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THURSDAY, 28 JULY 2022

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

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

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

The House met at 14:15.

The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

The SPEAKER: Hon members, the hon Premier of the Western Cape and, of course, leaders of political parties, it is nice to be in the Chamber with all the members and of course it is a full House but I also need to appreciate the honourable members that are in the virtual platform. There is an echo that bothers me. I hope no member has an active microphone.

In terms of the virtual sittings, we know that members are able to connect using their devices virtually. This is a hybrid session. That then puts an onus and of course a responsibility on the honourable members to observe the directives issued by myself in 2020, which were agreed to by this House, but

the virtual sessions are by nature designed to ensure that this House functions optimally, irrespective of the circumstances brought by the geopolitical environment. So it made us function optimally throughout COVID-19 and we continue to do so.

The hon members have seen the hon Minister of Corporative Governance's issued amendments to what the state of disaster looks like and of course it was further declared to have ended, as per the instruction by the head of state, the President, but this Parliament has taken a decision, hon members, the hon Premier, that let us continue, hon Premier and the hon members, to take advantage of the hybrid session so that we do not go back but we move forward, taking full advantage of the tools of trade and the instruments of the dynamic world that we find ourselves in and the change of work.

So we will continue with the hybrid sessions as per the communication to all of you, hon members, but we always encourage those hon members who can be here, that we try and bring back some normality. It helps us, it is always nice to look at the hon members in person, just to touch that hand, to be able to know that you are here. It always works quite positively. It is comforting to see all of you back here.

Now in terms of our sitting here, if you are a guest, you are connected virtually; please do not activate your microphone. You are a guest and that means you are sitting in the gallery, like those members who are guests here in the gallery here in the Chamber. So there is no difference for those who

are in the online gallery.

Members of the press, no temptation should let you activate your microphone and your camera, so let us be circumspect of the Rules of the virtual sittings.

Hon members, we do not have a subject of debate, today we have a fairly straightforward sitting. I am going to go straight to our sitting and recognise the hon Chief Whip.

### **BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

(Motion)

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you very much Speaker. I move that in terms of Section 6(3)(b) of the Remuneration of Public Office Bearers Act, 1998 (Act 20 of 1998), the upper limits of the salary and allowances of the Premier of the Western Cape, as proclaimed by the President of the Republic of South Africa by Proclamation No 67 of 2022, published in *Government Gazette* No 46545, dated 14 June 2022, be determined as the salary and allowances of the Premier of the Western Cape with effect from 1 April 2021. I so move.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, Madam the Chief Whip, and I would like to put to the House whether there are any objections to the motion being moved.

An HON MEMBER: No.

The SPEAKER: No objections. Motion agreed to. Do you know hon excellency, the Premier, why there is no objection? Because the hon members have their increases paid to them already and you signed that memorandum for that to happen, so it makes it easy. May I then move to the next one, I also at this point recognise the hon Chief Whip.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. I move this motion as printed on the Order Paper in my name. Thanks, hon Speaker.

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

Mr P J MARAIS: No objection from the Freedom Front.

The SPEAKER: No objections. Motion agreed to.

\*08:11 An HON MEMBER: No objections from the ANC as well, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you, hon members, and thanks to the ANC as well. Okay.

Mr G BRINKHUIS: No objection, thank you hon Speaker, no objection from Al Jama-Ah. No objection, thank you hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you hon Brinkhuis and the support from the Al Jama-Ah. May I then at this point, thank you hon members, no objections, motion agreed to.

The Chief Whip, I see – okay, Mr Poggenpoel, what are those movements? Thank you, hon members. Hon Chief Whip, are there any further business you want to bring to my attention in terms of the Questions and the Interpellations and so forth?

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Just in regard to questions on the Question Paper, Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 are withdrawn as indicated on the oral paper and then Question 9 will stand over, hon Speaker. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Chief Whip. Hon members, as recorded, those questions have been withdrawn. We now move with our business and the next item is the Interpellations.

The first interpellation by hon Kama to the hon the Minister of Police, Oversight and Community Safety, hon Minister Allen, I recognise the hon Minister. Before the hon Minister comes up, I just want to say to the hon members, as I congratulate the Minister, this is his maiden speech in this Chamber. So please do not be nasty to the hon Minister, he deserves that pampering as per the tradition and of course the convention. I hear the hon Chief Whip of the Opposition says yes. Whatever he says, you just agree.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Hon Maiden.

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister Allen.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:  
Hon Speaker, thank you so much. I think for the record it might be my second time within this new position but I do appreciate your sentiment and congratulations. I do want to also thank hon member Kama for submitting this particular interpellation as this is a matter that the Western Cape Government, together with the Standing Committee previously have raised and discussed regarding our concerns.

The South African Police Service have informed me that any form of drug laboratories or drug houses are identified by means of information received from SAPS informer networks linked to the illegal drug trade and ad hoc information obtained from the broader community. I want to latch on in that regard, that we have also in terms of the initial investigation to the Western Cape Police Ombudsman's office, received submissions via CPFs, via Neighbourhood Watches who are acting as the brave men and women on our streets and walking and patrolling, who are doing amazing work. But then also further, the South African Police Service have informed me on point (b) that depending on the nature and the source of the information received, it is operationalised through the execution of search warrants and Section 252A operations. Thank you, hon Speaker.

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

Mr M KAMA: Thank you very much, hon Speaker, and through your permission I will have my video off due to network challenges. Hon Speaker, in South Africa in the Western Cape we have a serious drug problem that destroys families and the future of our country and province. As we committed earlier in the year when hon Plato sponsored a debate on the Western Cape drug problem, we must move with speed to implement an integrated approach that will involve various spheres of government. The National Drug Master Plan makes a correct diagnosis of our drug problem in the country when it states, and I quote:

“Socio-economic sectors such as poverty, inequality and unemployment remain key contributing elements to the increased use of drugs and the development of substance use disorders.”

The Western Cape drug problem is not a SAPS-only responsibility and I believe the Provincial Government and the MEC erred by asking the Western Cape Police Ombud to investigate SAPS’s failure to close down drug dens in the province. I will further expand on this on my next input.

South Africa has become a consumer and producer and transit country for drugs. Tik is the most popular drug in the province, followed by heroin. We know, based on evidence, that these drugs are not manufactured here in the

province, they are transported here from abroad and others are manufactured in Gauteng and other provinces. The Western Cape SAPS leadership has done a tremendous job in identifying and closing down clandestine labs in other provinces where illicit drugs destined for the Western Cape are manufactured.

As this House, we must commend the SAPS's effort in this regard. Additionally we must ask the MEC to tell us what his Department is doing to support these efforts by SAPS. There is enough evidence to back up this claim. A few years ago a multidisciplinary operation led by the Western Cape Hawks, the South African Narcotics Enforcement Bureau and Crime Intelligence closed down a multimillion illicit drug manufacturing lab in Soweto where mandrax destined for the Western Cape market was manufactured. SAPS is doing a sterling job in this regard and needs all the support we can give. The last thing we should be doing is politicising the drug problem. I thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. Hon members, I now recognise hon Bosman. Before then, hon Bosman, is that a point of order, hon Marais?

Mr P J MARAIS: No, it is not. Is it not Interpellations now after the member who tabled it?

The SPEAKER: All right, let me help the father of the House. With the Interpellations we get a prepared list ahead of time and then the next one



`after this will be the Questions. Then that Rule applies for that one, so you are correctly in order for the Questions but for this one we will proceed as per the list.

Mr P J MARAIS: Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you, hon Marais. I now recognise hon Bosman.

Mr G BOSMAN: Thank you, hon Speaker, and good afternoon. Hon Speaker, what we need to emphasise here is that the Province, the Western Cape, our role is to provide oversight and until such time as the National Government devolves policing responsibly to a government that can actually manage the police, that can actually fight crime, SAPS needs to be capacitated to better combat drug houses.

Hon Speaker, although policing is not a Western Cape function, we do sterling work in our municipalities, specifically in the City of Cape Town, to close down drug houses that operate within the municipal framework, within state rental stock housing and I think it is ironic that a member of the ruling party is asking what SAPS is doing when they should be asking the National Minister what they are doing and they are asking how our Provincial Minister, who has been so ably supporting the work of SAPS in this province, they are asking what he is doing when hon Kama knows exactly that it is the new Minister of Police Oversight that has actually tasked the Western Cape

Ombudsman with launching this investigation. Because we know that there are more than 1 577 drug houses operating in the Western Cape, 53% of them situated in the Metro. And what we really need to get to the crux of is, what are the problems within SAPS to actually close down these known drug houses? What is being done to address the manufacturing and supply of illegal substances as well as the use, the possession and the dealing of drugs? And also how does SAPS go about using the law and the resources at its disposal to actually close down these drug houses?

Because what we know is that the Constitution places an obligation on the South African Police Service to protect and secure residents by preventing, combatting and investigating criminal activities. And the reality is that our Police Minister nationally does not understand how to do that. The Police Minister thinks that by acting, such as a talking hat like he is on Harry Potter when coming to community imbizos, that that is going to solve crime. Crime is actually solved by using the resources at your disposal and having the political will to direct those resources.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Bosman, your time is up.

Mr G BOSMAN: I thank you, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, thank you very much. Hon members, I now recognise hon Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, I welcome the question and I will agree with the previous speakers. I agree that we have oversight over the police and the ACDP agrees that we need to have police at the lowest level, province, at the lowest level and we agree that we must have operational control and just not oversight. But I want to remind everybody that the Premier has stated before, while the ANC is failing us dismally when it comes to policing with under-resourcing, the Western Cape cannot stand with their hands folded and that is why we have the Safety Plan.

So my question to the hon Minister is, what is he doing otherwise? You know, we can rely on SAPS and we can wait forever, but I know we have the K9 units stopping drugs coming into the Western Cape. What is his Department doing more to make sure that we clamp down on these drug dens, and I know that we have given quite a substantial amount of money for the LEAP officers to do and assist and I think when we take responsibility, Government takes responsibility to approach these problems, it will assist us. But if we wait on SAPS we will wait forever and our youngsters are going astray because drugs are so freely available.

So my question is to the Minister: what is he and his Department doing to assist that we get rid of this drug problem in the Western Cape?

Thank you, hon Speaker.

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

hon August.

Mr S N AUGUST: Hon Speaker, what we as the Opposition parties and this House have come to know as the responsibility of the Department of Police Oversight and Community Safety is that it is easier to highlight the failures of National Government and the dysfunctionality of SAPS than what it is to accept that the Provincial Government itself is failing the people, their safety and the safety of our communities.

SAPS is gravely under-resourced. This is the unfortunate reality but I do not believe that there are incapacities of the Department from looking into creative ways, utilising community networks and using digital technologies to identify drug laboratories, with the intention of assisting SAPS in closing them down. When it comes to crime and illegalities there should be unified cooperation, not opportunistic finger pointing.

Hon Speaker, Community Police Forums are integral as grassroot informants for any illegal activities taking place in communities. It remains the responsibility of this Government and the relevant Department to serve as an intermediary, ensuring that the safety of whistle-blowers and those seeking to exterminate criminal activities. What we have noticed is this continued politicisation of the community safety structures and using these channels as schemes for cheap politicking.

The mandate is clear, it is the prerogative of the SAPS to investigate crime,

but remains the position of the Neighbourhood Watches and CPFs under the competency of the Provincial Government to prevent crime.

