
MONDAY, 28 MARCH 2022

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 10:00.

The Temporary Chairperson took the Chair and read the prayer.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Order hon members, good morning. Before we proceed: hon members, as you know our practice to date, as hon members will be participating in this sitting of the House both from here in the Chamber with the Presiding Officer and the Table staff, and via Microsoft Teams. Our Standing Rules have accordingly been amended to accommodate such hybrid sittings of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.

If an hon member of this Provincial Parliament elects to participate virtually

and not from the Chamber, it is such hon member's responsibility to ensure that he or she has a good quality data connectivity for good quality audio and video, and that there are no disturbances. The hybrid system has been functioning well and poor audio and/or video are not attributed to this system, but rather the quality of data connectivity.

Hon members are at this point also reminded that no interjections are permitted during these hybrid sittings and in this regard, I draw the attention of all hon members to Rule 40 of the Standing Rules. Hon members, we will now proceed to the Orders of the Day and the Secretary will read the First Order.

The SECRETARY: Debate on Vote 3 – Provincial Treasury – Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B2 – 2022].

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, hon Secretary, I now recognise the hon Minister, David Maynier.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Hon House Chairperson, good morning and good morning to all the hon members who have joined us here in the Chamber this morning.

Last week, we tabled, as the hon members will know, *A Budget to Push Forward*, so that we can get up, so that we can get out, so that we can push forward and so that we can do even better in the Western Cape.

Today, we table the Main Budget for Provincial Treasury, in the amount of R321,6 million for the 2022/23 financial year, to deliver on four strategic objectives and those are to the:

Integrated Provincial Governance;
Efficient Infrastructure Investment;
Strategic Supply Chain Management; and of course,
Effective Local Governance.

Provincial Treasury continues to strengthen governance in the Western Cape through a:

Rigorous strategic budget process;
Integrated management information;
Improved audit processes; and of course,
Integrated assurance.

Provincial Treasury is leading from the front to strengthen governance in the Western Cape, which is why in the last financial year we had 84% of departments and public entities achieving clean audits, and why we remained top of provincial rankings when it comes to having the least irregular expenditure, and the least fruitless and wasteful expenditure in South Africa. Provincial Treasury works hard to support departments and public entities, and the results are testament, I think, to the strong financial governance in the Western Cape.

Provincial Treasury have developed a rigorous strategic budgeting process, which is focused, not just on the immediate spending pressures, but also on anticipating and accommodating future spending pressures and risks.

Which is why our Fiscal Futures Project will evaluate the best options available to maintain the long-term fiscal sustainability of the Provincial Government in the Western Cape.

And which is why we have allocated R1,8 million to better understanding the future fiscal trends to ensure fiscal sustainability in the Western Cape

To deal with spending pressures through proactive restructuring measures, we have established a Fiscal Transition Support Facility, which provides fiscal support for the once-off, upfront costs of investment in new service delivery approaches and technology that will achieve long-term savings and improved outcomes over time.

To support the implementation of specific departmental interventions that will achieve long term savings for the Department and improve outcomes, we have allocated R30,5 million over the medium term in the Western Cape.

While we are in a better fiscal position now, there is, of course, a question about how long this will last because there are very serious downside risks to the economic outlook in South Africa.

Yes, we have been hard hit by the pandemic, but we do expect a gradual recovery, but of course, there are significant downside risks and provincial budgets are unlikely to increase in real terms, despite the huge spending pressures building up in provinces across South Africa.

A major risk to the South African economy over the last decade has been rising Government expenditure without corresponding growth in economic output and productivity or efficiency.

Which is why we will continue to conduct expenditure reviews to assess the efficiency, effectiveness and performance of selected programmes in the Western Cape.

To drive economic growth and create jobs, Provincial Treasury continues to support the efficient delivery of infrastructure in the Western Cape.

The short-term benefits of expanding our infrastructure investment programme will include jobs associated with investment activities, while with longer term benefits coming from greater productivity and, of course, competitiveness.

Which is why we have allocated a total of about R10 billion for investment in infrastructure in 2022/23 in the Western Cape.

To push forward and achieve ambitious infrastructure growth, we must invest in the preparation of infrastructure projects so that we have a pipeline of shovel-ready infrastructure projects in the Western Cape.

Which is why last week, I announced that we will allocate R87,7 million through the Project Preparation Facility over the medium term with about R34 million allocated in the 2022/23 financial year.

To push forward, we must also get the infrastructure management system right, which is why we are now preparing to withdraw Provincial Treasury Instruction 16B which will make the Department of Transport and Public Works the preferred, but not the exclusive, implementer of infrastructure in the Western Cape, which of course, will bring much needed competition into the infrastructure space.

Of course, because committees of this Parliament play a critical role in monitoring infrastructure expenditure in the Western Cape, we will:

Provide consolidated quarterly reports on infrastructure performance, but not just to the Budget Committee, but to other relevant committees, including:

The Standing Committee on Education;

The Standing Committee on Health; and of course,

The Standing Committee on Transport and Public Works.

We hope that these reports will support the Committees to monitor infrastructure spending so that we can push forward in the Western Cape.

Supply Chain Management reform obviously continues to play a critical role in sustaining financial capability maturity, driving value for money, and strengthening compliance with governance requirements in the Western Cape.

Which is why Provincial Treasury continues to support strategic procurement in the Western Cape by constantly evaluating our supply chains for opportunities to increase value for money, while also ensuring compliance.

To support and execute Supply Chain Management reform, the Provincial Treasury has allocated an additional R3 million the 2022/23 financial year, and a further once-off allocation of R1,5 million in the 2022/23 financial year for Supply Chain Management reform to drive value for money in the Western Cape.

Additional technology support will focus on the enhancement to an automated Procurement Planning Toolkit, and the enhancement of data processing and business intelligence capabilities to provide insight into provincial procurement and therefore, improve value for money in purchasing.

Provincial Treasury, hon House Chairperson, also continues to lead the way in procurement transparency by being the first provincial government to disclose detailed information about COVID-19 related expenditure.

We now: Publish a detailed monthly Procurement Disclosure Report; a detailed quarterly Procurement Disclosure Report; and we publish detailed annual Procurement Disclosure Reports on COVID-19 related expenditure in the Western Cape.

This week, we expect to publish our twenty-first Procurement Disclosure Report on Covid-19 related expenditure in the Western Cape.

To push forward, and of course, remain the most transparent province when it comes to procurement, we will also:

Be exploring publishing approved procurement plans to provide potential suppliers with information about opportunities available to supply goods and services to Provincial Government;

We will be exploring publishing detailed information of transactions on more commodities; and

We will be exploring implementing our own dashboard system, for the disclosure of detailed information on procurement, to supplement the system already utilized by National Treasury.

Hon House Chairperson, Provincial Treasury continues to support effective local governance, working closely with vulnerable municipalities to manage risks and improve their financial stability.

A good example of this is the Financial Recovery Plan for the Beaufort West Municipality.

The Plan, which was prepared by the Municipal Financial Recovery Service at National Treasury, is the result of extensive consultation. The Plan adopts a strategic, focused approach which is time-bound and comprehensive enough to ensure that the underlying causes of the financial crisis are adequately addressed.

To achieve this objective, the Plan presents a phased approach to recovery, differentiating between issues to be addressed in the short, in the medium, and, of course, in the long term.

The Plan is divided into three distinct, but independent phases.

Phase 1, which is a rescue phase;

Phase 2, which is a stabilisation phase; and then, of course

Phase 3, which is the sustainability phase.

We anticipate that the Municipality can achieve a cash-backed funded budget position within three years, provided the measures outlined in the Financial Recovery Plan are successfully implemented by the Beaufort West Municipality.

Hon House Chairperson, in conclusion I am always so impressed by the professionalism, the dedication and the innovation of Provincial Treasury.

So, I would also like to warmly congratulate one of our Provincial Treasury employees, Jenine Mostert, for winning a Gold Award for the ‘Inspirational Support Employee’ in the ‘Best Researcher of the Year’ category at the recent 2022 Batho Pele Excellence Awards this week. [Applause.]

Jenine Mostert has been instrumental in contributing to the now regular production of the monthly, quarterly, and annual procurement disclosure reports, which is the gold standard, we believe, for procurement transparency in South Africa.

She has also been the lead team member who designed the dashboard for the procurement disclosure reports, which will soon to be launched by Provincial Treasury.

I would also like to thank the Provincial Treasury’s Head Official, David Savage, and all the Provincial Treasury officials from Team Finance, for their incredible effort to deliver *A Budget to Push Forward*, so that we can get up, so that we can get out, so that we can push forward and do even better in the Western Cape. I thank you, hon House Chairperson. [Applause.]

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, hon Minister Maynier. I now recognise hon Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, hon member and Speaker for our session this morning. Addressing the 13th Nelson Mandela Lecture now almost seven years ago, the French economist, Thomas Piketty, said and I quote:

“The fact that inequality today in some dimensions is higher in South Africa than what it was 20 years ago in terms of concentration of income, is partly due to international factors which are not completely under the control of the South African Government. The international community, broadly speaking, has a big responsibility for the situation of inequality in South Africa, in Africa and the world in general.”

I end quote. In turn, Joseph Stiglitz writes in his book *The Price of Inequality*, and I quote:

“Markets by themselves, even when they are stable, often lead to high levels of inequality outcomes that are widely viewed as unfair.”

For Stiglitz, the consequences of not taming and tempering the markets are serious because within meaningful democracies, where the voices of ordinary citizens are heard, we cannot maintain an open and globalised market system, at least not in the form that we know it if the system, year after year, makes those citizens worse off.

For its part, the Provincial Economic Review Outlook for 2021 commissioned by this Provincial Government, states that between 2012 and 2020, the

Western Cape Gini Coefficient increased from 0,60 to 0,63. In other words, a deepening of inequality in this province.

Hon Speaker, all of this comes in the aftermath of the World Bank report of inequality and the naming of South Africa as the most unequal society in the world. Every single public representative must, therefore, be seen with the urgency of addressing this manmade curse. We must not become defensive nor denialist. We must acknowledge that inequality is explained by both Piketty and Stiglitz, is caused by unfettered markets and we must recognise that.

Based on the data, inequality indicates serious cases of race and gender in this country and province. Therefore, it becomes extremely challenging when a Provincial Government led by the DA, want us to deny a race. It becomes exceptionally difficult when a Provincial Government wants to deny that the people of Bonteheuwel, Elsies River, Lingeletu, Kwanokuthula, Khayelitsha and Gugulethu are worse off today than they were in 2009. Yet, these communities are exclusively Coloured and African.

Damaging impacts of geographical inequalities in opportunity and income, are a critical discussion in today's political mainstream. Even worse still, we have an MEC of Finance who stands up in this House and in his Budget speech, no less defends the free market, free market condemned by international economist such as Thomas Piketty and Joseph Stiglitz, and a litany of literature around traditional economics.

This House, as elected representatives of the people, must be entrusted in the inquiries questioning the benefits, distributional consequences and pivotal interlinkages of growth strategies, with a wider socio-economic environment, which are never adequately specified in GDP accounts and/or GDPR.

Where is the Fiscal Futures Project? Where is the Economic War Room to help us understand geographies of uneven development and inequality, their adverse and damaging impact to social and labour market inequalities? How do these help us explore any new scale of governance and regulation that can reinforce, rather than resolve the problems of uneven development and socio-spatial inequalities?

These are the questions that we need to be asking as post our economic recovery, post COVID-19 environment. Hon Speaker, the Western Cape Provincial Strategic Plan 2019 to 2024 states that the country's triple challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment has a disproportionate impact on women with close to 42% of females living below the lower bound poverty line, compared to 38% of males. Even more so, the Provincial Strategic Plan declares, and I quote:

“The structural nature of our economy means that inequality is itself a major challenge facing our economy. This means that concerted efforts need to be placed on ensuring that economic growth is inclusive, both in terms of gender and other demographics, and is targeted at both the formal and informal economy.”

It is therefore concerning that this Budget Vote in particular, does not speak to the need to bring about mechanisms that will track in real terms, progress made in the fight against poverty and inequality in this province. We received an explanation from the Provincial Treasury officials on their ability to create data, but we have yet to see the real and tangible outcomes of this mapping and tracking of the success of this Provincial Government's fight against poverty and inequality.

Again, the poor of this province have become poorer in the last decade. That is the reality, but there seems to be no consideration from the Provincial Treasury to ensure that this increasing inequality or poverty is monitored and measured. In other words, what this tangibly means is that the word 'inequality' appears 32 times in the 2021 PERO, but only once in relation to the Western Cape. There is simply no readily available data on poverty and inequality in the Western Cape and if it does exist, this Provincial Government does not warrant it necessary to include it in the PERO.

We find it absolutely necessary to insist on budget performance measures that are able to track and map interventions made by this Provincial Government in the fight against inequality and poverty. Without this budget performance mechanism or monitoring tool, or tracing the interventions made by the Provincial Government, the hon August will be right that we are simply repeating the same budget year after year, and not necessarily ensuring that what has been done is actually having an effect on the ground.

On Friday, a member of the DA criticised the ANC for not giving concrete proposals and for missing the point when it sits on it. Well, here are two tangible proposals to this Provincial Government: make available the data you have on the interventions against poverty and inequality in this province.

Using your mapping and tracking, report to us how much of the provincial funds are going per month into places such as Manenberg, into Khayelitsha, into Mitchells Plain, into Kayamandi, into Kwanokuthula, Kwanonqaba, et cetera. Develop models and strategies for sustainability that will mitigate risk emanating from the international market, which has the potential to impact negatively on the provincial economy and that will likely deepen inequality and poverty, if not mitigated. We were told of these risks, but we have yet to hear of the sustainability strategies or models that will mitigate these risks.

In the light of this lack of reporting on poverty data here in the Western Cape, the ANC welcomes the envisaged quarterly reports on infrastructure investment and development starting in the new financial year. We look forward to contributing to these, ensuring that they become relevant to our communities and our people. As such, we ask for data regarding each skill transfer for the skills development per project.

Report on the participation of Grade 1 to 3, Grade 4 to 6 versus Grade 7 to 9, as per CID grading, so that we can see how, indeed, there is a distributional benefit of this infrastructure and catalytic project to actually contribute to

this issue of levelling the playing fields and dealing with uneven development and geographies in our province.

Hon Speaker, the ANC remains deeply concerned that the Provincial Treasury indicates very little commitment to redress and ensuring that the past injustices are corrected. The reality is that long before the Constitutional Court judgment on preferential procurement, this Provincial Treasury and Provincial Government have rejected the racist determining factor in preferential procurement, even though statistics in terms of poverty, wealth inequality, income inequality, asset inequality prove that race is, indeed, a factor in as far as this phenomenon is concerned, even in this province.

While the ANC continues to also insist on local content procurement and the need for Provincial Treasury to espouse these principles, in the face of whether it is practical or not, we also note that the Provincial Treasury does not seem to be an attractive workplace for African women. We do not need to ask ourselves why, we know why.

The hon America, for once, is right. The under expenditure across this Provincial Government and in our municipalities must remain a critical issue for the Provincial Treasury. It is unacceptable that Provincial Treasury throws their hands up in the air when, for example, municipalities find it hard to access grants coming from National because of again, red tape. Provincial Treasury, as far as artificial intelligence is concerned, is so willing to teach National a thing or two and it must be willing too, to ensure that

municipalities are able to easily access grants, especially when these grants benefit the poorest of our communities.

In fact, we are told that grants allocated for infrastructure development, in particular, infrastructure so crucially needed by our poorer communities, are being clogged in red tape and therefore, not accessed by our municipalities. The ANC will be following the developments in Beaufort West closely.

We note that the DA is concerned that Provincial Treasury does not commit the same mistakes that it did in Kannaland. Provincial Treasury officials acknowledged that the Court judgment in the Kannaland matter insisted on the leading role of the National Treasury and it having the prerogative. The hon MEC for Local Government must therefore heed the sounds coming from Provincial Treasury, and not get ahead of himself in thinking that he can commit the same misgovernance that he did in Kannaland, in Beaufort West.

The ANC will certainly be watching this space and liaise with its national colleagues, to ensure that the people of Beaufort West and not the DA, benefit from this intervention. As we have learnt from Kannaland, the DA, led by the MEC for Local Government who also happens to be the Chairperson of the DA in the Province, uses this intervention to score cheap political points and destabilise municipalities where the DA is not leading. The ANC will insist, as it did in Kannaland, that the DA-led Province respects the constitutional functions and integrity of our municipalities, as they would claim those under the DA and those not, including in Beaufort

West.

Hon Speaker, the DA cannot just play around with our municipalities as it does and deal willy-nilly with them. In fact, already last year, the ANC raised the need for Provincial Treasury to develop methods in mitigating political interference and instability within our municipalities. Arrogant as they are, the DA-led Provincial Treasury did not deem it necessary to do so because they arrogantly thought that they would win all 30 municipalities in the Western Cape.

Well, on 1 November, they got a blue, bloody nose and now, we are sitting with at least ten municipalities, if not more, that the DA is continuously causing instability in because the people of those municipalities rejected them at the polls. The instability definitely has an impact on service delivery and budgets. The Provincial Treasury only now sights this political instability as a risk, which should be mitigated. Yet, they can simply mitigate this risk by asking their DA political leaders not to cause instability in collusion-run municipalities.

The ANC remains convinced that the new Department announcement by the Premier remains a hollow one. The MEC was at pains to describe on Friday past, how he had spoken too much about the Municipal Economic Resilience Programme when, in fact, he is a year late. The Municipal Economic Resilience Programme was not announced in his latest Budget speech, it was announced last year and we had to wait a year for the detail he comes to

present this year.

In the same way, we are told by the HOD of Transport and Public Works, that the developments in the new departments and reforms will only be affected next year and so, like the MERP and the LEAP, the people of the Western Cape will have to wait a whole year before we can know how the peoples' monies will be spent in the Western Cape.

The ANC rejects this hollow Budget and we are saying, as the ANC, we do not support this Budget Vote. I thank you.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, hon member Nkondlo, you are well within your time. Hon members, may I please ask: from where I am sitting, hon member Marais, I cannot exactly hear your conversation with hon member Brinkhuis, but your voice does echo to the front. So, may I please ask that you refrain from doing that?

Mr P J MARAIS: Hon Speaker, sorry, are you saying that members in this House must be as a quiet as a mouse?

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: All I am ... [Interjection.]

Mr P J MARAIS: They cannot even speak to a colleague? Is that what you are ruling?

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Hon member Marais, can you please take your seat?

Mr P J MARAIS: Is that why the Speaker should be.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: What I am saying is that your conversation is creating a disturbance in the House because if I can hear your voice, certainly other hon members can do so. So, if you wish to converse, you may do so, but please not to disturb the House. Thank you very much.

Hon members, next up is hon member Makamba-Botya. I have been informed that she is experiencing connectivity challenges, so the ICT staff is currently assisting her. I have also been informed that the GOOD's representative or member, Shaun August, will not be engaging in Votes 3, 12 and 13, as well as Vote 4 for today. So immediately next, we move onto the Freedom Front Plus. Hon Peter Marais, I recognise you.

†Mnr P J MARAIS: Agb Speaker, die Vryheidsfront Plus ondersteun die Begroting se geheel. Ek spreek ook my dank uit teenoor die Provinsiale Tesourie vir hulle puik werk en neem kennis van die mildelike ekstra R43 biljoen wat voorwaardelik aan ons toegewys is deur die Nasionale Regerung en Tesourie.

As die Opposisie vandag die begroting in sy geheel verwerp en dit sou afgestem word, sal dit beteken dat geen onderwysers, geen verpleegsters,

dokters en polisie volgende maand hulle salarisse sal ontvang nie.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[Mr P J MARAIS: Hon Speaker, the Freedom Front Plus supports the Budget as a whole. I also want to thank the Provincial Treasury for their excellent work and note the generous extra R43 trillion allocated to us conditionally by the National Government and the Treasury.

If the Opposition today rejects the Budget in total and should it be downvoted, it will mean that no teachers, no nurses, doctors and police will receive their salaries next month.]

Let us not elevate the rejection of budgets to a principle. It should be constructive and creative. We need to break with tradition and enter a new error of constructive engagement and new ideas.

†Ek wonder of LPPs beseft dat sou die Begroting nie goedgekeur word nie, ons ook nie salarisse as LPs in hierdie Huis sal ontvang volgende maand nie. Dit sal beteken hulle stem teen die Conditional Grant wat die Nasionale Regering aan ons ook gegee het.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[I wonder if MPPs realise that should the Budget not be approved, we will

also not receive salaries as MPs in this House next month. It will mean that they vote against the Conditional Grant that the National Government also gave to us.]

I hope that the hon members of our Opposition could break with tradition and support the Budget, leaving any reservations they may have for the inter-video vote that is to follow. Let us face it: the new South Africa is a failed project. Poverty eradication is a national fiscus responsibility. Provinces cannot eradicate poverty, that is a National fiscus responsibility. We need to establish the Western Cape as pseudo secondary public, if we are to save ourselves and our descendants from being ridiculed by future historians for repeating the same thing over and over and expecting a different result. I thank you.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, hon Marais. Member Makamba-Botya, I take note that you are now connected. I will give now the opportunity to hon Brinkhuis. Thereafter, hon member Makamba-Botya. Hon member Brinkhuis, you may proceed.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, I am not speaking on Vote 3. Thank you, hon Speaker.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, hon member. Then, it is now member Makamba-Botya, you may proceed.

