am just waiting for hon Dugmore. [Interjection.]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I move without notice:

That the House notes that the Mayor of Kannaland, comrade Magdalene Barry has tested positive for COVID-19 and is currently under intensive care treatment; and further that this House wishes Aunty Mac, as she is affectionately known, a speedy recovery and passes on its support and prayers to the family of Aunty Mac Barry. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Dugmore, this is your last chance to deliver your second one, otherwise we move over to the final motion.

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

That the House commends and thanks all those patients who had been tested positive and had been treated successfully for the pandemic, who appeared before the Ad Hoc Committee for sharing their personal stories with us and that this House further commends them for their bravery, for their perseverance and trusts that their example and testimony will give courage and motivation to those who are currently positive, that recovery is possible and that the best approach for all of us to follow is to take active steps to prevent the spread of the pandemic. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections. Agreed to. Hon Lekker, you are the final delivery of motions.

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

That the House notes with concern the ongoing tussles at Wesgro that led to the resignation of Chairperson, Prof Figaji and another board member due to the alleged internal conflicts with MEC Maynier about the reappointment of and salary and bonuses of CEO Tim Harris who is a former Member of Parliament of the DA; further notes that this signals a governance and leadership crisis in this SOE which receives the biggest budget amongst all other and calls for an urgent investigation into the affairs to determine the real changes. I so move.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

An HON MEMBER: Objections!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are objections. The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. Before we adjourn members, I would just like to remind you that the Budget Committee meeting will commence after the adjournment

of the sitting. That concludes the business for today. The House is currently adjourned.

The House adjourned at 17:45.