How is this Department strengthening the resolve of these community safety structures to be the eyes and ears for SAPS to create coordinated intervention? Thank you.

The SPEAKER: All right, thank you, hon August. I thought you were still going on. Hon members, I now recognise hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you very much, hon Speaker, and I think from the onset I must state that I believe that MEC Allen is a good leader who knows that the drug scourge in our society is not a politicking matter, unlike what we have just experienced now from hon member Bosman who mostly even contradicted himself.

I know, through many conversations we have shared during our time as colleagues in the Standing Committee of Community Safety, that he does not agree with the DA approach of using crime and the drug problem for cheap political scoring. I want to appeal to him not to allow his good name to be tainted by advancing nonsensical DA agendas like the ongoing investigation by the Western Cape Police Ombud on such failures to close down drug dens in the province.

Hon Speaker, any strategy to combat substance abuse and illicit drug trade

should have as a focus the complete eradication of unemployment, poverty and inequality. Who will investigate the Provincial Government failures in this regard? And that is not the responsibility of SAPS.

Secondly, the drug dens that SAPS is being investigated for at Council-owned houses, and so therefore who is investigating the City for folding its arms when its properties are being used to commit crimes, because part of the properties that hon member Bosman is mentioning are part of the properties that are being investigated and some of them are owned by the City. Perhaps we should also ask how many times SAPS would have reported to the City that its properties are being used to commit drug crimes and what has the City done about that?

Moreover, the Provincial Government must tell us what progress has been made with regard to the development of the Provincial Drug Master Plan, what engagement have the hon MEC Allen and hon MEC Fernandez had in this regard? It is clear that the Police Ombud investigation is a ploy by the DA to politicise crime and the drug problem. My appeal is that we stop politicising the drug problem, let us work together with SAPS to strengthen the efforts to root out crime and the drug scourge.

One proposal I would like to make today is for SAPS and the City of Cape Town to enter into an agreement where the Asset Forfeiture Unit would be used to take proceeds of crimes from these Council-owned houses. Lastly, as we laud SAPS for the sterling work in closing down drug manufacturers, I

believe we need to pay attention to the local supply of drugs whereby SAPS at all stations should have strategies to deal with local drug supply. Thank you very much, hon Speaker.

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

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: Thank you so much, hon Speaker. I am going to try to speak very slowly. I would want hon member Kama to listen very, very carefully. I would have preferred to look him in his eyes so that he can fully understand. Hon member Kama, thank you so much again for this interpellation, together with the inputs that have been received. Hon member Kama stated that SAPS is doing a sterling job in closing down drug houses. He said this twice, when SAPS themselves identified that they are not doing a sterling job, when we have 1 557 known drug houses in our province. I am going to repeat again, 1 557 known drug houses. That is more known drug houses than actual public schools.

The SPEAKER: Hon Allen, will you please take your seat? I would like to appeal to the hon Chief Whip of the Opposition, there is nothing wrong with the interjections in the House but in terms of Rule 40 we need to do so in a way that does not disrupt the delivery of the message by the member who is currently addressing the House. So if you could please be circumspect of that and the hon members in general. Please proceed, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:  
Thank you so much. Hon Speaker, when you are a lone ranger in the House you need to amplify your voice in order to make up for the numbers ...[Interjection], in order to make up. So let me repeat again, hon member Kama mentioned that SAPS is doing a sterling job. ...[Interjection]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, will you please take your seat. Thank you, hon Minister. I see the hon Deputy Chief Whip of the Opposition.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Yes, hon Speaker, my apologies. I had my hand up, I wanted to just raise a point of order. It is not to do with anyone on the floor. I think it is a technical thing because I am hearing the hon Minister, I am hearing you, I heard the hon Kama but then I heard you saying about the interjection of the Chief Whip. I could not hear that, so I am not sure whether whatever is happening in the House is coming to the members who are online or whether it is only the virtual people who are at the computers. I do not know if the technical team can just check that. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: I will explain that shortly, hon The Deputy Chief Whip of the Opposition. What happens is that if you interject from the House, the members who are connected in the virtual platform are unable to hear that interjection but for the hon members who are in the Chamber, we can hear that. That is why I have made a decision when we were in the Bergrivier Municipality during the responses to the Premier on SOPA, I have made an



undertaking and a decision that we can continue with the interjections in a hybrid session, but you have got to be in the Chamber or in the main venue. So in this case you cannot hear the interjections but you will hear the hon Minister and you will hear anybody that activates the microphone. So that is the nature of the sittings. So that is why I did not hear what that interjection was about. I hope I have responded. You may proceed, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:  
Thank you, hon Speaker. As I look into your eyes, hon Speaker, I want to repeat again, hon member Kama mentioned that SAPS is doing a sterling job in closing down drug houses. SAPS itself highlights the fact that not enough is being done and that they are falling short in that regard. We have seen that based on parliamentary questions and information that we have, we have 1 557 known drug houses in our province, that is more known drug houses than actual public schools. Some of these drug houses have been serving three generations, where there is a grandfather, a father and a son that went to the – I almost used a word I was not supposed to use – that went to the same house in order to purchase drugs.

Here in the province we have a Western Cape Police Ombudsman and that particular office has accepted our request in order to investigate why SAPS has been failing to close down these drug houses, but also the supply and the manufacturing of drugs in our province because we have seen over a number of years, drugs being directly linked to organised crime and if we want to cripple organised crime and take gangsterism out, we would have to make

sure that we do everything in our power to close down drug houses and SAPS is the leading agency in that regard.

So what I want to say is that it will never be about politics. I have walked with Neighbourhood Watch members that have shown me where those drug houses are. The communities know where those drug houses are. Some are within 100 metres away from schools. So I will invite hon member Kama to come and join me so that he can hear it is not about politics, it is about our young people who, before they go to school, go into a drug den in order to go and purchase drugs because it is ultimately about that.

And yes, I do appreciate hon member August's input as well as hon member Christians's, because it adds value and hon member Christians highlighted the Canine Unit and I was actually part of such an operation where, in the Malmesbury area during this first 92 days, we actually confiscated illegal substances via the operations that we have conducted and the Department has been funding operations in districts but also here in the city of Cape Town. Hon member Christians highlighted the LEAP programme and on a monthly basis I am wanting to scream and shout in terms of all the good work that LEAP is doing, the amount of firearms that they are taking off our streets, the amount of drugs that they are confiscating as well in terms of vehicle checkpoints.

So there is amazing stuff happening and we are doing so much. And hon member Christians mentioned, what are we doing more? We are doing so

much more than any other provincial government in terms of safety and of helping our citizens, but we are always under the leadership of a Premier willing to do so much more. Hence we want to take over the South African Police Service and we want SAPS to be devolved to a capable government like the Western Cape.

So we are more than welcome to do more and we would want that money to flow so that the money can be used in order to fight crime and tackle crime effectively.

Hon Speaker, hon member August also said it is easier to highlight failures. I would also then invite hon member August to come and join me because it is not to highlight the failures. Those are the realities on the ground. I will literally take hon member August with me, he would be aware of some of these houses and the outcry is clear, that we need to shut down these drug houses because they are tormenting our communities but it is also then linked to organised crime. But yes, SAPS, we are helping, we are supporting in order to strengthen the hand of the South African Police Service because we know we cannot have – it is never normal that there is more known drug houses than public schools. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Allen. ... [Interjection.] That concludes the Interpellations, hon members.

#### **QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY**

[Questions 1 to 4 withdrawn]

The SPEAKER: We now move to Questions. The first question will be Number 5, as you are well aware that Number 1 up to Question Number 4 have been withdrawn. Question Number 5 is by the hon Sayed to the hon the Minister of Education.

*Norwood Central Primary School: allegations of financial mismanagement*

**5. Mr M K Sayed asked the Minister of Education:**

Whether he and/or his Department have received allegations of financial mismanagement and other irregularities at the Norwood Central Primary School; if not, why not; if so, (a) what are the relevant details and (b) what has been done to investigate these allegations?

The SPEAKER: I recognise the hon Minister Maynier.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Speaker. I would just like to confirm that I am audible.

The SPEAKER: Yes, you are crystal clear, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Speaker, and thank you to

the hon member for the question, which of course traverses the whole issue of allegations in relation to financial mismanagement and other irregularities at the Millwood Central Primary School.

My response is, yes, we have been informed that there are allegations of financial mismanagement. A complaint was received on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 relating to financial mismanagement by the school. These allegations included alleged irregular payments to an employee, textbooks and stationery not being purchased and that no financial committee had been established by the school.

The matter was, of course, referred to the school finance and records offices located at the district, who visited the school on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021 to investigate.

I am advised that after a thorough investigation by the district and careful consideration of all the facts, it was found that there were no irregular payments to the employee, but certain financial procedures and processes were not being followed by the school, particularly with regard to learning and teaching support materials.

The outcome did not warrant formal disciplinary action but further action was required and was recommended in terms of the following:

The LTSM Committee must ensure that the management of LTSM at the

school is in line, of course, with the framework for the management and retrieval of learning support material, an issue traversed in Circular 40 of 2018. A parent who is employed at the school may not represent the parents on the school governing body, as stipulated in Section 23(3) of the South African Schools Act. The parent, of course, must either resign as an employee of the school or as a governing body member.

Minutes and attendance registers of all relevant meetings must be kept for audit purposes and the need to establish a financial committee at the school was communicated. This, of course, has since been established. However, the Department has indicated to the school that the committee must meet more regularly.

In addition, to further support and strengthen the school's LTSM practices and financial management, the SFRO provided training to the teaching staff on the effects of management of LTSM as prescribed by the framework for the management and retrieval of textbooks and financial management training to members of the SGB. The Metro North Education District Office is monitoring progress in implementing these regulations. I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister Maynier. I will now provide the person who posed the question, the hon Sayed, to give the first bite of the cherry.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker, and my thanks to the hon Minister for the comprehensive response to this particular question. Given what the hon Minister has said, particularly around the financial irregularities, just to ensure that these type of things do not happen again, is the hon Minister willing to consider instituting a forensic investigation, an actual forensic investigation into the financial irregularities at the school? If not, why not and if so, what are the relevant details? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Obviously an investigation did take place. That investigation found that there were no irregular payments, as I said, and therefore no further disciplinary action, in the Department's view, was warranted. And so my answer is, under the circumstances, no. There does not appear, on the face of it, to be any reason to institute a forensic investigation. But I will say that if the hon member has information at his disposal which he believes warrants a forensic investigation, I would plead with him to please share that information with me so that that information can be evaluated and, if necessary, a further investigation could be considered. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I do not see any further hands with regard to this question. Hon Sayed, over to you.

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you very much and my thanks to the hon Minister. We will most certainly make sure within the course of the next few days to submit further information that we have received on the matter to the hon Minister, just so that the hon Minister can consider those issues.

I just wanted to also note, the hon Minister is aware as well of issues around nepotism, alleged nepotism as well as issues of TVs and computers having been sold from the school premises by senior staff members. Those are allegations; I do not know if the hon Minister is aware of that. If he is not aware of that, we will share that information with him. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. No, I am not aware of those allegations. Again I would encourage the hon member to furnish me with full details of the allegations and all the information at his disposal so that that information can, as I have said, be evaluated and, if necessary, a further or supplementary investigation can be conducted into the affairs of the Norwood Central Primary School. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Any further hands? I see none. Thank you, we will move on to the next question.