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA (EFF): Thank you, hon Madam Chair. Hon Madam Chair, the core purpose of the Provincial Treasury Department should be to assist other provincial departments in the Cabinet to attain good financial governance. The Department's core function is administrative in nature, with 65% of its budget going into the compensation of employees. Moreover, this Department also has a duty to play an oversight role against other Provincial Government departments and to a certain extent, municipalities.

Hon Madam Chair, however, under their watch and every year, almost each and every department will spend less of their allocated budget and therefore underperform when it comes to their service delivery duties. All this is done with the aim of allocating these funds to the Provincial Revenue Fund. So, what is the purpose of allocating budget, knowing very well that their core aim is for it to end up in the Provincial Revenue Fund and not being used to execute service delivery in communities?

Hon Madam Chair, the province has a housing crisis and instead of money being spent to alleviate the crisis, we will actually see budget cuts in the Provincial Department of Social Settlements in particular, with the rest of the money being channelled to the Provincial Revenue Fund. Moreover, we are also being told that the Safety Plan will be tackled with a whole societal approach in which every provincial department will be involved. However, it is hard to see contribution coming from this Department in that respect. Moreover, it is not clear how effective the role of the Department is in

promoting good financial governance in municipalities, if the City of Cape Town together with other municipalities in the province, still experience irregular expenditure amounting to millions of rands.

Hon Madam Chair, the municipalities in the province also experience inadequate preventative controls on compliance and it is not clear how the Department aims to assist with that. For that reason, hon Madam Chair, the EFF will not be in support of this Vote. I thank you.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, hon Makamba-Botya. I now recognise the hon Bosman.

Mr G BOSMAN: Good morning, hon Speaker, colleagues and the people of the Western Cape. As we meet today, South Africa is currently struggling under the pressure of an uncertain post COVID-19 world, the international order has been thrown into chaos due to a war in the Ukraine and in turn, this has added to the uncertain environment we find ourselves in.

The people of South Africa are in deep trouble as the fiscal constraints caused by years of mismanagement of our national economy, are now making our lives a lot harder. There are vulnerable, desperate and destitute people across this province whose only hope is the work of this Government.

We are grateful for the *Budget to Push Forward*, a budget that allows us to continue our fight against the COVID-19 pandemic corruption free, a budget

that allows us to help the Western Cape Government focus on the strategic priorities as outlined by the Premier in his State of the Province Address a few weeks ago, with a special focus on jobs, safety and wellbeing. A budget that allows us to continue to make sure that the Western Cape has the best frontline services, including those in health, education and social development.

This *Budget to Push Forward* allows us to spend more on infrastructure that actually grows the economy of the Western Cape. The vision of the Provincial Treasury is to be responsive and inclusive, and to enable positive change in the lives of citizens. They do this by building capacity in the public sector, by being adaptive, innovative and supportive through integrative management and partnerships that enable the delivery of quality services in a sustainable manner across the province. They thus ensure the efficient and effective management of provincial resources, as well as municipal resources, something that shines in a country where that does not happen.

The Provincial Treasury provides policy direction, they facilitate and enforce the management of provincial financial systems, and supply chain and moveable asset management systems within the province, as well as municipal spheres. This Treasury promotes accountability and financial governance within departments, entities and municipalities.

Hon Speaker, as we know, the Western Cape Government has been faced with

unprecedented levels of fiscal uncertainty over the medium term and the Provincial Treasury is able to provide an agile, responsive and multi-phased budget process, coupled with efficient and compliance supply chain management support, and financial governance support that provide guidance and oversight to respond to the current changing regulatory requirements and to focus on getting good audit outcomes.

Hon Speaker, in this Budget Vote, the Provincial Treasury has an allocation of just over R321 million for the 2022/23 financial year. This funding allocation will go a long way in ensuring that they continue to play a pivotal role in ensuring cooperative governance across the province, by providing support and training to municipalities. By prioritising the upskilling and capacitation of local authorities, this Department helps local municipalities to continue to provide effective service delivery.

The ability of local governments to function effectively is an important priority for the Western Cape. We know it is not a priority for the ANC and the rest of the country. They have plundered local authorities and they sit here criticising our successes, and the programmes and plans we have in place to support municipalities. The support to Western Cape municipalities in the form of subsidies and transfers are to the value of over R21 million. This is an increase of more than 29% from the Revised Estimate in the 2021/2022 financial year.

Hon Speaker, this is the Western Cape putting its money where its mouth is.

This support to municipalities will go a long way in helping the most vulnerable municipalities in this province. It will come as no surprise to the House when I say that the three most dysfunctional, corrupt and financially dire local authorities in the Western Cape are run by the African National Congress. This political party has mastered the art of looting, of breaking, and of making empty promises.

The citizens of these municipalities must now rely on the Western Cape Government to provide the most basic services. The support from the Provincial Treasury will ensure that this takes place because we cannot rely on the ANC to get this right. Hon Speaker, we read in the weekend papers that the ANC is as good as dead in the Western Cape. They are not able to even build three branches in this province.

The aim of funding local government is to strengthen their capacity to deliver services and a key part of this is to spend public finances in accordance with the legal framework outlined in the Municipal Finance Management Act. Thus, I am happy that the Provincial Treasury has increased the MFMA coordination funding by more than 35% because this is critical to ensuring that municipalities spend public funds appropriately, thus getting better audit outcomes.

What we also see is a redesigned Western Cape Financial Management Support Grant and the Western Cape Management Capacity Building Grant. These grants have now been consolidated to avoid the duplication that comes

with the structure of conditional grants. This makes the awarding of these grants much more effective.

Over the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework, nearly R17 million has been allocated to aid municipalities where conditions for such interventions exist, such as Beaufort West. Almost R9 million has been allocated over the MTEF to the infrastructure subprogramme to provide much needed support and capacity to municipalities, to support infrastructure development at a local level. This is key to also aligning the work of municipalities to the infrastructure programme of the Western Cape Government, as outlined by the Premier during SOPA.

Key to managing resources, hon Madam Speaker, and the assets, is knowing how to manage those assets and resources effectively. Thus, it is encouraging to see that money has been set aside for a project to review, improve and formulate an asset management system of governance and capacity building training for local government. These commitments in the budget are testimony to the commitment this Government has made to creating a local government system that enables our citizens to thrive, ensuring that we create jobs, build safe communities, and create an environment of wellness in this province, something we know the ANC wants to emulate, but they have not been able to get the basics right.

It is my hope that the interventions planned in the ANC local authority of Beaufort West will be successful because the only way to save this

municipality is for our Provincial Treasury to use the tools at its disposal to get them back on track. The Department continues to prioritise research, analysis and planning. This includes giving us not just the Provincial Economic Review and Outlook, but the Municipal Economic Review and Outlook, as well as the socio-economic profiles for local government. The Department has completed research into the financial viability of district municipalities, and we are encouraged by the work being done to review the gambling policy of the Western Cape, which informs the development of a Green Paper on gambling policy.

The Department continues to guide and advise infrastructure procurement across the province. It monitors the infrastructure spending of designated departments and it has supported the Western Cape Ministerial Infrastructure Coordinating Committee, thus helping to improve efficient and effective delivery. The R87,7 million for the project facility for preparation of infrastructure ensures that infrastructure is, indeed, shovel-ready.

The practice of building capacity also works inside the Provincial Treasury, where the Chartered Accountants Academy has been allocated R5 million to make sure that more graduates are able to enter the public service, as well as the private sector. Thus, we are creating a pipeline of skilled and ethical finance practitioners. The demand for this Academy is growing and there are conversations with municipalities to ensure that this programme can also be of benefit to them.

Hon Madam Speaker, in the Western Cape, competence and capability thrives, but we know that nationally corruption and maladministration is the order of the day. I was dumbfounded by the irrational decision by the National Minister of Finance through the National Treasury, to suspend all procurement within Government, effectively, halting Government spending. I am glad that this panic decision has now been revised into an advisory, but still, it leaves a lot to be desired when the Supreme Court of Appeal, before the Constitutional Court judgment, gave National Treasury a year to remedy the 2017 Preferential Procurement Regulations.

It is important for the State to have certain principles by which it procures, taking into consideration that the beneficiaries of this procurement are the people of South Africa. Public procurement sets out the rules by which the State is allowed to use the people's money to buy goods, works and services. Our Constitution requires a public procurement system that is fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost effective, and that national legislation must prescribe this framework. In my view, the Constitutional Court creates an opportunity for provinces to draft their own Preferential Procurement Policy.

So, I urge through you, hon Madam Speaker, I urge Minister Maynier to take up this opportunity to again become a leader in public procurement, just as he has put the Western Cape far ahead of all the other governments in our country, through publication of State procurement for all to see in the Public Procurement Disclosure Reports.

Hon Madam Speaker, we know that public procurement is at the heart of the work of Government. Of the country's gross domestic product, 22% comes from public procurement. Therefore, it is important that we get it right.

The recent revelations at the Zondo Commission, through its report, has brought to light the fragmented landscape of which public procurement exists then, and it shows how preferential procurement has been abused within the procurement cycle. Justice Zondo outlines that evidence shows that the ideals of the empowerment were grossly manipulated and abused to advance the interest of a few individuals, and we can all guess from which political party those individuals come from.

But once again, hon Madam Speaker, in the Western Cape, competence and capability thrives whilst nationally, we face a sea of corruption and maladministration. In this Province, we produce procurement disclosure reports on COVID-19 expenses and with a now annual procurement disclosure report, you will find 67% of small and medium and micro enterprise suppliers have been supported; 60% of BBBEE suppliers have been supported; and 63% of suppliers within the Western Cape province have benefitted from COVID-19 funding from provincial departments and entities. They have benefitted, they were not robbed of.

However, despite the Western Cape over-achieving on the benchmarks and targets set by National Government, we are currently limited by a fragmented legislative environment. In 2020, the much-anticipated draft Public

Procurement Bill was published for public comment by the National Treasury, with the aim of consolidating the current fragmented legislative environment in South Africa. This Bill will amend substantive provisions of the current BBBEE legislation.

In its current form, the draft Bill is very vague on various matters, these include the independence of the Regulator, electronic procurement, rules for local government procurement when they are repealed, and it essentially repeals, then centralises all of the power for regulating preferential procurement in the hands of the Minister of Finance nationally.

The Western Cape Provincial Treasury's comments on the draft Public Procurement Bill, a 255-page document, indicated in brief that in its current form, the Province cannot support the draft Bill. One comment on the submission sums up the concern that the Western Cape holds. The draft Bill loses sight of the point period of obtaining value for money in public procurement. It does not provide for any systems or approach on which value for money can be transparently assessed, relative to other procurement objectives.

Now that the Afribusiness Constitutional Court case has been concluded, where it was confirmed the unconstitutionality of the 2017 Preferential Procurement Regulations, the National Treasury has issued new draft regulations in this regard. The Western Cape Budget Committee has requested that our Provincial Treasury submits inputs regarding these new

regulations.

The Constitutional Court has found that each organ of State is empowered to determine its own preferential procurement policy and the National Minister cannot make regulations that covers everyone. So, we are now between a rock and a hard place, with vague draft regulations and vague draft Bills, repealing or amending all of the procurement and almost all of the BBBEE legislation. It is being debated with an already fragmented public procurement legal regime, which favours corruption and nepotism over transparency and cost effectiveness.

So, amongst this turmoil, it is important to ensure price and functionality remain the most important factors within the legislative framework. After all, we are spending the peoples' money and in spending it, we need to ensure that we deliver services at the lowest cost closest to the people because that is how we alleviate poverty and inequality.

Whilst this will not be an easy task or an easy road to walk, it is up to each and every one of us to focus on achieving the values set out in our Constitution, not just fairness or equity or transparency or competitiveness or cost effectiveness, but a balance of all five of them.

With this in mind, I can say that as a province, we are immensely proud of the Provincial Treasury's Provincial Disclosure Reports which disclose COVID-19 procurement on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis. These

reports are available for anyone to access the details of, to look at the procurement transactions online on the Provincial Treasury dashboard. Please show me another province that has this.

This innovation, in particular, speaks to the constitutional value of transparency. In a country mired with corruption scandals, it is of the utmost importance that residents are able to interrogate the transaction of the Province because this is not the Government's money, nor the Provincial Treasury's money, this is the peoples' money and we are well on our way to manage the peoples' money effectively. This budget is key to ensuring that this practice continues across Government.

But hon Speaker, we must also make sure that the people of the Western Cape get their rightful allocation. The State is funded by taxpayers, be it via VAT, income tax or the dreaded fuel levy. It is the people's money. We are not getting an allowance from a buffalo or the ANC, it is our money and the people of the Western Cape are currently not receiving our equitable share. As resolved in the Budget Committee workshop, we need to see the calculations that make up the equitable share formula because believe it or not, nobody seems to be able to share this Excel spreadsheet that determines how we are able to fund services. It is better guarded than Nkandla.

In order for the Western Cape Government to continue leading the country in our world class service delivery such as health, we need to get our rightful allocation because as we know, hon Speaker, people move to places that

provide them with opportunities and services. Migration into our province has increased significantly, thus putting pressure on our ability to continue to deliver services to the standards we have set ourselves. I therefore urge all members of this House to continue to ensure that our equitable share is achieved.

Hon Speaker, through you, I would like to advise my hon friend, member Nkondlo that she should read the rest of the Joseph Stiglitz' work where he actually argues that inequality leads to lower growth and less efficiency. He continues to argue that a free and competitive market is highly beneficial to society at large, but he cautions us in handing over control largely to the private sector.

But as we know and as member Nkondlo knows, through you, hon Speaker, in the Western Cape we have not done that. This Budget Vote actually incorporates key programmes that assist this Government to alleviate poverty and inequality. It monitors spending on key service delivery projects in education, health and social development and it includes clear programmes for infrastructure-led growth.

Hon Speaker, it is easy to count how many times a word appears in a document, but we should actually look at where money has been allocated. To see where money has been allocated to alleviate poverty, the hon member should just read the budget documentation.

Hon Speaker, I wish to congratulate Minister Maynier, the Head of Department, Mr Savage, and Team Finance for once again, delivering a Provincial Treasury budget that is actually something that can be held as an example. They have done this under a severe and a fiscally constrained environment. I would also like to thank the Finance Committee, as well as our Procedural Officer, Ms Adam, for their work in making sure that effective oversight happens.

Hon Speaker, I can proudly say that the DA supports this Vote and I thank you.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, hon member Bosman. In conclusion to Vote 3, I now recognise the hon Minister Maynier.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Thank you, hon House Chairperson, I would like to begin by thanking the Chairperson of the Standing Committee, Gillion Bosman, for his response to many of the issues raised, not least his deep dive into the work of Thomas Piketty and his consequences for economic growth.

But there are some points that I would like to respond to, principally raised by Opposition members. I would like to start by thanking the hon Peter Marais, again, for his compliment †‘die puik werk’ [‘the excellent work’] done by Provincial Treasury. I also look forward to and support his concept of constructive engagement and the debate about new ideas in the Provincial

Parliament in the Western Cape.

Hon Makamba-Botya: I think it is very important to understand that it is only because we held the line on our spending, particularly our spending on compensation of employees, that we have balanced, been able to balance our budget and are now able to allocate R10,1 billion more over the medium term, in order to support delivery, particularly in education, health and social development in the Western Cape.

Which brings me to the comments made by the hon Nomi Nkondlo. On the infrastructure performance reports, I would like to thank the hon member for welcoming our initiative to furnish committees with infrastructure spending performance reports, which we will commence in the 2022/23 financial year.

On the whole question of measuring the impact of spending, Provincial Treasury of course, does measure the impact of spending through expenditure reviews, which are designed, obviously, to scrutinise the effectiveness of spending on programmes and in fact, these expenditure reviews have been piloted on the Learner Transport Programme commuted over time, transfers to non-profit institutions, skills programmes and of course, Broadband in the Western Cape.

On the whole question of local content, we of course, are concerned about the impact of localisation on the prices of commodities, especially steel and cement in the Western Cape. It is precisely for that reason that we have

allocated R2 million to put systems in place to monitor any premiums that will be paid for commodities, which have been designated for localisation by National Government in the Western Cape.

But hon Chairperson, I think it is important to realise that our concerns and our reservations about localisation are not confined to the Western Cape. Consider the comments made by Popo Molefe, Chairperson of Transnet, who said and I quote:

“Part of our challenges arises out of local content requirements. Our understanding initially was that local content requirements would mean that we should procure products that are manufactured in South Africa, but in its application, local content requirements have now included compelling State-owned companies to procure through middle persons who buy goods outside the country and then, put their own markup.”

So, and he says:

“Before you acquire equipment, you have already lost a significant proportion of your budget.”

The final point that the hon Nomi Nkondlo makes is the curious point of blaming the international community for inequality in South Africa. Now, in my reply to the Budget debate, I dealt extensively with the World Bank report to which she refers and I made the point that on the recommendations,

for example promoting equality of opportunity and the provision of Early Childhood Development services where we have allocated R3,2 billion over the medium term, on addressing the highly skewed distribution of productive assets and removing barriers to entrepreneurs and self-employment. Here we have allocated R65 million over the medium term on making it easier to do business and support all, an enabling entrepreneurship, enhancing the impact of social spending, especially on education and health where we will be spending roughly R83,8 billion and R84 billion over the medium term and, of course, strengthening resilience especially in relation to climate change where we will be spending about R36 million over the medium term on the Municipal Energy Resilience Project to enable our municipalities to procure, and to sell, and generate electricity from independent power producers so that they can withstand shocks.

So, the Provincial Government is making progress when it comes to the kind of solutions proposed in the report to which she refers, here in the Western Cape.

However, it is not the international community, I am sure hon members would agree, that is causing inequality, but National Government's disastrous management of this economy, which has resulted in stagnant economic growth and stratospheric levels of unemployment, leaving households with no income, which is precisely what is driving up inequality in South Africa.

Of course, hon Chairperson, to the extent that the international community may be driving up inequality, then surely, surely exhibit A must be the hon members best friend, Vladimir Putin and the Russian Federation, whose aggression in the Ukraine is driving up petrol prices, driving up energy prices and driving up food prices, putting pressure on households and making the poor poorer, and therefore, driving up inequality in South Africa. I thank you, hon Chairperson. [Applause.]

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, hon Maynier. Hon member Sayed, just a kind reminder that no interjections are allowed. I am sure if not today, over the next few days you will have your opportunity as well. Hon members, this concludes the debate on Vote 3 of the Provincial Treasury. I will now ask the Secretary to read the Second Order of the Day.

The SECRETARY: Debate on Vote 12 – Economic Development and Tourism – Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B2 – 2022]

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, Mr Secretary. I now recognise the hon Minister, Minister Maynier.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Thank you House Chairperson. I am a double act this morning. Hon House Chairperson, today we table the Main Budget for the Department of Economic Development and Tourism in the amount of R514,7 million for the 2022/23 financial year to deliver on five strategic objectives: accelerating the ease of

doing business; boosting private sector investment and promoting exports; enterprise development; scaling up work opportunities and ensuring economic resilience.

To push forward we will spend R23,5 million in the 2022/23 financial year on accelerating the Ease of Doing Business, so that we make it easier to start a business or to expand a business in the Western Cape.

Last week, House Chairperson, I had the pleasure of visiting Shonaquip Social Enterprise, a local business which manufactures and supplies equipment to help disabled children and adults become mobile so they can be part of their communities.

Through the Ease of Doing Business hotline, the Executive Director of Shonaquip approached us for help with an outstanding and overdue payment owed to her business for goods delivered.

Following our intervention, Shonaquip received the outstanding payment and was able to pay the salaries of 84 staff members and stay open for business.

Shonaquip is just one example of hundreds of businesses that our Ease of Doing Business Unit has helped to overcome inefficient government bureaucracy that is restricting economic growth.

This financial year alone, the Ease of Doing Business Unit has dealt with

over 600 cases and has maintained an overall resolution rate of about 88%.

And to build on the good work already done, last week, we launched the Western Cape Government's R10 million Municipal Ease of Doing Business Fund, which will provide capacity and funding support to municipalities to make it easier for businesses, especially for small businesses in both the formal and informal sectors, to do business in the Western Cape.

One of our major focus areas when it comes to ease of doing business of course, is the Port of Cape Town. We know that removing obstacles to exports is a critical lever in our strategy to grow the economy and create jobs in the Western Cape. We know that to become the most competitive region in Africa, we need the most competitive port in Africa.

While the Western Cape Government does not have a formal mandate or jurisdiction over the port of Cape Town, we could not sit back and do nothing. That is why we have created a Port Task Team, including key stakeholders and decision makers across the port logistics chain, to address the numerous challenges at the port.

A big part of the issue at ports across South Africa is massive capital under expenditure – which of course translates into a shortage of equipment, poor maintenance of equipment, which in turn has severe consequences for the port's ability to manage inevitable breakdowns.

Over the last three years, House Chairperson, Transnet Port Terminal's capital under expenditure amounted to R2,3 billion or almost 30% of its capital budget. The situation is even worse when it comes to the Transnet Port Authority with capital under expenditure amounting to R4,2 billion over the last three years, or 57% of its capital budget.

Which is why it is now time to privatise port operations in the Port of Cape Town. Because at the end of the day, when the port works, our economy works in the Western Cape.

Hon members will be interested to hear that I will be meeting Portia Derby, the Group Chief Executive of Transnet, later this week to discuss what is going to be done about the Port of Cape Town, which is frankly a disaster one, evidenced by screaming headlines in this weekend's *Rapport* which read: †“Tonne vrugte vrot weens hawe-chaos” [“Tons of fruit rot because of Port chaos”] and risks of course of the port compromising economic recovery in the Western Cape.

House Chairperson, to push forward, we will also spend R127,6 million in the 2022/23 financial year on boosting investment, trade and tourism promotion so that we attract investment, expand trade and scale up tourism.

