
THURSDAY, 9 MARCH 2017

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

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

The House met at 14:15

The Deputy Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

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The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may be seated. [Interjections.] Order! I see the Chief Whip.

(Notice of Motion)

Mr M G E WILEY: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I give notice that I shall move:

That, notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 198, precedence be given to the subject for discussion. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to that? Agreed to.

Before we start I see the galleries are quite full. May I welcome the visitors to the gallery and just remind them that they are not part of the floor of the House so please do not partake in the proceedings.

†Julle mag kyk en luister en geniet maar nie hande klap of tussenwerpsels maak, asseblief nie. [You may look and listen and enjoy but please don't applaud or interject.]

I see the first speaker, hon Lorraine Botha.

**THE LOOMING CRISIS AROUND SASSA
AND THE IMPACT ON THE WESTERN CAPE**

(Subject for Discussion)

Ms L J BOTHA: Mr Deputy Speaker... [Interjections.] Mr Deputy Speaker...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

†Me L J BOTHA: Kan ek asseblief die beskerming van die Stoel vra?
[Tussenwerpsels.]

[Ms L J BOTHA: May I please request the protection of the Chair? [Interjections.]]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Ms L J BOTHA: Mr Deputy Speaker, today I start this important debate that directly affects 17 million South Africans with a quote from our country's first democratically elected President, Nelson Mandela. He said...

†Mnr Q R DYANTYI: Asseblief! [Onduidelik.] ...dan *quote* jy Mandela.

[Mr Q R DYANTYI: Please! [Inaudible.] ...then you quote Mandela.]

Ms L J BOTHA: “A country should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but rather how it treats its lowest...” [Interjections.]

Madiba was a man who was in touch with the country and the reality of every South African, a man who wanted to see that all people are treated equal; a man who wanted to see fairness; a man who wanted to ensure that especially the poor is taken care of and of course a man who led the ANC.

However, the Minister of Social Development, Bathabile Dlamini and the ANC-led Government has clearly demonstrated that they do not care about the poor.

An HON MEMBER: Shame, shame!

Ms L J BOTHA: This Minister responsible for the payout of monthly State social grants have shown the middle-finger to the Constitutional Court judgment of 2014. She has shown that to her it is not that important, whether the poorest of the poor do not have this only income come 1 April 2017. When Judge J Froneman delivered judgment on 17 April 2014 he said:

“For many people in this country the payment of social grants by the State provides their only hope of ever living in the material conditions that the Constitution’s values of dignity, freedom and equality promise...”

†Mnr Q R DYANTYI: Voorsitter van die... [Onduidelik.]

[Mr Q R DYANTYI: Chairman of the ... [Inaudible.]

Ms L J BOTHA: ...continuing to say that “people who receive social grants are vulnerable and live at the margins of affluence in our society.”

†Mnr Q R DYANTYI: Sies man!

[Mr Q R DYANTYI: Siss man!]

Ms L J BOTHA: Mr Deputy Speaker, the highest court in the country understands that this grant is in most cases the only lifeline that people have. [Interjections.] Now my question is Mr Deputy Speaker... [Interjections.]

†Mnr Q R DYANTYI: Waar is die ANC?

[Mr Q R DYANTYI: Where is the ANC?]

Ms L J BOTHA: How after three years have you not done anything to adhere to the Court’s judgment? [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Ja, ja, shame!

†Mnr D JOSEPH: Luister!

[Mr D JOSEPH: Listen!]

Ms L J BOTHA: Two things immediately jump out at me: one, that there is no respect for the highest court in the land, having lied in November 2015 that they will be ready come 1 April 2017. Also the DDG and Sassa briefing this Parliament's Standing Committee on Community Development that Sassa will be ready for in-house payments come 1 April 2017. However, this is not surprising given the ANC's attitude to judgements from any court for that matter. [Interjections.]

Secondly, and most importantly however, is how the Minister and her Department just do not care about 17 million desperate South Africans.

†Mnr D JOSEPH: Ja, hoor-hoor!

[Mr D JOSEPH: Yes, hear-hear!]

Ms L J BOTHA: Mr Deputy Speaker, the ANC does not care! They do not care about the human rights or the dignity of any of the beneficiaries.

†Mnr Q R DYANTYI: Asseblief!

[Mr Q R DYANTYI: Please!] †We liberated this... [Inaudible.]

Ms L J BOTHA: This ANC not caring was also demonstrated last week in the Parliamentary sitting when the ANC rejected a motion... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon member Ms Botha, just one second. Hon Chief Whip.

Mr M G E WILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, this constant barrage from especially hon member Dyantyi is nothing more than gender abuse and it is important...
[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr M G E WILEY: ... that the House notes from which this abuse comes.

†Mnr Q R DYANTYI: Eina! [Tussenwerpsels.]

[Mr Q R DYANTYI: Ouch! [Interjections.]]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order Chief Whip, order. [Interjections.] Order! Chief Whip you have made your point. I want to rule on the constant interjecting and not ruling on the other point. Hon member Mr Dyantyi, I have had a look at the speakers' list and I was hoping you would be somewhere on the list because there seems to be some withdrawal symptoms there. Please try and maintain yourself, and contain yourself. Please continue hon member Botha.

†Me L J BOTHA: Mnr die Adjunkspeaker, daar is 'n gesegde vir dit, dit is 'n klinkende metaal en 'n luidende simbaal.

[Ms L J BOTHA: Mr Deputy Speaker, there is a saying for that, it is a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.]

This ANC's not caring, was also demonstrated last week in the Parliamentary sitting when the ANC rejected a motion of condemning the carelessness of Sassa. Further proof that the ANC and Sassa do not care is seen in their desire to continue with Cash Paymaster Services.

Mr P UYS: Where is the Premier?

Ms L J BOTHA: This is a service that allowed unlawful deductions to be made from the accounts of beneficiaries while 19 of their employees were also found guilty of fraud.

An HON MEMBER: It is all in their pockets.

Ms L J BOTHA: Mr Deputy Speaker, it is as if the Minister is set on ensuring that corruption and illegal activities continue. Is it surprising? Of course not, because where you have incompetent inept and incapable people leading such important portfolios this mess will always be the result.

Unfortunately it does not stop there, because CPS through Money Financial Services also offer loans or what they call "credit" on grant days. They are taking advantage of desperate people, people whom they know are in need. They are also fully aware that the grant that is being provided is not nearly enough to sustain you for an entire month. What is alarming is the fact that the beneficiary must give off their card to CPS, and then is issued with a different card.

The effect of this is that on the next grant payout day deductions are made out of the accounts of the beneficiaries and instead of getting their full grant amount they only get the balance.

This service is preying on the poor. They are preying on the vulnerable. This service is exploiting the poorest of the poor, taking advantage of them. The only picture that we are seeing here is that Sassa and the ANC do not care. If they did care they would have as per court judgment, initiated within 30 days an effective migration process from outsourcing to insourcing the social grant services; build their own capacity and ensure that the grant payouts to the 17 million South Africans are not affected come 1 April. This ultimately means that the very entity that ought to alleviate poverty is rather doing their best to keep South Africans right there in their desperate poor state.

†Die ironie hiervan is dat die ANC in 2019 weer na hierdie kwesbare groep mense sal kom en verduidelik hoe hulle, die ANC, die redders was dat mense hulle gelde sou kon ontvang op 1 April 2017.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[The irony of this is that the ANC, come 2019, will again come to this vulnerable group of people and explain how they, the ANC, were the saviours so that people could receive their money on 1 April 2017.]

†And then to put the blame on white minority capital, †maar ek wil vir die ANC die volgende sê: 17 miljoen mense is afhanklik van hierdie toelaes. Hulle is arm maar polites is hulle nie dom nie. Julle sal hierdie keer nie wegkom dat julle met so 'n

massagroep mense se lewens gespeel het nie.

Mnr Adjunkspeaker, ek het hier gestaan in laat-2014 en het vir hierdie Wes-Kaap ANC gesê dat die mense soek verandering van hul wanbestuur en korrupsie in Cederberg. Dit was nie leë, ydel woorde nie. Daardie verandering het in Augustus 2016 gekom.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

but I want to tell the ANC the following: 17 million people are dependent on these grants. They are poor but politically they are not stupid. This time you will not get away with it that you have fooled around with the lives of such a massive group of people.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I stood here in late 2014 and I told this Western Cape ANC the people are looking for change from their mismanagement and corruption in Cederberg. Those were not hollow, idle words. That change came about in August 2016.

†'n AGBARE LID: Hoor-hoor!

[An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!]

†Me L J BOTHA: Ek wil weer hier vandag vir die ANC maan, hierdie 17 miljoen Suid-Afrikaners gaan verandering vir 'n beter lewe en vir hernude hoop vestig, in 2019.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[Ms L J BOTHA: I want to again warn the ANC here today, these 17 million South Africans are going to establish change for a better life and renewed hope, come 2019.]

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Hear-hear!

Ms L J BOTHA: Mr Deputy Speaker, the ANC and Sassa might not care about the country's most vulnerable but we as the DA care. This is why we will continue to advocate on behalf of every person who has been denied to ensure that they still receive the rightful grant on 1 April and beyond.

Mr Deputy Speaker, it is Nelson Mandela who said:

“If the ANC does to you what the apartheid government did to you, you do to the ANC what you did to the apartheid government.”

†Aan al die begunstigdes wat hierdie krisis beleef, ek raai julle aan, vat hierdie raad van ons vorige President en doen net dit. Dankie, mnr die Adjunkspeaker.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[To all the beneficiaries experiencing this crisis, I advise you to accept the advice of our previous President and just do it. Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker.]

†Die MINISTER VAN MAATSKAPLIKE ONTWIKKELING: Mooi!

[The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Good!]

Mr L H MAX: Yes. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. The hon member Makeleni.

Ms P MAKELENI: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. We must raise sharply our disappointment with the DA's unscrupulousness. Up until now there are no grant recipients who have not been paid. [Interjections.]

They want to paint the ANC Government with all sorts of things which have not happened. They are waging *swart gevaar* tactics. The DA will not survive. Stop it!