*Safer Cities Model: municipalities*



**6. Mr M Kama asked the Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:**

(a) What circumstances have led to the delay in the implementation of the Safer Cities Model in municipalities in the Western Cape and (b) what progress has been made in this regard?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I now recognise hon Minister Allen.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: Thank you so much, hon Deputy Speaker. I appreciate the particular question from hon member Kama but I would want to highlight that the question should be referred to the City of Cape Town or other relevant municipalities here in the province, but I do want to further echo that we are represented as a department and have representation in the Safer Cities workstream and that there are different stages of implementation, but because we have an election coming up in 2026 again for Local Government elections, I would encourage hon member Kama to consider either standing in the City of Cape Town or, alternatively ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: ... asking a dwindling amount of ANC councillors in the City to pose this particular question.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Hon Kama, you have the first bite?

Mr M KAMA: Hon Deputy Speaker, I do not know. Before that I wanted your attention because ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Kama, one minute. Hon Lekker?

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): [Inaudible]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, over to you, hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Yes, because the MEC says we must ask the City but at the very same time he says the Department is represented and by that he is saying he is not answering the question. So I wanted to have your indulgence in that first before we continue, because he says the Department is represented but at the very same time he says we must ask the relevant people for this question. So that sounds like saying he will not answer the question.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Well, I cannot answer that on his behalf. I am going to ask the hon Minister to respond.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: Thank you. We are making progress. There is listening taking place, thank you so much. The City of Cape Town and municipalities are the lead in this

regard. This particular question should be directed to the City of Cape Town or any relevant municipality that hon member Kama wishes to obtain information from regarding the Safer Cities Model that is being implemented.

What we are doing is that we are doing more - we are represented there, we are not the lead – we are doing more and there are different stages of implementation by going beyond and above what we are doing as a Department. But I would again state, if there is any matter with regard to the Safer Cities that is being held out, that hon member Kama should direct that to the City of Cape Town or, alternatively, to any other municipality in the Western Cape.

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

The DEPUTY CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. Just a question to the hon Minister. While I indicate that hon Kama resides in the Boland, in the Drakenstein, so if he wants to stand as a mayor he could stand there but – because it is important that the hon Minister knows who serves in the Committee and their profiles.

But just to ask him, is the hon Minister willing to take up the position of the candidacy of the Premier of the Western Cape in 2024? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, I see you.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:  
Thank you so much, hon Deputy Speaker, and to hon member Sayed. Thank you for confirming where hon member Kama will stand, which then also alludes to the fact that you will be standing in the City of Cape Town in 2026. But on your question, no, we firmly believe that in the Western Cape Government under the leadership of Alan Winde, the Premier, we are on the right track, we are making progress and we have seen again how we do so much more than any other Provincial Government in terms of tackling safety. So I am fully committed behind the Premier, the Cabinet and the leadership here under the leadership of Minister Tertius Simmers for our political party, the DA, which is doing amazing work. So we will continue to support our leaders and to work with them, but thank you so much, hon member Sayed, for the question.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Hon Bosman, over to you.

Mr G BOSMAN: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, a substantive question on the topic to the hon Minister: Minister, can you perhaps tell us whether there are any overlaps between the Safer City Model and the Western Cape Government's Innovative Safety Plan that is doing so much to keep our communities safe?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:

Thank you so much for that particular question. That is what I would highlight as when there is a complement, when governments and spheres of government complement one another. For example, our Constitution was written in the spirit of cooperation where Local Government, Provincial Government together with National Government foster working relationships and work together.

Hon member Bosman, sadly that has been adopted by criminals. Gangsters have adopted the spirit in which our Constitution has been written, where entities, governments must work together and the Safer City Model is already complementing the good work that we are doing in terms of the Safety Plan. Hence I have always been very clear that as we are calling for SAPS to be devolved so that we are able to better manage the South African Police Service and strengthen the hand of SAPS members here in the Western Cape, but we also realise that we need to work with Local Government, we need to work with the municipalities. Hence we have District Safety Plans, we give funding to various districts and municipalities in order to ensure that we tackle safety matters in that particular area.

So the short answer will be: it does complement the work, the innovative plan that has been implemented under the leadership of Alan Winde here in the Western Cape.

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

Mr M KAMA: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. I think, hon Deputy Speaker, this Safer Cities Model is a national project that was launched in Ethekewini in 2020 and it was meant to be piloted in ten cities and the City of Cape Town is part of it and now we have a 20-month delay in terms of its implementation. And I want to ask the hon Minister, I want to get an understanding as to how do we then take the commitments that the Premier would have made and the commitment that he continues to make and had just made even now, seriously, if he is not able to take this House into his confidence in terms of what would have led to the delay, because that must concern him if he is a Minister that is interested in an integrated approach of fighting crime.

The Safety Plan is still the LEAP service; we are only paying for the LEAP officers. So what we want to understand is: how is the hon Minister not concerned? And simply saying go and pose the question to the right area, is the hon Minister not concerned that this plan has been delayed for such a long time and it is meant to be an integrated plan that includes many departments working together to ensure that we fight crime in the province. Or is it just an issue of calling for provincial control as part of the DA manifesto? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Kama. Over to you, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:  
Thank you so much, hon Deputy Speaker. Even though I can appreciate a

view or a sentiment, hon member Kama's question relates to circumstances that have led to a delay which is a delay in the view of hon member Kama. There are workstreams and those workstreams are at different stages of implementation here in the Western Cape across the various municipalities. But again, I trust that the hon member Kama will take the advice, that this particular matter will be taken up at Local Government level as well. But also we have standing committees here in the Western Cape Government and I am sure that hon member Bosman will also be able to engage hon member Kama in this regard.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. That concludes Question 6.

Mr M KAMA: But we know the City never comes here, *mos*.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. We now recognise hon Minister Fernandez.

*GBV and sexual harassment policy*

**7. Ms N G Bakubaku-Vos asked the Minister of Social Development:**

What is the impact of not having a (a) GBV policy and (b) updated sexual harassment policy in the fight against GBV and sexual harassment in the Provincial Government?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Good afternoon, hon Deputy Speaker. Am I audible?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are, hon Minister.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: In the interests of the bandwidth, may I switch off my camera, hon Deputy Speaker? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: I would like to take the opportunity to thank the hon member Bakubaku-Vos for the question and I will reply as follows.

Like sexual harassment, gender-based violence compromises not only the health and safety, both inside and outside of the workplace of a victim and his or her family, but also that of co-workers.

Gender-based violence is a human rights violation and as such there is a regulatory framework that provides the employer with sufficient authority to address GBV within the Western Cape Government. The absence of a GBV policy and/or an updated Sexual Harassment Policy does not, in and of itself, limit the employer from addressing these matters.

The Western Cape Provincial Government, through the Department of the



Premier, has conducted a review of the Sexual Harassment Policy of 2011 and is in the process of finalising a policy that will encapsulate all forms of harassment with the focus on, amongst others, sexual harassment and bullying. Once approved, the 2022 draft Harassment Policy will replace the 2011 Sexual Harassment Policy.

In the interim, hon Deputy Speaker, reliance is placed on the current Sexual Harassment Policy, the Code of Conduct as set out in the Public Service Act of 1994, together with the applicable laws. In addition, the Disciplinary Code and Procedures for the Public Service, Resolution 1 of 2003 as well as Chapter 7 of the SMS Handbook, provide the regulatory framework to take action against officials found to be in contravention thereof. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I now recognise hon Bakubaku-Vos, would you like to have a follow-up question?

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: Hon Deputy Speaker, am I audible?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are audible. You may proceed, hon member.

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I would like to pose a follow-up question to the hon Minister. My first question: MEC, the continued absence of a uniform GBV policy in the Province has presented many challenges, including not having a standard approach of handling GBV cases in Provincial Government, which has seen the likes of Farrel Payne

remaining in his job. Why does he finish at home? I therefore wish to understand who is championing the development of GBV policy in this Province's Government and when will such a policy develop?

That is my first follow-up question and the second follow-up question: around March this year, hon Deputy Speaker, we were told that the Sexual Harassment Policy in the Provincial Government is being reviewed and updated. Can the hon Minister tell us what progress has been made in this regard? When will the process be finalised?

And the last follow-up question, hon Deputy Speaker, whether any ...  
[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Bakubaku-Vos ... [Interjection.]

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: ... to have a uniform GBV policy and what steps have been taken with regard to that. Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Bakubaku-Vos, I am going to ask the hon Minister to respond to your first question and then if you can repeat the second question, as you can only pose one question at a time. So hon Minister, over to you.

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: ... hon Deputy Speaker. Thank you, sorry.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, and thank you hon member Bakubaku-Vos for the follow-up. I did indicate in my response that once approved, the 2022 draft Harassment Policy will replace the 2011 Sexual Harassment Policy. So it is a topic that is on the table and is being explored.

I also wish to explain that within Western Cape Government we have a Transversal Gender-based Violence Forum that meets regularly once a month and within that forum we are mainstreaming and ensuring that every department has a GBV toolkit so that we can get the necessary consistency across the whole of Government.

However, hon Bakubaku-Vos, I will go on to the second part of the question, if the hon Deputy Speaker will allow me, because there is a current Code of Practice on the Prevention and Elimination of Harassment in the Workplace which replaces the previously issued Code of Good Practice on the Handling of Harassment in the Workplace of 2005.

So the Code's objectives, and I think this might allude to some of your question, the Code's objectives are as follows:

to eliminate all forms of harassment in the workplace or any activity linked to and arising out of work; to provide guidelines to employers and employees on the prevention and elimination of all forms of harassment;

provide guidelines on the appropriate procedures to be followed when dealing with harassment and prevention thereof;

and to provide clear steps that employees must follow to eliminate harassment; assist employees to create and maintain harassment-free workplaces.

So this current Code is already in place and it has very clear objectives. I will go a bit further and say the Code is applicable to the working environment as a guide to employers and employees, perpetrators and victims of harassment, which may include employers, employees, managers and supervisors, job-seekers and applicants, persons participating in training programmes, including interns and persons on learnerships, volunteers, clients and customers, suppliers and contractors and others doing business with the State.

So presently when an allegation is reported, the employer must undertake the following measures:

Consult with all relevant parties;

Take the necessary steps to address the complaint in accordance with the Code and employer's policy or any applicable collective agreement; and

Take the necessary steps to eliminate harassment.

I trust that I have answered some of the questions in part. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I do not see any further hands. Hon Bakubaku-Vos, do you want to add to your question or are you happy to move on?

Ms N G BAKUBAKU-VOS: Hon Deputy Speaker, I think I will pause there for now.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

Ms N G BAKUBAKIU-VOS: Thank you very much, hon Minister, for your answers.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you, hon member Bakubaku-Vos.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I do not see any further follow-up questions. If there are none? There are none. We will move over to the next question. ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Speaker ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. We are moving over to Question 8. Hon Minister Fernandez, I recognise you again.

*West Coast District: young people awaiting trial*

**8. Ms L J Botha asked the Minister of Social Development:**

How many young people in the West Coast District (a) were awaiting trial and (b) had been placed in secure care centres during the 2021/22 financial year?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the hon member Botha for the question and the question was in two parts. There was a question (a) and (b).

In terms of question (a) we had seven, seven young people were awaiting trial from the West Coast region; and part (b) of the question, 31 young people were admitted to secure care centres from the West Coast region. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. Over to you, hon member Botha.