Growing exports, primarily through trade promotion and the removal of obstacles to exports, is a critical lever in our strategy to grow the economy and create jobs in the Western Cape.

On Wednesday the 16 March 2022, we celebrated the one-year anniversary of the US-Western Cape Trade and Investment Promotion Partnership. The United States is a key tourism and business market for the Western Cape. The US was the Western Cape's largest export market for the first time in 2021. The United States was also the largest investor in the Western Cape and through our regular engagements we have seen the impact of this partnership in its securing of investments in the health sector, the tech sector, an increase in agricultural exports to the United States, as well as the significant growth in tourism from the United States to the Western Cape.

House Chairperson, to push forward we will: spend R41,9 million on the Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone and to push forward we will spend R39,1 million on the Atlantis Economic Zone.

We are very pleased that after significant work by the Atlantis Special Economic Zone team and the Western Cape Government, the National Minister of Finance gazetted the Atlantis Special Economic Zone as a 3D public enterprise in December last year which at the end of the day, is good news we think for the Western Cape.

House Chairperson, to push forward we will also spend R23,5 million on enterprise development to support businesses, especially small businesses in the formal and informal economy in the Western Cape.

We will facilitate the provision of financial and indeed, non-financial support

for small businesses, create an increased demand for small businesses products and services and support small businesses in retail, particularly in townships in the Western Cape.

We have allocated R17 million to the SMME Booster Fund to support interventions implemented by organizations and municipalities that are geared towards supporting small businesses in the formal and in the informal economy in the Western Cape.

House Chairperson, to push forward we will spend R96,2 million in the 2022/23 financial year for the coordination, facilitation and implementation of skills development initiatives.

To push forward, we will spend R32,9 million for Skills Development in the Business Processing and Outsourcing sectors. This will enable candidates to participate in a 12-month training and internship programme to obtain the necessary skills to be placed permanently in a job market here in the Western Cape.

We will invest in the development of competitive skills, particularly among young people, as a response to the persistently high levels of unemployment which has been exacerbated by the pandemic.

Our “Work and Skills” Programme incentivises companies to offer experiential work opportunities to unemployed youth. This work placement

programme allows youth to gain experience first-hand, develop technological skills and gain softer skills such as teamwork and interpersonal skills that will make them more rounded and attractive candidates for any employer in the Western Cape.

House Chairperson, to push forward, we will spend R12 million in the 2022/23 financial year to diversify our regional energy mix and improve energy resilience in the Western Cape. Our Municipal Energy Resilience project is a bold and ambitious project to support municipalities to generate and to procure and to sell their own power so that we can beat load shedding in the Western Cape.

Pre-feasibility studies have been undertaken on five pioneering projects of which four are embedded in municipal networks and the fifth is a municipal pooled buying mechanism for larger projects. This work has involved detailed technical, legal, and financial analyses.

The focus is now on working with the municipalities in a phased manner to further develop the pioneering projects, including the provision of transaction advisory and other advisory support, to ensure that the projects are financially, technically and of course legally sound before embarking on any procurement processes.

The Western Cape Government is currently providing grant funding to 13 projects across 18 municipalities to undertake foundational energy studies.

These include electricity master plans and cost of supply studies that are aimed at providing a technical and financial basis for increased penetration of renewable energy on municipal networks. This will help of course to unlock both private and public sector energy generation, procurement and trading.

We are also providing in-depth wheeling support to seven municipalities which is aimed at enabling private sector players to sell, buy and trade electricity across municipal grids.

We recognize that enabling the implementation of renewable energy at scale will of course require major grid strengthening and expansion and so we are working with both municipalities and national stakeholders to identify needs and to develop different ways of how infrastructure may be delivered and financed.

In conclusion, House Chairperson, I would like to take this opportunity to announce that Mr Velile Dube will join us as the new Head of Department of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. He brings a wealth of experience and expertise from his long career in the private sector and State-Owned Enterprises, and he will join us and commence work as Head of Department on 1 May 2022.

House Chairperson, we will of course soon be saying goodbye to our outgoing Head of Department, Mr Solly Fourie, and I would also like to take

this opportunity to pay tribute and to thank him for leading the Department for more than a decade and contributing immeasurably to driving economic growth and job creation in the Western Cape. I thank you. [Applause.]

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, hon Minister Maynier. I now recognise hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Let me also just follow suit from where the Minister has ended to bid farewell to HOD Solly who has been with the Department for some time and welcome Mr Dube, as announced, to join and take over the reins from 1 May and all the best to him in that Department.

As the ANC, we would like to register that we do not support this Budget Vote and also within our right as a party in this Provincial Government within the constructive realm raised by other members from their standing of their own parties and position, that the ANC is no different in raising its own opinion, based on its views on this particular Vote.

As our country and province emerges from three years of suffering under the global pandemic, the ANC, in this House, remains unconvinced that this Budget Vote places the correct emphasis where it should be.

From the beginning of this Sixth Parliament, the ANC side of the House has sought to ensure that small businesses, and in particular those in the informal

economy, remain its priority as far as the Economic Development and Tourism of this province is concerned. We believe that it is in these communities where the informal economy exists, that inequality, unemployment and poverty must be tackled. Instead, what we have seen from the ruling party in the province is experiment after experiment when it comes to this vital factor.

The emphasis and priority in this Department is placed on foreign investment instead of supporting domestic investment and cultivating domestic supply. I would like to further invite the MEC, and I think, our new Chair of this Committee, for further discussion and I am hoping also in the House so that we have got clarity about the understanding of the political economy in general but also insofar as understanding international relations, so that we can understand the varied inter-relationship and inter-connection between the international or global economy and domestic economies. It is very much a worry that at that highest level such new ones are really not understood.

It places emphasis and priority on Delta Airline flights and speaks to declare an inter-governmental dispute instead of attending to the legitimate concerns of taxi operators in this province. The Department places emphasis on big business and supports projects funding big companies like Pick 'n Pay more than ensuring the sustainability of enterprises in our townships. And we are on record, as the ANC, having called for a balance between the investment and the efforts of this Provincial Government in ensuring business and international investment versus those that are emerging and small businesses.

That is all that we are calling for as the ANC. Yet again, we have a case of lofty announcements and plans by this Provincial Government instead of implementing what they had planned.

For example, the Provincial Strategic Plan of 2019-2024, says:

“We will also reflect on our own internal processes that could be hindering growth and investment and will similarly work with the Metro and municipalities to cut down on unnecessary administrative burdens for business. An important area in this regard is examining where existing by-laws and beaurocratic systems could be hampering SMMEs, particularly in the informal economy.”

This is in the Western Cape, the Provincial Strategic Plan 2019-2024.

While the ANC welcomes the repurposing of the Red Tape Unit to the Ease of Doing Business Unit, let us also note that in his maiden speech in 2019, the Premier of this province, Premier Winde, said:

“We will also help to establish Red Tape Reduction Units in all our Municipalities and provide them with the support they need to succeed.”

This was said three years ago and now the unit has been repurposed, but red tape and a rigid and inhumane regulatory environment persists in municipalities against many in the informal economy pursuing their

livelihoods.

We call for a changing of mindsets in the entire Provincial Government, especially with respect to small businesses and the informal economy, and such must start in this Department of Economic Development. A member of the public asked the Chairperson of the Standing Committee, during a debate in our Committee, how he or she could open a call centre and the response was a long-winded analysis of the sector instead of telling the person what practical steps to take in order to make the goal a reality. Eventually the MEC had to intervene and ask the person's details.

Another example is a question asked in the Standing Committee about the support given by municipalities to encourage small businesses. This question was also asked in the Standing Committee on Local Government. The answers received continuously referred to compliance, compliance, compliance, by small businesses and so the very units charged with cutting red tape have a compliance mentality instead of an invigorating and encouraging one, that brings some kind of innovation to enable businesses to try and especially small businesses in our municipalities.

They must strive to assist in establishing the small businesses at all costs and not only to ensure that the small business is compliant. These are two very different goals, and the Department is simply not getting it right. The other response was on the digitisation that was achieved by some municipalities and the support to small businesses, yet one wonders if this was responsive to

the needs of small businesses and whether the Department thinks this is important. In this respect, the ANC is worried about the time and resources spent by the Department in partnering with big companies such as Pick 'n Pay on their individual or independent market stores as they named them.

What was the theory of change behind this project? How did this project manage to secure R5 000 per store owner from public funds towards this venture, which is actually R4 million from the State; store owners that were supported by this Provincial Department? How was this project considered if you think of the CSI and ED elements of the BBBEE score card of Pick 'n Pay, that could have been sufficient as capital injection for this partner project?

How was the Competition Commission market study about the uncompetitive behaviour of the big retail giants, including Pick 'n Pay, factored in to consider how this model would move away from such behaviours? But also, how did this model not have a place in townships as the battleground of these retail corporates for the township markets as they changed their ventures between [Inaudible.] usage etc. and collapsing local enterprise capacity?

The Department informed us that five years later it has exited the programme to consider other interventions, and this is said against our caution repeatedly about the bouquet approach as a response to the township and informal economy in the province. As DEDAT exited this Pick 'n Pay market stores project, we must note that Gauteng Province when it started, also exited the

programme. The MEF and FIFA are also no longer funding this particular model. The challenges of the operational model of this venture are not reflective of its responsiveness to local supply and demand needs. We shall be following the effects of this venture that have left some of the enterprises with huge debts.

After following this initiative that promised to revitalise the township economy, as lauded by the Premier when he was the MEC of Economic Development then, we discovered serious concerns as already two stores from the reported eight terminated their contract of operations under the model.

One was in Gugulethu and the other in Delft and the one in Delft actually just opened in 2019. Both stores are left with debt from loans around three million and above, and of concern is that one of the stores was operational for only 11 months and the project failed and the other, for only three years, four months. This is of concern as to what is behind the failure.

In our initial enquiries the response from the Department was to place the blame at the door of the store owner. This is against what we were told was a rigorous recruitment and selection process that all applicants of this project go through, including the involvement of communities to finally decide on the successful candidate.

In addition, the programme we were told provides constant mentorship and training to enable early warning on challenges for the business. We were also

told that some of the stores that are still in operation also experienced tremendous strain particularly on internal matters and relational issues with the model. This includes issues of flexibility that allows store owners to respond swiftly to market needs from the township environments they operate in, some of which are not always part of the traditional operations of the formal retail giants and brands like Pick 'n Pay.

Since this model was said to be different to a franchise and called independent store owners, some level of flexibility and independence of decision making by the store owners was expected but the experience of the store owners leaves much to be desired, as some feel this model is as stringent as a franchise structure.

Again, the absence of a dedicated strategy to township economy, small rural towns and the informal sector remains a glaring policy failure of this Provincial Department.

In the last budget, R27,1 million was allocated to the DEDAT Enterprise Unit to run individualised projects such as this Pick 'n Pay Market Store Project, the SMME Booster Fund 2021 and the Western Cape Entrepreneurship Recognition Awards. These projects can only be used fully, and impact driven if embedded in a clear strategy to serve those markets that fall outside the mainstream economy. But it is our communities, our people and our economies that are experimented with with such patronising imagination. As if our people cannot run their own businesses. This Department lacks

innovation or interest to use bottom-up innovation from these townships and rather decides to fund big corporations in trying to teach local and township enterprises how to do business.

Speaker, the ANC is often criticised for not providing alternatives by a governing party which does not listen to it, so again we hope that the DA members are listening when we point them to the ANC Gauteng-run Province which last week announced the Township Economy Bill. This Bill seeks to promote inclusive human settlements by bringing people closer to economic opportunities; develop a real commuter economy that uses taxi ranks and converts them into minibus and commercial districts; integrates unused land, abandoned buildings and forgotten industrial estates into township value chains and turbo charges the economic growth of the Gauteng city region and creates a new economic geography through the township zones.

The MEC for Economic Development in Gauteng, Parks Tau, said, “What is equally important to note is that this Township Economic Development Bill enables the Township Economy Partnership Fund to become legally binding for all future Gauteng governments.”

He continues to outline that this “presents policy certainty and legal continuity to support SMMEs” which are the lifeblood of the economy. The Partnership Fund is an instrument to support SMMEs, through blending Government money with private sector money, working with smart platforms or intermediaries to run portfolios of loans to SMMEs operating in the

township economy.

The ANC in this House will soon commence the process of sponsoring a Private Member's Bill on the Township and Rural Towns Economy and this is an all-round bid and more of a comprehensive response to townships and the small rural towns economy than the individual and bouquet interventions that are said to be supporting the township economy.

Speaker, this Provincial Government's own PERO, a document they seem to consistently ignore, highlights and I quote, "The informal sector plays an important role in absorbing the relative lower skilled workforce into employment and making the labour market more flexible towards employers and entrepreneurs. In the Western Cape the African and Coloured population provide a relatively larger contribution to informal employment than to total employment."

The PERO goes on to note that between the second quarter of 2020 and the first quarter of 2021, the informal sector in the Western Cape gained back 53,2 per cent of jobs lost. In comparison, the formal sector recovered by 34,5 per cent."

It is however important, Speaker, to hasten to add that the ANC, a champion for the informal sector, does recognise the vulnerability and exposure experienced by those who are operating in the informal sector.

We will never encourage casualisation, but we do recognise the lack of access to healthcare benefits, pension funds, protection from exploitation and instability experienced by owners or workers in the informal sector. While on the one hand we encourage the informal sector, we dare not encourage the proliferation of labour brokers and casualisation. Our workers must be protected.

It was therefore refreshing to hear the hon Baartman applauding the ANC initiated labour laws in our country on Friday and encouraging us to encourage our national comrades to ensure more security for workers which is something that we always do, and we have forever done as the ANC.

Another proposal the ANC wishes to make is that we should have more funding ...

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Hon member Nkondlo, can you please finish your sentence.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Chairperson. In conclusion we know full well that the DA is not interested in respecting the constitutional competencies of the national and local government spheres when it comes to ports. For these reasons Speaker, the ANC cannot support this Vote. I thank you.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, hon member

Nkondlo. I now recognise the hon member Makamba-Botya.

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA: Thank you, Chairperson. The Economic Freedom Front in the Western Cape is shocked at the budget allocation of R517,7 million in the Department of Economic Development and Tourism in this province.

This budget allocation, Chairperson, does not inspire confidence when one measures it against what has been achieved in the province so far as the Economic Recovery Plan and employment opportunities are concerned. The provincial economy is not at the level where millions of skilled employees are working meaningful jobs and earning decent salaries. What we see daily are young skilled workers who are forced to take any job coming their way, with the aim of making ends meet and providing for their families with the little that they receive.

Chairperson, every year this Department boasts about the province having the least number of unemployed people when compared to other provinces which is basically a lie. The majority of these so-called employed people are actually people doing internships and some low paying jobs for call centre agencies. These are not the type of jobs that can change people's lives.

The provincial economy is still battling to absorb qualified graduates in the province. This Provincial Government, Chairperson, is failing dismally to absorb qualified nursing staff in clinics and hospitals even though these

health institutions are experiencing staff shortages which affect service delivery in the province. This is so because the Government is guided by some irrational economic policy that it is not the duty of Government to provide employment but that of the private sector.

Chairperson, our people have still not recovered from the effects of hard lockdown as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in them losing their jobs and sources of generating income because most companies could not survive, and they closed down.

This Department should play a strategic role, Chairperson, in assisting individuals to create their own businesses and the budget allocation for the Department should be increased so that people can be assisted with funding.

We are all aware of what the Department has embarked on, this issue of the Township Economy Initiative by the Department through the Pick 'n Pay model. This was just another smart strategy to destroy the black economy. It was just a window-shopping and tick-box exercise to show that the Western Cape Provincial Government is driving township economic development, which turned out to be the opposite, as these Pick 'n Pay shops in the townships are in deep debt and owing millions of Rands to Pick 'n Pay.

So we are shocked by what the Department is doing. The Department, Chairperson, must not only preach economic development but must make sure that the emerging black farmers are allocated land and resources in order to

farm and be empowered. The income gaps and inequality ... [Interjection.]

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Ms Makamba-Botya can you please finish your sentence.

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA: ... [Inaudible.] colour. White people must also be addressed. I thank you, Chairperson.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much hon member. I now recognise hon Peter Marais.

Mr P J MARAIS: Deputy Speaker, I support Vote 12, but Minister I wish to appeal to you, help us to preserve the Cape culture. You are making Cape culture increasingly part of your marketing the Western Cape. Make a project of visits to places where the culture of the Khoi, the Griqua and other indigenous peoples are displayed. The Western Cape could be mistaken for a derelict Zimbabwean town, with Spaza shops and shacks on every open space, beggars at every traffic light. Who has utilised most opportunities in the informal settlement areas? Certainly not the original Western Cape people. Ask yourself Minister, who utilises most opportunities? Who is working in our supermarkets? Who is trading on Greenmarket Square? You do not find any of our people there.

No, it is Zimbabweans, Nigerians; they are on Greenmarket Square. They took over the Grand Parade. The only thing they have not taken over is the

flower sellers here in Adderley Street. We are creating jobs for people from Africa's failed states but be careful we are on the road to a failed state and where are we going to run to? We cannot run to Zimbabwe, we cannot run to the Congo, we have nowhere to go, and we cannot even run to Table Mountain, the sea blocks us.

The TEMPORARY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Marais. Please wrap up. Just finish your sentence please.

Mr P J MARAIS: I will wrap up. I ask you, Cape Town is becoming a disaster, Minister. Look at our small fishermen at Hout Bay, look at our flower sellers, the garment industries. Make hawker stalls in the townships another feature in cooperation with the municipality. And look at the Grand Parade.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, hon Marais. Your time is up. I thank you.

Mr P J MARAIS: I thank you.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: I now recognise the hon Bosman or rather my apologies, hon Brinkhuis.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Thank you Speaker. I am not speaking on this Vote.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, hon member. Hon Bosman?

Mr G BOSMAN: Thank you hon Chairperson. Hon Chairperson, the Western Cape economy has suffered from floods, fire, inefficient ports, crippling load shedding, a national economic recession, a global health pandemic and now a locust outbreak. As a young person I tremble at the age we are living in. It is almost as if we have been cast as extras on a biblical movie set but the director has not given anyone the script for the next scene. We wait.

In fact, who could ever forget the infamous flip-flop prohibition during the hard lockdown when the Minister of Trade and Industry banned us from buying open-toe shoes. Despite our provincial economy having grown by 4,3% in 2021, recovering 46 000 jobs in the third quarter of 2021, having created the most jobs in South Africa year on year – and yes, through you hon Chairperson, to member Makamba-Botya, that is a fact borne out in statistics – the Western Cape has the lowest youth and expanded unemployment rates in this country, our province certainly has not been exempt from the national economy destroying lockdown regulations these past two years.

In order to recover and bounce back, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, our jobs department, has focused on the ease of doing business; boosting investments and exports; developing enterprises and scaling up work opportunities and skills initiatives as well as securing the

energy resilience of this province.

Three of the biggest export users are the Cape Town terminal who were assisted during this time to integrate their container dispatch data and map their logistics supply chains. This has prevented bottlenecks and the loss and value of cargo and as the Minister just reminded us, we have got fruit literally rotting in the Port.

In a province with the biggest agriculture sector and that contributes the most to exports, particularly in relation to fresh fruit and vegetables, these are items that need to get from farm to table as quickly as possible. It is critical that we continue working together to decrease the turnaround time at the Port of Cape Town.

The work of the Department has decreased import duties on manufacturing imports; officially secured market access in China for the export of pears and they have unlocked the exports in the aquaculture sector. This has been done through truck booking systems; real time communication and the weekly coordination meetings that take place within the Department.

It is thus important to note and to welcome the appointment of the former Transnet COO and the CEO of the Transnet port terminals as the new head of Department and we welcome Mr Velile Dube and we hope that this will signify an increased focus on the breakdown of trade barriers and increase our exports and investments in the province. Welcome to the Western Cape,

sir, welcome to the province that gets things done.

In the Western Cape, we believe in efficiency and even simply, targeted methods that can assist with the elimination of obstacles specifically in Government, very much like David in front of Goliath. The Department assisted four municipalities to automate seven business facing services that affect the construction industry including improvements in land use applications; a property development tool and heritage resources inventory and a heritage digital tool, thus speeding up development in local communities.

In tourism, exports and investments, we have further seen that Wesgro has facilitated almost R5,8 billion committed investments and 4 203 jobs that have come into this province. The Trade Promotion Programme facilitated 49 signed trade agreements with an estimated value of R958 million estimating in almost 236 jobs up until quarter three in the current financial year. Three outward foreign direct investment declarations have also been signed.

Chairperson, Rome was not built in a day but in the Western Cape we lay the bricks for progress every hour of every day, every single day of the year. And in building this foundation towards recovery of our provincial economy, the Department updated its draft ten-year tourism strategy, the Tourism Blueprint 2030, as this outlines the destination Western Cape's vision to assist the industry in recovering the 2019 base figures during 2024.

In December of 2021, recovery and domestic arrivals at Cape Town International Airport were at 66% of 2019 figures, slightly below the 70% target. The November 2021 recovery at International Arrivals at Cape Town International Airport was the highest for the season, at 38% of 2019 figures. In December this dropped to 27% but recovered to 35% on the 2019 figures.

The Get That Far Away Feeling campaign reached almost one million views on the Bali Tiktok video and our never-ending tourist campaign to attract UK, German and Dutch tourists, had reached one million views before the end of November and was chosen as part of Facebook's best in class globally.