The DA-led Government are hypocrites. They do not believe that vulnerable people must receive universal franchise social security grants. On the contrary, the DA believes all people must indiscriminately work and contribute towards economic growth then later qualify for the targeted social assistance system. If this will ever happen it will be catastrophic for the nation.

Over the nine financial years Sassa has spent more than R57 billion, in 2005 and 2006, and progressively increased it to more than R128 billion in 2015/2016. In the Western Cape the total grants went up by 3.9% from 2014 to 2016. It is second to Gauteng at 4.69%. The people of the province are not worse off. There is no reason to press the panic button.

We are concerned about the recent happenings at Sassa, but let us look backwards to understand where we are as a nation. I want to give the historical context in which the social security system existed in South Africa pre-1994 ...

Mr Q R DYANTYI: Just listen to this!

Ms P MAKELENI: ... as it was summarised by the Land Committee in which it found out that there were problems with access to grants. For instance, whites, coloureds and Indians received monthly payments, while black applicants were given their allowance every second month. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Ms P MAKELENI: Whites, coloureds and Indians were paid by cheque through the Post Office but black Africans were paid in cash at various mobile sites... [Interjection.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: And you were in that government.

Ms P MAKELENI: ...schools, under the trees or in stalls and pensions for the minority were payable from the date... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! Order hon Minister! Just one second. There are too many individuals conversing across the passage. Hon Minister Fritz, Leader of the Opposition and some others as well, allow your member to continue. You may

continue.

Ms P MAKELENI: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Pensions for the minority were payable from the date of application whereas the black majority only got theirs from the date of approval.

†Mnr Q R DYANTYI: Jo! Sies!

[Mr Q R DYANTYI: Jo! Sis!]

Ms P MAKELENI: And the amounts payable were disproportional with blacks receiving much less than their white counterparts. In 1994 the ANC inherited a fragmented and discriminatory social security system as demonstrated above...

[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order member, member just one second. Hon Chief Whip?

Mr M G E WILEY: Yes, Mr Deputy Speaker, the topic for today is the crisis facing Sassa at the moment. [Interjections.] I am asking where the relevance is in a history lesson. [Interjections.] The crisis is now and pending; not 15 or 20 years ago.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Order! [Interjections.] Order! Order, the hon member is correct in a way, but I will allow the member to use it as introductory comments to get to the point of the current motion.

Ms P MAKELENI: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Ms P MAKELENI: In 1994 the ANC Government inherited a fragmented and discriminatory social security system as illustrated above. The majority of poor South Africans were either excluded or receiving lower grants. It was an inhumane system that the ANC Government had to reserve and save.

Section 27(1)(c) of the Constitution of South Africa states that:

“Everyone has the right to have access to social security including appropriate social assistance for those who are unable to support themselves and their dependants.” [Interjection.]

Mr D JOSEPH: Tell the Minister that.

Ms P MAKELENI: In Section 27(2) it further states that:

“The State has the obligation to take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources to achieve the progressive realisation of this right.”

It was in accordance with this instructive provision of the Constitution, the commitment of the ANC Government towards alleviating hunger, poverty, amongst the people and improving their living standards, that the White Paper on the Social

Welfare Policy was produced in 1997.

The White Paper provided that social security should cover a wide variety of measures to provide cash in kind benefits or both.

It further defined the domain of social security as poverty prevention, poverty alleviation, social compensation and income distribution. To be more specific, social grants are classified into: Old Age Grants, War Veteran Grants, Disability Grants, Grants in Aid, Foster Aid Grants, Care Dependency Grants and Child Support Grants. People can also apply for social relief of distress, a means test determines the approval of their application. These grants are administered by the State Agency, the South African Social Security Agency, Sassa. These interventions were important in that they allowed the National Department of Social Development to budget effectively and put in place appropriate measures to ensure that grant recipients received money monthly without fail. [Interjection.]

Mr M G E WILEY: Are you still busy with your introduction?

Ms P MAKELENI: It is clearly demonstrated that the ANC Government cares about the plight of the people especially like the poor, elderly, people with disabilities, orphans and families in distress.

The DA-led Western Cape Government should be more concerned by the appalling state of old age. A case in point is the old person who died as a result of a fire in an old age home in Kwa-Langa. Surprisingly there were no consequences because in the

DA world black lives do not matter. [Interjections.]

Despite the periodical armed robberies at pay points, Sassa over the years made sure that grant recipients received their money at all material times without fail. Other measures of producing smart cards and withdrawals at Shoprite Stores have been working successfully. There is no evidence that suggests that beneficiaries are adversely affected. This is hypothesis, the phenomena of which cannot be proven, since the event has not happened.

It is driven by those who have spread fear for something that does not exist. We are, however, inspired by the ANC-led Oversight Committee and National Parliament in calling the affected Ministries to give assurance and account on the happenings at Sassa. We remain confident that the contract issue will be sorted out soonest in order to restore confidence in the system. Notwithstanding this contractual dispute between Sassa and the service provider, or the Constitutional Court judgment, both our President Zuma and Social Development Minister, Bathabile Dlamini, have assured the nation that all grant recipients will receive their money at the right time and place as was previously done.

The prophets of doom will eat their humble pie, whilst the ANC delivers to the poor and vulnerable South Africans. As a responsible citizen I call upon all of us in this Parliament and elsewhere to calm down and allow the National Government to do its work and continue to deliver this vital service to the people of South Africa. Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.] Order! Before I see the next speaker, let me just comment further on the point of order raised by the Chief Whip. It is indeed so that the scope of this debate is more limited than a general wide-ranging debate on Sassa but I have allowed the member as a way of introduction to get to the point which she eventually came to.

I also allowed the member in terms of a very old established parliamentary practice that the first main speakers per party always have some latitude, more latitude than later speakers. So in that sense the member was within her rights to go a little bit wider than the very limited scope of the debate. So I am saying that to also give some guidance to speakers that may follow now in the debate. The debate is limited to the narrow wording as per the Order Paper and not a wide-ranging general debate on Sassa. [Interjections.]

Order! Order! I do not see the ACDP here. I then see hon Minister Meyer.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear! [Applause.]

†'n AGBARE LID: Waar is daai man nou?

[An HON MEMBER: Where is that man now?]

Mr Q R DYANTYI: He is not ready. Give over to the next speaker. [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you for the opportunity to take part in the debate on the looming crisis [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: A crisis, ja.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: The crisis around Sassa and the crisis that is faced in the National Department of Social Development, but Mr Deputy Speaker, when exactly did this crisis start?

This is the day when this crisis in Sassa started; it is the day when Zuma appointed this woman to run Sassa in South Africa. This is the day when this crisis started because when she started that day she was reading ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: She took an oath. I am not going to read this oath because she broke her oath.

†Mnr D JOSEPH: Hoor-hoor!

[Mr D JOSEPH: Hear-hear!]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: In the same way, the Minister who took the oath that she will uphold and defend the Constitution but the court found that she failed to do so. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, just one second. Hon Leader of the Opposition.

Mr K E MAGAXA: Yes, Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to check if the Minister is

prepared to take a question?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister Meyer, are you prepared to take a question?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Only from intelligent people and he is not.
[Laughter.] Mr Deputy Speaker, this is the same Minister...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order Minister. [Interjections.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: Mr Deputy Speaker... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, Minister... [Interjections.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: No, man, no. †Uyandiqhela ngoku lo. Mxelele. [This one is trivializing me now. Tell him.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! Honourable, if you will take your seat please. Minister, that is unparliamentary to refer to another member in that way, so I want you to withdraw that. [Interjections.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: Ja, withdraw, withdraw. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I did not refer to a specific member. I said I only take intelligent questions. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Minister, that was a clear reference to the Leader of the Opposition. If you want to continue, please withdraw.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I withdraw.

An HON MEMBER: Misleading us. [Interjections.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: And apologise. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr Deputy Speaker, but the court found that Bathabile Dlamini failed in her duties to do so. She is failing the 17 million people in South Africa. She broke her oath of office and her friend the Speaker in the National Assembly, they broke Parliament, but the people of South Africa will not calm down. [Interjections.]

They will not break the spirit of South Africa fighting for fairness, freedom and opportunity. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order Minister, just one second. Hon member Ms Makeleni.

Ms P MAKELENI: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Can you order hon Meyer not to point fingers at me.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Ms Makeleni, I will control that if I can. Hon

Minister, do not point fingers at other members please.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr Deputy Speaker, they will not break the spirit or our spirit to fight for the poor and the vulnerable. They will not break the spirit of the Mamas in the gallery today. For many South Africans the payments of social grants by the State provides the only hope of realising the constitutional values... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: ...for many South Africans, the payments of social grants by the State provides the only hope of realising the constitutional values of dignity, freedom, and equality. There are approximately 17 million beneficiaries dependent on the monthly payments from Sassa. The Constitutional Court held that the outcome of the case is a matter of national importance and public interest and we want to thank the members in the gallery because this is a national crisis. This is so because procurement implicates socio-economic rights and the public has an interest in being conducted... [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: There is nothing you can do about that.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: ...the procurement must be conducted in a fair equitable transparent and competitive and cost effective manner. The Court stated that the public interest in fairness is a vital aspect of our economic transformation. The Court also ruled that closed backroom tender arrangements were condemned by the Court. [Interjections.]

†Mnr D JOSEPH: Ja!

[Mr D JOSEPH: Yes!]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Hon member Ms Dlamini, stop stealing the grants from the poor! [Interjections.] The Constitutional Court reaffirmed the broad requirements for a valid tender. The adjudication body should be presented with comparative figures. There were no comparative figures. The tender should speak for itself. Its real objectives may not be tucked away. In this case it was tucked away. Competitors should be treated equally. There was no equal treatment for competitive bidders.

During the hearing of the matter in February already in 2014 Sassa indicated to the Court its intention to assume the duty to pay the grants themselves in 2014. This was reflected in the Court order which obliged Sassa to within 14 days of the decision not to award a new tender, to inform the Court when it will be ready to commence the payments for social grants. The Constitutional Court in its final ruling sanctioned Sassa for disregarding the principles enshrined in Section 195 Chapter 10 of the Constitution. It pronounced Sassa's irregular conduct as the sole cause for the declaration of invalidity.