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker, and thank you to the hon Minister for the response. I would like just to understand the 31 that were placed in secure care centres, is it secure care centres on the West Coast or is it outside of the West Coast?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you for the question. To the hon member – we have secure care centres across the province and there is a centralised assessment process, so children would not necessarily or youth in conflict with the law would not necessarily be placed in a centre in a district. They would be placed in a centre where there is available bed space. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon member Botha?

The CHIEF WHIP (DA): Thanks, hon Deputy Speaker. Can I ask the hon Minister, through you hon Deputy Speaker, that if I could be furnished with a list of where those 31 youth of the West Coast have been placed, in what secure care centres and that can be done in writing.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister, do you want to respond?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I will ensure that my office provides the necessary feedback to the hon member as requested. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Minister. I do not see any further hands? No. That concludes Question 8. We move over to Question 10. That is correct, yes, 10. I now recognise hon Minister Mitchell.

[Question 9 stands over]

*Provincial traffic officers: complaints against*

**10. Mr M Xego asked the Minister of Mobility:**

- (1) From the beginning of the year 2022 to date, how many complaints has his office received from public members regarding acts of (a) violence, (b) abuse and (c) brutality at the hands of provincial traffic officers;
  
- (2) when such complaints are brought to his attention, what is the procedure followed in order to (a) intervene and (b) resolve such matters?

The MINISTER OF MOBILITY: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker, and thank you very much to hon member Xego for the question.

For the period mentioned only one such case was reported by a motorist alleging a case of assault and unlawful arrest by the provincial officers.

Part (2) of the question. When such matters are brought to my attention, the relevant senior manager starts with conducting a thorough investigation based on the complaint received. The parties are then given an opportunity to present their version of the incident and all other relevant evidence is



scrutinised objectively.

The findings concerning the complaint are conveyed to the complainant and when an officer is found guilty of misconduct appropriate disciplinary action follows after due process.

In the aforementioned report the matter, hon Deputy Speaker, evidenced particularly video footage of the incident proved that our officers had acted appropriately in the circumstances. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I now ask, hon member Xego, would you like to do a follow-up question? Not here? Not here. Any further follow-ups regarding this question, Question 10? No. Right, thank you very much, Minister Mitchell, that was quick.

We now move over to back to hon Minister Allen. Question 11, Minister.

*Racism at Western Cape Schools: eradication of*

**11. Ms N Makamba-Botya asked the Minister of Police Oversight and Community Safety:**

- (1) How effective is the Western Cape Liquor Authority in enforcing compliance, through its inspectors, to make sure that licensed liquor outlets do not sell alcohol to those who are under the legal

age limit;

- (2) how many liquor outlets have been closed down with the assistance of the Department from the beginning of the year 2022 to date?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:

Thank you so much, hon Deputy Speaker, and I also want to thank the hon member for raising this particular question.

The Western Cape Liquor Authority inspectors enforce compliance by licence outlets, all non-compliance matters brought to the attention of the Western Cape Liquor Authority are investigated and placed before the Liquor Licensing Tribunal for determination and an appropriate sanction. These ranges from the imposition of fines, suspension of trade and the suspension of licences. This is entirely dependent on the nature of the offence and fines can be in excess of R100 000.

Hon Deputy Speaker, for the first quarter of the financial year, five cases related to underage drinking or access to restricted areas, were initiated by the inspectorate in the following areas: one in Mossel Bay, one in Kraaifontein, one in Stellenbosch and two in Ceres. Reports were prepared and referred for prosecution before the LLT. All these matters remain pending currently, but what I also want to add is that if there is any member of this House or any member of the community, if they are aware that any outlet is selling alcohol to any person that is under age, they should duly

report such matters in order for it to be looked at and that we are able to take the appropriate action.

Further, the additional inspectorate capacity has enabled the Western Cape Legal Authority to enhance its visibility throughout the province, which serves as a deterrent to licence holders.

On point (2), closed down between 1 January 2022 and 21 July 2022 is that 28 were suspended and two licences were revoked. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister. Is hon Makamba-Botya here to ask a follow-up question? No? Then I will move straight to hon Kama.

Mr M KAMA: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker, and let me thank the Minister for the responses that have been provided.

I want to check, Chair, if the Authority does have capacity to ensure that within a set period of time, if it is a year, to ensure that we do have inspections in almost all the licenced liquor outlets to enforce this compliance that we are talking about, and what else is being done by the Department other than to wait for people who say there is an outlet that is selling liquor to under-aged? But what is done to enforce it or to make sure that on the part of the Department we are able to catch those who are selling liquor to under-aged in their outlets? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Minister?

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY:  
Thank you so much, hon Deputy Speaker. Yes, I wish to repeat again. If there is any person that is aware of a liquor outlet that is selling to under-aged, they must please report that immediately. That is the one end. It is never just that is the answer. We have also capacitated and added extra inspectors to the Western Cape Liquor Authority to ensure that we are able to inspect and visit as many of these outlets.

I have been to a number of those oversight visits and joining in, and I will also definitely encourage the Standing Committee to also ensure that they visit the Western Cape Liquor Authority or plan engagements with them as well.

So we are definitely, hon member Kama, in terms of our approach to make sure that it is fully capacitated so that we are able to get to all those outlets, but make a meaningful difference because it does act like a deterrent and it is a deterrent when we do know that that liquor outlet owners are aware that inspections are soon, or that it can be unannounced. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister. Hon Bosman?

Mr G BOSMAN: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, through you I would like to know if the Minister could give the House an

update on the amendments to the Western Cape Liquor Act?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Over to you, Minister.

The MINISTER OF POLICE OVERSIGHT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY: Thank you so much, hon member Bosman. I do know that there are currently two phases and a task team as well, and that Cabinet resolution was that a regulatory impact assessment must be conducted on the two proposed amendments, and the Department of the Premier and Legal Services are supporting the Department of Community Safety, along with representation from Health, Agriculture and Economic Development and Tourism, as well as the Liquor Authority. We remain committed to make sure that that process is concluded as quickly as possible, but for each of those two amendments the significant test documents have been drafted, which is currently being reviewed by the task team and these documents will be finalised actually by tomorrow.

So thank you so much that that particular question has been raised, but that process is unfolding and I am looking forward to receiving that particular document in order to peruse it, thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Minister. Are there any follow-up questions? I do not see any. Right, thank you, Minister. We will now proceed to Question 12. I recognise the hon Minister Maynier.

*Rocklands Secondary School: teacher charged with sexual harassment*

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

In January 2022, a teacher at the Rocklands Secondary School was charged with the sexual harassment of a teacher at the school and at the end of June 2022 the teacher was found guilty:

Whether the alleged perpetrator was still teaching at the school during the period January to June 2022; if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker, and thank you to the hon member for the question which traverses the issue of sexual harassment at the Rockland Secondary School.

The reply to the question is that the teacher was still employed for the period indicated, but I have been advised that the teacher was not teaching at the school during the period and more importantly the victim was also not present at the school as her contract had ended the previous year on 31 December 2021. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister. Hon member Christians, would you a follow-up?

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Yes, thank you, hon Deputy Speaker Deputy Speaker.

Hon Deputy Speaker, just a question to the Minister. The victim went through a difficult time and she says she is not so passionate about her job anymore and she is scared to even get close to colleagues. I want to know with the perpetrator being found guilty, and I know that 15 July they would have looked at it and the chairperson of the committee then would have brought out a sanction against the perpetrator; the question that I have is I did not know her contract ended, but what she said was that she went to go look for another job, she is there, but she is really uncomfortable. So was there any counselling towards the victim and the perpetrator? They are looking at mitigating and aggravating circumstances pertaining to that.

When will this come to finalisation? Because I believe at 15 July, after listening to all the evidence, all the mitigating evidence and aggravating evidence, the presiding officer would have then come to a sanction. So when is that taking place? Because he was found guilty at the end of June already and I do not believe if he gave this victim such a tough time, that he must ever teach, found guilty.

So that is my worry, Minister. Teaching, although she is not there, she is finding it difficult to teach and passionately because of what happened to her. He is found guilty and then he is still teaching. It is a major problem. Thank you, Minister.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Minister?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon member. On the perpetrator, of course the perpetrator, as you point out, was charged and we are, as you correctly pointed out, awaiting the sanction which we believe is imminent, but I cannot confirm exactly when the sanction will be imposed.

On the question of the victim, and I accept on your version, she was put through a terrible time. I cannot confirm whether she was provided with socio-psychological support, but I believe she would have been, but despite that, given the fact that the hon member has brought her circumstances to my attention, I will of course alert the Department and I will ask the Department to reach out to her to see whether she requires any further support.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister. Any further follow-up questions?

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Hon Deputy Speaker, can I ask another follow-up?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may. You may proceed.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Minister, if I can just hear from you, as soon as we get the results of the sanction and also if the victim has received counselling, that you please send it to me in writing so that we can close this matter, because that is not the first time that I bring a matter of such a nature to you, and the more people come to a person, we address it and that we, representing the people, at least take their



concerns seriously.

So I would appreciate it, Minister, if we can get both sides. If there was support to the victim and the final sanction on the perpetrator. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, your response?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. I will undertake to keep the hon member informed on both matters.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Any further follow-up questions? No? Thank you, we will then conclude that and move on to the final question, Question 13. I now recognise Minister Mitchell.

*Motorists: crackdown on*

**13. Mr F C Christians asked the Minister of Mobility:**

With regard to the recent crackdown on motorists when 42 vehicles were discontinued for not being roadworthy, whether these vehicles have been removed from the roads; if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF MOBILITY: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker, and thank you very much to the hon member for the question.

The Department places a great deal of emphasis on vehicle fitness as this is one of the major contributing factors to road crashes and fatalities on the roads. The usual procedure, hon Deputy Speaker, adopted when an officer finds an unroadworthy motor vehicle on our roads, is to issue a notice in terms of Section 44 of the National Rd Traffic Act 93 of 1996.

Hon Deputy Speaker, this notice discontinues a vehicle which means that the discontinued vehicle can be used on a public road only for a limited stipulated period, just to take the vehicle to the owner's or operator's home, or to a garage for fixing.

The officer, hon Deputy Speaker, and I want to emphasise this, does not remove the vehicle from the road, but before the vehicle can be used normally on a public road again, it has to be retested to ensure that it is roadworthy. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

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

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Thank you, Minister, for the reply. Just a question. So the vehicle is then given a specific period of time that the owner of the vehicle gets the vehicle roadworthy for. Must this owner then produce a certificate, a road worthy certificate, and does the Department take note of cars that have not been roadworthy, and I believe that some of these cars still carry on and drive without roadworthy.

Is there a period of time that there is some check-up or something to make sure that they complied and that they do not drive with a vehicle that is not roadworthy? Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF MOBILITY: Alright, thank you very much, Deputy Speaker, and thank you for the follow-up question.

I think it is important to note that the Department has placed an enormous amount of resources and finances into utilising technology and with the actual on the road integrated roadblocks that happen on a daily basis.

So we normally pick up these compliance issues during those integrated roadblocks, but also because of the technology the Department has invested in over years, we are able to pick that up too, but I take the point about following up on notices, so I appreciate that comment. Thank you, Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Minister. Any further follow-up questions?

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: That is fine, hon Deputy Speaker. I was answered, thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. None? Thank you very much. That concludes the Questions for Oral Reply. Any outstanding replies will be printed in Hansard.

Hon members, we now move over to – give me a second, if we can just ... Hon Members, we will just ... Hon Members, just with your indulgence, just a minute, if we can just hang on for a minute. We are just doing some testing, thank you.