In fact, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism won a bronze award from the National Government for its economic response to COVID-19. One of the ways in which the Department has done this is through support provided to 15 tourism products across the Western Cape, through the Tourism Product Development Fund which leveraged R13 million worth of investment and 300 jobs in the sector in this industry. In order to restore access, movement and confidence we have fought for removing travel restrictions; improving airlift and reopening our cruise markets because the Omicron travel ban saw the cruise ship cancellations coming to this province.

We have developed and implemented an integrated Season Readiness Plan in consultation with Metros and with the districts and this has seen 300 tourism monitors deployed and 10 tourism law enforcement officers deployed in the City of Cape Town. We fought for unblocking delays in the UIF TERS pay-

outs, and we have lobbied for a second round of tourism relief aid from National Government. We have also secured R18 million for the Western Cape through the National Tourism Infrastructure Maintenance Programme which will invest in the tourism infrastructure maintenance at the Cedarberg Nature Reserve, De Hoop Nature Reserve, Kogelberg Nature Reserve, Goukamma Nature Reserve, Wolwekloof Nature Reserve and Lookout Hill in Khayelitsha.

We have launched the Western Cape Business Events Support Project and Wesgro has funded 47 regional events in support of the events industry. The Department implemented a domestic campaign for remote working to build confidence in the Western Cape as the destination of choice to do business in remotely. It is thus critical that we introduce a remote visa for international travellers. International best practice shows that this kind of visa encourages long term stays and supports local economies and critically for South Africa, it can give the tourism and hospitality sector a much-needed boost for the recovery of jobs.

The greater good of our tourism and hospital industry needs innovative solutions that will lead true recovery and sustain growth in the future. Throughout the pandemic, remote working has become the norm across the globe and as more international travellers combine their love for travel and their work, South Africans should be throwing their doors open to welcome them. We need to see quick responses from National Government when it comes to administrative changes that could see real support for an industry

which has lost one million jobs since 2018 and has suffered a decline of 70% from international travels since the start of the pandemic. We need to protect and claw back our market share as an accessible and affordable international tourist destination. We should be keeping pace with other countries who have taken advantage of remote work visa solutions and put themselves on the map. Countries like Estonia which has become a hub for digital nomads the world over.

As the mandate for immigration lies squarely at the feet of National Government, we urge and I repeat, we strongly urge the National Ministers of Tourism and Home Affairs to urgently respond to the proposal from the Western Cape Government. It is time for decisive and quick responses from the Union Buildings to support the tourism industry, not only in the Western Cape, but across the country.

The National Government thinks it can do whatever it wants without consequences and that provinces will follow its instructions with unwavering faith and the bravery of Rachel who patiently waited to marry Jacob after being cruelly deceived. In the Western Cape, we govern with open eyes, and we will not be conned into believing words that are not accompanied by actions.

As always, the Saldanha IDZ continues to perform as one of best IDZs in our country. Having concluded new leases, completed additional investor facilities, increased the occupancy of the Access Complex which is now up to

45% and continuing to achieve major progress with the feasibility of pre-financing work of the marine infrastructure expansion, that includes being profiled as a sustainable infrastructure development symposium of South Africa priority project, the SB IDZ Co-Lab facility has received more than 1 500 SMME visits and the High Schools Development Initiative has trained 18 local teachers in digital teaching software and skills for Grade 8 and 9 mathematics. The Project Leasing Facility aims to create more than a thousand jobs for 2021/2022.

Chairperson, the Atlantis Special Economic Zone company finally attained listing as a Provincial Government Enterprise in the past financial year after the request was gathering dust on the desk of the Minister of Finance Nationally, delaying investment and infrastructure growth in our province. This is a major milestone for the project as it can now unlock investment into the Atlantis Special Economic Zone. This infrastructure build programme was not allowed to commence until it was listed as a Schedule 3D entity, but the work to build Rome does not stop.

The Western Cape Government continued to focus on concluding infrastructure related work in the last financial year. This included the commencement of an investigation into the reactivation of the rail link between the Atlantis industrial area and the Port of Cape Town, a project that is likely to enable the transportation of goods for industrialists beyond the Atlantis boundaries. Investment in the existing ASEZ businesses, over the past financial year, amounted to R142 million with 50 new jobs being

created.

The Atlantis Special Economic Zone will now activate its Build Programme for at least two investors in the 2022/2023 financial year to the value of R150 million. And it is anticipated that 225 direct jobs will be created in just the construction phase. Technical training in areas such as renewable energy; workshop operation; basic welding and competent assembly for individuals as well as support to science and mathematics education at High School level, will reach more than 120 individuals.

In support of Enterprise Development, as part of the Western Cape Recovery Plan, the SMME Booster Fund supported SMMEs in the Western Cape, growing and enhancing their sustainability with particular focus on rural, urban and township-based youth, people with disabilities and women-owned small and medium and micro enterprises. Ten organisations and municipalities were assisted to support 358 businesses. An aim was to create between 300 and 400 jobs. The project has been successfully implemented to date.

Further, the Western Cape Entrepreneurship Recognition Awards recognise and support the province's most deserving and inspiring high potential entrepreneurs. The 12 winners received both financial and non-financial support valued at approximately R1 million and thus enhancing the capacity of these businesses. The Long Street Kiosks enabled ten small and micro enterprises to access new market opportunities in the Central Business

District of the City of Cape Town. And we also support the construction industry with contractor information sessions in conjunction with agencies and organisations such as SARS, Local Municipality and the Construction Industry Development Board. Workshops were held in Parow, Gouda, Villierdorp and George.

In terms of Skills Development, this Department has done one of the most cost-effective employment creation programmes, securing sustainable youth employment at an average of 30 000 a job. The Skills Development Programme secured more than a hundred million in leverage funding from private sector and other funding sources. More than 4 100 beneficiaries benefited or are benefiting from these Experiential Learning Programmes that provide a combination of structured, accredited or vendor skills programmes.

Experiential learning of up to 12 months and a Departmental stipend of up to R3,000 per month was being topped up by a further R3,000 by the private sector. The Skills Development Programme resulted in further employment, subsequent to the Department Experiential Learning Programmes of up to 80%. Because these Departmental funds are used yearly exclusively for stipends, the programme supported household income during the devastating impact of the pandemic on household incomes.

Unlike the unsustainable Presidential Youth Employment Initiative that simply gives us a once off money allocation, this programme helps to ensure that youth have options available to them upon the completion of their

internships. The Department has also assisted entrepreneurs scaling up Spaza stores, and we were fortunate enough to visit some of the Pick 'n Pay supported Spaza stores in Langa. The Nozinga Market received a R250 000 grant from DIDAT and almost R3 million was leveraged from the private sector.

The Ndwamba Market received R362 million from DEDAT and almost R5 million leverage from the private sector. Something Nice received R171 000 from this Department and almost R3,1 million leveraged from private sector. We also saw Mbekweni Market receiving R650 000 from this Department with more than R4 million leverage from the private sector.

Thembe's Market, Nwabe's Market, the Lusikile Market as well as Wabo's Market all received almost more than R2 million from DEDAT with much more being generated from the private sector. This shows, Chairperson, that we do not only just support small enterprises and growing the informal economy, but we also make sure that we are able to leverage access to private sector funding as well.

On the energy front, like Moses parting the Red Sea, the Western Cape Government has clarity of vision with its Municipal Energy Resilience Initiative which aims to make the Western Cape Province the first load-shedding free province in South Africa. This programme facilitates supporting and positions municipalities for the implementation of energy infrastructure development for economic growth and energy affordability. It

aims to contribute towards the target of 500 megawatts of new generation capacity by 2025. Already a detailed roadmap for five pioneering projects in the candidate municipalities has been produced during Phase 1 of this initiative. During Phase 2 we established a fund to undertake the foundational work towards municipal renewable energy project implementation. This meant the establishment of a panel of service providers to assist the procurement of transaction advisory and other services that may be required for pioneering and other project implantation.

The Department also continued to drive the update of rooftop solar PV in the province, providing 20 municipalities with support and service around small-scale imbedded generation, wheeling and/or utility scale energy matters. So far, 24 municipalities in the province allow private rooftop PV connections to the grid with 19 of these municipalities allowing households and businesses to be compensated for feeding this back into their networks.

These efforts have resulted in the installation of approximately 49 megawatts of registered rooftop PV in the Western Cape in the first two quarters of the 20/21 financial year, representing R490 million worth of investment and around 120 jobs. Direct support was provided to 462 businesses and organisations on water and energy matters with more than 9 805 downloads of the four 20/21 Market Intelligence Reports covering energy services, utility scale renewable water and vehicles. These MIRs allow for the positioning of market players in the growing energy and water sector.

So, Chairperson, we know that this Government is able to deliver because it has a department that creates economic opportunities and through you Chairperson, I would like the hon Marais to join the next cluster visit where we will again visit programmes that support the development of tourism projects that showcase Cape culture.

The Standing Committee visited the !Khwatvu Project on the West Coast where it was shown how through support from this Department, tourism innovation took place to share the culture of the Khoi and the San people by also showing how jobs can be created in a sustainable manner. Not only do we support municipalities to support local economic development growth, but the Province actually gets involved in directly funding some of these catalytic projects to enable our township economies to grow, not just in Khayelitsha, in Langa, but also in townships across the province. Because we know, we do not need just one Bill to cover township economic growth because in the Western Cape our townships are part of the Western Cape and not separate entities that require separate legislation.

Chairperson, once again we are grateful to the Minister and his team for their hard work that creates jobs to grow the economy of the Western Cape. I want to thank our Minister and more importantly also, thank the retiring Head of Department, Mr Solly Fourie, for his hard work and commitment to the Department. We wish him well on his retirement and we welcome the new HOD, and we look forward to working with him and continuing the good work that is being done by this Department. Chairperson, the Democratic

Alliance supports this Vote and I thank you very much.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much, hon Bosman and now in conclusion to Vote 12, I recognise the hon Minister.

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA: Madam Chair?

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Hon member Makamba-Botya?

Ms N MAKAMBA-BOTYA: Sorry to interject. I would like the House to note and put on the record that the EFF does not support this Vote.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRPERSON: Duly noted. Thank you, hon member. Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Thank you, House Chairperson. Again, I would like to thank the Chairperson of the Standing Committee for his contribution. But again, I would like to respond to a few matters raised by Opposition members.

I would like to begin with the hon Peter Marais, and I would like to assure him, that we of course are committed to spending more on the marketing of the Western Cape. In fact, we have allocated R7 million more for the marketing of our province in the 2022/23 financial year. I will certainly undertake to pay attention to how we can showcase our very diverse Cape

culture in our marketing campaigns to mobilise investment and to mobilise trade, and of course to mobilise tourism in the Western Cape.

Which brings me then to the hon Makamba-Botya. I would like to assure the hon member that our commitment to youth development and skills development goes far beyond and is certainly not confined to the R517 million allocated to my Department, or indeed to the R32,8 million allocated to the skills development in the BPO sector.

I would like to refer the hon member to page 171 of the Overview of Provincial Revenue and Expenditure which cites 17 separate programmes traversing youth development and skills development, which are implanted across our province, and which have been allocated hundreds of millions to develop the skills and to develop our youth and I think demonstrate the very strong commitment of this Government to young people in the Western Cape.

Which then brings me to the hon Nomi Nkondlo. I would like to begin by recognising and thanking her for her gracious comments, both welcoming our incoming Head of Department, Mr Velile Dube, but also saying goodbye and paying tribute to our outgoing Head of Department, Mr Solly Fourie.

On the whole question of mindset, we are certainly very proud of the work that we are doing driving foreign investment and trade and the fact that we will be spending R127,6 million just in 2022/23 on boosting investment, boosting trade and boosting tourism so that we attract more investment,

expand our trade and scale up tourism precisely because that is what drives economic growth and job creation in the Western Cape.

On the question of Delta Airlines, I would have thought that the member would have welcomed our inter-governmental dispute with National Government because there is absolutely no rational explanation to deny the application which ultimately is costing jobs because there is a simple formula, more tourists, more tourism jobs for people in the Western Cape.

On the whole question of red tape reduction and municipalities, I would remind the member that last week we launched a dedicated Western Cape Government Municipal Ease of Doing Business Fund and will allocate R10 million this year to provide capacity and funding support to municipalities to make it easier for businesses, especially smaller businesses in both the formal and the informal economy to do business in the Western Cape.

On the question of the Pick 'n Pay Market Store Programme; the Department has not walked away from the programme and in fact remains committed. The fact is that Pick 'n Pay is in the process of reviewing the Market Store Model which has been put in place in provinces across the country, including in the Western Cape. And of course, provided a new Pick 'n Pay Market Store Model is approved, we hope that that new model will be in fact be piloted right here in the Western Cape.

We are aware, as the hon member mentioned, we are aware that some of the existing Market Store owners are in trouble, and we of course are committed to doing everything we can to support them together with Pick ‘n Pay.

[Business of the House suspended at 12:08 and resumed at 14:00]

[The Deputy Speaker takes the Chair]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Good afternoon to our hon members, our guests in the gallery, as well as on the side of me. We will now continue with our Votes. Right, we are beginning with Vote 13. Hon members, I now recognise hon Minister Marais.

The SECRETARY: Debate on Vote 13 – Cultural Affairs and Sport – Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B2 - 2022]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Mr Secretary. I recognize the hon Minister Marais.

The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Deputy Speaker, today I present the Western Cape Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport’s Appropriation Budget for the 2022/23 financial year, acknowledging that the 2022 MTEF Budget is premised on prioritising the recovery of our sectors by aligning it to the Western Cape Recovery Plan in the areas of Jobs, Safety, and Wellbeing.

At the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport we take our mandate of creating a socially inclusive, active, connected Western Cape seriously and have made great strides in our commitment to keep hope alive during difficult times. In the coming financial year, we will build on our successes; learn from our experiences and together with our partners focus on our priorities which include: creating a shared future and sense of belonging through collaborative efforts to forge social inclusivity and cohesion; offering youth a sense of purpose and pathways to become productive citizens and creating opportunities to address wellbeing by foregrounding youth and mental wellbeing and ensuring new operating models within the context of the new way of work and culture of the Western Cape Government as we proactively respond to the needs and demands of those we serve through cultural affairs and sport.

Deputy Speaker, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport's budget for the 2022/23 financial year increased by approximately R37,8 million from an adjusted budget of just over R900,1 million in the 2021/22 financial year to R937,9 million in 2022/23. As the Department did not receive additional funding for the impact of the 2021 Wage Agreement, the Department absorbed the impact of the Wage Agreement at a total cost of R4,279 million.

With youth development at the heart of the Department's plans, we received an additional R15 million to mitigate the risk of youth disillusionment in the Western Cape, mainly brought about by COVID-19 and its consequential impacts. With the additional funding, the Department of Cultural Affairs and

Sport, through its Year Beyond Programme, plans to address youth unemployment by providing more than 3 000 young people with first work opportunities while they build their work readiness skills so to transition into studies or work. Linked to this allocation is an additional R2 million, to conduct a review of current youth programmes relevant to skills and employment programmes in the Western Cape Government and this will inform our priorities within the youth strategy going forward.

Deputy Speaker, the Department also received an additional R15 million for the implementation of Holiday Programmes in vulnerable communities to keep children engaged in productive activities during school closures. The aim of the Holiday Programme is to provide fun, engaging activities for children over the festive holiday break as a way of addressing the various risks facing children and youth, focusing on psychological, physical and educational aspects, while at the same time creating first work experiences for youth aged between 18 and 25.

†Dit is vir my aangenaam om aan te kondig dat 'n bykomende toewysing van R1,5 miljoen ontvang is om 'n uitvoerbaarheidstudie vir die toekomstige bestuur van die Kangogrotte te onderneem ten einde inkomste te genereer om toekomstige volhoubaarheid te verseker. Hierdie toewysing sal ook die geleentheid bied om 'n kosteberekeningstudie uit te voer om die hoeveelheid befondsing te bepaal wat benodig word vir die kort-, medium- en langtermyn instandhouding van die Kangogrotte en omliggende infrastruktuur.

'n Bykomende R1,5 miljoen is vir die kultuurfasiliteite in ons sorg ontvang om 'n haalbaarheidstudie vir 'n potensiële openbare-private-vennootskap by Melkbos Oppiesee Kultuurfasiliteit en Schoemanspoort Fasiliteit wat in Oudtshoorn is, te doen.

In die proses word die moontlikheid van 'n dubbelgebruiksmodel ondersoek wat beide die openbare en private gebruik van hierdie fasiliteite gaan inkorporeer. Die model sluit tans slegs openbare gebruik in en die potensiaal daarvan om groter hoogtes te bereik word beperk.

Adjunkspeaker, bykans R16,5 miljoen is vir die Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Argief toegewys om sy Aanlyn en Digitale Diensteprojek te implementeer om toegang en 'n kultuur van bewaring te bevorder, en hierdie mylpaalprestasie te bereik. Die befondsing sluit die verkryging van masjinerie en toerusting in om provinsiale argiewe te digitaliseer om aanlyn-toere moontlik te maak, wat voorsiening maak vir 'n wyer spektrum van toegangspunte, nie net in die Wes-Kaap of Suid-Afrika nie, maar ook na die wêreldgemeenskap. Ek kan met sekerheid sê dat ons die internasionale terrein gaan betree.

Ons gaan die totale toewysing van ongeveer R376,5 miljoen vir die 2022/23-boekjaar gebruik om voort te gaan om ons status as die voorste Biblioteekdiens in Suid-Afrika te verbeter. Ons het beslis die mees deernisvolle staatsamptenare wat die volhoubaarheid en uitstekende bestuur van die Wes-Kaapse Biblioteekdienste implementeer.

Die agbare Marais sal bly wees om te hoor dat daar tydens die proses waarin ons streef na taal-demokrasie, bykans R5,8 miljoen aan Taaldienste toegeken is om al drie die provinsiale amptelike tale, Suid-Afrikaanse Gebaretaal en die Nama-, Khoi- en Santale in die Wes-Kaap te bevorder om almal wat die Wes-Kaap as hul tuiste beskou, welkom te laat voel.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[It is a pleasure to announce that an additional allocation of R1,5 million was received to undertake a feasibility study for the future management of the Cango Caves to generate income to ensure future sustainability. This allocation will also provide the opportunity to conduct a cost analysis study to determine the amount of funding required for the short, medium and long term maintenance of the Cango Caves and surrounding infrastructure.

An additional R1,5 million was received for the cultural facilities in our care to do an attainable study for a potential public-private partnership at Melkbos Oppiesee Culture Facility and Schoemanspoort Facility, which is in Oudtshoorn.

In the process the possibility is investigated of a dual use model that is going to incorporate both the public and private use of these facilities. The model currently includes only public use and the potential of it reaching greater heights is limited.

Deputy Speaker, almost R16,5 million has been allocated to the Western Cape Archives to implement its Online and Digital Services Project to promote access and a culture of preservation and reach this milestone achievement. The funding includes the acquisition of machinery and equipment to digitise provincial archives to enable online searches, which provides for a wider spectrum of access points, not only in the Western Cape or South Africa, but also to the world community. I can say with certainty that we are going to enter the international terrain.

We are going to use the total allocation of about R376,5 million for the 2022/23 financial year to continue improving our status as the foremost Library Service in South Africa. We surely have the most dedicated public servants implementing the sustainability and excellent management of the Western Cape Library Services.

The hon Marais will be pleased to know that during the process where we strive for language democracy, almost R5,8 million was allocated to Language Services to promote all three the provincial official languages, South African Sign Language, and the Nama, Khoi and San languages in the Western Cape to make all those who see the Western Cape as their home, feel welcome.]

An amount of R5 million as also been allocated for major events to unlock economic and social opportunities on a local and regional level. This Appropriation will be informed by the Western Cape Events Forum (WCEF)

following the Cape of Great Events Conference held earlier this month to explore events as an economic catalyst for the Western Cape.

One of the major social benefits of events are their ability to bring people of various cultures together, thereby building social capital which is important for social cohesion. This social capital is built over time after many years of consistent investment and being in tune with the needs of host communities. So, the events we support need to see themselves more than just events but rather part of a journey to build trust, cooperation and innovation.

To share some insight, delegates explored strategies around creating a more streamlined event ecosystem and going beyond raising the profile of Destination Western Cape. During the conference it was noted that from 2011, the Integrated Events Strategy has paved the way in providing a guide to decision-making for supporting events in the Western Cape. However, key outcomes of the conference included and is not limited to the need for the strategy to be refreshed, and that the roles of the public sector and that of the private sector need to be clear and focused to strike an optimal balance.

Together with academia and representatives of the private sector within the events and business events landscape, the conference indeed provided the platform to review and engage on strategies to maximise opportunities for recovery and growth, in recognition of events as catalysts for economic growth and social cohesion.

Highlighting the whole of society and whole of government approach needed to increase opportunities for all those we serve, the WCEF is an interdepartmental committee comprising of the Department of the Premier, Western Cape Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport (DCAS), Western Cape Department of Economic Development & Tourism (DEDAT) as well as Wesgro: the Tourism, Trade, Investment and Film and Media Promotion Agency for the Western Cape. The provincial entities serve as the custodians of the Integrated Events Strategy (IES) for the Western Cape and provides a shared vision and shared ownership in delivering events in the province. The Cape of Great Events strategy aims to provide a single point of entry for event organisers to engage the Western Cape Government (WCG), build partnerships with the broader event ecosystem and increase the impact of events in the province, while seeking innovative ways of promoting events tourism.