In 2015, a follow-up report by Sassa conveyed to the Constitutional Court that it intends to taking up the distribution function at the end of March 2017. They first said they would be ready in 2014. Then they said they would be ready at the end of this month and it is not going to happen. The Court disregarded or rather discharged its supervisory function on 25 November setting out Sassa's ability to assume payment of

the grants. It is against this backdrop that recent developments are most concerning.

Sassa in a further report to the Constitutional Court in March this year conveyed that the recent determination indicated that Sassa would not be able to pay the grants at the end of 2017.

The Court in a new direction dated 8 March - that was yesterday - to our friends in the gallery, enquired from Sassa the identity of the person responsible for determining Sassa's inability to pay the grants; the date when the determination was made and the exact date when Sassa became aware that timeframes could not be kept, but most importantly Mr Deputy Speaker, Sassa must provide the reasons to the Court and we are fighting, now fighting in Court for the poor.

The Court inquired about the new arrangements with CPS. We now know that a competitive bidding process did not happen.

Mr D JOSEPH: Corruption.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: We also know that Sassa and Dlamini acted illegally but Dlamini or Bathabile Dlamini, stop stealing the grants from the poor. Minister Dlamini and Sassa are defying a Court order and again out of order, they are in defiance of breaking the rules, but Mr Deputy Speaker [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order Minister!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: ...the latest annual report confirmed that they have irregular expenditure of R1 billion. [Time expired.][Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order Minister, your time has expired unfortunately. [Interjections.] Order, please come to order before we see the next member. The hon Minister Mbombo. [Interjections.]

†UMPHATHISWA WEZEMPILO: Kumama uNkulumbuso ongekho apha, kumalungu abekileyo ePalamente, kwiindwendwe ezibekileyo ezikhoyo apha, kumaxhego namaxhegwazana akhoyo amenyiweyo apha namhlanje, amalungu amajelo eendaba ...

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[The MINISTER OF HEALTH: To Madam Premier, in absentia, to the honourable members of Parliament, to the distinguished guests here present, to the old men and women who have been invited here today, members of the media ...]

†Middag almal. [Good afternoon, everyone.]

†This debate comes after celebrating International Women's International Day yesterday where the theme was "A Day Without a Woman". As we know, in South Africa, the majority of the people who depend on social security are women, so it came at a good time. [Interjection.] This March is Human Rights Month and South Africa's theme... [Interjections.] ... is about "Unity in Action, Together Moving South

Africa Forward.” [Interjections.] The other theme is “Celebrating 20 Years of Changing Lives through Human Rights.”

Hon members, †Oogxa bam amalungu bathethile apha. Xa ndicinga ngala maxhego namaxhegwazana ahleli phezulu phaya kweli gumbi akhulisa abazukulwana ...
[Uphazamiseko.]

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[My colleagues, the members have spoken here. When I think about those old men and women who are up there in this chamber who are raising grandchildren ...
[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! You may continue once they have quieted down.
Please continue.

†UMPHATHISWA WEZEMPILO: Xa ufika umhla wokuqala kuEpreli, ingangeni le mali yesibonelelo, baza kuzondla ngantoni iintsapho zabo aba bantu? Siyazi ukuba abanye babo bayagula, baphethwe ziiswekile. Baza kuwasela njani khona amayeza kungekho kutya esiswini? Baza kubathumela njani abantwana esikolweni?

[Translation of isiXhosa paragraph follows.]

[The MINISTER OF HEALTH: When the first day of April arrives and they do not get their grant money, how are these people going to feed their families? We know that

some of them are sick, they have diabetes. How are they going to take their medication on empty stomachs, and how are they going to send the children to school?]

Ms P Z LEKKER: Prophets of doom!

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: So for me this debate is not a political debate. It is a debate that talks matters related to human rights. When we talk about “unity in action”, we can look and reflect in terms of what is happening in the three wings of the State: the Judiciary, through the Constitutional Court, Parliament that has asked the Executive to account and the Executive that does not account. †Silapha nje ngoku sixoxa [We are now discussing here] yet we are talking about “Unity in Action”.

In “Celebrating 20 Years of Changing Lives through the Human Rights”, and we are talking now about human rights, if you look in terms of Section 27(2) of the Constitution that says that everyone has the right to access social security and also social assistance where there is a need and we are talking about an issue where vulnerable groups’ rights will be violated.

I am reminded of a story in Samora 1, of †Utat’ omkhulu uNgqosini nomakhulu uMamMampehle. [Grandfather Ngqosini and grandmother Mampehle]. †They are people who in their old age rely on the old age grant. They have got two parents, the parents of children, that they have to look after, a mother and the father who are disabled. One is physically disabled and the other one is chronically ill. They have

two young children also dependent on the child grant. So we are talking about three generations of a household and if they do not receive their social grants on 1 April their household will be affected. [Interjections.]

So, ladies and gentlemen, as I indicated, this is a matter of human rights, this is a matter that deals with the Constitution. This is a matter that will attack the rights of the poor and will bring the South African poor to their knees, not to mention the South African economy as the people's buying power will be taken away from them.

Food insecurity has always been considered not only a rural problem but an urban problem. In the Western Cape we have come up with a strategic framework which seeks to address food insecurity in the province. However, our interventions will not be sufficient if the people that we are trying to assist do not have an income to balance the availability of food. The reality that we need to face is that vulnerable groups are at a greater risk of food insecurity and this has health implications and a lack of food is a matter of life and death.

Most of you are aware that normally when you get tablets it says: "take with meals or take after meals" and if you do not have an income to buy that food you can understand how it will impact on your health. [Interjections.]

Hon members, we also have to consider the elderly people like †Utat' omkhulu uNgqosini nomakhulu uMamMampehle. [grandfather Ngqosini and grandmother Mampehle]. †that I have mentioned. Some of them live in licensed NGOs where they use these social grants to pay for the roof over their heads and those monies also pay

the salaries of the caregivers. The jobs of the caregivers will also be at risk and that simply means unemployment will also increase.

With our facilities already congested due to the population increase and the burden of disease, if the social grants are not paid by 1 April we are going to face one of the biggest crises in this country. [Interjections.] This will result in emergency centres being inundated by patients who suffer from chronic illnesses who have not been able to take their medication. I do not even want to mention the issue of disabled people. As I indicated in the example I made previously, there are those parents of those children that are disabled.

When we talk about the people who will not be able to access these grants a result will also be the issue of transportation in terms of going to their nearest places. It is not only for themselves but also if their children do not get a social grant they will also be affected. So that is why we are saying that if anything happens to these, the issue of old age, the issue of disabilities, the issue of child grants, the issue of foster care, it will not only impact on social security but will also impact health on its own.

Hon members, let us also think of the orphans and vulnerable groups who are neglected by their parents and those whose parents have passed away, where the money that they receive is now taken by other people. What impression will be created if now for example they do not receive their social grant and then you keep quiet? [Interjections.]

The final point that I want to mention, that is close to my heart, is the plight of young

girls who will be exposed to the phenomenon of the “blesser and the blessees” which has taken over our society. As we all know transactional sex in our society has become a norm. This means that these young girls, who depend on social grants as recipients or as dependants, will have no power to say no to negotiate safe sex as they need money to take care of themselves.

In research that was done in South Africa, which is in the report of the National Strategic Plan for HIV Aids, it shows that economic incentives and girls who come from poor families, where there is no income, are more exposed. They are more vulnerable in terms of the increase in HIV and STI infections. [Interjections.]

In the Western Cape we initiated the Women of Worth project to empower young women and girls to value themselves and learn to be independent.

†'n AGBARE LID: Swak, swak, swak!

[An HON MEMBER: Poor, poor, poor!]

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: So Mr Deputy Speaker, with 1.5 million households...

[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: ...that might not receive their grants... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, just one second, there is somebody behind

you. Is it a point of order or a question?

Mr M MNQASELA: It is a point of order Mr Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am listening.

Mr M MNQASELA: I cannot even hear the Minister, yet I am next to her. The hon members are out of order. I am struggling, I am struggling. The noise... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! I agree the noise levels are unnecessarily high. Minister, you are almost finished. You have a couple of seconds. Please you may conclude.

†UMPHATHISWA WEZEMPILO: Ndiphinde ndigxininise kulento bendiyithetha intokokuba iteenage pregnancy, ihiv ...

[The MINISTER OF HEALTH: I again emphasise what I have said that teenage pregnancies and HIV ...]

† ...infections among young girls are a result of a lack of economic incentives. The girls are not able to negotiate safe sex according to the South African research. Most of these girls depend on social grants in order for them to be able to be economically viable so therefore if this is not happening now we will be contributing towards the issue of teenage pregnancies.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon Minister, your time has now unfortunately

expired.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you. [Time expired.] [Applause.]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Orde! Die agbare Gillion.

[The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The hon member Gillion.]

†Me M N GILLION: Agbare mnr Adjunkspeaker...

[Ms M N GILLION: Hon Mr Deputy Speaker...]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Orde!

[The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!]

†Me M N GILLION: Agbare Adjunkspeaker, vandag se debat beskryf vir ons 'n party wat die nasie mislei. [Tussenwerpsels.]

[Ms M N GILLION: Hon Deputy Speaker, today's debate describes to us a party that is misleading the nation. [Interjections.]]

†Mnr D JOSEPH: Nee man!

[Mr D JOSEPH: No man!]

†Me M N GILLION: Nêrens is daar gesê dat op 1 April daar nie *grants* uitbetaal sal word nie.

[Ms M N GILLION: Nowhere has it been said that that grants will not be paid on 1 April.]

†Mnr L H MAX: Dis moontlik.

[Mr L H MAX: It is possible.]

Ms M N GILLION: Now, Mr Deputy Speaker, this ANC cares for the vulnerable people [Interjections.] who depend on social assistance like grants, †soos uiteengesit deur die vorige spreker, agb Makeleni, waar *social grants* vandaan kom. [as set out by the previous speaker, hon Makeleni, where social grants come from.]