Hon members, thank you very much for your indulgence. We will now move over to Questions to the Premier Without Notice. I recognise the hon member Marran.

#### **QUESTIONS TO THE PREMIER WITHOUT NOTICE:**

Mr P MARRAN: Thanks, hon Deputy Speaker, and good afternoon to everyone.

Deputy Speaker, in the Premier's 2020 State of the Province Address, now two and a half years ago, the Premier promised 3 000 law enforcement officers.

Can the Premier tell us how many law enforcement officers are now enrolled in LEAP? Thanks.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Over to you, hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much to the hon member for that question and I think a really excellent question.

Of course when you get elected you put your plan together through your manifesto and we said 3 000 officers because if you will remember we are sitting with four to 5 000 officers, too few that are allocated through the police system if we are to get to parity in our province.

At the moment we are sitting at 1 200 and I think on the 14<sup>th</sup> we will see some more allocation of LEAP officers, but the number is right now 1 200, but the hon member will also know that obviously since the election we have had a pandemic and of course we have had probably the biggest problem which is a massive slowdown in tax collection, and the economy driven mainly by ANC policy failure, ANC infighting and ANC incompetence at a national level.

So at the moment that answer is 1 200.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon Premier. Over to you, hon member Marran.

Mr P MARRAN: Thanks, Deputy Speaker.

So what the Premier is telling us when it comes to the province, the issue of COVID and the pandemic are blamed, but when it comes to National it is because they are corrupt and their weakness.

Hon Deputy Speaker, can the Premier tell us of the total funding of LEAP? How much percentage-wise, more or less, is the Provincial Government contributing to the plan? Percentage-wise?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Did you hear that?

The PREMIER: [Inaudible.] Hon Deputy Speaker, what is the percentage?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes.

The PREMIER: I think that is also a very good question because we have always spoken about devolution of power and policing is a national competency and not a provincial competency.

Our job is oversight, so of course we have to take of our budget. We do not really get allocated budget through the national budgeting process that says the province gets X amount for policing or safety and security, etcetera, and we take from our allocation primarily for education and primarily for health. Those are two big budget items, and then followed by the third being social support and that social net, and only then do we get to the economy and do we get to infrastructure, etcetera.

So no province has that kind of allocation, but if you remember we made a choice and we said we will put a billion rand aside to kick off the Safety Plan and the reason we had to make that decision is because we are not seeing success in fighting crime in our country, not at all.

I mean I keep awake at night because of the 4 000 people that get murdered in this province every single year, and we do not see a plan from National Government. We do not see a plan from the ANC policy position. We do not see leadership coming from the ANC in dealing with those 4 000 murders, let alone all the rest that goes with it, gender-based violence, the drug houses that we were talking about earlier in interpellations, etcetera. They are all supposed to be dealt with by the criminal justice system and the South African Police Service.

But we then took that decision, as tough as it is, to say we are going to take money from all of our departments and put it into Safety because of failure at a national level. We really would like devolution, but in the meantime we, because of that failure at a national level, have to cobble together out of our budget, and of course I keep awake because of the 4 000 people murdered in our province. It seems that if the ANC just cruises along because we might have the highest murder per capita rate in the country, but way more than 4 000 people are murdered every single year in KZN, and way more than 4 000 people every year are murdered in Gauteng, but of course they have bigger populations and therefore the murder rate to population rate seems lower.

But just think of those numbers. They are unbelievable. I remember going to the swearing-in three years ago, as the hon member kicked off these questions, to the swearing-in of the President after the election, and at the guesthouse that I was at, there were foreign dignitaries that came to visit South Africa and there was a guy there from Copenhagen, and he said to me, "Good to see that you have been elected and I am here as a special guest," and he said, "So what are you focusing on?" and I said, "The one thing that I have got to focus on is safety. We have got to put a safety plan together. We are going to have to focus on bringing down the murder rate." So he said, "What is the murder rate?" I said, "Over 4 000 people per year in our province." He could not believe it. He said, "You know, if we have one murder every three years in Copenhagen we go crazy."

What is being done in other provinces who have more than 4 000 people murdered every single year? Nothing, but this province is taking money away and that first R1 billion, which is now growing, taking money away from other areas because we know it is the thing that is affecting our citizens the most.

I would love to be able to say the ANC is doing such a good job, policing is being properly managed, we do not have to worry about it. Let them do their thing because we will focus on jobs, we will focus on the economy, we will focus on the other things that we need to focus on, education and health, social development, etcetera, but we cannot do that because our citizens are hurting every single day. The gangs are running riot.



The craziest thing out is now the unions, who are partners of the ANC, the unions, who are partners, want to march next week I think it is, to the Province to moan about crime in communities. The ANC's partners.

The questions that we get here from the ANC, saying that the Safety Plan does not work, the most ridiculous questions in the world because the Safety Plan is what, Minister Allen can stand up here and say there is only one part of South Africa, one part of South Africa where the murder rate is stabilising or coming down, and that is where these 1 200 officers, that this hon member is asking about, are deployed according to data evidence and making a difference in people's lives. Saving lives. Only one part of the country, and you know who has to announce that? Minister Bheki Cele in the National Assembly. †Hy moet hard sluk toe hy daai antwoorde gee. [He had to swallow hard when he gave those answers.]

But it shows you and this is where I think our problem falls flat in South Africa; in politics you need to be able to debate, you need to be able to put different policy ideas on the table. That is actually how a democracy works, but not here. The ANC fails and fails and fails, and then they stand up here, they do not put alternatives on the table, they keep questioning on the things that are working. It is totally ridiculous.

But anyway, at the end of the day this Government will carry on budgeting because it is in the best interest of our citizens. We will focus on safety, we will focus on jobs, we will focus on dignity. Those are our core areas that we

are focusing on and it is taking budget and it is difficult when you have to put these budgets aside, but nobody said that governing was easy. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You thank you very much, hon Premier. Hon member Marran, last follow-up?

Mr P MARRAN: Hon Deputy Speaker, I have been locked out for a moment so I am not sure whether I have missed out on something.

Hon Deputy Speaker, yes, a last follow-up, hon Deputy Speaker, and the hon member Allen basically have also responded in such a way that the City of Cape Town, if they do not want to respond to questions ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marran, are you there?

Mr P MARRAN: [No audible response].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: We have lost you. Hon member Marran, unfortunately, as we have said in the Rules, that you do have to watch your own IT connect – a connection problem? I will have to move on, hon member Marran.

Mr P MARRAN: [No audible response].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am unfortunately not able to hear you. My

apologies as you will not be able to pose that question to the Premier. Our second – no ... alright, thank you very much, hon member Marran.

We will move over to the following question. I now recognise hon member Botha.

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

Hon Deputy Speaker, through you to the Premier. Hon Premier, how has the Safety Dashboard improved the response to crime from the Provincial Safety Services, please?

The PREMIER: Thank you very much to the hon member for that question.

I think, and it follows on very nicely from the question from the hon member Marran. They always say if you cannot measure, you cannot manage, and I mean that was one thing that I really learnt, and I think we all learnt during COVID-19, was how you could use data to help make decisions to manage and that really was I think a massive learning curve for us.

We knew that in COVID-19 we could work out day-by-day where cases were, GIS mapped. We knew which street had the most cases in it. We knew which nightclub was the spreader. I mean we could really use that data.

So I kept on saying, well, if we have got that kind of data on an infection or

on a vaccination, why can we not get the same data on a murder, or a GBV case, and so that is why there is this big focus on data, on developing dashboards as management tools, and I must say that in the Safety Plan environment and specifically now moving to violence prevention, because the one thing and the first part of this conversation and the last question was about how many boots on the ground.

Boots on the ground and policing are an intervention, but more important than that is the causalities. How do we get ahead of the game? How do we get that young boy, who is going to become a gangster, identified before he becomes a gangster? We know they are a risk taker, we know that if we give them certain other support they will end up becoming that risk taker in the economy and an entrepreneur in the future.

How do we - and the hon member was at one of our Nerve Centres yesterday with the Standing Committee, having a look at how those dashboards are presented. There you were looking at other things, like we could tell you when the broadband went down at a school and when it went back up again. How it was influenced by loadshedding, but those old dashboards, they are all management tools.

For me what really stands out is, for example, if you look at when we went public with the violence prevention dashboard, you could see that we know now, through the health data coming out into the dashboard system, that violence against women, gender-based violence against women who are

pregnant, that the common violence happens to women in the second trimester. We know now that it is generally perpetrated by partners and by men known to that women, and we know that they are between the ages of 24 and 34, and then we GIS map it as well, so we know it is in this suburb or in this street or in that community.

And now that data then goes to Minister Allen who says, “Okay, what are we going to do from a policing point of view? Minister Fernandez, what are we going to do from a support point of view from Social Development? How do we move in?”

So that is about data, so that is what the dashboard is about. So we get the data, we analyse the data. Yesterday, the Standing Committee members saw what kind of roll-out on those dashboards our broadband is having, and we could see yesterday on that dashboard that R25 million worth of data is what our citizens are using every month on the broadband free Wi-Fi hotspots. R25 million random month that that infrastructure is actually giving to citizens every month.

We also know what kind of data they are looking for. The thing that hit me yesterday was how many people are on YouTube. Now I have asked I want more data. What is it on YouTube? Is it an educational programme or is it sport events that you are watching? What value are we getting out? What is that R25 million so-called buying?

So just as important as that is, even more important, are the violence prevention dashboards, the mechanisms for us to manage, to make decisions, so that every single department gets that data and then says what are we going to do about it? How are we going to affect change? How do the schools behave differently? Because we know that they are in the midst of an area that has massive gender-based violence.

How do we engage with boys in those schools to make sure that in the future we start to build a safer, better society and that is what the dashboard is all about, and it is part of the Safety Plan. It is how we are rolling it out and we are not the experts on everything, we learn as we go, and we are getting better and better as we go, and as we go we are building a safer and safer province, and hopefully, just as I had the Premier of the Northern Cape's whole Premier's Office down here to visit a month ago, the same Premier has sent his team from Health to come and see what we are doing so that they can also try and learn, because everything we do in this province is about the citizens of this province, but it is also about South Africa.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier. Over to you, hon member Botha.

Ms L J BOTHA: Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker, and thanks for the Premier's passion around the safety dashboard and the information that he gave us.

I just want to know, latching this onto the devolution of SAPS, how would the devolution of SAPS work into the province's work and is there a timeline attached already to this devolution of SAPS?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Premier?

The PREMIER: Thank you very much for that follow-up question and I think that is a perfect question. I mean that is something that we campaigned for.

You know, a timeline, it can actually happen today. The Minister could devolve that power and management to this province today. Our existing Constitution, Section 99, allows for that mandate to be shifted to Province or even Local Government.

Then Section 206, there is a whole lot of sections in our Constitution that allow policy development and that policy development at a national level could empower policing at a provincial level. So it could happen immediately.

But of course also Minister Bheki Cele has said to me to my face, "Not over my dead body." I am not sure exactly what all he has said to Minister Allen, but I know that there has been a little bit of †kopbotsing [clashing of **heads**] there, but of course we will push because why? It is in the interest of safety of the citizens of this province. We will do whatever we can.

But I want to say one thing to you for that question, hon member, the timeline could be today, but of course the other timeline is in about just under two years' time. When the ANC loses power in South Africa and it has got to happen between now and then, but at the very latest it has got to happen then after the next election, when the ANC loses power, we will make sure that we change things in this country. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier. A final follow-up? No. You have done? Thank you very much.