Partnerships within the broader events eco-system to increase the impact of events within the Western Cape must be explored. A refreshed look at the Integrated Events Strategy will be necessary to consider better alignment of the role of the public sector as well as internal alignment between the various entities involved within the events space in the Western Cape. The benefits of sport and event tourism for the Western Cape's visitor economy are evident in the amount of support provided by all the entities involved. The Department of Cultural Affairs provides annual funding allocations to over 146 sport federations across all six districts of the Western Cape. In 2020/21, the activities of these federations contributed to an economic impact of over

R8.8 billion per annum which translates to 2.2% of the Western Cape gross domestic product since 2012.

In addition, it was established that the sport sector supports 60 000 jobs in the province. The Department also annually funds art and culture organisations and practitioners, as well as professional non-governmental organisations such as the Cape Philharmonic Orchestra and flagship events like the Suidoosterfees, to name only a few.

Deputy Speaker, this was pre-COVID-19 and goes a long way to show in real terms that the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport's alignment to the Recovery Plan will contribute to increasing its economic impact.

Another successful conference, hosted by the Department earlier this month, to note, Deputy Speaker, was the 2022 Women in Sport Conference. A culmination of over two years of conceptualizing, including initial discussions with each district and different federations at the trilateral engagements, a series of webinars, changing our ways of thinking and doing, the Conference indeed made great strides to progress the agenda of women in sport in the Western Cape. The Conference, the valuable inputs from all those who attended, the discussions, actions and resolutions taken to develop the first of its kind Provincial Policy to safeguard women in sport in South Africa is the personification of this progress and for this we are eternally grateful.

One pivotal outcome of this Conference was the unanimous acknowledgement that for far too long we have been engaging on equality as if women are on the same footing as men, when in fact systematic and institutional patriarchy are still perpetuated in our society today. As the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport we are bound as public servants to act for not only equality in sport, but equity. Following the Gen-xx presentation on menstrual cups to introduce the uncomfortable conversations and redressing that needs to take place, I concur that a period should end a sentence, not a woman or girl child's potential. I am then also proud to announce that through our Club Development Programme's Equipment Budget, funds will be allocated to menstrual cups and other necessities our women and girl children require to perform at their optimal best. I then also challenge all Cabinet colleagues, to advocate for Cultural Affairs and Sport, particularly for women, farmworker inclusivity and those living with disabilities on every agenda, on every budget decision, at each engagement with municipalities to appropriate the necessary funds, resources and facilities needed.

Deputy Speaker, in conclusion, evidently, in a dismal national fiscal environment, adopting a whole of society and whole of government approach inculcating collaborative efforts through sustainable partnerships is much needed to achieve our mutual goals to enable safer and cohesive communities through cultural affairs and sport. As the trusted partner of our sport and culture stakeholders, those affecting dynamic change in behavioural trends at grassroots level are our most valued partners and we remain committed to empowering them and the various structures through innovative assistance

and interventions as the need and demand transpires.

As I said previously, under the visionary leadership of Premier Alan Winde, the Western Cape Government firmly believes that innovation is always on the agenda and I look forward to collaboratively embracing new ideas and always doing the right thing with competent integrity, always mindful of the people we serve through Cultural Affairs and Sport. I thank you. [Applause.]

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

Mr M KAMA: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. Hon MEC and hon members, I think through you, Deputy Speaker, let me first once more congratulate member Bans, and welcome her newly-born beautiful daughter, Azania... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hear–hear!

Mr M KAMA: ...as we wish her well before she comes back to do what she does best, which is to hold the Executive accountable. I think the first other point that we want to make, Deputy Speaker, is that it is our observation that there is a very abusive relationship between the Executive authority and the officials of the Department because the expectations that we have in terms of what this Department should deliver in the province are not backed by the sufficient funds for that to be realised.

The Department's total allocation for the 2022/23 financial year increased by R77,632 million from an indicative baseline allocation of R860,281 million to the final allocation of R937,913 million. While we welcome the increase, we remain hurtful and mindful of the need for additional budget. There is consensus amongst members of the Standing Committee that the budget for the Department is not enough. The Department's demands and changes in services, as outlined in the estimates of Provincial Revenue and Expenditure, as well as the performance target as outlined in the Annual Performance Plan, prove that the budget allocated to this Department is not enough.

The Western Cape remains the last bastion of racism and white privilege. In terms of the vision-inspired priorities of the Provincial Government this Department is interested with the implementation of Priority 6, Social Cohesion and Safe Communities.

It is this Department that should come up with programmes and policies to deal decisively with the demon of racism within the DA first, the Provincial Government and the province at large. Our people on the ground are growing tired of this Provincial Government's backward policies and are yearning for change. It does not make sense for the Department to continue providing a grant in aid to museums in response to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic when no similar provision is made for struggling artists and athletes. It will take years before these athletes and artists fully recover from the impact of this pandemic and some will never recover. It is for this reason that we are calling for continued support to the athletes and artists.

Deputy Speaker, Priority 6, Social Cohesion and Safe Communities, if implemented correctly, can go a long way in terms of promoting social cohesion and there must be more funding for this.

President Nelson Mandela continues to remind us about the power of sport that:

“It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks truth to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair. It is more powerful than governments in breaking down racial barriers. It laughs in the face of all types of discrimination.”

We need more funding to make this possible. The MEC must go to Provincial Treasury and make the case for additional funding for this purpose. The ANC will also call on the National Government to review the current Sport Focused Schools Funding Model as it benefits more the privileged who attend former Model C Schools that are inaccessible to the poor majority.

Deputy Speaker, sport play a vital role not only in uniting societies across racial lines but it also has the power to end wars and address crime.

Just in 2017 Didier Drogba ended a five-year or halted a five-year civil war in his country, Cote d'Ivoire, by scoring the last goal that helped them win a match against Madagascar. If enough resources could be pumped into sport

in the province, then we could end the raging gang wars in the Cape Flats. We can silence the guns in Manenberg, Elsies River, Nyanga, Khayelitsha and Delft. The White Paper for Sport and Recreation 2012 highlights the importance of sport in efforts to reduce crime. This can be made possible if we can get enough investments for sport.

The R292 million for Programme 4, Sport and Recreation, is ridiculous and it makes a mockery of sport development and recreation. The total budget for sport in the entire province is a mere R69 million. The budget for school sport is just over R45 million. The allocation for recreation is under R20 million. This is simply not enough. It is because of this kind of budgeting that we continue to fail our youth and promising athletes.

In the Standing Committee, Deputy Speaker, I reminded members of the impact of this on young people across the province. I related the story of a young man from the Cape Flats who had a promising sport career. He could not get enough funding to go to the National School Championships. Out of anger and resentment he gave up on schooling and sport. He later joined a local gang and was murdered by the rival gang. This is not an isolated case. There are many thousands of young people from poor backgrounds who suffer the same fate. This was well captured in the *Weekend Argus*' article earlier this month, titled "Cape Flats teen miss out on sport due to poverty." The article exposed how talented Cape-Flats-youngsters miss out of participating in sport because they are poor. It narrated the story of how a Hanover Park teen almost missed out of an opportunity to compete in the Western Cape in

the Western Province Athletics Competition due to not having funds. Mr Peter Hendricks, a teacher and sport coordinator at Mount View High in Hanover Park said the 15-year-old boy was one of the thousands of youngsters from the Cape Flats, talented but poor, thus missing out on opportunities.

Deputy Speaker, we must laud local heroes like Mr Hendricks who continue to mould our youth from poor communities who are pushed into gangs because of lack of opportunities. To Mr Hendricks we say thank you, wherever you are, you must know that we are proud of the great work you do.

Deputy Speaker, in the Standing Committee for Social Development a question was posed regarding the Youth Development Policy in the Western Cape and the response offered was that this Department is responsible for its implementation.

In this budget there is an allocation of R66 million for youth programmes. The Department has said the focus will be on programmes that provide opportunities for dual beneficiaries and pathways into the world of work or studies for youth in the Western Cape. This is a new allocation and we must welcome and appreciate it as a step in the right direction. However, it must be stated categorically that this is not a Youth Development Policy, certainly not enough to address youth challenges in the province. The Western Cape needs a Youth Development Policy which will outline clear objectives for youth development, to respond to the growing youth challenges of

unemployment, drugs, substance abuse, gangsterism and the rising Not in Education, Employment and/or Training (NEET) rate.

We are fortunate in the Western Cape, even in this House, Deputy Speaker, to have the former National Youth Commission Chairperson as a member. I think the Department and the office of the MEC can tap into the experience of member Nkondlo's advice on drafting and implementing a Youth Development Policy and not only rely on these stop-gap measures like the Year Beyond Programme. This Department plans to address youth unemployment by providing 3000 plus young people with first work opportunities. An additional R15 million has been allocated for this purpose. While we welcome it in principle, we ask the Premier, the MEC Maynier and the MEC Marais if they think this is enough to address the challenges of youth unemployment in the province.

What about skills development for other young people and those who are in the NEET rate. We want this to also benefit people in the rural regions. It must not be used for the benefit of the City of Cape Town alone, like it has been the case with other programmes. However, members and Deputy Speaker, through you, the MEC committed in the Standing Committee that she will find ways to assist close to 1 000 safety ambassadors who have been fired by the Department of Community Safety. Not only are their contracts terminated, but some of them have not been paid their salaries. This is tragic and places the spotlight on these stop-gap measures for youth unemployment. While we welcome the effort to assist the displaced safety ambassadors, we

also call on the Provincial Government to find ways of bringing sustainable programmes for youth employment.

We note the additional R2 million allocated to conduct a review of the current youth programmes relevant to skills and employment programmes in the province. We hope that this will not be outsourced to DA friends and funders who are consultants. The Department should have the capacity to do this in partnership with the Department of Economic Opportunities. Again, an emphasis must be placed on the need for the Youth Development Policy. Use these funds for that purpose only and not just a review of programmes.

Hon Deputy Speaker and members, Albert Einstein once said:

“The only thing that you need, that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library.”

The budget for Library and Archives Services is reduced from R454,9 million in the 2021/22 Main Appropriation to R445,8 million in this budget. The budget for Library Services decreased from R408 million to R376 million. The Department’s Budget is not even half the City’s Budget for Library Services. In actual fact, Deputy Speaker, this budget with all the expectations that we have in this Department, the total budget of this Department is even less than what we spend on your LEAP Officers in the Department of Community Safety, and it is not enough to want to further reduce that of this Department. It will lead to further collapse of libraries

especially in the poor rural communities. It is regrettable that the Department plans to close down a number of libraries in our communities. We call upon the MEC and her Department to stop the City of Cape Town from closing the Plumstead Library. This decision makes no sense, and absolutely no sense. The decision is not an act of provocation, but it is also an insult to that community. We know the crucial role that libraries play in our communities as spaces to access reading and studying. If the City finds it rough to sustain having the library in the current facility, surely it can be shifted to a cheaper venue. We wish also to take this opportunity, Deputy Speaker, to commend the leaders and activists in Ward 63 for championing this matter and we call on them not to lose sight and continue to fight so that we ensure that we protect the interests of the people of that particular ward to access libraries.

Deputy Speaker, we want an urgent implementation of the Traditional and Khoisan Leadership Act of 2019. While the Department of Local Government is taking the lead on this, it is disappointing that not much progress has been made in establishing the House of Traditional and Khoisan Leaders in the province. It is disappointing that this Department has not set aside funding to support the implementation of this Act in the province.

Deputy Speaker, the R5 million allocated for major events is cautiously welcomed but we need more resources to support grassroots sport recreation and arts and culture, and it is on those bases that we cautiously welcome that R5 million because we do not want it, Deputy Speaker, to just be spent on the

big events without a substantial benefit to the grassroots level athletes and your sport young people. We remain disappointed that the budget does not make additional funding for sport infrastructure upgrades. Our sporting infrastructure across the Cape Flats rural regions, are dilapidated. The Philippi Stadium which was developed as a practice venue and fan park for the 2010 FIFA World Cup is one good example. We need a revised strategy for the implementation of the Municipal Infrastructure Grant for Sport and Recreation Infrastructure. We are not convinced that in the current form it serves the purpose. What we see is the unwillingness of the DA municipalities to also use this Municipal Infrastructure Grant optimally to ensure that it responds to the infrastructure challenges especially in the poor and marginalised parts of the Western Cape.

Hon Deputy Speaker and members, I want to conclude by calling for the Department to provide more additional funding for the legacy project for the 2023 Netball World Cup. Many young people, especially in the rural regions, are passionate about netball but lack opportunities. I have been raising the case of the West Coast where there is a serious lack of netball facilities in poor working-class communities. We are aware of the funding that the Department gives to the whites only West Coast Netball Union but this does not translate into development in poor working-class communities.

The ANC, Deputy Speaker, for the reasons provided above, and the mere fact that we are not convinced that this budget would be able to address or respond to Priority 6, does not support this particular Vote.

Thank you, Deputy Speaker. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member, and all the best to hon Bans on the birth of her baby. I now recognise hon Xego.

Mr M XEGO: Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: One minute, hon Xego, just take your seat for one minute. Chief Whip, what is your point of order?

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker, just for clarity, should we hold proceedings until the guests arrive?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): We were asked to hold proceedings for the guests for the ANC. I do not see any in the gallery.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, I do not, I am sorry. No. Unfortunately, we cannot. Are you asking formally? [Interjections.] All right, thank you very much, thank you, Chief Whip. We will continue with hon Xego. You may begin.

Mr M XEGO: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. Whilst the Department claims that a large portion of their budget is spent on the provision of Library Services

and the purchasing of library material, like the hon Kama has said, as the EFF we are also concerned with the decision to phase out Mobile Library Services providing services to 28 stops within the City of Cape Town. We are also concerned about the potential closure of libraries in Plumstead and Tyger Valley, which are proposed to close sometime in April 2022. The closure of these libraries will affect the elderly, the unemployed and the disabled, who depend on these Library Services. Most unemployed people do not have resources such as access to WiFi, which is important when it comes to online job applications. Staff members from these libraries have been very helpful to people from low-income communities as they have been able to assist them with their creation of CVs as well as accessing other important reading materials.

Now people in these communities are forced to travel long distances to other locations in order to access library services. Some of the people merely depend on the R350 that Government grants for the COVID-19 period. Now they must spend this money on transport in order for them to access libraries.

Another issue that is concerning is the fact that the Department does not support and promote access to different sporting codes in townships. The Department just pays lip service that they support and promote access to different sporting codes in lower income communities.

However, such initiative is not even allocated a budget in order to establish facilities to that effect, similarly to schools in townships that lack these

facilities. How will children in townships have passion in swimming, cricket, rugby, hockey, and other sporting codes, if they do not have facilities to train and participate and partake in such activities?

We are a factory of gangsters. We are a factory of seeing to it that we manufacture the criminals that are looming and roaming in our streets. It is for this reason that the EFF will not support this Vote, and we further appeal, also on the Premier, we have seen what he has done with the cycling tours and everything else, promoting of certain sporting codes that will never be found in townships and in that regard, we want to see him leading up the very same kind of sporting codes and promotion of such sporting codes in our communities. We must go to the people of Kosovo, Dunoos, we want to see him in Philippi, Marikana and other areas, which are part and parcel of his constituency, and stop hiding in the leafy suburbs, where he can be able to roam around as much as he wants without any potential upliftment of the previously disadvantaged.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Xego.

Mr M XEGO: For that reason therefore, Deputy Speaker, we do not support this Vote. Thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I now recognise hon Marais.

†Mnr P J MARAIS: Baie dankie, Speaker. [Thank you very much, Speaker.] Minister, you are so good that you have a multiplicity of portfolios – sport, culture, and even community safety, but sport is an integrated activity, not limited to a specific ethnic group, whereas culture is unique to one group, so the two of them must be viewed differently. It defines my identity as a person within the community and that is why I am making a call on you for recognition of my people, the Griqua.

†Die Griekwa, hulle was die kinders van die Hollanders wat hier gekom het in die Kaap en by die Khoekhoe-gemeenskap vrouens gehad het. Ons het getrek voor die Afrikaners. Ons het ons eie Groot Trek gehad. In hierdie boek het ek vir die Minister 'n kopie van gegee nou net om dit te lees - die geskiedenis van my mense. Ons het getrek en ons het grond besit. Campbell, Douglas, Delportshoop, Prieska, Kuruman, Daniëlskuil, Niekerkshoop, Pella, Riemvasmaak, Kokstad, Philippolis. Dit was almal ons grond. Dit het aan die Griekwa behoort. Ons het ons eie volkslied. Ons soek erkenning. Ons wil hê ons moet 'n wet hierso die lig laat sien wat erkenning gee in terme van die nuwe Wet van 2015, *Traditional Leaders and Khoisan Bill*, dat ons Wes-Kaapse erkenning kry vir die Griekwa-koningshuis onder Messelaar en vir die Griekwa Nasionale Konferensie onder mnr Le Fleur. Hulle is die direkte afstammeling van ons leiers Waterboer en Kok en ek vra dat ons asseblief ernstig daarna kyk. Ek wil vir u sê ons het selfs ons eie volkslied. Ons het ons eie volkslied, en as ons die reg kry sal ons ons eie volkslied graag hierso in hierdie land wil sing.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[The Griqua, they were the children of the Hollanders who had come here in the Cape and had wives in the Khoekhoen community. We trekked before the Afrikaners. We had our own Great Trek. In this book, I gave the Minister a copy just now to read it – the history of my people. We trekked and we owned land. Campbell, Douglas, Delportshoop, Prieska, Kuruman, Daniëlskuil, Niekerkshoop, Pella, Riemvasmaak, Kokstad, Philippolis. That was all our land. It belonged to the Griqua. We have our own national anthem. We seek recognition. We would like to see us here create an Act that gives recognition in terms of the new Act of 2015, *Traditional Leaders and Khoisan Bill*, that we receive Western Cape recognition for the Griqua Dynasty under Messelaar and for the Griqua National Conference under Mr Le Fleur. They are direct descendants of our leaders Waterboer and Kok and I ask that we please look at that very seriously. I want to tell you we even have our own national anthem. We have our own national anthem, and if we acquire the right, we would like to sing our own anthem here in this country.]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Dankie, agbare lid.

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

†Mnr P J MARAIS: Ekskuus?

[Mr P J Marais: I beg your pardon?]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Jou tyd is nou op.

[The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time has run out.]

†Mnr P J MARAIS: Die Griekwa se tyd gaan aan, maar my tyd is seker op. Ek vra net dat u tog asseblief dat ons tyd aangaan. Dankie. [Tyd verstreke.]

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[Mr P J MARAIS: The Griquas' time continues, but my time has probably expired. I just ask that our time must please continue. Thank you. [Time expired.]]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Baie dankie, agbare lid.

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

Thank you very much. I now recognise hon Brinkhuis.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker. †Bismillah hieragman nir rajeem: [In the name of Allah]

There are too few facilities within the reach of the people on the Cape Flats. Recreational facilities play a crucial role in the development of youth. Numerous researchers have revealed that sport and fitness centres, parks, libraries and cultural centres play a crucial role in keeping young people away from crime. Yet we find that libraries are being closed and one particular library in Strand has burnt down, but no allocation in this budget

to repair that library is mentioned. A call is made to the MEC. Maybe the MEC can include the Strand Library that has burnt down in next year's budget.

There should be a greater call from the Province to the private sector to serve the needs of youth in the sport arena. Not enough is being done to stop youth from being part of recreational facilities due to economic constraints. The Province must invest more into recreational facilities for youth, ensure these facilities are well managed and a drawcard to the youth to occupy themselves with constructive facilities. Thank you, Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Brinkhuis. I now recognise hon Allen.

†Mnr R I ALLEN: Goeie dag, Adjunkspeaker. Ek ag dit 'n voorreg om deel te neem aan hierdie debat,

[Mr R I ALLEN: Good day, Deputy Speaker. I regard it as a privilege to participate in this debate,] †and allow me to formally welcome, I would want to say, good day, †goeie dag [good day], †molweni nonke. [Greetings everyone.] I might want to even go further and say †Molweni nonke, ngegama lika Yesu Krestu. [Greetings everyone, in the name of Jesus Christ.]

Because, like member Brinkhuis said, whether you believe in what member Brinkhuis believes or what others believe or even if you do not believe, it has been a difficult time. It has been an extremely difficult time for so many

people and member Kama is right when he says that we need to continue to help struggling artists. So, I will appeal to member Kama, to please speak to National. Let us be clear that we are sending a message, the DA in the Western Cape, the ANC in the Western Cape is sending a clear message to National that our struggling artists should be supported. I firmly believe that the increase should happen, and I will get to my speech now. I have sufficient time this afternoon. So, I want to say that I wanted to see that we breached the R1 billion rand, but later on I will touch in that regard on what I mean. But I think it will be helpful if National's budget is managed properly. We have seen that instead of benefiting artists and sport people it has benefited a few at National. They are lining their pockets, which means that our artists would not be able to stand on the podiums. Our artists will not be able to do what they are excelling in all because monies are being lost or stolen.

Also, to member Kama, you rightly noted budgeting and racial divisions, and I was keenly listening to member Kama because it is a direct result of National's punitive measures that we put on sport people and put on artists in terms of quota systems, so we would want to appeal to member Kama to work with us. We would stand fully behind you, as we send a clear message to the ANC at the national level, but also, Deputy Speaker, I want to say that it is often said in sport, the more you prepare, the luckier you become. The more you practice, the luckier you become, and I would appeal to some members of the Opposition: read the Annual Performance Plan, prepare, practice, so that your contribution will be meaningful. I will put that appeal because we want that from our artists, we want that from our sport people and they expect it

from us as members of Parliament, to be prepared when we come here, so that we do not sing from the same hymn book year in and year out and not recognise the good work that this Department is doing. Those that are sitting to my left are doing amazing work ably led by Mr Guy Redman, and we have seen it constantly, constantly. So those that wear red, you often see red in the face of not ever supporting anything; not even supporting anything at the national level, but we do know they do not even support artists. They support no one. And we know they are only supporting themselves. They have a leader that is clear to only support himself and those that are close to him. So let me say this – last week the Provincial Minister of Finance, the hon David Maynier tabled *A Budget to Push this Province Forward*, and, Deputy Speaker, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport in particular has seen the impact of the ongoing state of disaster over the last two financial years.