This ANC cares so much it had to dismantle the unequal apartheid system the bosses of the DA were so happy with and expanded grants to assist with those facing the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality.

Mr D JOSEPH: We do not steal the money.

Ms M N GILLION: The DA now engages in stupid finger-pointing and blaming. Poor people must be supported to get out of poverty. It is not just handouts, but addressing the inequalities of the past this country inherited by the oppression inflicted by the apartheid masters. If the DA in any shape or form cared about the poor it would not be grandstanding here or in the streets of Tshwane tomorrow.

Ms B A SCHÄFER: Really?

Ms M N GILLION: No! It does not care at all. If the DA cared, its members would now all be working really very hard in warehouses and stores to make up 17 million grocery hampers to distribute before 1 April to those poor people who they believe

will not get grants on 1 April.

I challenge this DA to put its money where its mouth is and to do just that. Go make up those hampers and start to distribute them. But this DA does not want social grants. It wants people to first work in their gardens, houses or businesses for free before they may get a plate of food. It is actually only a modern day *dop* system that the DA wants.

Hon Minister Meyer, through you Mr Deputy Speaker, if you cared so much for the poor people why did your DA and the national leader of the DA and the EFF vote against the budget for social development in the National Assembly? [Interjections.] The DA is disingenuous.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.] Order!

Ms M N GILLION: It loud-hails in public places. [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon member Gillion, your own members are letting you down in the corner.

Ms M N GILLION: Thank you. It loud-hails in halls and public places in order to scare poor people like what they are doing today, bussing in poor old vulnerable people who you told will not be paid grants on 1 April. [Interjections.] And it is again proven here in the way you handled this matter. Smiling for cameras in the streets during a publicity stunt march tomorrow does not solve anything. This Government,

under the ANC, undertook to make sure that all beneficiaries will be paid on time as has happened as many times since 1994. [Applause.]

Further, Mr Deputy Speaker, this DA is disingenuous because it makes cheap politics out of the lives of vulnerable people to score political points. If it is serious about addressing this matter it would wait for the Constitutional Court to finish its consideration and processes. By bringing this matter here today the DA gets into the merits and the substance of something that is still before the Court. That is in breach of the *sub judice* rule of this Legislature. It pre-empts a matter the Courts must still give more guidance on. The DA is also acting in bad faith and as it is party to some subsequent actions brought before the Court.

Mr K E MAGAXA: Tell them, tell them!

Ms M N GILLION: Thus the DA is trying to influence the outcomes of those matters that must still serve before and be decided by the Courts. That is pre-empting those applications... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Ms M N GILLION: ... and the DA wants to be the player, referee and the Rules Committee at the same time. [Interjections.] This is highly irregular. The ANC, on the contrary, believes in the legal system and will abide with it. The ANC is not afraid of our independent courts. The ANC has already taken action by calling the National Minister of Social Development and Finance to account in the National Assembly of

our Parliament before the Standing Committee and also before Scopa. If the DA was at any stage interested in corrective action in this province - please listen, DA.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

Ms M N GILLION: Have you ever considered to call the Premier ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order, just one second. Hon Minister Grant?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Mr Deputy Speaker... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: May I please ask the hon member to speak up. I cannot hear her. [Interjections.]

Ms M N GILLION: Do not waste my time. Do not waste my time. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Ms M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker, I just hope my time is not affected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon member, I will protect you. [Interjections.]

Order! Please come to order. I will protect you member, against any frivolous or light-

hearted points of order. You may continue.

Ms M N GILLION: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, if this DA was at any stage interested in corrective action in this province, has it ever considered to call the Premier to account for the mismanagement in her Department, including inappropriate DA cadre deployment or any MEC for matters like the four unsafe schools, the education scandal, with amongst others the unplaced learners or the Filcon debate? Any problems that are encountered must be fixed in a legal matter. If there is anything illegal or untoward the law must run its course. The ANC will not condone such people or protect them. The ANC will work with Government to get to the bottom of any problem to solve it. We are not scared to deal with problems. It is a work in progress.

In the longer term it will be better if Sassa delivered grants directly to beneficiaries instead of contracting service providers that cost. The Western Cape ANC will support such a change in the system. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Which one? Which ANC?

Ms M N GILLION: The ANC must also see to it that Government goes back to the Constitutional Court to work with it and a way forward to ensure seamless service delivery. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Ms M N GILLION: The service must not be interrupted. We need a safer system of grant payments. The biometrics and smart cards aid this mission. Therefore negotiations need to take place with service providers that have the capacity to deliver or to iron out any hiccups and prevent illegal deductions from the money of beneficiaries. Not many companies or service providers can do this work. Perhaps that is why competitors are now fighting in courts to get the contract?

The ANC says room must be given for Sassa and its service providers to continue to do their job. The ANC will do just that. We will not be sidelined by tyrants that want the ship to run onto the rocks. We know the DA says that what is bad for South Africa is good for the DA, and therefore it indulges in alarmist propaganda. Shame on the DA for dragging and putting South Africa down. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Ms M N GILLION: The ANC will deal with the realities. We will continue to improve the lives of those that the DA and its predecessors forget about. The ANC cares about the poor and marginalised. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Ms M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker, let me give reassurance to the people in the gallery, grants will be paid on 1 April. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Ms M N GILLION: And let me ask the DA to stop playing cheap politics with the poor and the vulnerable people of South Africa. I thank you. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.] Order! Please come to order before we go, before I see the next speaker. Hon member Mr Dugmore, hon member Skwatsha!

HON MEMBERS: Skwatsha? [Laughter.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: His incarnation. I am sorry... [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr Deputy Speaker, did you see a ghost? [Laughter.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes. My apologies. I see the hon Minister Fritz.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, hon Minister Fritz. I want us to come down to order please, before... Hon member Mr Tyatyam, please come to order now before Minister Fritz starts.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: For the first time I understand the saying that is many times quoted in this House by the ANC and the saying and the

quotation goes as follows. The quotation says: “Tell no lies, claim no easy victories”, by Khalil Gibran, and today I saw the illustration of those lies that they should not be telling; the defence that they know is absolutely naked. Poor hon member Makeleni who is an honourable person, you could see she could not read that speech because she was telling lies and she was claiming easy victories and she might - I just want to take that point. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: The second point [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Minister, order. If I heard you correctly you said hon member Makeleni was telling lies. That is unparliamentary.

Ms M N GILLION: Yes, yes.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: I was quoting but I will withdraw. [Interjections.] I was saying, the member was saying “to tell no easy lies or tell no lies.” [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Hon member Ms Gillion.

Ms M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to agree with you. Can you ask the MEC to be honest here, he did say: “hon member Makeleni did tell lies...”

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, that is... [Interjections.] Order!

Ms M N GILLION: Can he withdraw and apologise.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: My understanding was that he did withdraw that. Yes, thank you. You may continue.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: And I was doing a quotation.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, just one second. Honourable?

Mr C M DUGMORE: On a point of order, we heard the MEC withdraw but I understood that he was also asked to apologise.

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Nobody asked him to apologise.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, he wasn't asked, no.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Is he not supposed to apologise?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, I did not ask for an apology, simply to withdraw. Continue.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: I want to also say to the hon member Makeleni and I really would not respond to some of the other stuff. I mean, people

know what they are speaking is absolute untruths. [Interjections.] I also want to say to hon member Makeleni, from this side of the House, and we want to say to all these people in the gallery that what happened during the apartheid days was of course wrong, who is saying it was right? She is correct. It was wrong! [Interjections.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: And you were part of it.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: You know, no-one can talk it right. Some of them, some of these honourable members were born yesterday, when we were long time in the trenches. [Interjections.] They were born yesterday. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: What they know about apartheid, I wonder what they know about it, because they were in some other parties. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: And so, Mr Deputy Speaker, I do not even think I will honour anything, but I think today's debate is very important and today's debate is a debate that is about Sassa, but if one looks at it very carefully and I want you to listen now; if one looks at it very carefully the debate is not about Sassa. The debate is about who is going to be the next President in South Africa, because that is the debate. [Interjections.] The debate is a debate - it is a debate between the

democratic forces and the axis of evil in the ANC... [Inaudible.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Order! Can I, before I see the hon member Gillion. The noise level and the contributions from the floor... [Interjections.] Order! Hon member Ms Gillion, just take your seat. Hon member Ms Gopie, I am busy speaking. I am saying the noise levels on the floor from both sides are too high. We cannot speak together or at the same time - all of us. When one speaker is on the floor, that speaker has the right and the privilege to speak. Hon member Ms Gillion, you wanted to address me?

Ms M N GILLION: Yes, Mr Deputy Speaker, I also need to know where is the relevance in this speaker, what is the relevance?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Ms Gillion, that is my duty to adjudicate on. I will listen very carefully to what the Minister says. Minister, you may continue.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: And I want to really [Inaudible.] They must listen because there is a context. [Interjections.]

And the debate on Sassa is also a debate between the democratic forces within the ANC and the axis of evil within the ANC. That is the debate today. The democratic forces are those who believe in the rule of law of accountability and transparency and I want to take people like Pravin Gordhan, people like some of the other hon Ministers and on the other hand the forces of evil - the forces of evil with a nebulous web of cronyism, tenderpreneurship, crooks, cadre, †skelms soos ons mense daar bo sal sê.

[thieves as our people up there would say.] And on the other hand the crisis within Sassa today is based, it is premised on those foundational issues and that is why they could not defend it when they spoke. They could not defend it. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order Minister, order. Hon member Mr Tyatyam, a question?

Mr S G TYATYAM: Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker, I hope you do continue to see the MEC pointing at us, because he is pointing at us and I am not sure what he is going to do, because he is very angry. [Laughter.] Please control him! He is very hurt, I know, but control him.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Your point is made. Member, please continue.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr Deputy Speaker, it is that latter group, the group who does not believe in the Constitution, not in the rule of law, it is that group that is holding 17 million people, poor people who are sitting in the gallery, they are holding them to ransom politically today and you know, then they have the ability to come and talk nonsense in this House and sit here and try and explain something about *sub judice*, not even understanding what it means.