Hon members, we are out of time. That brings us to the end of Questions to the Premier. We now move over to Statements by members, and remember your time is two minutes each.

I now recognise the Democratic Alliance. Over to you, hon member.

## **STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS**

Mr A P VAN DER WESTHUIZEN (DA): Hon Deputy Speaker, the generally negative economic impact of loadshedding is known to us all, but many may not realise the severe impact these blackouts have on the agricultural sector.

The face of agriculture, the field, that for centuries was able to function without electricity, has completely changed over the last number of years. With only a few exceptions, commercial farms now require a reliable



source of electricity preferably at competitive prices. Farmers therefore pay high so-called transformer fees for the availability of electricity on their farms.

Just a few examples of the role of electricity:

- Pumps require electricity for modern day irrigation systems.
- High quality wine production requires the ability to carefully control temperatures.
- Milk pasteurisation and milking equipment requires electricity.
- The production of frozen vegetables and fruits requires energy.
- Our hops farmers outside of George use sodium lights to artificially increase the daylight hours in order to compete with other world regions.
- Young livestock are raised under the heat of ultra-red lights.
- Electric lights in chicken coops stimulate hens' ovaries so that more eggs can be produced more cheaply.

Loadshedding is no longer just a slight inconvenience in our daily lives. It is now a legitimate threat to the functioning of our economy. It threatens South Africa's agricultural sector and we stand to lose our advantage to compete on a global scale.

What is worse, loadshedding is pushing up prices which in turn is leading to malnutrition, poverty, etcetera. Eventually it is again the poor that suffer

most under ANC incompetence.

That is why we have welcomed the steps outlined by the President to address the energy crisis. They are straight out of the DA's playbook, but we have seen that script before. This time we need real action from Government. We trust that these measures will be implemented without delay ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr A P VAN DER WESTHUIZEN: ... in order to [Inaudible.] the agricultural sector and the economy at last. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

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

Mr P MARRAN: Thanks, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, on 9 June this year Tiger Brands announced that they have plans to close factories in Langeberg in Ashton.

Even though these plans were two years in the making, the announcement shocked the food industry. Over the last 70 years, the factory has been able to provide employment and seasonal jobs for many. At the time of the announcement nearly 2 500 farmworkers and 300 farmers were at risk. 4 000 jobs were said to be affected.

At the time of the announcement, Mr Jacques Johannes, CEO of Canning Food Producers Association indicated that, and I quote:

“We need some people to take our hand and help invest in this business to prevent it from closure. I think the effect is a social economic disaster. It is not just a cold business decision.”

While there is no doubt that the Western Cape Provincial Government would want to claim this as their victory, the real heroes in saving the factories are the farmers, farm workers and factory workers.

In these tough economic times farmers have pledged not to increase their produce prices, while workers have stated that they will not ask for any wage increase. COSATU, often scoffed by this Provincial Government, showed leadership and ensured a partnership between the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition, the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Development, as well as other their development finance institutions.

This role should be played by the Provincial Government, facilitating social compacts with social partners, but once again the Provincial Government came late to the party. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. Is the EFF online? No? EFF, are you online? No. I then move over to the Democratic Alliance.

Mr D AMERICA (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, at a time in which the economy is under severe strain, Government must lead the way in ensuring that every cent of public money is spent responsibly and wisely. Our citizens are already facing the burden of high costs of living, and must be assured that their money, tax money, is being used for the public good.

With that in mind, hon Deputy Speaker, I am overjoyed to see that the Western Cape municipalities have taken this message to heart. The Auditor-General's municipal audit outcomes report for the 2020/2021 financial year showed two things. Firstly, that South Africa's municipalities are in dire financial straits and secondly, that the Western Cape is the only place in South Africa in which municipalities are holding fast against the slow rot of financial mismanagement.

The Western Cape holds a little over 10% of all the municipalities in South Africa and yet accounts for more than half of the clean audits in the country. The AGs Office attributed this success to the quality of the Western Cape's leadership and the competence and experience of its staff. Clearly, at a time in which as much is going wrong in the country, something is going right in the province.

Of course, there is more work to be done. We must ensure that we achieve good governance everywhere in the province, not just in most of it particularly where the ANC and other Opposition parties are governing. But

as I ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Finish off, hon member.

Mr D AMERICA (DA): ... of what I am confident, hon Deputy Speaker, that in a year's time I will stand up in this House and attest to the fact that 100% of our municipalities have achieved a qualified audit. Thank you.

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

Mr S N AUGUST (GOOD): Hon Deputy Speaker, the state of primary healthcare in the Western Cape is tremendously concerning considering the National Development Plan and the Western Cape Provincial Strategic Framework towards promoting health and wellness to improve the quality of health services and patient experience. In embedding good governance, what is happening in communities does not reflect what is adopted in theory.

The Department have had some wins; we acknowledge those. However, accountability should be exercised where the need arises, and our communities need competent, functional health services. From Wesfleur to Ceres to Grabouw, clinics and hospitals alike are experiencing the same challenges: dilapidated infrastructure, shortage of staff, under-maintained ambulances, shortage of medicine and the staffing of critical care units, gross mismanagement of medical centres and security guards policing the access patients have to these facilities.

To alleviate pressure from the Wesfleur Hospital, this Government should consider adopting the two primary healthcare clinics in Atlantis into the Provincial Department of Health, to capacitate and staff their operation to ensure decent health services are delivered within the Atlantis community and surrounding areas.

Hon Deputy Speaker, I reiterate that we will compliment where good work has been done, but we cannot remain silent when communities are in harm's way when there are manageable interventions in existence to ensure that the Department of Health delivers the services in line with its objectives and the 2030 Provincial Health Plan. The framework exists, all this Government needs to do is to cultivate the political will. Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

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

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Madam Deputy Speaker, I want to make a plea to the Western Cape Government to do something when it comes to the homeless. They form part of our daily lives, and we cannot wish them away. We cannot wave a magic wand and they will disappear. The reality of the homeless is here, and we must deal with it. How they are dealt with is evidence of our empathy in every situation. The homeless take shelter and sleep under cardboard, plastic sheeting. Where do they relieve themselves? Where do they wash themselves? Where do they wash their clothing?

Some of them, sadly, when I drive, I see some of them have little babies with them and where do they go to school? I think all of them; toddlers, do not go to school and it is painful to see at the robots, mothers sitting with little children in their hand and knowing that tonight, they do not know what they are going to eat.

The homeless are not always what they seem to be. Some of them were upstanding members of communities, but today we see them to stay alive, scratching in dirt-bins, selling recycled plastic and anything that will bring an income. Some of them were married, some of them could not deal with the trauma in life and that is why my plea to the Western Cape Government is to do something when it comes to the homeless. Sometimes, I see how the homeless are harassed when it comes to law enforcement officers and how they are treated.

I want to say the homeless, we can be homeless, but by the Grace of God, it is not me and you. So, my plea from the ACDP is that the Western Cape Government does something. I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

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

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. The ANC in the Western Cape Legislature commends the national ANC for the commencement of the Makhaza Police Station in Khayelitsha in November of

this year. The building of this police station has been in the making for many years. The lack of a police station in Makhaza created a lot of challenges for policing in Khayelitsha, where resources were sometimes overstretched as many officers had to be sent to the Makhaza area.

Before the announcement on the commencement of the building project, SAPS provincial leadership had already taken steps to redeploy resources away from the police stations in the leafy suburbs, to crime hotspots in Makhaza, Philippi and surrounding areas. We commend the sterling work by the SAPS leadership in the province. In the midst of recent spikes, this House can bear witness to violent crimes, notably the mass shooting occurring nearly every weekend in our poor communities.

The shortages of police resources, coupled with the Provincial Government's lack of prioritisation of safety in poor working-class communities were laid there. The building of this new police station will go a long way in addressing many policing challenges in Makhaza and Khayelitsha at large. With Stats South Africa estimates on the population of the area to approximately 451 000 people, Khayelitsha boasts only three police stations in the region, which would not be able to cater for the entire community's safety needs.

Hon Deputy Speaker, I would also like to applaud the National Government for supplying Khayelitsha with additional police vans on Youth Day to mitigate the issue of police vans not responding timeously due to a shortage



of vans, as well as the addition of 85 police officers that will be deployed., unlike the DA-led City of Cape Town LEAP programme, which has already appointed an individual with a questionable record. A word of advice: go and tell your colleagues in the City ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Finish off.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...to vet its new recruits. You will lose because of these ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): ...new systems and a compromise to the very same security. I thank you.

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

Ms L M MASEKO (DA): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. On a positive note, I just want today to congratulate our champion sports women of Banyana Banyana. They have managed to do something that our men have not been able to achieve for 26 years, and that is to win the African Cup of Nations. I also want to send special congratulations to our players from the Western Cape – Sibulele Holweni, Amogelang Motau, Boingeka Gamede, and Regirl Ngobeni – who all play their club football at UWC.

This victory does shine the spotlight on other pressing issues in our country and that is equal pay for equal work. And yet, when it comes to pay for national team performance which is of course, paid by National Government, the men earn much more than women. How is that right? The men earned R520 000 for only reaching the last eight of AFCON in 2019, but the women only earned R400 000 for winning the whole thing.

Is the message this National Government wants to send to our young women that if a woman does the same thing as a man, only better, she will get less of a reward? That is no way to inspire the generation of girls. We call on equal pay between Banyana Banyana and Bafana Bafana. Let the fair play concept in sports also include equal pay to all, irrespective of their gender. I thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. I now recognise the Freedom Front Plus.

Mr P J MARAIS (FFP): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. The Freedom Front Plus wishes to place on record our most serious concern over the frequent reports by whistle-blowers of misbehaviour, dishonesty, allegations of sexual misconduct, fruitless and wasteful expenditure by senior members of the ruling party in this House which, in fact, include that of two hon Ministers, as well as the hon Speaker and hon Deputy Speaker. While some of these matters are still subject to internal and external investigations, the image of this august institution, we must admit, has been tarnished in spite of the steps

taken by the hon Premier and his Cabinet to address any malpractices.

I therefore call for full disclosure of the relevant facts relating to all unresolved matters to this House and that a public apology by the hon Premier should be considered on behalf of this Parliament, to allay fears of any further similar disclosures in the near future by anyone in this House. Promoting persons to positions of authority and seniority, should be considered in future with greater caution to prevent recurrences in an attempt to restore the dignity of this House.

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

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, it is very disturbing that the Western Cape Provincial Government boasts it is all set and ready to take over the Western Cape South African Police Service, whom it describes as incompetent to deal with crime.

The DA-led Provincial Government further stated that its LEAP officers are proof that there are sustainable ways in winning the war against crime. How selfish of this Provincial Government. If this Government has sustainable ways to solve crime in the province, then why does it not implement the sustainable ways to eradicate crime, instead of playing politics with it?

The DA Government must act against the root causes attributing to crime and not just treat it with a plaster. It is a known fact that shebeens are breeding grounds for criminal activities. Close the shebeens! It argues for more boots on the ground, but the Province is selective in how and where it deploys more boots on the ground. It is clear as daylight that more policing is needed on the Cape Flats and in townships. The tavern attacks are not a new phenomenon.

Between 2019 and 2021, there were 30 reported mass murders in the province, which claimed the lives of 117 people, including 11 children. The National Ministry of Police was given R22 million to deal with gangsterism and R10 million of that R22 million, was given to the Provincial Government of the Western Cape. The Province also received extra resources and budget, compared to other provinces in the country.