They imposed physical distancing, they cancelled events, the limiting of spectator participation – all of these measures, Deputy Speaker, have impacted the Department's ability to implement its far-reaching mandate. But this Department has also showed that it is willing to evolve and it is willing to re-imagine the present and the future and in doing so, we have seen that this Department has tabled a budget that will indeed push this province forward and the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport in the Western Cape will move forward, but before I get into the detail of Vote 13, because many do not prepare, Deputy Speaker.

I believe it will be prudent to look to the past year, the loss of income and

opportunities for the sport community together with the limited opportunities for those in the creative spaces, it has had a profound and lasting effect on the sport, arts and culture sector, like member Kama rightly indicated, but much of this Department's work over the last financial year has focused on mitigating these effects and ensuring that those who participate in these sectors remain able to do so, but let us firstly consider the after school programme.

The Department extended its programmes to no and low-fee learners across the province. The Department was able to professionalise the sector by upskilling practitioners and develop quality programme norms and standards in the sector. I have engaged a number of those practitioners and I am happy to report that the Department has been able to support 411 schools with various after-school programmes. This is an achievement which represents an increase of 165 schools, 11 more than what was originally planned, all because the Department planned.

Furthermore, these programmes do more than simply help and occupy our young people. They provide a safe space for our young citizens to grow and develop without becoming subject to social ills which would otherwise threaten them. Deputy Speaker, in terms of Community Safety, and member Kama touched on it, member Kama was in Local Government this morning. Member Kama, I saw you in Community Safety, so please allow me to also touch on a bit of community safety beforehand.

In terms of community safety, many believe that policing is the only answer. This could not be more incorrect. Preventative measures aimed at reducing antisocial behaviours such as these programmes, represent a crucial component of our efforts to keep our communities safe and to protect our children from patterns of gangsterism and crime, but by making sure that the youngest members of our society are able to grow and develop in a safe environment. This budget does that to move us forward, but secondly, let us further consider programmes under the Library Services, which came up quite a lot this afternoon.

The Department provides library services points across the entire province from the City of Cape Town, right to the smallest rural communities in our province. In the last year, the Department has gone one step further, and has ensured that the blind and visually impaired people across the province would also have access to internet and reading materials, free of charge. But more so, Deputy Speaker, I have visited one of these mini libraries for the visually impaired and I have been amazed by how this initiative allows for those with dyslexia, blindness, or limited literacy skills to access educational resources and to enjoy the literature.

Initiatives such as these ensure that the differently abled are able to push forward with us, but finally, Deputy Speaker, a multitude of other programmes seek to develop our citizens through the avenues of culture and sport. These include the Yebo Programme, which provides young people with experience and training in these fields and the MOD Centres, which we as a

Committee have visited.

Furthermore, we continue the promotion of healthy and active lifestyles, lifelong activities and environmental awareness, and of course, Deputy Speaker, our young people are increasingly exposed to next level participation and talent identification through school leagues and the growth of our Neighbouring Schools Programme. But like I have said, I will take my time, because many have clearly not prepared, and I may also at this time say that I also welcome the birth of baby Azania or Azanya, and I may or may not be a godfather at this moment in time. [Laughter.] But these interventions, Deputy Speaker, together with the work done in terms of sport and recreation, school sport and club development programs, all play a role towards pushing our province forward.

Against this backdrop, I firmly believe that the Department will be able to continue and expand its excellent work in the coming year. I am sure that many in this House, as well as those in the Department would have liked to see the Department reach the R1 billion allocation for the financial year. Believe me, I do.

However, I welcome the R937 913 000 allocated. This is an increase of over R37 million or 4,2% from the estimate contained in last year's budget. I will go through a list and clearly state that each and every programme has increased from programme one, Administration, Cultural Affairs, Library and Archives Services and Sport and Recreation, all increased.

But, Deputy Speaker, but like I have mentioned the previous year will allow the Department to push forward with the new financial year. With this the Department's budget is still influenced by the COVID-19 recovery, which is aligned to the Western Cape Recovery Plan. The “how we push forward” excites me as this Department, despite the effects of COVID-19, remains committed to their vision. That is why they are even here today as a senior management, and this is to encourage excellence and inclusiveness in sport and culture through the effective, efficient and sustainable use of its resources because even with less than a billion rand if you spend the money correctly, you will be able to see the value.

†Wat baat dit, ons het R10 biljoen maar ons spandeer nie die geld reg nie? [What is the point, we have R10 billion but we do not spend the money correctly?]

So, we would want National to spend the money correctly so that the Western Cape can also be reached in that regard. The Western Cape is not an island, National need to play their role. Imagine three people living in the same house, for example member Kama, member Mackenzie and member Dan Plato are all living in the same house and at this particular house each one of them have a responsibility. Member Kama is responsible for utilities. Member Plato is responsible for food and member Mackenzie is responsible for the rent. If one of them does not bring their share, if one of them steal – I do not know who will steal. [Laughter.] But I doubt anyone in this House would want to steal, because we have fostered valuable relationships. So, I do not

think any of those members would want to steal, but if one of them does not bring the share it is going to cause friction in the household. The electricity will be switched off. Lack of opportunities will present itself, all because one did not play his role. So, when we talk about the City of Cape Town as a sphere of Government, they are bringing their part. When we talk about the Western Cape Government, we are bringing our part to push this province forward. But when we talk about the ANC at the national level, needing to play the role, †niks maak nie! [does nothing!]

So that is why we would want the House, if you want to call a caravan “house” because we are on the move and we are pushing forward or whatever we want to call it, it is to the benefit of everyone in our province.

Deputy Speaker, if I consider youth unemployment, in our province and in South Africa, we all know that it has skyrocketed in the country. And to move forward, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport will continue to champion three important economic sectors, namely Sport, the Creative Arts sector and the Culture sector, which together create a substantial amount of jobs and work opportunities.

But let me pause there quickly. We have always been clear, in terms of creating those work opportunities. It is never ever to keep any young person stuck in one of those job opportunities. That can never be because we would want to see people excel, those are created so that people get experience, they are exposed to work, and they are finding their feet so that they do

become more employable. So it is never to keep someone only in Sub A or in Sub B, but it is always to strive for excellence always to push forward, because that is why DCAS is also the champion for youth development and has woven addressing the needs of the Not in Education, Employment and/or Training (NEET) into several of its programmes, and for those that have not prepared, allow me to take my time, because in a soccer match, you would want to enjoy the game. You would want to take your time because people are listening. There are people that pay attention to what we do in the Western Cape, all because we are mostly measured at a different standard, and because of that, we know that we need to do so much more. We know that we need to not only pull up our socks, but we need to do and do and do and that is what we are willing to do basically. So for those that did not prepare, funding public library staff and creating jobs through the upgrading and building of new libraries, member Brinkhuis, during the Committee meeting when you mentioned the Strand Library, that was ventilated and addressed in the Committee and I am looking forward to getting that feedback from the Department so that we can send it on to all the members and address that particular issue. But also the Department is contributing to the creation of opportunities for growth and jobs by facilitating the rollout of broadband and expansion of free internet connectivity and technology resources in public libraries in rural communities, so not only the City of Cape Town, but each and every community here in the Western Cape because we know libraries provide job seekers with opportunities to create their CVs on computers, look for jobs in newspapers and online and do online applications. Also, we know that public libraries also provide computer and internet access

points used by small business entrepreneurs for developing business plans, accessing tenders and other administrative duties.

Furthermore, there are work opportunities that are created through the establishment of new interpretation centres and sites linked to the Cradle of Human Culture Tourism Route.

Deputy Speaker, furthermore, to empower people, the Department provides platforms and training to give communities a voice and with its libraries, oral history, arts and youth programmes it empowers people stories by also providing education. For those in the sport and in the arts sector, DCAS provides exposure and a pathway to mastery. DCAS focuses on youth through programmes such as the MOD Centres and the Year Beyond provides them with a sense of purpose, dreams and future.

I would be more than happy to share some of those bullet points that I have here for those that have not prepared, so I will skip that one part to get to the juicy bit, and I know many will be wanting to clap hands, but before you get there, member Kama, let me go.

Deputy Speaker, through its Mobility and Spatial Transformation Priority the Department is present in every town in this province. For example, social infrastructure such as libraries, sport facilities and museums and archives, so we do know, and even the previous HOD said to us as a Committee that DCAS touches every fabric of society, and we have seen that so we would

want that to continue as a Committee and see that the good work continues. But, Deputy Speaker, again, like I have mentioned, this budget is aligned to the Western Cape Recovery Plan and this is how the Department will contribute to the COVID-19 Recovery Plan by promoting jobs recovery to the ease of doing business by the Heritage Western Cape, and by providing work opportunities through Year Beyond and the EPWP. But also by prioritising wellbeing recovery by building a culture of citizenship, service and community with the focus on young people, volunteerism, safety and jobs, supporting the first 1000 days and ECD interventions and promoting physical, emotional and spiritual wellness through nutrition, exercise and physio support across all ages.

But, Deputy Speaker, in closing, I wish to further highlight that the Year Beyond Programme aims to give more than 1000 young people between the ages of 18 and 25 their first work opportunity in order to address youth unemployment; an additional R15 million has been allocated to this program, as well as an additional R2 million to review current youth programmes in our province.

Furthermore, R15 million has been allocated for holiday programmes, which keep vulnerable young people occupied during school closures. Also, the Department will continue to expand the Western Cape Community Arts Centre Programme. This excites me because I know with a limited budget we do continue to push forward. The Cultural Centres, as mentioned by the Minister, in Melkbos, Oppiesee and Schoemanspoort are being assessed for

their viability for private use. These assessments are being undertaken at a cost of R1,5 million, but, Deputy Speaker, this cost will be recouped, as I have no doubt that the private use of these facilities will contribute towards the fiscus.

Furthermore, the Museums and Heritage Western Cape will continue to receive funding from the Department, and I can go on and on and share this once I am done. But in my second closing, Deputy Speaker, and as I mentioned earlier, that I would have liked the Department to reach the R1 billion allocated amount, and although we are close this budget will allow for those in the various sectors to work their magic, to reach those milestones, to break those records to represent our country and to create and to ultimately see a return on investment, which will be way, way above the R1 billion rand mark.

So, Deputy Speaker, hereby again, I wish to express my support for the Vote and ensure that the residents of the Western Cape, including those that were invited by the Opposition to continue, and that we will continue our rigorous oversight over the Department. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. I now recognise hon Minister Marais.

The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. †Dankie vir elke lid wat deelgeneem het. [Thank you to every

member who had participated.] Thank you for your contribution. I really appreciate your input, your constructive criticism. It all makes the Department better.

Thank you, Chairperson Reagen Allen, hon Reagen Allen, †vir u leiding en konstruktiewe oorsig [for your leadership and constructive oversight.] Then my sincere appreciation to HOD Redman and our team, your team, and our entire Department for your dedication to provide world-class services to our communities under trying circumstances and thank you for your patience in the Chamber today. I really appreciate that.

Then I am going to say, member Xego, have you ever heard of Nicholas Dlamini? That is all that I am going to ask. We developed the 16 National Priority Codes over the province.

†Dan, agbare Marais, baie dankie dat u so passievol is oor u Griekwa-wees en ek wil net noem, ek wil dit nou net kry, wat ons sal moet kyk na Nasionaal, en ek gaan dit in Engels vir jou lees.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[Then hon Marais, thank you for being so passionate about your Griqua ancestry and I just want to mention, I just want to get it, that we will have to look at National, and I'm going to read it to you in English.]

“Provincial constitutions are guided by the National Constitution and may not be inconsistent with it as per Section 104.1. For the Griqua to be in a Provincial Constitution a guideline must be sought from National so that it is not inconsistent with the Constitution of the Republic. We will seek advice from the Constitutional Review Committee of the National Assembly who may also check with ConCourt.”

†En dan wil ek net volgende noem, die Nasionale Huis van die Khoisan sal gestig word na die Kommissie hulle werk voltooi het. Hulle het 'n vergadering gehad op 25 Maart, en die Deputy Minister van Tradisionele Sake was daar, mnr Obed Bapela.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[And then I just want to mention the following, the National House of the Khoisan will be established after the Commission has completed their work. They had a meeting on 25 March, and the Deputy Minister of Traditional Affairs was there, Mr Obed Bapela.]

And the applications for recognition will open on 30 March 2022. It will open for two years and will close on 29 March 2024 and the Commission will be conducting an awareness campaign in each province starting with the Northern Cape on 5 April, †en hulle sal by ons wees, [and they will be with us,] 10 June, the venue to be confirmed but it might be the Castle of Good Hope. †Dit is dalk net ter inligting. [That is just for information.]

†Mnr P J MARAIS: Ter inligting!

[Mr P J MARAIS: For information!]

The MINISTER OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT: Then I want to say to member Kama. Oh, first I want to say to the member from Al Jama-Ah, Mr Brinkhuis, facilities fall within the ambit of the local municipality, and we can give you more detail, but it falls in the ambit of the local municipality. Thank you.

Member Kama, it is concerning that you politicise this debate on the racial lines when Sport and Cultural Affairs in the Western Cape tries its utmost to break these barriers. Then about our artists, we have moved into recovery phase, and are providing support to Gig Economy as well as support to our Community Art Centres and I do have a list of that, and I do have all the budget to our Gig Economy. I can provide that to you.

About the Netball Legacy, we have transferred funds to the West Coast for netball facilities for upgrading and the construction of new courts. We do have an extensive Netball Legacy Programme and maybe we can do a presentation at the Standing Committee one or other time, that reaches each district and promotes development in the code, in the Netball code.

Then about our youth. There is no silver bullet to solve our youth crisis. The Western Cape Government focuses on parenting with its First 1000 Days Programme. It focuses on ensuring every child gets access to a good

education through the Western Cape Education Department and its partners, through programmes like the MOD programme, DCAS provides schoolgoing youth with a chance to find a positive gang and belong to a team. There are 181 MOD Centres in the Western Cape. This work is strengthened via our Neighbourhood Programme which provides support to a further 134 schools. The Western Cape Education Department through its Teacher Assistant Programme, DOTP via the Pay Programme, DCAS via our Year Beyond and DOCS via Chrysalis and the LEAP Programme provides school-leavers with a first work opportunity and I can go on with all this, I can provide this to you as well and DCAS has directly supported about 100 000 school going learners and 3 000 plus out-of-school youth through its various programmes. In Khayelitsha we provide 113 youth Year Beyond opportunities, 37 work opportunities for coaches and support almost 5 000 learners through these programmes. 50% is outside of the Metro, and the Western Cape has a Youth Policy which guides the work of all departments, focuses on strong foundations and parenting, education, economic opportunities, creating opportunities belonging and opportunities for second chances or reconnection, and I will address the Youth Safety Ambassadors in Vote 4 because that is under that Vote.

Then the last thing that I want to mention is then school athletics. I know it is a concern and I just want to mention that our Department has a mandate to work with and support the Federation structures, and we support Provincial Championships, the accommodation, the meals, the extra ablution facilities, medical support, transport, human resources with DCAS staff volunteering to

assist at both the high and primary school events over the two weekends. A full debrief will take place in April / May 2022 to address all challenges regarding school athletics and all the various stakeholders will be part of this debrief, including the Western Cape Provincial Sport Confederation, the Western Cape School for Athletics Federation Delegates and the Western Cape Education Department.

I think that is everything so far. Thank you so much and thank you again for everyone participating.

[Debate concluded.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you very much, hon Minister. That concludes the debate on Vote 13, Cultural Affairs and Sport, Western Cape Appropriation Bill. Mr Stemele, please will you read the fourth Order of the Day please.

†UNOBHALA: INgxoxo-mpikiswano ngeVoti 4 – ezoKhuseleko loLuntu – yoMthetho oSayilwayo woLwabiwo-mali [B2 – 2022]

[The SECRETARY: Debate on Vote 4 – Community Safety – Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B2 – 2022].]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Mr Stemele. I recognise hon Minister Marais.

Mr P J MARAIS: Hon Deputy Speaker, I asked ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Ja, one minute, hon Minister, if you can take your seat. Hon member Marais?

Mr P J MARAIS: I asked to be excused. I enjoyed the sitting, but I've got something urgent to attend to.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you, hon member, but you do not need to put it on record. Thank you. You may depart.

That gave you a breather, hon Minister. Minister, you may begin, thank you very much.

The ACTING MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, maybe you just want to take your seat. I do not know if you have got guests arriving, and just for them to swap. [Interjection.] I did not realise there is a change, sorry, my apologies. I will give you a few seconds just to gather your breath. Are you expecting guests, hon Minister? Okay, there we go. We will just wait for them to take their seats.

The ACTING MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: They are the most important.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may begin, Minister, thank you.

The ACTING MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

Today I present the Western Cape Department of Community Safety (DoCS) Appropriation Budget for the 2022/23 financial year, acknowledging safety as a key priority of the Western Cape Government as we bring into fruition the provincial Safety Plan.

I am indeed honoured to have been entrusted with this significant role as acting Minister to ensure the continuity of the pivotal programmes of the Department of Community Safety.

The lack of safety in our communities is one of the foremost challenges we face as a country and with this Appropriation Budget to now be presented, the Department will fulfil its constitutional mandate of oversight to improve safety for all who call the Western Cape home.

To create safer communities and to further promote professional policing through effective oversight as legislated, and to capacitate safety partnership with communities and other stakeholders, the total budget allocated to the Department has increased from just over R559,3 million from the Adjusted Appropriation 2021/22, to approximately R776,1 million in the 2022/23 financial year.

The increase of 38,7% to the Appropriated Budget is indeed welcomed as it mainly relates to the allocation of R400 million to the Law Enforcement Advancement Plan, or the LEAP officers, of which the previous allocation and Adjustment Budget for 2021/22 was R165,2 million.

Regardless of political affiliation, I am sure we can all agree that the LEAP Programme has made significant strides in the Western Cape's Safety Plan in its efforts to half the murder rate by 2029, informed by evidence and implemented using data and technology to create safer communities in the Western Cape.

To emphasise the successes of the provincial Safety Plan interventions in response to the all round under-resourcing within the South African Police Services in the Western Cape, I call to mind the recent release of the quarterly crime statistics for the third quarter of 21/22.

Hon Deputy Speaker, covering the period of October to December 2021, the statistics show a 6,9% decrease in murder, and 24,5% decrease in attempted murder, compared to the previous quarter in the province. It demonstrates clearly that our provincial Safety Plan interventions are making a difference.

We have seen decreases in the murder rate at Kraaifontein at 40,5%; Harare at 14,5%; Khayelitsha at 21,1%, and Nyanga 24,1%. These account for the most significant decreases in murders among the top 30 murder stations in the country and are also areas in which we have deployed significant LEAP

resources as part of our plan to reduce the murder rate by 50% by 2029.

Since the inception of the plan, 1,056 LEAP officers have been deployed to crime hotspots. The working hours of these LEAP members were also extended to a 24-hour shift system, which resulted in an increase in deployments over weekends when murders increase, according to our data.

Furthermore, a reaction action unit consisting of LEAP members was established to urgently respond to outbreaks of violence when it occurs. Decrease in the criminal activity in the Western Cape over the past quarter were further recorded for sexual offenses at 10,7%; assault/gross bodily harm at 5,6%; common assault at 1,22%; common robbery at 8,9%, and robbery with aggravating circumstances at 10,9%.

Hon Deputy Speaker, there are of course areas in which we have seen increases in criminal activity, which include attempted sexual offenses, bank robbery, malicious damage to property and commercial crime. This Department will, with the budgetary investment of R700 million over the next two years for the LEAP Programme, play its part to give effect to its constitutional mandate of oversight, ensuring that gaps are identified to address them, making the province safer for all who live in it.

As outlined by Premier Winde in the State of the Province Address, the Department intends to take this oversight role even more seriously not only at a national level, but at a local level as well because the whole of society and

our whole of government approach is pivotal to creating safer communities.

Going forward the Department will significantly expand its monitoring of police stations across the province, with a focus on GBV and domestic violence responses, police conduct, visible policing and crime investigation efficiency. The Department will also accordingly be renamed to the Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety in the Western Cape.

Guided by this collaborative approach, the Department will implement an evidence-based and holistic transversal response to violence in our society with a sense of urgency. The purpose is to achieve safe and cohesive communities in the Western Cape. Its realisation is an imperative as crime and fragmented communities reduce the life chances and opportunities of individuals, further destabilising communities in a vicious cycle, and hinder socio-economic and personal development.

To strengthen our partnership in relation to the provincial Safety Plan to afford safer spaces, the expansion of the Chrysalis Academy will receive R25,2 million over the MTEF period of 2022/24. To further roll out the Safety Plan at a district level, R6 million will be provided in the 2022/23 financial year. The EPWP will receive R26,1 million, of which R3,8 million is a conditional grant. That Neighbourhood Watch resourcing will receive R5,7 million. I am happy to announce that the Department is currently looking to increase this support as the budget and capacity allow.

To boost the Department's support to municipalities for K9 units, R8,8 million has been allocated. Hon Deputy Speaker, I am indeed proud of the commendable efforts successfully executed by the canine units across the province. This weekend past, on 25 March 2022, the joint operations between the Malmesbury SAPS and the Swartland K9 Unit led to the arrest of four adult females and one adult male for dealing in Tik and for possession of ammunition.