The people in this group are the President himself, I want to say, because he defends the Minister, his Minister on Social Development, Bathabile Dlamini, and all those who believe in a so-called radical economic transformation. It is radical economic transformation... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: ...to steal every bit in this state of ours, including the pensions.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, just one second. Hon member Ms Makeleni.

Ms P MAKELENI: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. †Bendiculubuza uMinister ukuba angawuthatha na umbuzo? [I want to ask if the Minister can take a question?]
[Interjection.] I know.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, are you prepared to take a question?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Not at this point. I am busy giving them a lesson. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Not at this stage. Please continue.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: And it is in every bit of the State-owned enterprises, where we see including Sassa and the people's pension who is sitting here, it is in every bit where the people are trying to see how their so-called radical economic transformation can be effected through stealing the money from the people and put again in their pockets. That is why you get rich politicians in the ANC. I cannot see where one gets any rich person as a politician but that is the way they go. Why else do you think, Minister Dlamini completely disregarded the Constitutional

Court as Minister Meyer very, very eloquently put it out with regard to CPS.

An HON MEMBER: Hi shame!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: That ruling was already pronounced on in 2014 and no substantive effort was made to do any other thing because there is another †kinkel in die kabel hier in die storie. [twist in the tail here in the story.]

Mr Deputy Speaker, despite the utterances of President Zuma and Minister Dlamini that there is no crisis and as I heard ANC people say there is no crisis, the highest court in this country, the Constitutional Court, said on Tuesday: “we do not believe that...” They said that and the Constitutional Court has made a ruling around a number of critical questions. I do not think they have read it, a number of critical questions that Minister Dlamini and Sassa must come and answer on Tuesday, but there is no crisis according to the hon members. You know why there is no crisis, because they do not worry about the people up in the gallery.

Mr P UYS: They will answer!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: They are getting their salaries on the 15th. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: They are not worried about the

people in the gallery. [Interjections.] They are not worried about the poor...
[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, order Minister. If it is again the point of order about the finger, is that the point of order, hon member Lekker?

Ms P Z LEKKER: It is a point of order, Chair.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am listening.

Ms P Z LEKKER: Chair, I realise that MEC Fritz is really traumatised. I would like to offer him a glass of water. [Laughter.] [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member, please take your seat. [Interjections.] Order!
[Interjections.] Order, just one second before we continue. [Interjections.] Order!
Members, this is a very important debate. It is a serious matter and we are degenerating... [Interjections.] Order!

We are degenerating now into sort of a frivolous atmosphere here and I want to allow Minister Fritz to continue in the vein that he wants to continue and he deserves to be heard in more silence. Please continue.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Very interesting points, and I think what is indicative of the ANC's behaviour in the House today, is that they do not care about these people upstairs. They do not worry about the poor. It is not of any

consequence. [Interjections.] As I said, when you think of the minimum wage debate that they agreed to, R3 500, but they give pensioners R1 600, that is a typical example of what I am talking about. [Interjections.] They are not worried, because they are getting lots of money from their bloody [Inaudible.] [Interjections.]

These questions, Mr Deputy Speaker, go to the heart of the ability of Sassa to deliver on its mandate. It also goes to the heart of - and this is a very important point – the very, extremely cosy and I want to suggest the corrupt relationship within CPS and the Department. Wasn't it laughable how the Minister studiously avoided questions about the BEE credentials of CPS? Now remember who CPS is, you know where they come from. Very interesting.

Second point, indeed the CPS saga so clearly exposes the utter hypocrisy of this ANC Government. You can be part of the so-called white monopoly capital as long as you line the pockets of the ANC in the name of radical economic transformation.

So they do not worry about CPS, an American company, as long as they get some feedback. The SASSA crisis is just a symptom of an ANC Government at war with itself and they know it. [Interjection.] They know they are at war with themselves.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. Hon member Makaleni, you have had your opportunity.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr Deputy Speaker, very interesting what member Botha said. They thought she was making a joke. In 2019 they are not

going to be back here, they are going to be in the unemployment queue. [Interjections.] [Applause.] They are going to stand, because the people are not going to vote for them, and they do not listen, because they support white monopoly capital, and the people will see through it when it comes up.

Why is without fail that almost all State entities in South Africa, all run by the ANC cadres, have been imploded under the weight of the power struggle, like what is happening now in SASSA.

However, the case of SASSA is a different case. It is different because it impacts directly on people. It is not the SABC who is imploding, it is not PRASA. It is poor people, 70 million of them. I must do a simple sum for you. The simple sum is: CPS gets R16.80 per person, per beneficiary from the Government. R16.80 per beneficiary – multiplied by 17 million people. You can *mos* imagine!

†Ons praat nie hier van kleingeld nie, dames en here, ons praat hier van groot geld wat gesteel word deur die regering, en hulle sit hier en hulle lag daaroor. Hulle lag oor julle pensioene. Ja, dis waarvan julle praat.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[We are not talking here of small change, ladies and gentlemen, we are talking of big money that is stolen by the government, and they sit here and laugh about it. They laugh about your pensions. Yes, that is what you are talking about.]

†They laugh and they talk about it, and you know what is said about this SASSA issue? It is not white, it is not black, it is everyone. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Whether you are white, black, so-called coloured, whatever. You are affected by the SASSA crisis.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. Hon Minister, just one second. Point of order? Question?

Mr S G TYATYAM: No, a point of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am listening.

Mr S G TYATYAM: The Minister is inciting the gallery and I think it is important that, Mr Deputy Speaker, you must at least tell him not to do that. The gallery is there to observe what is happening. What he is doing now is inciting people and what might happen outside, he must take responsibility ...[Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr S G TYATYAM: ... for it.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Order. You may take your seat. Order. The

Minister speaks through the Chair, and the Minister may continue. Hon Mnqasela, is that a question or a point of order?

Mr M MNQASELA: It is a point of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am listening.

Mr M MNQASELA: The hon member Dijana is telling another member to “shut up”. It is something that I would like you to rule on, Mr Deputy Speaker. It is very much out of order, talking to another member in that way.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. Order. The Chair is not going to interfere in that. It is not part of the debate, but when a member refers to another member in that way it is unparliamentary. Hon Minister, you may continue.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Let me quickly talk because they are wasting my time, Mr Deputy Speaker. The other point why we think that Minister Dlamini is really ... at this point any reasonable person would resign if you have a crisis. I want to suggest there is a crisis, although they are denying it. Zane Dangor, the DG of the Department of Social Development, resigned. Now do you know who Zane Dangor is?

Zane Dangor is from one of the most connected families, a family member, close family in the ANC. He worked for more than 10 years for the Minister as an advisor. That man resigned. There is a crisis, and they are in denial. That is the sad thing.

These people who are supposed to care for the poor, they are in denial. That is the point.

Ms P Z LEKKER: We are honourable members.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: There is also a point that I really want to say about a person like Dangor: he seriously believes in the rule of law. When your conscience ... †dit pla jou man. As dit jou pla en jy kan nie aangaan nie ... [it bothers you man. If it bothers you and you cannot go on] you resign.

So, I am saying the crisis is far deeper than what we think. I want to ask what are going to be the consequences of this crisis? I think eventually as we move, as the DA Government in this province, and in 2019 as the DA Government in the whole country, good people within the ANC - and I want to point out a good person like Cameron Dugmore, and some other good people on that side - will join us and make a government for all the people, that everyone can govern with cleanness, govern with accountability, believing in the rule of law and believing that no money of the state should be stolen.

I want to say to Gillion, we are not a †*kospakkie* [*food parcel*.]government, you and your Dlamini are the *kospakkies*. †Julle wil duisende kospakkies gaan maak. Ons is nie ...[Tussenwerpsels.] [You want to go and produce thousands of food parcels. We are not ...[Interjections.]]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: ...†'n kospakkie *government* nie. a food parcel government.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

†Die MINISTER VAN MAATSKAPLIKE ONTWIKKELING: Ons is nie *experts* in kospakkies nie.

[The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: We are not experts in *kospakkies*.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: The ANC's ATM.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, one second. Order. Hon member Gillion?

Ms M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker, I am not the Minister's Gillion. I am just an hon member as he is. I would prefer him to refer to me as hon Gillion.

Ms P Z LEKKER: Yes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister Fritz, you have heard the point of order ... [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: I really apologise. I did not realise I said that. Hon Gillion. [Interjections.] No, they know I really honour the people. I am

not as disrespectful as they are.

What I really want to say to the hon Gillion is that to suggest that we must go hand out *kospakkies* - that is their business, man. They are the kind of *kospakkie* government and you know what? For the first time the Constitutional Court, when they appear on Tuesday, will see how good the ANC was when it comes elections, local elections and by-elections, when they have to hand out not only *kospakkies* but T-shirts and stuff to people because that is the ATM. Sassa has for a long time been the ATM of the ANC. We have raised this on many occasions. Nothing happened.

Finally, I want to say the first of April is also April Fool's Day. I hope we do not have an April fool on the 1st of April and that people's pensions will be paid. I thank you. [Time expired.][Applause.].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister, your time has expired. Order. That concludes the debate on this subject.

[Debate concluded.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: We now proceed to Interpellations. The first one is the hon Nkondlo to Minister Grant. Hon Minister Grant?

INTERPELLATIONS

George-Link (Pty) Ltd

1. Ms N D Nkondlo asked the Minister of Transport and Public Works:

Whether the Minister has reported the failure of George-Link Pty (Ltd), the operating company of the Go George Integrated Bus Rapid Transport Project, to submit its audited annual financial statements for the 2015/16 financial year to the Department of Transport and Public Works and to the Auditor-General?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. My response is: given the obvious lack of understanding of the situation as reflected in member Nkondlo's question, it would be easy for me to respond in the negative, and not to report to the House on the matter. Instead, in the interest of transparency, let me first clarify the situation, and then provide the information.

There is no national level of Department of Transport and Public Works to report to, and the office of the Auditor-General would have to be approached by the municipality and not by me. The Go George system is complicated and it is the outcome of a number of complex agreements. This is to be expected of the only integrated public transport network outside of a metropolitan area anywhere in South Africa.