For as long as there is no real action taken against shebeens and liquor outlets that are conduits for crime and violence, there will always be a need for more boots on the ground. The Provincial Government says it has the mechanisms to fight against deadly attacks, but deadly attacks are taking place every day as the Provincial Government fails to use the resources and mechanisms at its disposal.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you.

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): These resources come from National

Government to protect the people in your province ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member.

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): So, use it for that purpose and not for political gains.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

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

Ms W F KAIZER-PHILANDER (DA): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, earlier this year we spoke about the need for us to focus on combatting TB in our province, as we find ourselves in a period of post-pandemic recovery. Within the first half of this year, there have been almost 23 000 individuals who have contracted tuberculosis in which just under a tenth of those have resulted in death.

It is for this reason that the Provincial Government has pioneered in instituting various initiatives, such as the Multi-Sectoral Provincial TB Emergency Response Plan and the Provincial TB Dashboard. These are examples of a proactive government that innovates service delivery.

Hon Deputy Speaker, now is the time for us as the Legislature to contribute to these efforts. As the Western Cape Provincial Parliament, we are poised to establish a TB caucus in the Western Cape as an ad hoc committee by the end of August. This comes after a research document on guidelines was sent to the Committee and which follows a number of engagements since February 2021, with a multitude of stakeholders in Government, civil society, and within Parliament.

Hon Deputy Speaker, a multi-sectoral approach is thus required to help fight this disease as a whole, so that our communities can be further protected. Hon Deputy Speaker, health is everybody's business, and we can clearly see that these plans are proof of a province that ensures the wellbeing and dignity of residents. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. That brings us to the end of Statements. In terms of Rule 145(6), I give one or more members of the Executive an opportunity to respond to any Members' Statements for not more than five minutes collectively. Are there any hon Ministers who would like to respond? No. Thank you very much. That is the end of Members' Statements.

I now move over to Notices of Motion. In terms of the new Rule 151, all Notices of Motion by hon members are required to be delivered to the Secretary for placing it on the Order Paper. These Motions have been duly submitted and published on the Order Paper below the line.

**MOTIONS WITH NOTICE**

Mr S N AUGUST: I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the consideration of adopting two primary healthcare clinics in Atlantis into the provincial Department of Health to capacitate and staff their operation as a means to alleviate pressure on the Wesfleur Hospital, which is severely strained with service delivery and heavily short-staffed with the result that it is unable to handle the influx of patients who must be assessed daily.

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

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

That the House debates the intervention into the requirements for applications for permits to operate as stallholder.

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

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: We now move to Motions without Notice. I would like to inform you that in terms of the Standing Rule 150 pertaining to Motions without Notice, that condolence and congratulatory were submitted to the Programming Authority prior to this plenary on 26 July 2022. Hon members are reminded that Motions without Notice pertaining to

congratulatory and condolences will not be allowed in this sitting, that have been processed by the Programming Authority.

I have been informed that in the Programming Authority meeting of 26 July 2022, political parties did submit the names of hon members in the desired order of speaking and who had wished to move a Motion without Notice in this sitting of the House. I will therefore, just for noting and for the purpose of the Minutes, call out the hon members whose names have accordingly been submitted and approved.

The following member motions have been approved by the Programming Authority as follows: hon Christians, hon Lekker, hon Botha, hon Sayed, hon Bosman, hon Sayed, hon Mvimbi, hon Bans, hon Windvogel, hon Bans, hon Dugmore, hon Bosman, hon Bosman, hon Bosman, hon Mackenzie and hon Botha. I now put the motions duly submitted and approved by the Programming Authority to the House.

## **MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: I move without notice:

That the House commends Leah-Angel Bauer, a learner in Grade 7 at Forest Village Leadership Academy; notes that the *Daily Voice* of 21 July 2022 (Marsha Dean) reported that Leah opened Leah's Drink 'n Stop about three weeks ago; notes that she serves coffee, Milo, hot



chocolate and bottled water to schools and the community; notes that she is very professional in her approach and the community sings her praises; notes that, through her business, she is able to be independent and to build her savings; notes that Leah says, ‘My special ingredient is to go with the feeling and add a lot of love’, in this way she is putting a smile on the faces of the community; and salutes her entrepreneurial spirit and wishes her well for the future.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

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

That the House notes with profound sadness the untimely passing of Deputy Secretary-General of the ANC, comrade Yasmin ‘Jessie’ Duarte on 17 July 2022, following a lengthy battle with cancer; further notes that comrade Jessie will be remembered fondly for her dedication and selfless sacrifices in the anti-apartheid struggle, which spanned from 1979 when she was recruited by Mama Albertina Sisulu to set up women’s structures throughout the country and later in 1981, when she served as the secretary of the Federation of Transvaal Women (FEDTRAW); further notes her anti-apartheid activism saw her targeted and detained without trial in 1988; further notes comrade Jessie also worked with Reverend Beyers Naudé to set up a scholarship fund to educate anti-apartheid activists to become an effective corps of public servants; further notes she also served as special assistant to both

President Mandela as well as Walter Sisulu; further notes she also served as a member of the Provincial Executive Council (MEC) for Gauteng, as ambassador to Mozambique, and as spokesperson for the ANC, before assuming the position of Deputy Secretary-General of the ANC in 2012 until her death on 17 July 2022; further notes that she will be remembered fondly for her selfless dedication to the anti-apartheid struggle, her love for the people and unwavering dedication to the struggle for women emancipation; and conveys deepest sympathies to her family and loved ones. Hamba kahle, comrade DSG Jessie.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

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

That the House congratulates the newly elected Matzikama councillor, Mr Christo Boks, affectionately known to his community as ‘Kito’ Boks, on his victory during the Ward 7 by-election in the municipality; notes that the Democratic Alliance won this by-election six-love by claiming victory in all voting districts; and further notes that this victory will strengthen the mandate of the multi-party coalition in Matzikama.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

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

That the House notes with deep sadness the untimely passing of the 21<sup>st</sup> Deputy President of the South African Students Congress, comrade Buyile Sangolekhaya Bernard Matiwane, who succumbed on Monday 11 July 2022 at his residence after a short period of sickness; notes that, at the time of his passing, he was serving as the Deputy President of SASCO and as a member of the Provincial Congress Preparatory Committee of the African National Congress Youth League of Western Cape; notes that he will be remembered for his dedication to students and the youth and for his great appreciation for reading, writing and his contribution to the public discourse on various topics that he wrote about; and extends deepest and sincere condolences to his mother, the Matiwane family, his friends and comrades. Long lives the spirit of ‘Prof’.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

Mr G BOSMAN: I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Peter Tempelhoff, owner of Fyn, Kobus van der Merwe, owner of Wolfgat, and James Gaag, owner of La Colombe, on their restaurants being named in the top 100 best restaurants by the World’s 50 Best Restaurants list; and notes that this achievement contributes to a positive international reputation for the Western Cape as a choice destination for tourism.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

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

That the House notes with deep sadness the untimely passing of comrade Rykie Cloete from the West Coast; and conveys deepest sympathies to her family, friends and comrades.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

Mr L L MVIMBI: I move without notice:

That the House notes with a great sense of pride and celebrates and congratulates the achievements of the Garden Route International Film (GRIF) Festival; notes that the GRIF Festival was held from 12 to 16 July and included learner workshops, teaching learners about the film industry and some were fortunate to create their own short films, which were screened at the festival; and notes this festival transferred camera skills to teenagers who did not even have the knowledge to operate a camera.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

Ms A P BANS: I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the Springboks who won the Castle Lager Incoming Series against Wales, where the Springboks beat the visitors in two of the three scheduled games of the tour; notes that this series was the first where the world champions had to play in front of their home crowd following the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, where they had to play in empty stadiums without the fans; wishes the Bokke a prosperous season; and hopes they stay uniting the South African nation.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

Ms R WINDVOGEL: I move without notice:

That the House notes the Mandela Day celebrations that took place with MPPs doing their bit for their communities: Honourable Gladys Bakubaku-Vos worked with Drakenstein councillors, Moutie Richards and Mncedisi Nobala, at Antes farm where they prepared warm meals for the farm dwellers and had a Mandela lecturer, and in Mbekweni Ward 12 honourable Bakubaku-Vos handed out clothes and food to victims of a fire and she worked with the ward councillor Sindiswa Sambokhwe and PR councillor Bongiwe Duba.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

Ms A P BANS: I move without notice:

That the House notes and congratulates the DHL Stormers on winning the Vodacom United Rugby Championship against the Vodacom Bulls in June 2022; notes that this Championship is an annual rugby union competition that was previously known as the PRO 14, one of the three major professional leagues in Europe, and in 2021 four South African teams joined the league; further notes that the Stormers dominated, made history and won the inaugural URC in Cape Town; and wishes the Stormers, alongside the Cell C Sharks and Vodacom Bulls, the best of luck with the European Rugby Champions Cup.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: I move without notice:

That the House notes and congratulates the Mossel Bay professional golfer, Louis Oosthuizen, and Princess Charlene of Monaco for helping children in Mossel Bay communities; and notes that the #feed2gether initiative aims to better the lives of the marginalised by providing assistance in sports participation and by offering a feeding scheme.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

Mr G BOSMAN: I move without notice:

That the House sends its condolences to the family of poet and anti-

apartheid activist, Don Mattera, who passed away on 18 July at the age of 86; and notes that Mattera's autobiography *Memory is the Weapon*, a Steve Biko Prize-winning work, provides an important glimpse into 1950s Sophiatown, while his works of poetry stood out in their eloquent and poignant criticism of the apartheid government of the time.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

Mr G BOSMAN: I move without notice:

That the House sends its condolences to the family of celebrated critic and journalist, Barry Ronge, who passed away on 3 July 2022 at the age of 74; and notes that Ronge's decades-long career saw him becoming a well-loved fixture in the literary sphere of South Africa, with his humour and biting wit bringing joy to millions of devoted readers.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

Mr G BOSMAN: I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the coach of the South African women's national football team, Desiree Ellis, who won the CAF Women's Coach of the Year Award for the third consecutive time on 21 July; notes that Ellis, who played for and was a founding member of Banyana Banyana, and the second captain of the team, continues to exemplify the finest

characteristics of the South African sporting sector; and notes that she also serves as an inspiration to women in the sporting sector everywhere and is worthy of congratulations.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

Mr R D MACKENZIE: I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the Western Cape Department of Infrastructure that financed and supported the construction of the Ashton Bridge, which has won an award for best infrastructure project over R100 million from Cement and Concrete SA.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*

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

That the House welcomes the announcement by the University of the Western Cape to rename its iconic Main Hall in honour of its late Rector and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Jakes Gerwel; and notes that Professor Gerwel's leadership at the institution was unparalleled and that the renaming of the Hall, 10 years after his passing, is a fitting celebration and recognition of his distinguished legacy.

*[Motion as printed in the Minutes.]*



The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are there any objections? No objections, agreed to. The Motions will appear in the Minutes of the proceedings and in Hansard, in each individual hon members' name as if that hon member had read them out aloud.

Hon members, I will now afford the opportunity to hon members to move Motions without Notice as per the Standing Rule 152(d). This could include Motions without Notice that were not approved in the Programming Authority meeting. Hon members are reminded that 30 minutes as per the Standing Rule will start now. As per my list, I recognise the hon Baartman.