The following day, on 26 March 2022, the joint operation between the Malmesbury Crime Prevention Unit and the Swartland K9 Unit, led to the arrest of nine adult males for the possession of an illegal firearm, which was later identified by its serial number as the same firearm earlier booked in and stolen from the SAP13 at the police station.

We wholeheartedly thank the K9 units in partnership with the respective municipalities for the lifesaving measures they actively have in place, risking their own lives to create safer communities for all those who call it home. We look forward to expanding these much-needed K9 units to other municipalities in the near future, of which Mossel Bay is next in line.

A total of R6,9 million has been allocated for the resourcing of reaction units at Swartland Municipality and Overstrand District Municipality. The Department will continue to drive the Reduction of Alcohol Harms Amendments to the Western Cape Liquor Act and will submit a publication of amendments to the Western Cape Liquor Regulations in respect of fees and

finances to be paid in terms of the Act. As the Department is mandated to lead and direct a task team to review and amend the Western Cape Liquor Act to take forward public health-based alcohol harms reduction strategies and interventions, the Western Cape Liquor Authority will receive its annual allocation of R45,6 million.

As we take our provincial Safety Plan to the next level, a new Violence Prevention Unit will be established in the Western Cape Department of Health. This unit will use public health data to identify localised strategies to prevent violence before it occurs.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the latest crime statistics released also clearly show that the establishment of murder stations and priority areas through area-based teams, is helping to reduce crime through a data-led and evidence-based approach to fighting crime, which includes both law enforcement and violence prevention interventions.

Beyond deploying additional Law Enforcement Advancement Plan law enforcement offices, the Department has established the ABT framework, which aims to collaborate with safety stakeholders at a local level. These ABTs are comprised of three crucial arms to ensure violence prevention, which include: law enforcement, urban design and social cohesion, which continue to be on-boarded. To date a total of 16 ABT areas which are linked to police stations, have been identified. This includes 11 ABTs in the City of Cape Town, and five ABTs in the district municipalities.

The Department has further established law enforcement technical area teams in these areas, with a specific focus on areas with the highest rate of murder. The Western Cape has identified 11 priority areas in the Metro based on their high murder rates. Based on third quarter crime statistics, reported murders in those areas accounted for 42,23% of the provincial total. The overall number of murders committed within the 11 ABTs, however, has been reduced by 9,35% in the last quarter, showing that the ABT approach is indeed yielding results.

Hon Deputy Speaker, as mentioned in the Second Reading debate, I note the concern within the Community Policing Forum structures in the Western Cape regarding what the impact of the establishment of the Provincial Secretariat in terms of Section 16 of the Civilian Secretariat for Police, Act 2 of 2011, will be on the continued existence and operation of Community Policing Forums. I want to reaffirm that the Western Cape Government, through its Department of Community Safety, is committed to fulfil its mandate, conferred by Section 206 of the Constitution, Section 66 and 68 of the Constitution of the Western Cape, as well as Section 5 of the Western Cape Community Safety Act.

This mandate, amongst other things, includes monitoring police conduct and overseeing the effectiveness and efficiency of the police service in the province by assisting Community Policing Forums through the provision of funding, training and resources in order to promote good relationships between the South Africa Police Services and communities, which will in

turn make the Western Cape a safer place for all. It is for this reason that we are awaiting legal advice on the best way forward.

Hon Deputy Speaker, together it is our duty to create an enabling environment through which all those we serve can thrive and feel a sense of safety, because contrary to popular belief, we need to understand that we are not a people at risk, but rather a people with potential.

Despite the many challenges, there exist praise-worthy initiatives in the streets of the Western Cape, and it is long overdue that we showcase these life-changing efforts and build on its successes, rather than only perpetuate our adversities.

Our role is not only to liberate society once more, but to liberate the minds of society. While the task may seem great, we have power in numbers and together we can create safer communities in the Western Cape.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly thank the officials of the Department of Community Safety, our partners in the various municipalities and sister Western Cape Government Departments, the South African Police Services and local law enforcement for the collaboration in creating safer and more cohesive communities in the Western Cape.

I also think the SAPS provincial leadership, led by General Patekile, for the good spirit of cooperation they continue to adopt as critical partners in our

fight against crime.

Hon Deputy Speaker, evidently, in a dismal national fiscal environment, adopting a whole of society and a whole of government approach inculcating collaborative efforts through sustainable partnerships, is much needed to achieve our mutual goals to enable safer and cohesive communities. I thank you. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. I now recognise hon member Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon acting MEC, members of the House, and let me also greet the Chairs of our committees, who I now see have decided to adopt the role of being Deputy MECs and speak for the Departments, instead of leading us in our quest to exercise oversight over the Executive.

Hon Deputy Speaker, a few weeks ago we were gutted by news of the several multi-shootings across the Cape Flats. In Gugulethu and Khayelitsha there were a number of reported mass murders, including the murders of women. The Western Cape continues to resemble killing fields, and in that note I think we also want to welcome the arrests that have been made in connection with the mass murders that happened in Khayelitsha, where six people lost their lives, and call on the NPA to do everything at its disposal to ensure that it achieves a conviction and imprisonment.

The fact that after a number of years of pumping funds into their so-called Safety Plan and yet our people continue to die like flies, is unfathomable and leaves a lot to be desired. It is a clear indication that the Safety Plan is a big and an expensive failure.

Even in this budget the plan gets the largest share. The Department's budget allocation for the year increased with R216,8 million, from R559,3 million for the 2021/22 Revised Estimate, to R776,1 million for the 2022/23 financial year. This increase is mainly for the Law Enforcement Advancement Plan, which will be transferred to the City of Cape Town. The other funding will go towards the professionalisation of the Neighbourhood Watches, and to fund the law enforcement reaction units.

Hon Deputy Speaker and members, our stance on the Safety Plan is clear and known to all. While in principle we welcome additional resources to fight crime, especially in the murder hotspot areas, we are concerned that there is no investment towards addressing the causative factors of violent crimes in these particular areas.

The recent weeks have once more showed why the Safety Plan in its current form will not yield the desired outcome of halving the murder rate by 2029. We repeat that until such a time where we stop paying lip service to addressing causative factors of violent crimes, then we will not win the battle.

The environmental design, as is popularly mentioned by many, but not really taken into consideration in terms of implementation by this Government, particularly looking as partial planning, is instrumental for the creation of a safer environment.

As part of the Safety Plan, hon Deputy Speaker, Departments like Human Settlements, Local Government, should be tasked to create a favourable environment for policing, including installing of streetlights and CCTV cameras in the communities that are found in the top 30 murder precincts, and by improving accessibility in the informal settlements.

This budget has ignored this. Instead, the Department will continue funding establishment and support of K9 dog units, facilitation of a Safety Plan for district municipalities, and provisioning of the latest technology relating to safety and security for the CBD. We are not in support of this, we want CCTV cameras and related safety and security technology in the murder hotspots, not in the CBD.

Hon Deputy Speaker and members, no one must be mistaken to think that we do not support the Safety Plan. When the Premier announced it with so much fanfare in the National Assembly, we were the first to say we welcome it in principle as it presented a paradigm shift away from a Provincial Government of armchair critics, towards investing in violence prevention.

However, we had a lot of reservations about it. Firstly, the mass murders of

recent weeks placed a spotlight over the decision to cut the LEAP officers from 3,000 to only 1,000, but seemingly, Deputy Speaker, it looks it is accepted that the Premier continues now and again to pronounce different things and later implement other things.

Firstly, there are not enough LEAP officers to deploy to areas like Manenberg, for instance, where there is an ongoing gang war. The Department cannot even establish an area-based team there. It only deploys the law enforcement reaction unit comprised of only 63 members responsible for the entire Metro. The ongoing gang wars and mass murders are an indictment on the Premier and his Government to increase the number of deployed LEAP officers.

Secondly, we raised even that the Safety Plan in this current format was to create the DA Provincial Police Force. This was confirmed by the officials in the Committee that during the hard lockdown these LEAP officers were used by people like J P Smith to do their dirty job in the City of Cape Town, which included the evicting of poor and vulnerable informal settlement dwellers under a difficult period of the pandemic.

Who knows what else did this chap use these LEAP officers for to do? Did he use them to spy on former MEC Fritz? Smith is notoriously known for misusing State resources to target his nemesis. It is no surprise that he was the first to know about the former MEC's sex for job scandals.

Lastly, our biggest fear that we were pumping money into something we do not have control or oversight over, became true and was confirmed by officials in the Committee meeting. When we posed questions about the accountability for the millions we spend on the LEAP officers, we were shocked to learn that there is no legislative framework we can use to exercise oversight over law enforcement officers.

What this means is that we are spending millions every year on this programme, but we cannot hold J P Smith accountable for how he spends it in or how he deploys these officers. The only thing binding the Department and the City is a mere business plan, and it ends there.

Hon Deputy Speaker, this is unacceptable and deserves the Legislature's full attention. We need an urgent legal advice on this matter. It is not correct that we invest money on a programme we do not have oversight powers over. This confirms our fears that choosing to invest on law enforcement officers over the Metro Police was a deliberate move to create a DA police force that would only be accountable to the DA. Not even the Police Ombudsman can keep an eye on these law enforcement officers.

The plans to amend the Western Cape Community Safety Act to give the Ombudsman oversight responsibility over law enforcement officers, will be halted following a legal advice that this was not possible. We must tighten our oversight mechanisms, we must haul J P Smith before this House to account for all the millions we have given to the City over the years. The

business plan must be amended to make it compulsory for Smith and the City to account to the Legislature on a quarterly basis and annually.

If this is not possible, then we might as well halt funding for the programme until such a time that there is accountability for it. The ANC has already expressed its views not to support this budget in the Committee. Today we are presented with an opportunity to state the reasons for our position.

The first is that for many years this Department has ignored its core mandate of police oversight. The HOD told the Standing Committee that this Department is failing on its oversight role. It has never conducted inspection on all 151 police stations in a year. This is partly due to not having staff to do the work.

The Department has been assigning staff and resources to unfunded mandates. Instead of addressing the problem, the Premier opts to make a premature announcement of changing the Department's name, as if there are people who are confused as to what is the role of this Department. This was made with no knowledge or consultations with the officials. Had he consulted, the Premier would have known, or would have been told, that this is not an easy and a straightforward process as he first needs to make a request even to the President of the country.

The Department will now repurpose some of its staff members to the unit that will conduct police station investigations. There must be additional funding

set aside for this purpose. It is a known secret that we have so many rogue elements in the police service, and we need a vibrant oversight unit in the Department to arrest that rot, but I must warn the Department that this inspection unit must not be used like the Court Watching Briefs, which are currently used as a DA pocketknife to target and expose the failures of the National Department.

This Department must tell us why these Court Watching Briefs have failed to monitor the ongoing cases of Farrel Payne and Wesley Baadjies, who are the two senior Provincial Government officials who are in Court for sexual crimes.

Hon Deputy Speaker and members, in most murders in the province a gun was used as a weapon. It is on that basis that the ANC calls for the strengthening of Government's ammunition control system. We should investigate how qualification and registration of ammunition will help in rendering the many illegal firearms useless and assist SAPS in combating and investigate crime.

This budget will also go towards funding the area-based teams to enhance law enforcement and violence prevention initiatives in communities. What we know about this area-based teams is that they have led to the Department terminating the Expanded Partnership Programme. In line with the Western Cape Safety Act the EPP was aimed at enhancing the efficiency and sustainability of Community Policing Forums, and to promote their activities and functions. The new funding model as explained by the Department, will

benefit those CPFs that completed AGMs, received certificates and applied for project funding.

The Department is coercing CPFs to partner with area-based teams and it will find ABT initiatives in communities. This is an attempt to capture the CPFs and have them under DA control. Elsie's River and Manenberg, I repeat, hon Deputy Speaker, which are two communities known for constant gang wars, do not have established area-based teams. It is clearly for everyone to see and it is for the Department to acknowledge that the ABT is a weak and ineffective strategy. It is for this reason that we have asked for the business plan and the terms of reference of these ABTs to get a full understanding of what the Department aims to achieve.

Hon Deputy Speaker, in line with our calls for the Department to expand the LEAP to other municipalities, we welcome the establishment of the reaction units in Swartland, in Overstrand Municipality. However, 20 members in each municipality are insufficient.

Additionally, we note the rollout of a new K9 unit in Mossel Bay Municipality on top of the units operating in the City, Overstrand and Swartland Municipality. We must state upfront that we are vehemently opposed to the leasing of K9 dogs from a private company in Swartland. It is a strategy aimed again at enriching DA members and funders at the expense of taxpayers.

Together with the hon members of the Standing Committee, we have agreed that these K9 units are needed in Beaufort West, in Knysna, in Laingsburg Municipalities to assist the work of SAPS there. The Department told us that the original plan was to send them to these municipalities, but due to incapacity of the municipalities to handle K9 dogs, they were then sent elsewhere. This explanation is unacceptable, and the Department could have partnered with other Local Government to capacitate these municipalities.

In conclusion, hon Deputy Speaker and hon members, I want to take this opportunity to welcome hon member Mackenzie to the Committee. I am not privy to all the details of why he was demoted from a Standing Committee Chair to a mere backbencher, but he has proved to be effective on this new role of his as a backbencher.

Most importantly, now that he is a member of this Committee and an MPL, he must account about what he knows about the sex for job scandals, and must report everything to the police, and we must call on the Premier really to take the work of this Department seriously. We are over a month now and he has not yet appointed an MEC in that Department, and we wonder, hon Deputy Speaker, maybe the arrival of hon member Plato also in the House is making it difficult for him to take that decision.

Is it going to be hon member Reagen? Is it going to be Chief Whip, hon member Wenger? Is it going to be MEC Plato? But what we say as the ANC is that that is not important. What is important is that this Department must

have a MEC that will hold accountable and ensure that we give hope to the people of the Western Cape, who continues to face the barrel of a gun, who continue to die in the streets without anything being done by this Department, and by that, hon Deputy Speaker, let me take this opportunity to thank all the community fighting structures for their immense contribution in the fight against crime, with less to no support from the Department, and in that, hon Deputy Speaker, I want to say may God bless our province and our nation *Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika*. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

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

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, hon Chairperson, and I appreciate the hon member. It seems to me he does not go to sleep without thinking about me and J P Smith, and I appreciate his concern.

I would like to add, it is a pity about the hon members, because I honestly do not know who they are representing. You have seen the NEC's latest report. The ANC in the Western Cape only has three branches out of a potential 116. So the members should really bring the members back here that actually should be here because we do not know who they are representing in the House.

Hon Deputy Speaker, we welcome the R776 million allocated for the 2022/2023 financial year as part of Budget Vote 4 to push the Western Cape

forward. It will be appropriated in this House. Despite it coming against the backdrop of declining revenue and economy in tatters due to maladministration, corruption and abuse by the National Government, of which some members are in good standing, I wish to thank Minister Marais for steering the ship, as well as the officials, who during this most difficult period have been focused and continuing and serving the best for the residents of the Western Cape. Your hard work, to all of you, I really appreciate.

I would also like to express our thoughts and our prayers to the victims of crime, especially those in Manenberg and in Khayelitsha, and many other communities, over the past few weeks. We wish you God's strength during this very difficult time.

I would like to add, the hon member referred to the firearms that has been used during a later shooting, and I want to thank the Department and the officials. We have seen then, and, Minister, I want to repeat what you said. During the joint operation in Malmesbury, the CPU, the Crime Prevention Unit, members and the Swartland K9 Unit, that led to the arrest of the nine adult male members for the possession of the illegal firearms, which was later identified, and this is so important members, by its serial number, the same firearm that was earlier booked in and stolen from SAP13 at the police station, and I wish, via you, hon Deputy Speaker, hon member Kama, would inform his colleague, hon Bheki Cele, that they must guard our firearms.

He rightly identified that the firearms are being used in the gun killings, but it is being stolen from SAPS, for which the ANC is solely responsible, and he highlighted again the beautiful K9 unit funded and supported by this Government. He should actually applaud Minister Marais and not criticising her for using this unit, and it shows the difference between what the Western Cape Government is doing and what the National Government is doing, and let me perhaps highlight and explain the role of the Western Cape Department of Community Safety as set up in the Constitution, Section 206, which some members seemingly still do not know and I quote:

“The Department is mandated to exercise oversight over law enforcement agencies in the Western Cape, including conducting oversight over SAPS; municipal services; investigating SAPS service delivery complaints, carried out by the Western Cape Ombudsman; influence the allocation of police resources to consultative engagement with community-based organisations, NGOs and faith-based organisations, among other things.”

It seems some members do not understand Section 206 of the Constitution. Safety is not only the responsibility of the Western Cape Government, it is a whole of society approach which we all have a responsibility to work with in our safety structure, and I want to state from the beginning, the Safety Plan was never only about boots on the ground, and sadly many members do not understand this. Even though the Safety Plan has been in existence for three years [Interjections.].

To fight crime intelligently we need additional officers on the ground operating with [Inaudible.] preventative measures because of these [Inaudible.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member, just one second, somebody is not muted. Can we please mute all the [Interjections.] – one minute, I will just quickly mute. Okay. I think it is fine. That was a mistake. You may proceed.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

All of which was driven by data, including dealing with the many [Inaudible.] in our society. We therefore welcome the increased funding of the LEAP officers, with R1,1 billion rand being allocated to the programme of over the next three years.

More than that we welcome how the Western Cape Government consistently pick up where the National Government fails, including spending the R5,8 million, which the members criticised, to this for supporting the K9 units. That is how we contribute as this Government to filling the void where the National Government continues to fail.

Here in the Western Cape we have gone out of our way in dealing with fighting crime and allocating billions that is supposed to be spent on service delivery that the ANC Government has failed to do.

We have seen how our intelligence gathering services has collapsed. We all know our State Security has collapsed and is completely politicised. Interesting, hon members, Minister Cele was in Mitchells Plain, in my constituency, a few months ago and that was the first time in eight years that I saw the Regional Director of Intelligence, in an event that was also haphazardly arranged with the CPF. Not one member was invited. Not J P Smith, that they so eagerly want to criticise, nor the Department of Community Safety, and not the Premier himself. That is how they completely politicise the politics. If we did not invite our Neighbourhood Watches and our Walking Bus members, that event would have been empty.

If we were really politicising, we could have told our Neighbourhood Watches not to go, but in the spirit of good governance and community governance we asked them to attend. So, the allocations and plans, some which Minister Marais has spoken about, should be welcomed.

Hon Minister Marais, when it comes to fighting crime intelligently, the ANC Government has consistently failed to do so, and let me also quote, Minister, hon member Kama quoted from a newspaper. If he picked up the newspaper yesterday, in the *Sunday Times*, we have seen over 40 police officers, via you, hon Deputy Speaker, 40 trained State Security Agents were allocated to the wife of former President Jacob Zuma to investigate their internal politics and how she was poisoned.

Now imagine, just imagine this for 30 seconds, via you, hon Deputy Speaker,

hon member Kama, if those 40 trained State Intelligence Officers were allocated to Manenberg, to Khayelitsha, to Nyanga, how we could have dealt with crime intelligently in the Western Cape.

So, if they stop using the State Security Agency to fight the ANC internal battles, we would have dealt with some of these problems, and that is the crux of what is wrong in the country, the African National Congress, and that is what we should be dealing with here.

Hon Deputy Speaker, this budget is living proof of the DA governance. We consistently invest in programmes while the ANC Government has failed to invest, and let me come to another matter, hon member Kama, via you, hon Deputy Speaker, raised in his speech, the issue of cameras.

Now in Mitchells Plain my ward councillors allocated, from their ward allocation, R350 000 to cameras in Ward 75, Woodlands. The ANC has got many councillors in the City of Cape Town, despite the fact they only have three branches, they bizarrely have many councillors.

So what we have seen in the sub-council, where Mr Sutashe is, who was, I think, the Metro Chairperson, who has also been disbanded because they could not build branches. They have not allocated money from the sub-councils, so they should call their councillors and ask them to quote the Chairperson of the Khayelitsha Community Development Forum last week, or two weeks ago. He said they must stop throwing parties in Khayelitsha and

allocate their ward allocation to cameras. That is what the councillors in Mitchells Plain are doing. They allocate their ward allocation, the same amount of money the councillors in Khayelitsha have been doing.

Yes, the City provides the overall support, but the ward allocation should be done by the sub-council chairperson of the ANC, of which they have in many of our communities, including their own councillors. They failed to do that, hon Deputy Speaker, and that is part of the problem in crime in many of our communities, similar with intelligence.

So, we welcome to monitoring this budget, hon Minister Marais, and your team, and to ensure that every citizen in this province has a secure future built on safety, hope and opportunity for all.

We further like to thank our brave police officers, our traffic officials, our Neighbourhood Watch members, our Walking Bus members, all our LEAP officers and law enforcement officers, who have been committed to the safety of people in this province. The DA supports this budget. I thank you.
[Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Thank you very much, hon member. I now recognise hon member Xego.

Mr M XEGO: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

When the 2021/2022 third quarter crime statistics were released early this year in February 2022, the Premier, hon Alan Winde, and the acting Provincial Community Safety Minister, were quick to take credit for the 6,9% decrease in number of murder rates, and 24% decrease in attempted murder rates. They solely took credit for the reported decrease and saw them as something which would be credited to the effectiveness of the so-called Safety Plan.

So in this province the norm is that when there are increases reported in crime rates, National Government should take blame, and when the stats decrease, then the credit should be attributed to the Province. However, what is concerning and which the Premier and the Minister failed to take cognisance of, is the low percentage decrease in murder, and as well as assault to cause grievous bodily harm, and the common assault. These have not significant crime decreases and which one can celebrate as a form of achievement.