These agreements include *inter alia* : a Government agreement entered into between the George Municipality and the Western Cape Government, a financial agreement involving the same two parties and an operator agreement, for the provision of

municipal public transport services.

Parties to this operator agreement are once again the municipality and the Western Cape Government, as well as George-Link Pty (Ltd), a private company established for this purpose. These agreements allocate different but complimentary responsibilities to each party. Various sources of funding are involved: national, provincial and municipal, as well as company generated income through the bus operations.

The provincial contribution is played in the form of a grant to the municipality which pays George-Link for proven services rendered. For that reason, the operator agreement makes clear provision in Section 32, Accounting and Auditing Matters, for the company to submit its audited financial statements to the municipality as the contracting authority and not to the province.

I think that it is important that I quote the relevant provision in full, so as to correct the misunderstanding reflected in the question posed by the hon member. The Section reads as follows, clause 32(4):

“The operator must within six months of the end of the operator’s financial year, submit to the contracting authority its audited financial statements, together with an auditor’s report and the board of directors’ response to the auditor’s report.”

As the company had not done so for the financial year ended February 2016, it was on a simple reading of the Section, in breach of its obligations in this regard. This matter

was brought to my attention, and the attention of my Department. We took a number of steps to assist the contracting authority to ensure that the company corrects the situation and meets its obligations.

I met twice with the board of directors, my Department has formally written to the company and taken legal advice concerning the response.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, thank you.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: I have ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your first time slot has expired.

Mr C M DUGMORE: No response.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you want to finish one sentence?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Yes. Be that as it may, Mr Deputy Speaker, as a result of these legally provided reactions on the part of my office, my Department and the municipality, the required audited financial statements have now been submitted to the contracting authority.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Before I see the hon member Nkondlo, if I am not mistaken it is the hon member's maiden contribution in the House. If so, welcome and good luck. [Applause.]

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you, hon Minister, for your response which is no response.

Firstly, hon Minister, it begs for me to understand what exactly is the response of the Department on this matter. First and foremost, I am not sure whether you are implying, by virtue of your Department not being a contracting party, that it does not have any obligation to ensure accountability of the funds that are allocated through the municipality to Go George. I would like you to just respond to that.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, the hon Minister – no, it is not your turn I think. It is the hon member Hinana next. Hon member Hinana?

Mr N E HINANA: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Based on the responses that the Minister has just given, George Municipality is the accounting municipality that is responsible for demanding the financial statements from the Go George company, but despite that we need to understand that the environment in George is very complex, taking into the account the hostility around the industry.

Those taxi drivers that have been phased in to be part of Go George need to be protected and therefore there is very sensitive information [Inaudible.] carelessly. Making the information public, without taking into account the intimidation and threats they have received, will render the environment very dangerous and very futile to the exercise of making the environment conducive, so that safe transport of commuters is made possible.

The delay in submission of the George audited financial statements is due to the Department respecting the request of the taxi drivers to have their personal information protected. However, the content of the statement is available and the Department does know that the financial status of Go George is very secure and is very healthy. [Interjection.]

Through this authentic approach, we have to be able to ensure that Go George remains a partner of the Department of Public Works, and to create a partnership with the Go George Company that also makes it very conducive, that the industry progresses well, because we need to change the taxi industry in that area and that means having the understanding of the taxi drivers. Hence we are saying that the financial status of the company is very secure and healthy.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Again the hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. †Ingathi usengxakini bhuti wam, khawume ngeenyawo ngoba umbuzo wam ubumncinci. [It looks like you are in trouble my big brother, you had better stand up because my question was so small.]

†The complexity that you are mentioning, for me, does not respond to one thing that the DA many a time, even in public, throws this bogus trump card of clean and good governance, and recently now in the previous debate, it was once again shared by Minister Fritz.

Now what you are raising is a financial management responsibility, that annual financial statements are supposed to be submitted, and it is acknowledged that for two financial years, 2015/2016 and 2016/2017, that almost R279 million allocated to this particular entity was not accounted for, in as far as financial statements being submitted.

I am not sure, hon Minister and hon member Hinana, because what I have in front of me, as part of the Provincial Treasury Gazette of allocation to municipalities: on page 48, one of the responsibilities of the receiving officer, it states very clearly, is submitting a monthly financial report and submitting audited annual financial statements. It does not make any provision for complexities of taxi drivers and all of these things.

What is required here, as part of clean and good governance, is the submission of financial statements to account for monies of the state or taxpayers that has been utilised. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon member Hinana again.

Mr N E HINANA: Mr Deputy Speaker, there is a contract between the George Municipality and the Go George Company, and part of that agreement is to secure and protect sensitive information. It is in the contract.

Now, if there is a misunderstanding of the hostility towards those taxi drivers who wanted to come over to Go George, their lives have to be protected, and it is part of

the agreement. As part of that protection, the George Municipality as an accounting officer, has to make it very clear that everybody is compliant with the agreement.

If the hon member Nkondlo wants to get the audited report, she can request it, because we are saying that the information is available. She can request it from the Department, or she can even go further and request it from the George Municipality, but we are saying that the information has been submitted, it is available.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. My last comment on the matter. Thank you for the advice, hon member Hinana, to request those statements, but it does not take away that what was supposed to have happened, to submit those financial statements.

I think that is the questioning point, because I would think you would also agree that non-submission of financial statements constitutes financial misconduct, and also it is an abdication of responsibility in particular, by the accounting officers and accounting authority, which at this point, in my view, is the Minister, because at the end, this particular programme is being delivered through the Department of Transport and Public Works.

So in that context, it then means what we are being told of clean and good governance, in my view is a blatant lie, because when all is said and done, it is important for me to understand your statement, that are you then saying what becomes important is the agreement of confidentiality over the responsibility in the PFMA and MFMA of

financial management and financial accountability? Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. Minister Grant?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I really want to thank the hon member Nkondlo for bringing this matter to the House this afternoon for clarity because these short debates are really an opportunity to clear the air. [Interjection.]

Let me just say that the 2015/2016 financial statements have been provided, as I have said earlier. I also want to say that the financial statements for 2016/2017, which concluded in February, will only be due to the contracting authority, which is the George Municipality, by the 31st of August 2017. So they are not due yet. [Interjection.]

I have also consistently indicated that action would be taken, in terms of the provision of the operator agreement, as it provides various dispute resolution alternatives. Hence, that is why I have said I have personally met twice with the board of the VOC, the operating company, firstly on my own and secondly with the mayor of George. I made it quite plain to the operating company that in this Government we believe that sunlight is the best disinfectant and transparency must prevail.

I would also not be presenting a complete picture if I did not indicate that there are dynamics in the broader transport situation in George which can lead to violent confrontation if not handled with sensitivity. Hon members will be aware of the

earlier violence and damage to the buses in August two years ago, and of the consequent legal action taken against certain members of the taxi industry.

These legal steps have been upheld by the Transport Appeal Tribunal at a national level. Sadly, two respected figures have been killed in George, and the safety and security of all involved is therefore to be taken seriously. The seriousness must be reflected in all of our actions. The approach of this Government and my Ministry is to solve problems and challenges and not to try and score political points at every opportunity.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, your time expired. Just finish off.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: There was a problem caused by the failure to supply the financial statements in question, we intervened sensibly and responsibly, within the legal remedies provided, and as a result, the problem is solved. We can now continue to deliver an efficient bus system to the people of George. [Time expired.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister, your time has now really expired. We move to the second interpellation. Hon Wiley to Minister Plato. Minister Plato?

Late renewal of fire arm licences

2. Mr M G E Wiley asked the Minister of Community Safety:

Whether the Minister is aware that the failure to find a legal answer to the late renewal of firearms has made thousands of persons in the Western Cape unable to make use of their firearms and has made them potential criminals?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you very much. Yes, I am aware and I am very concerned about the legal implications thereof as part of my oversight mandate over policing in the province. I have requested the police, specifically the Provincial Commissioner, to provide a response and input as to what is being done to address this serious matter.

Section 3 of the Act prohibits the possession of a firearm, unless such person holds a licence, a permit or authorisation issued in terms of the Act for that firearm. The Act provides for licences to be issued for various purposes.

As an example, Section 13 provides for a licence to possess a firearm for self-defence. The period of validity of a licence or permit varies and is determined in Section 27. In the case of the example, namely self-defence, the period is for five years. Firearm licences are *inter alia* terminated upon the expiry of the relevant period contemplated in Section 28.

Section 24 provides for the renewal of firearm licences and that is that the holder of the licence must, at least 90 days before the date of expiry of the licence, apply to the Registrar for its renewal.

However, there is no provision in the Act for any licence holder who fails to renew his

or her firearm licence within the period referred to in Section 24. There appears to be an administrative error in the Act for not providing for the condonation of the failure to renew the licence within the prescribed time period, and/or to provide for a sanction for the late application for renewal, such as in other legislation. When a motor vehicle licence has not been renewed in time the owner may pay the renewal fee, plus a penalty for the late renewal.

Many of these late applicants for renewal of firearm licences are willing to pay a fine, but the Act does not provide for it.

Finally, Mr Deputy Speaker, the irony is that due to this administrative error, honest and law-abiding citizens are now unable to make use of their own firearm for self-defence and/or other purposes, and are made potential criminals. I have received some complaints and evidence of persons that are falling into this category. Thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon member Wiley?

Mr M G E WILEY: Thank you, hon Minister, for that response. It paints the context of this crisis. The Firearms Control Act, Act 60 of 2000, had a long and difficult path before it became law.

There were nationwide seminars. I took part in a number of them, heavily lobbied by Gun Free South Africa, who was determined to see as many guns as possible taken away from ordinary citizens. SAPS were equally susceptible to political pressure at

the time for more sinister purposes.

Although there are many good aspects to this law, there are also some serious flaws, and one of these has now become a legal nightmare. Not just for the many thousands of generally law-abiding citizens, but also for the authorities.