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

That this House commends the Western Cape Education Department for its #BackOnTrack recovery plan which seeks to tackle the learning losses experienced in the Foundation Phase. By allocating an additional 2 hours of group-guided reading and 1 hour of Mathematics every week, it is expected that every Foundation Phase learner will gain an extra 60 hours of learning over the course of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> term. We look forward to this programme's success. I thank you.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Are there any objections to

the motion being moved without notice? No objections, agreed to. I recognise hon Xego. I do not think he is here. No, he is not here. That is two. I now recognise hon Makamba-Botya. Also, not here. No. I now recognise hon Bans.

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

That the House notes with pride the victory of the South African Soccer Women's Team, Banyana Banyana, who have been crowned the Women's Africa Cup of Nations champions following their victory in Morocco last week; notes further that the four Banyana Banyana stars made it into the Women's Afcon Best 11; namely, goalkeeper of the tournament and co-captain Andile Dlamini, defender Bambanani Mbane, co-captain Refiloe Jane and striker Jermaine Seoposenwe; congratulates Banyana Banyana for winning the tournament and the four players who made the best 11; and reiterates calls for equality in sports which should include equal pay between Bafana Bafana and Banyana Banyana. I so move, hon Deputy Speaker.

*[Motion as moved by Member.]*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Are there any objections to the motion being moved without notice? No objections, agreed to. I now recognise hon Marran. No? I will move on to recognise hon Kama. No. Moving on to recognise hon Bakubaku-Vos. I do not see hon Bakubaku-Vos.

Hon members? Hon members, order! Alright, that concludes Motions without Notice. Thank you very much, hon members.

If we can move over to Orders of the Day. Order! Alright, the Table staff are going to read the First Order of the Day, please. Thank you very much.

### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

The SECRETARY: Consideration of Report of the Conduct Committee on the failure of hon Member S N August to submit disclosure forms timeously (2020). Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I have been informed by the Chief Whip that the Programming Authority resolved that there would be no list of speakers and that parties who wished to do so, would now be afforded an opportunity to make a declaration of the vote for a maximum of three minutes. I will now afford those parties an opportunity. I recognise the ANC.

The CHIEF WHIP (ANC): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. [Interjection.] Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. The ANC notes the report presented to this House today. The ANC believes in accountability and integrity. Even more so, we expect our public representative to be exemplary and if they have transgressed in any manner, they must be held accountable.

While we wish not to rub salt in wounds, this report must be a reminder to all of us of the high calling we have as representatives of the people of this province. We pause again today to be reminded that our responsibility is not for ourselves or our families and friends, but the poorest of the poor of the Western Cape. We sit in this House, mandated by our people, as vulnerable as they may be, because of poverty, unemployment, and inequality. We serve at the behest of our people and our example of being punctual and beyond reproach must be emphatic.

Yet, our people must also be aware that mud is often thrown at opponents because that is the nature of politics. Our people must be aware that at times, factional battles bring into question the integrity of those who walk these hallowed halls. Our people must know that those who pursue political agendas, often do so by applying a double standard. Sadly, double standards are often based on race, class, and gender, and is often also part of the nature of politics.

The ANC will not be used in DA factional fights as the proverbial saying goes ‘what applies to the goose, must apply to the gander’. We hope that like the ANC, the DA will rise to the occasion and act with integrity and hold its public representatives accountable without fear or favour. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. I do not think the EFF is online. I now recognise GOOD. No? Thank you, I will move on to the ACDP.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Hon Deputy Speaker, I am not going to make a declaration. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. The Freedom Front Plus? No, I do not see hon Marais is here. Al Jama-Ah?

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. No declaration, thank you.

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

Ms W F KAIZER-PHILANDER (DA): Thank you very much, hon Deputy Speaker. At a meeting of the Committee held on 12 May this year, the Registrar of Members' Interests, Adv Burgers, presented a report on members' submission of disclosure forms for the year 2022. All the members, except for member S N August, returned their disclosure forms timeously as required by the Code.

Hon member S N August was sworn in as an hon member of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament on 8 February 2022. The Registrar informed the hon member by email on 14 February 2022, that he was required to submit a member's disclosure form by no later than 60 days after taking office. The password to open the documentation was also provided to him on 14 February 2022.

A reminder was sent the hon member on 4 March 2022 that the form had to be submitted by 8 April 2022. A final reminder was sent on 7 April 2022, reminding hon member August that the deadline for the submission was the close of business on 8 April 2022.

Hon Deputy Speaker, on 8 April 2022, a request for the password was received from the hon member's office. The password was provided by the Registrar for a second time. On 8 April at 15:25, an email was received from Phumla Mtati on behalf of hon member August, apologising for not submitting the form, stating that it would be sent on Monday, 11 April 2022.

The Registrar then sent an email to hon member August on Saturday, 9 April, informing him that he was now *de facto* in the breach of the Code. The due date for the submission of the disclosure form by hon member August was 8 April 2022. The disclosure form was finally received on 21 April this year.

The Committee afforded hon member August the opportunity to provide reasons for the late submission and in mitigation of the penalty to be recommended by the Committee. The Committee met again on 1 June 2022 and the response received from hon member August was considered.

Hon member August explained that as a former member of the National Parliament, who has now migrated to the WCPP, he was inundated with several engagements, both in handing over his office in the NA and in taking up office at the WCPP. In addition, his staff reported that the document was

faulty and problematic, and that it was not possible to edit online. All these factors put together resulted in him being unable to submit the document on time.

He stated that he was under the impression that having submitted similar declarations when he started in the Legislature, his latest declarations to the Registrar had been made. He was therefore under the impression that no further declaration of interest would be needed.

The Committee noted the reason provided by hon member August and after deliberations, resolved to recommend that hon member August receive a reprimand in terms of paragraph 32(1) of the Code of Conduct for members of the Provincial Parliament. Hon Deputy Speaker, I therefore encourage this House to accept the recommendation by the Committee. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. I have to announce that there are currently 38 hon members present and entitled to vote, and the House is therefore quorate. The question put before the House is that the Report of the Conduct Committee be adopted. Are there any objections to the Report being adopted? No objections? [Interjection.] Agreed to. I am not going to the yeas and nays. It has been no problem. We now will ask the Table staff to read the Second Order of the Day.

The SECRETARY: Consideration of Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning on the

withdrawal of the declaration of the Driftsands Nature Reserve in terms of section 24(1)(b) of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act 57 of 2003), dated 23 June 2022.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I have been informed by the Chief Whip that the Programming Authority resolved that there will be no list of speakers and that parties who wish to do so, will now be afforded an opportunity to make a declaration of the vote for a maximum of three minutes. I will now afford those parties the opportunity. I recognise the ANC.

Mr P MARRAN (ANC): Thanks, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, the ANC cannot support this declaration today. Whilst we are aware of the tight legal corner that the National Minister finds herself in, the ANC at this provincial level has consistently warned about the lack of proactiveness by this Provincial Government and the Department in particular, with regards to the disastrous situation in the Driftsands Nature Reserve. This withdrawal of the status of Driftsands as a nature reserve is simply too convenient.

This Provincial Government, in particular the failing Minister of Infrastructure, must take responsibility for the failure to build houses for our people. The Provincial Government, in particular the Department of Local Government, must take responsibility for the lack of oversight given to the City of Cape Town and holding the City to account for lack of basic service delivery.



In the Budget Vote earlier this year and in Interpellations sponsored by the ANC, we warned that this Department was simply taking the easy way out. If this Department cares about the environment, it would have found houses for our people occupying the nature reserve and relocated them, but because this Provincial Department and this Provincial Government are a failure, they did not heed our warnings and even worse still, it is because they do not care about our people and even less, about the environment.

The people of the Western Cape, the withdrawal of the status the Driftsands Nature Reserve, must spell another reason why this Province urgently needs an Environmental Commissioner. The Province cares little about our people, their living conditions, and the environment. This is the legacy that this MEC leaves behind, a legacy where one of the nature reserves in our province is de-proclaimed. It is this failure by him and the Provincial Government, and he must understand it as such.

The ANC will continue to call on the establishment of an Environmental Commissioner as compelled by our Provincial Constitution. If he wants to be called a Minister, then you must want to establish an Environmental Commissioner. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. I note the EFF not on. GOOD? No. The ACDP ...[Interjection.]

Mr S N AUGUST (GOOD): No declaration, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Am I correct that GOOD was not on?

Mr S N AUGUST (GOOD): I said no declaration, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No declaration. Thank you very much. ACDP?

Mr F C CHRISTIANS (ACDP): Hon Deputy Speaker, no declaration, thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay, thank you. The Freedom Front Plus I do not see here in the House. Al Jama-Ah?

Mr G BRINKHUIS (AL JAMA-AH): No declaration, hon Deputy Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr A P VAN DER WESTHUIZEN (DA): [Inaudible.] that the hon Marran is not supporting the de-proclamation of the Driftsands Nature Reserve, while we actually have in writing that his National Minister, Minister Creecy, is in support of this. It is so difficult in a country when our Official Opposition is so divided.

Hon Deputy Speaker, before we consider the Report on the possible withdrawal of the Driftsands Nature Reserve status, it is critical that this

House understands the challenges of rapid urbanisation in the Western Cape. Furthermore, the House should recognise that the Western Cape Government, through its nature conservation entity, CapeNature, did everything in its power to preserve the ecological dignity of the Driftsands Nature Reserve. Our law enforcement entities such as SAPS, unfortunately failed us.

There has been a notable increase in the number of people moving to Cape Town from rural and other regions of the country. This is because Cape Town and the Western Cape provide prospects for dream realisation, a new lease on life and a government that works to ensure that the private sector prospers in order for job creation to flourish. This migration and the lack of money from the national fiscus for our Provincial Human Settlements initiatives, have contributed greatly to 11 400 people unlawfully setting up their dwellings on the Nature Reserve.

The tempo of this has escalated dramatically since the COVID-19 regulations, promulgated by the same National Government, which put a high strain on law enforcement and severely limited the options of landowners to protect their land against illegal land invasions, land invasions like in this case, where people go so far as to put themselves and their families at a serious risk of floods and flooding.

The Standing Committee on Environmental Affairs was briefed by CapeNature on 23 June this year and scientific arguments were presented which showed that the integrity of the biodiversity was severely

compromised. The environmental degradation is so bad it was deemed to be irreversible. The motivation to preserve this land as a conservation site has therefore vanished.

The Standing Committee on Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning's report therefore recommend to the House that the declaration of Driftsands as a Provincial Nature Reserve, will have to be withdrawn.

Hon Deputy Speaker, it is unfortunate that this debate has to happen on World Nature Conservation Day. A day where we should be celebrating the conservation of ecosystems found in our province's reserves. Fortunately, this province is still blessed with large and wonderful nature reserves and to put it into perspective, Driftsands forms less than 0,05% of our provincial conservation areas, excluding the reserves managed by SANParks.

I therefore recommend that the House adds its support to the report, recommending that the Driftsands Nature Reserve's proclamation be withdrawn. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member. I have to announce that there are currently 37 hon members present and entitled to vote, and the House is therefore quorate. The question put before the House is that the Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning be adopted. Are there any objections to

the report being adopted ...[Interjection.]. Your objection will be noted to the hon members of the ANC. Thank you. The report is as adopted.

Thank you. Hon members, that concludes the business for the day. The Secretary will now end the meeting and all the hon members will exit the meeting. The House is adjourned.

The House adjourned at 16:33.

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