Recently we have been experiencing mass killings in the provincial townships. This month alone eight people were shot and killed in Manenberg; six people were shot and killed in Enkanini informal settlement; whilst five other people suffered the same fate in Monwabisi Park informal settlement in Ndlovu.

Spending taxpayers' money without a plan which will yield results itself is a crime against humanity, as it robs communities of service delivery. The more

this Department spends money into this so-called Safety Plan, the more our townships will remain unsafe at the hands of the gangs who do as they please, as if there is no law and order. For these reasons the EFF will not support this Vote.

Millions of rands are being spent in employing the so-called LEAP officers with the intention of having more boots on the ground, but the very same officers are nowhere to be found near townships where it matters the most. It then begs a question: why spending millions of rands into an initiative that is already failing more than two years in operation?

What we also want to understand is the fact that the allocation of all these resources is still targeting the leafy suburbs and not the hotspot areas where exactly our people are dying. It is in this regard that we appeal to Government not to just highlight crime statistics that are decreasing and increasing in our townships, but to do allocation, proper budget allocation, to ensure that the lives of our people are being saved in all the congested areas, which includes the availability of resources that result in crime-fighting agencies struggling to combat crime in our areas. In that regard, hon Deputy Speaker, as the EFF we do not support this Vote. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member Xego. I now recognise hon member Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker,

the ACDP of course welcomes it when money is given and allocated to Neighbourhood Watches. That helps a lot. I have said it consistently over and over in this Chamber, I believe the solution lies in our Neighbourhood Watches; people that get up 5 o'clock in the morning to see that our commuters get safely to the bus stops and train stations.

Secondly, hon Deputy Speaker, an important thing is, hon member Mackenzie mentioned it now two times, the Walking Buses. The Walking Buses is not getting any stipends. We know that previously the City of Cape Town gave an allocation to about 5,000 Walking Bus members to make sure that our children are safe when they go to school and come from school. I am asking this Department, please look at how can we assist the Walking Bus members?

Thirdly, I have asked it again and I will ask again, as a Committee we must have oversight over the money allocated to the LEAP officers, allocated to the K9 units, because ultimately the money comes from the Province and I want this Committee, the Community Safety Plan Act, to be amended so that we have oversight, that we hear of reports of LEAP officers doing whatever, and we do not have, as a province, direct control, or just to call them in and to please come and explain.

So, hon Deputy Speaker, that is from the ACDP's side. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. I assume that hon member Marais is away for the day, which he did say. So, he is not

online. I will then move on, hon member Marais, thank you. I then recognise hon member Brinkhuis.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. For the month of March already 341 people have been murdered in the province, compared to 343 for the same period in 2018. We need a socio-economic response to eradicate crime, and the focus should be on creating sustainable employment for the youth.

What is the Western Cape doing to ensure that universities, hospitals and schools work with local communities to use facilities for training of people? What oversight role is the Western Cape playing on how the City is using its resources to enhance the economic potential of town centres, such as in Mitchells Plain, Nyanga Junction, Gatesville? These town centres are exposed to daily criminal activities, but no radical strategies are implemented to create safe shopping environments to the people of the Cape Flats. I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member Brinkhuis. I now recognise hon member Allen.

Mr R I ALLEN: Thank you, †baie dankie, agb Adjunkspeaker [thank you hon Deputy Speaker.]

I am once again happy to be participating in this debate. I do feel, to a large

extent, that I would prefer it to be a conversation where we are able to really address the matters that were discussed here.

So, to firstly welcome the input from the Minister, as well as from hon member Mackenzie, and I do echo the support as expressed by hon member Mackenzie, but also to welcome the input from other members, hon member Kama, hon member Brinkhuis and hon member Ferlon Christians, as well as the EFF online.

Hon members, firstly I heard here earlier, hon Deputy Speaker, that we are cutting LEAP officers. Now that is not a fact. The LEAP programme is being implemented in stages, and we would ideally want to have 3,000 as soon as possible. Hon member Kama is fully aware of this, that last year we could not get to the first initial 1,000 because of COVID regulations, but it is being staged in, but I love that he said the word “cutting”, because we are cutting on crime. We are cutting on the amount of illegal firearms on our streets; we are cutting in terms of illicit drugs that are being confiscated. So, hon member Kama, we are cutting crime in our province with regard to the LEAP programme.

Hon member Kama also mentioned Manenberg, and I will touch on that in my speech, but we have actually responded, DoCS together with the MEC and the Premier, quickly and swiftly reacted and allocated the reaction unit to Manenberg as soon as those mass murders happened. As soon as those mass murders happened, and that is in conjunction with the AGU, as well as with

Metro Police, because they act to bolster the efforts of the South African Police Services, alongside the Neighbourhood Watches and our CPFs.

Hon member Kama spoke about spying on other people, and I would want to say, hon member Kama, if you know of any member in the DA, not in the DA, you must please make a case with SAPS as soon as possible. I will go with you, where we go and make a case against that member if you have any evidence, because I do not think that member belongs in the DA. We hear it in the ANC sadly. Conferences come up, there are reports that confirm that the State Security Agency has been used for political gain, they even jam cellphones. If this was now the ANC, hon member Kama would not have been able to access his cellphone here. [Laughter]

So we know, but I will go with hon member Kama if there's any member that you know of that spies on any person, please let us go and make a case, but also the Court Watching Brief, and, hon Deputy Speaker, I remember I was reading a Court Watching Brief that hon member Kama and other members are privy to and I had to take one evening to actually read that particular Court Watching Brief report. It was the third quarter of last year, and I told my wife that we can first have supper before I am going to read this report, because I could not stomach what I was reading.

In that particular report that hon member Kama also saw, there were 139 cases that were monitored by the Court Watching Brief, that was said to be a pocketknife, and this pocketknife basically monitored 139 Court cases, where

in 12 of those cases SAPS members were actually dismissed, which SAPS confirmed.

So, there were inefficiencies, but there was cases where rape featured the highest amongst those 139, and I took one evening to read that report, because, like I have said, I think none of the members could stomach reading how one particular case was struck off the Court roll 11 times. It was postponed [Interjections.] before it was eventually struck off the Court case. A 16-year old; secondary victimisation is adding to the burden, and this pocketknife is doing amazing work, that other provinces are also wanting to adopt the role of this pocketknife, which is making a real dent. Just imagine we had a bazooka, just imagine we had a dagger. If the ANC must give us the money we can have a dagger and we can do so much more in that regard. [Interjections.]

But also it was mentioned about the oversight, and I love that hon member Christians also touched on it, and like we have heard in the Standing Committee two weeks ago, the oversight on the LEAP is through the City structures and through the Western Cape Government's governance framework, but I do share your concern. I do share and understand where you are coming from, and I will make a commitment to ensure that at the first available opportunity I will address and approach the Programming Authority so that we can invite the City back, and the City has been here. The Department has been here, where we discussed the matters with regard to LEAP, but also in terms of the Transfer Payment Agreement, the City has to

account to the Department and to the Premier in that regard.

We also see that the City further has established a Civilian Oversight Committee, unlike in other Metro cities, the City actually has a Civilian Oversight Committee that I will send details of to members, which I found extremely interesting, but let me rather read it. It says in terms of those members, and I love this, that those members apply via an advert that the City puts out, and those members on the Civic Oversight Committee should have a relevant diploma or degree in the field of policing, crime prevention, public administration, law or related studies; persons with a research capacity enabling them to inform crime prevention and law enforcement initiatives with the City; prominent researchers at the academic institutions and/or institutes; security and related studies; persons who have been involved in law enforcement and/or prevention of crime; as well as ordinary citizens in Cape Town who have consistently displayed a keen interest in crime prevention or law enforcement activities within the City.

So those oversight mechanisms exist, and that particular Civilian Oversight Committee is so key to ensure that the bickering and the nonsense that is being spewed and spread do not infiltrate the good work that is being done, but to get to the speech, and through you, hon Deputy Speaker, to the residents of the Western Cape, I wish to state emphatically that I feel your frustration, I share in your anger and I understand your fear.

The past two weeks have been disheartening as we have witnessed yet

another number of mass shootings in our province, like hon member Kama, like hon member Mackenzie, alluded to and I have to confess, hon Deputy Speaker, at times I was tempted to despair, but I remembered the hope, that hope is far more powerful because, hon Deputy Speaker, I visited Manenberg and Khayelitsha following the mass shootings in those areas. Together with hon member Kama we attended the SAPS imbizo in Manenberg, and again we heard first-hand how SAPS continues to fail our people. Residents are fed up and deserve to be protected by the police.

Directly after the fatal shooting where six people were killed in Manenberg, the LEAP Reaction Unit was deployed. The swift action from the Department, the acting MEC and the Premier, to further capacitate and bolster the operations led by the Anti-Gang Unit and the Metro Police, is definitely welcomed, but, hon Deputy Speaker, there is no doubt that the lack of proper management in the police from National Government is to blame for the worsening crime trends, and this is the exact reason why the LEAP officers were sent to Manenberg.

But furthermore, hon Deputy Speaker, following the visit to Manenberg, news broke of another mass shooting in Khayelitsha, and I remember being called for comment, and the words expressed in Manenberg by community members echoed in my ears, which hon member Kama also heard, where members of the Manenberg community said, “We are tired of receiving condolences. We want action to be taken.”

Now, hon Deputy Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to share a story of my childhood. When growing up in Mitchells Plain, I found casual work during school holidays, and this retailer had stores in Mitchells Plain, in Khayelitsha, actually all across the country. Their tagline was of interest, that they always do it right, where you always save, and even low prices for you. I think they wear the colours of the EFF but one always felt safe using public transport travelling to Khayelitsha from Rocklands, Mitchells Plain.

However, when visiting Khayelitsha last week following the mass shooting, I was reminded that the ANC objected to a motion which condemned a spate of murders in Khayelitsha, Kraaifontein and Mfuleni during May last year. Last year in this House a motion condemning the mass shootings in Khayelitsha, Kraaifontein and in Mfuleni was not supported by the ANC, because this motion further sought to extend condolences to the loved ones of the deceased and applaud the work of the law enforcement in arresting alleged perpetrators.

When asked, hon Deputy Speaker, for a reason as to why the ANC objected to this motion, we heard it is too long, but, hon Deputy Speaker, at the time the Speaker correctly clarified and said that there is no such Rule that stipulates limitations to the length of motions. The ANC in fact objected to the substance of the very motion to condemn a mass shooting in Khayelitsha, less than a year ago, but at the time, hon Deputy Speaker, I was deeply alarmed by the ANC's actions.

However, over time it became clear there is simply little to no interest in the safety of residents from the ANC at a national level. Here in the Western Cape the DA-led Government remains committed to safety, especially when the ANC-led Government, which includes the National Minister of Police, continues to fail our communities by providing limited resourcing and bad management from Pretoria, but I wish to assure residents of our beautiful province that we will continue to exercise our policing oversight function and expand our mandate with or without the ANC.

Now, hon Deputy Speaker, it is well-known that mass shootings are endemic in our country as a whole. As early as January 2022 we saw a number of mass shootings in KwaZulu Natal. At the time the National Minister of Police visited the area and stated the following:

“We trust the capable team, led by the Provincial Commissioner, that they will work twice as hard in ensuring that parts of KZN province are not again turned into a killing field.”

Here the National Minister goes on record asking SAPS members, that are under resourced, to work twice as hard when he is actually failing at his job, and similar sentiments were expressed last week in Khayelitsha again by the National Minister, because I attended a stakeholder engagement arranged by the Khayelitsha Development Forum, and I was left baffled and in a total state of shock owing to the remarks made by the Minister, where he said, and I quote:

“I am not going to say things in the absence of the Province, because you - referring to me – are from the Legislature, with no power, with no executive decisions.”

Sadly some in the crowd, together with the National Minister of Police, laughed at this remark. He failed to address any of my inputs at that particular meeting, but that was not surprising. It was not surprising to me, it is not surprising to the DA, and it is not surprising to the ANC.

I say it is not surprising to the ANC because hon member Kama is on record to have said, on 19 November 2021, in the *Cape Argus* he said, and I quote:

“We reiterate the calls to address the skewed patterns of police resources so that more police could be deployed to the hotspot areas where they are needed.”

And I love that because it is straight out of a DA statement. Thank you so much, hon member Kama, and we have consistently called for that for over a decade.

Now let me paint a picture. Hon Deputy Speaker, Khayelitsha is covered by SAPS infrastructure, like the Khayelitsha, Harare and Lingeletu West police stations. At these stations we see a worrying picture emerge, and it sounds like a horror movie, but here we go. Khayelitsha has police to population

ratio of one officer for every 628 residents. [Interjections.] I am going to repeat: one officer for every 628 residents.

†n AGB LID: Skande!

[An HON MEMBER: Disgrace!]

Mr R I ALLEN: Harare has a police to population ratio of one officer for every 879 ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Oh no!

Mr R I ALLEN: ... residents. It becomes even scarier because Lingeletu West has a police to population ratio of one officer for every 664 residents, and between Khayelitsha and Harare and Lingeletu West, we have a further 12% vacancy rate in those stations. A 12% vacancy rate in those stations, and lo and behold, all of those stations are above the provincial average of one officer for every 520 residents, which is even way above the international best practice, where we are earmarked to have one for every 250 to 300 citizens.

A real picture, hon member Kama has been calling for the skewed allocations to be addressed. The Minister would not listen to him, and that is a sad, sad case in our country, but, hon Deputy Speaker, it does not stop there.

On the other hand, we have areas like Claremont, with ratios of one officer

for every 283 residents. We have areas like Camps Bay and Sea Point, for example, which sit at a ratio of one officer for every 121 residents and 281 residents, respectively.

This is a clear example of skewed allocations [Interjections.] that we have been calling for consistently, but the National Minister is failing us big time, because as far back as 2014 SAPS made the proposal to the Khayelitsha Commission of Inquiry, a commission which was established by the then Premier of the Western Cape, Helen Zille, the Commission looked into allegations of police inefficiencies and a breakdown in relation between SAPS and the community, and at the time, hon Deputy Speaker, SAPS proposed that they would build a new police station in Harare, which covers part of the Khayelitsha area.

In October last year I attended an event with SAPS in Khayelitsha, which is seven years after they made the proposal to build a police station in Harare, and at that particular meeting they revealed a mobile station. A literal mobile station that is literally on wheels. Seven years after agreeing and confirming to the Khayelitsha Commission of Inquiry that they will build a fully fledged SAPS station in Harare. [Interjections.] A truck; a mobile station. It is laughable, but it is extremely sad. It is extremely sad, and I wish to echo the sentiment that we expressed last week in Khayelitsha, in which a member of the community gave input during the engagement, and he said MPs should stop the SAPS budget as it is not enough.

This is what the member, a stakeholder, said in Khayelitsha last week. MPs should stop the SAPS budget as it is not enough, to which the National Minister of Police replied:

“Someone here said MPs must stop the budget. What budget? When it is, Ministers, set the budget. So do not ask MPs and MPLs to stop the budget.”

He said this while pointing and laughing at a resident that asked this particular question ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: He does not understand [Inaudible.]

Mr R I ALLEN ... and I am thinking that in the mid-term Budget Policy Statement of 2020, X amount, amounting to, I think, R11,7 billion, I know it was over R11 billion, was taken from various departments – 2020 mid-terms Budget Policy Statement R11 billion was taken. R1,2 billion from SAPS, and R1,7 billion from Education, to fund a bailout towards SAA, and the Minister, who is part of that decision-making body in the ANC, was okay with allowing the SAPS budget to be cut; to allow that the Justice budget to be cut; to allow that Correctional Services budget to be cut; to allow that Education budget to be cut, so that we can bail out a failing State-owned Enterprise like SAA. This is deeply saddening. He said that whilst pointing and laughing at the resident in question.

Hon member Kama, I wish that you were here because they wanted to chuck me out of that particular meeting for raising the seriousness of it, and, hon Deputy Speaker, in the face of despair I remain hopeful that we will turn the tide and reach our objective as outlined by the Premier of the Western Cape, to half the murder rate by 2029.

Hon member Mackenzie earlier outlined his support for the Vote, and I wish to echo those sentiments. He further reminded members of this House of our oversight role in terms of Section 206 of the Constitution. It is with this context that I wish to give my full support to Vote 4 of Community Safety.

I want to say that I am confident, hon Deputy Speaker, that we will be able to maintain our excellent working relationships with all safety stakeholders across the province, including SAPS here in the Western Cape, and as a Committee we have seen the commitment from the Department's management team, and I am delighted that under the able direction of Advocate Pillay and the entire management team that is here today, our Police Ombudsman, those in the Neighbourhood Watches that are doing amazing work, those in the Liquor Authority, they are highly, highly appreciated, because we have seen, together with all departmental personnel, that their hard work, their diligence and dedication are making the Western Cape safer for all its residents.

And before I close, the Western Cape, in terms of Vote 4, it highlights its commitment in that the 2022/2023 Budget has seen an increase of R216 881 000 from the Revised Estimate from the 2021/2022 Budget. This is

an increase of 38,77% as highlighted by hon member Mackenzie earlier as well.

In Programme 1, Administration has been allocated over R106 million for the upcoming financial year, and this will ensure that we continue our strategic direction and support administrative, financial and executive services to the Department and related entities, but, hon Deputy Speaker, the objective of the programme is to efficiently support the Office of the Ministry, Head of Department, Western Cape Police Ombudsman, and the Western Cape Liquor Authority in their functions of providing strategic leadership and ensuring effective governance inclusive of financial management.

We will continue, hon Deputy Speaker, to push forward as our Finance Minister gave the marching order that the budget was to push forward, but it is not coming out of nowhere, it is because of the good work that we have done leading up to COVID, that we were able to survive and continue to push forward, but also in Programme 2 the Provincial Secretariat for Police Services is to receive an amount of R83 million.

As outlined in the Premier's State of the Province Address, this component is vital in our efforts to ramp up our oversight role, because we do not take our role lightly, since the DA understands the importance of exercising oversight over the conduct, effectiveness and efficacy of law enforcement agencies in the province, and further to the Department's oversight role, Programme 2 will continue to assist with policy research and development that will

influence community resource allocations to the Province.

We have spoken about our programmes being data-led and evidence driven, because it is not merely hitting, we need to be strategic in everything we do, knowing that in real terms the budget is shrinking year on year due to mismanagement at a national level, hence these safety measures are needed, but, hon Deputy Speaker, one cannot there underestimate the role of monitoring and evaluation.

Without a data-led and evidence-based approach, monitoring and evaluation remain a key pillar towards ensuring the best value for money spent and, hon Deputy Speaker, regarding ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Finish off, hon member.

Mr R I ALLEN: In closing, the impact of the LEAP programme is being felt in the hotspot areas as we know it is happening. It is time for us to continue to deliver a government for you, and I support this budget, and I said what I said.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. [Interjections.] Thank you very much, hon member. I now recognise hon Minister Marais.

The ACTING MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Thank you to all the hon members of the Standing

Committee.

Hon member Mackenzie, thank you for your passion and in-depth oversight over our Department.

Hon member Xego, I know you do care for your community's safety, but I am offering you a copy of my speech so that you do not misinform your constituents. They do deserve better.

And then, hon member Christians, I think he left, or is he online? I note all your concerns and I noted that the Chairperson will take it up.

Then, hon member Brinkhuis, thank you for your contribution. Yes, we need partners in safety. Very, very important to form those partnerships.

Hon member Regan Allen, thank you for your dedicated leadership as well as in-depth knowledge of DoCS and your valuable contribution.

Hon member Kama, LEAP deployment is linked to top murder stations and the reaction unit, consisting of 66 members, is deployed to any area if there is a flare-up, and we have reported on inspections of 151 police stations, but during COVID it was sometimes physically not always possible to do these inspections.

Then about Manenberg. The Premier and I visited Manenberg, and the LEAP

officers form part of the LEAP Reaction Unit assisting SAPS with DoCS, the National Prosecuting Authority and the Asset Forfeiture Unit were deployed. They are committed and made gains in addressing gang-related violence, and I am going to only mention a few.

It is including:

- Arresting one 25-year old male, who was charged with murder.
- Four individuals for possession of 9 millimetre rounds of ammunition and recovering one firearm.

As I have said I have only mentioned a few.

Then you have spoken about Youth Safety Ambassadors in a previous debate, but I just want to mention YSAP aims to present youth with opportunities to get experience that could allow them to start and then further a career, as well as encompassing personal development in a form of training that was incorporated in the programme. The programme provided financial relief, work experience, access to training, foster personal, and community centred development.

The programme was introduced as a temporary work opportunity as part of the Province's COVID-19 Recovery Plan, which was introduced to create work prospects to assist Metro and rural communities with opportunities. With the contractual agreement of one year, the YSAP contracts ended 15

March 2022.

And lastly, we welcome the confirmed arrest of a suspect in connection with the multiple mass murder cases being investigated in Khayelitsha. The suspect's arrest does offer some consolation. We will track the case in Court through our Court Watching Briefs, and will also allow follow-up with the South Africans Police Services to monitor progress and get the relevant case number.

Then lastly I want to thank the Department. Thank you, HOD Pillay and the team for your support and being here in person, I really appreciate that. Thank you.

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

That concludes the debate on Vote 4: Community Safety. Hon members, this concludes the business for the day. Mr Stemele will now end the meeting. I think tomorrow we are beginning at 10 a.m. as per the next day's Votes.

The House is adjourned. Thank you very much.

The House adjourned at 16:21.