As with so many bad laws, the unintended consequences only manifest themselves over time. The primary shortcoming of this law is that the state, most notably SAPS, who are simply not capacitated to handle the enormous volume of administration of millions of weapons, as well as the new requirements to issue licences and certificates of competence.

At least three court cases are in the process, sponsored by organisations like the SA Gun Owners Association, to get clarity on a range of issues. The current dilemma revolves around the said Section 24 - the process to renew firearm licences. These have a five year currency, as the Minister has already said.

So in 2005 already the authorities were alerted to a major flaw in the legislation, when any late application had to be rejected, because the law was silent on how to deal with this. Yet the renewal, like any motor licence renewal, is a simple administrative process. There is no requirement for competency retesting and the like, just a form to be filled in.

Unlike a motor car licence, this is a five year period, as the Minister has said, for an item which most people seldom see, let alone use. It sits in a safe, often forgotten,

sometimes it has been inherited or is a collectable, and hopefully they do not have to use it in violence to protect themselves.

Unlike a car licence which one sees daily on one's windscreen, a firearm licence is a faded credit card sized ID. Some people were lucky to get reminded by a SMS from their local SAPS designated officer, but they were often late in coming or not at all, as many people are likely to change their cell phone numbers over the five year period.

In many cases, these DFOs, Designated Firearm Officers, were part of the problem as they have other duties over and above this process, and many applications submitted in time were only forwarded to Pretoria past the deadline, and therefore became part of the default process. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, the hon member Wenger.

Ms M M WENGER: What is concerning about this process, Mr Deputy Speaker, is that police officers, which we know are already thin on the ground, are now required to police what should essentially be an administrative matter. It is not in the interest of our nation, nor our province, a province in which 85% of our police stations are understaffed, to have our officers hunting down citizens with expired licences.

With pressing needs and high crime rates, the deployment of police personnel should surely be better placed. Police should be concentrating on gang violence and investigating violent crime and not diverted away.

A process should be put in place to regularise this, within reason, so that citizens who are law-abiding can have the option to do so and remain law-abiding.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon member Lekker.

Ms P Z LEKKER: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. A criminal is someone who breaks the law. All citizens must be encouraged to apply for their licences first before they purchase firearms and run the risk of being classified as criminals.

On the other hand, if a person possesses a firearm without a licence, and has applied for it, he or she must keep the firearm, with application copies, in a locked safe. This will prevent the person risking the possibility of making use of the firearm.

The Firearm Control Regulations of 2004 regulates that in deciding whether an applicant qualifies for accreditation under the Act, the Registrar must take into account any relevant factors that reflects on the applicant. Amongst others, an applicant must be trustworthy and have integrity.

Amongst others, an applicant must be trustworthy and have integrity.

Therefore it is the responsibility of an individual application to uphold the law at all material times. The law-abiding citizens must not be tempted to fall into a trap, unwittingly landing on the wrong side of the law. If a firearm licence is the same size as the driver's licence, why would a responsible citizen forget to go and renew a firearm licence? Not unless we are encouraging crime to escalate, and that

perpetrators of crime must use the very same dangerous weapons that we are supposed to use to protect ourselves as law-abiding citizens.

Police visibility is one such deterrent to push criminals away from hurting members of the community, and therefore we must remain law abiding citizens, trustworthy and with integrity at all times. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. The hon member Wiley.

Mr M G E WILEY: Thank you very much. The hon member is quite correct, yes. Driver's licences are compulsory to carry with you, not firearm licences if you do not have your firearm with you. That is the difference. You have a driver's licence constantly with you. I just want to read, for the benefit of the hon member, at a briefing before the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on police in 2014:

“The SAPS acknowledged a number of difficulties with the system. These included a shortage of staff, a shortage of storage space for the large volume of paperwork that could not be filed or archived properly, and difficulty in processing applications with the 90 day timeframe, and a large backlog of licence applications.”

And that is the point. The system only works if the State capacitates itself in order to be able to handle the system.

There are currently a 123 000 gun owners, whose applications have been rejected on

the basis of this late submission, and of the police's own admission in the Parliamentary report, is that they have been derelict and they have allowed many of these people to become in breach because of their incapacity, and that is only the ones that have applied.

In the Western Cape alone, 36 000 are in breach as of last year, 37 000. The reason for this high number in the Western Cape is that the SAPS management, resorting in the Flash Unit, correctly realised that the late renewals were in breach of the law, unlike most other provinces which ignored this detail and proceeded with renewals, and therein creating another point of legal dispute for the future. Despite many demands and an undertaking for an amendment to the Act, the amendment was stalled in 2015 for some reason, and has not taken place.

Now the pawpaw has struck the fan. Last month a Goodwood magistrate fined a person R10 000 for failing to have a renewed licence, even though that person claims that they are trying to get it renewed. The magistrate says that she will send the man to prison if he does not pay. Shortly thereafter, the head of Flash, Major General Bothma, issued a statement saying that this precedent setting sentence was effectively giving SAPS a green light to pursue all persons in breach of the law.

He did offer an escape route. Here is the catch - hand in your weapon legally (but now administratively delinquent) in to the police and you will avoid prosecution. In other words, disarm.

Surely this is a clear effort to disarm the populace, and this is as a result of a lack of

action by both SAPS management, the Police Secretariat and the Minister of Police. Their inaction in addressing this crisis years ago is going to have a huge disruptive effect on the lives of many people. It is going to redirect scarce resources from desperately needed operational tasks, to administer a task that will generally put law-abiding citizens at risk of getting punitive fines or prison sentences.

We are being seen as soft targets just like the perlemoen poachers. They go after the people with the licences and they leave the poachers in the water.

More so, if SAPS have struggled to keep control of the existing workload at DPO level, including space in safes, how are they going to cope now? And I conclude, the report again, that went to Parliament:

“The SAPS have reported there was a shortage of personnel to conduct compliance. It was also revealed that there was a lack of personnel, material resources and a lack of training at the police station level.”

And that was for the approved process. Now we are going to go into a default process, where hundreds of thousands of people are going to be processed judicially.

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

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. The backlog is massive and that has a detrimental effect on legal firearm owners. In 2015 already, research by the Department of Community Safety revealed serious concerns

with the implementation of the Firearms Control Act, most notably the lack of a credible central firearms registry, and efficient, dedicated resources in the form of designated firearm officers and support.

However, clarity needs to be provided by the police, especially to legal and responsible gun owners, to whom licences were issued in terms of the FCA, to possess a firearm, but who failed to renew the licence within the prescribed period, as they are now in a position that the police refuse to renew the licence, because there is no provision in the Act to renew such a licence if the application to renew was made out of time.

This issue must be addressed. In conclusion, Mr Deputy Speaker, these people are not criminals but risk being illegally in possession of a firearm and there are thousands and thousands of them out there. Thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. That concludes Interpellation number 2. We move on to the third one, which is hon member Nkondlo to Minister Winde. I see Minister Winde.

Localisation and local content promotion

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

(a) Whether his Department supports localisation and local content promotion as a public procurement approach to build local economies and encourage new and black entrants and (b) how is this approach implemented by his Department?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you very much, Mr Deputy Speaker and thanks to the hon member for the question.

In line with the Provincial Strategic Objective One, which works to create an enabling environment so that businesses in the Western Cape can become more competitive, we are addressing a mandatory basis that makes economies work. Specifically to enhance local content, we have a number of outreach projects.

To ensure that SMMEs are equipped to do business with the State, we work with the Western Cape businesses throughout the year, and during our Provincial Wide Supply Development Workshops. These workshops form part of a larger drive to register local suppliers on the data base. Currently there are 24 298 suppliers in total registered on the Western Cape supply data base, of which 6 008 are active, and do business with the Western Cape Government.

We also embarked on an outreach programme to assist Western Cape suppliers to register on the central database, to access national opportunities. Currently a total of 12 955 Western Cape suppliers have been successfully registered on the CSD.

We also support companies to ensure that they obtain the local content verification certificate, issued by the South African Bureau of Standards. This certificate is necessary if a business wants to tender for local content. The SABS is the sole agency, appointed by the Department of Trade and Industry, to perform such a function. Local firms face pressure in the face of cheaper imports, and we partner with businesses to boost their competitiveness. Through our support to various sector bodies we facilitate programmes to upskill and afford market access to local companies.

Through funding to Wesgro, our promotion agency, local businesses are also offered market access development, and exposure to specifically international markets.

Unfortunately the hard work of our entrepreneurs and officials is being hampered by red tape. In 2014, the Department of Economic Development and Tourism launched two projects to provide assistance to companies during local content production, and offer support to obtaining these local content verification certificates. DEDAT budgeted R3 million to assist SMMEs in developing their capacity to participate in the local content production. In addition, R1 million was allocated to assist successful bidders participating in local content bids, to obtain local content verification certificates. These projects were not executed, because the SABS has yet to come up with a clear guideline for the cost of the local content verification certificate.

This uncertainty persists as it is having a very real impact on small business, and I would like to call on the SABS to complete this process soonest. The Enterprise Development Unit received communication from a client just the other day, that they

were awarded a local bid of R1 million and just to get that quotation for that SABS certificate, R400 000 was quoted by the SABS.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister, your time has expired.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: So it is a barrier – I mean that is unbelievable. [Time expired.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Nkondlo?

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you, hon Minister. Can I then find out from the Minister, from what you have just indicated, if there would be any practical cases which the Minister, maybe even through the Portfolio Committee, you can provide of the entrepreneurs that you were referring to, that are already participating in your programme and have already gone into successful initiatives?

I would like to know if the Minister can share that, and especially if those are in any of the projects: Khulisa, three economic sectors, that are in the strategy. For me, it is also important to understand how is the Department - and I am using especially an environment like the Saldanha IDZ, where already the type of business activities there like your rig repairs and other, are much more complex - assisting local entrepreneurs to ready themselves for the kind of opportunities that would be required, which could be of benefit to the local businesses?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Schäfer?

Ms B A SCHÄFER: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. The most competitive nations are those that have the highest level of entrepreneurial activity, and globally it has been demonstrated that SMMEs play a critical role in absorbing labour, penetrating new markets and growing the economy in creative and innovative ways. In South Africa it is estimated that SMMEs contribute between 52% and 57% of the country's GDP. Provincially, small businesses employ around 500 000 people.

Our biggest focus in the Western Cape is to ensure that economic growth takes place, so that jobs can be created, and we, however, realise that for this to happen an environment must be created where local business, whether small, medium or large, will find it easier to access the opportunities required for local content.

An excellent example of ensuring that local businesses are involved in the growth of our province is the R1.3 billion investment in Atlantis from the Czech Republic company, Pegas Nonwovens, who will source all raw building materials locally for the construction of their fabrics manufacturing plant, which will be built over the next 30 months.

The Western Cape also has a procurement policy, an open bid system that speaks directly to local business promotion, and those objectives which I took out of that document legislation states very clearly:

“To increase participation of historically disadvantaged and provincial procurement opportunities, to increase participation by SMMEs, to promote joint ventures and partnerships, encourage linkages between small and large enterprises, and promote skills transfer and training of the historically disadvantaged.”

But Mr Deputy Speaker, I think most times National Government forgets that the business world in fact is key to the growth of our economy, and not Government as some would like to think.

I do not believe that the current national legislation eases the burden of red tape for business to grow, and our aim is to continue to create an enabling environment for all business to grow in this province.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. The hon member Nkondlo again.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. One of the things which for me is of interest in the debate of localisation is what has been observed, especially when you talk about local content procurement, that in the main sometimes it has a tendency to benefit your most advanced and matured companies. I am raising this, once again going back to the example of the Saldanha IDZ and the opportunities in that particular area, that you would find that given the fact that localisation also means local, being the proximity right up to the Western Cape Province, and at times it then becomes biased to companies that are not in Cape Town for example, which might have the capability and the capacity to deliver some of the goods and services that may be

required under the name of being local companies, because they are from the Western Cape.

So my interest, hon Minister, is the extent to which the Department, with the municipality, is putting mechanisms in place to ensure that there are bigger opportunities that do get to people that are local to the site within that particular area, be it Saldanha and the nearby areas.

So that is one thing, and I am asking what kind of mechanisms, if there are, is the Department putting in place? My last question and comment in this regard is how do you also curb one of the things that you will find with big companies, especially when they come into communities which have got a low base of SMME development, where at most you will find that those business in the main are only given opportunities like toilet paper, cleaning, but not upgraded, to actually be at the advanced services or technical services that would be procured, and which is where money is? Thanks.
[Time expired.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. Your time has expired. I see hon member Schäfer again.

Ms B A SCHÄFER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to ask through you to the Minister: we know that it is quite difficult to compete with countries such as China when it comes to trade and pricing, and so, Minister, how do we make sure that we can make our local firms more competitive? What financial mechanisms are in place for our local companies to be able to tender for this local content?

And secondly, National Treasury has designated solar PV to be locally procured. In the current round of the Renewable Energy Programme, solar's current requirements are 45%, while wind is currently at 40%. We also know that local content is procured in the development of the Saldanha Industrial Development Zone.

So through the Deputy Speaker, can the Minister give us some more of those examples, that speak specifically to this requirement in the renewable energy, as well as the oil and gas sector.

And then finally, again, and maybe the Minister can comment on this, the importance of a global value chain cannot be underestimated, as international businesses, such as Tesla, set up offices in Cape Town. It has triggered, in my opinion, local businesses to produce equally effective battery packs and what global businesses do is basically upskill and in a way encourage local businesses to be more competitive.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Ms B A SCHÄFER: So while we protect and promote local business, let us not underestimate the value of global business in the local market. [Time expired.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member, your time has expired. Again the hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I think for me, whilst the value of big companies is important, it is also in the interest of building our own economy in

South Africa that we have to ensure that we strike a balance, because in the absence of that we then continue to perpetuate the type of economic structure that we have inherited.

So I would think looking at global companies to come with the potential to actually trigger some of the industries in South Africa, some of them need to be ramped up. I think it is important that we start exposing our own local businesses, but also, for me, it would be important to understand what the Department is actually doing in trying to put up some mechanisms of nurturing locally originated goods and services, that will at the end of the day also compete in the global markets. [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister Winde.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Thank you very much. There is probably about 15 questions in those couple of minutes. So I am going to try and summarise one or two of them, because I agree absolutely with both speakers in this debate, on what we need to be doing. That is exactly what it is, it is about creating opportunity for our companies.

I think first of all, the Supplier Open Day was started when I was the MEC of Finance ... [Interjection.]

Mr Q R DYANTYI: She does not agree [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND

TOURISM: ... and we brought in those companies. I mentioned the 8 000 that are doing business with us. In actual fact, I am actually interested in the businesses that were not getting the tenders, and if you went to any of those open days, it was, “how do we empower those companies to become competitive enough to actually get the chance?”

And that is what they were about. SARS was there, the banks were there, enabling those companies. So I absolutely agree and I invite you to maybe come along to one of those open days, and come and see and speak and interact with those businesses.

The next one was about Khulisa and that is exactly what we are doing. So how do we look at the Halal market and how do we get our own businesses able to supply into that market locally and internationally, grow their businesses, be competitive and claim that space in the economy?

The IDZ, it is interesting. There were 34 companies that have signed NDAs. We have already signed the lease with the first one, there are two more coming this month, so that is three factories starting to be built right now, before the end of this financial year. The landing of those three are the target for this year. I hope we can double that in this year, by the end of 2017. The interesting thing of those companies is that they were initially mostly international, and you see how they are starting to change from the non-disclosure signing, to what actually gets landed, and you will find generally they started to pick up local partners and bring local partners, to understand the economy of the region, and that is really exciting for me.

But I think our big problem is we say we want local content, and especially if you look at the green economy, whether it be wind energy or solar energy; so Eskom puts up the tenders, these companies get to build these big wind farms but at the end of the day the local content does not really land, because we have just seen a wind turbine, a wind tower manufacturer in Kouga that have called for liquidation.

Now that is really, really sad when you see so many of these farms going up, but the local content does not actually land, and we need a lot of work to be done in that space with economic development at a national level, DTI and our businesses here, on how we make sure that we land that local content. [Time expired.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. That brings us to the end of Interpellations. We move on to Questions for Oral Reply, the first question standing over. Hon Mackenzie to Minister Plato. I see Minister Plato.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY

Question standing over from Thursday, 2 March 2017, as agreed to by the House:

Mitchells Plain: neighbourhood watches

1. Mr R D Mackenzie asked the Minister of Community Safety:

- (1) Whether the Minister's Department has a record of the neighbourhood watches operating in Mitchells Plain; if not, why not; if so, what are the

relevant details;

- (2) whether neighbourhood watches in Mitchells Plain are receiving support from the Department, if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you very much and also to the member who asked the question.

Yes, the Department of Community Safety do have a record of all the neighbourhood watches operating in the broader Mitchells Plain area, and question 2: Yes, as from the 1st of October 2016, when Section 6 of the Western Cape Community Safety Act of 2013 came into effect, all neighbourhood watches who wish to benefit from the Department are expected to apply for accreditation, but it is important to note that prior to the Act coming into effect, the Department of Community Safety provided training and other support to neighbourhood watches in the following areas within Mitchells Plain:

- Westgate
- Woodlands
- Westridge
- Lentegour
- Highlands Village
- Beacon Valley
- Eastridge
- Portlands

- Morgenster
- Tafelsig
- Rocklands

and there might be one or two other areas not even mentioned here. Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Mackenzie?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, hon Minister, for the answer. In terms of the support that the Minister indicates that you provide the neighbourhood watches, what sort of support are you providing the neighbourhood watches in Mitchells Plain? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister Plato?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: As I indicated earlier, training. We also provide them with the necessary means to fulfil their work: radios, bibs, torches, even boots, and other support they might feel deemed asking us to provide. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Mackenzie, your second opportunity.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Is the Minister of the view that some of these individuals that are working with the neighbourhood watches

should be receiving a stipend?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can I just say, before the Minister responds, that is again a question asking a view, but the Minister is entitled to answer if he wants to. I will leave the ball to him.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I would love to pay much more attention to this question, because this is a question we get asked at each and every public gathering by neighbourhood watch members across the Western Cape Province. Each and every one demands a stipend from the Department, and we are currently not in the position to provide any neighbourhood watch member with a stipend.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon member Mackenzie?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker, and thank you, hon Minister. Given that you provide the neighbourhood watches with support and walkie talkies and jackets and so forth, are they effective in bringing down crime or combatting crimes in those areas?

†Mnr Q R DYANTYI: Jy is goed, Mackenzie, jy kom reg.

[Mr Q R DYANTYI: You are good, Mackenzie, you are improving.]

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Neighbourhood watches are playing a very, very important role as the ears and eyes of the police services. They operate

under the wing of SAPS in the communities, report what they observe, criminal wise, to the police, and it is an invaluable role. That is why we provide the necessary support to neighbourhood watches, to fulfil a much more effective and better function in the respective communities.

Mr Q R DYANTYI: That is good oversight questions.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. We move on to the new questions. My information is that the first two questions will stand over by arrangement. Is that correct? Then we move on to Question number 3, the hon Dugmore to Minister Madikizela.

New questions:

[Questions 1 and 2 standing over.]

Community of Wilderness Heights: provision of housing

3. Mr C M Dugmore asked the Minister of Human Settlements:

Whether the Minister can provide reasons why his promises to the community of Wilderness Heights in 2016 concerning the provision of housing have not been kept; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Thank you very much, Mr Deputy Speaker. Thank you very much, hon member Dugmore, for the question.

My Department has not reneged on the promises made in 2016. The appointed consultants are currently busy with the planning phase of the project. However, there are a few challenges in terms of the project's alignment with the Provincial Spatial Development Framework, and the Municipal Spatial Development Framework, as the settlements fall outside the parameters defined in these documents.

My Department is engaging with the municipality and the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, in an attempt to resolve the matter, which needs to be presented at the Tribunal, in terms of the Special Planning and Land Use Management Act, or SPLUMA.

Notwithstanding the outstanding ruling on the matter by the Tribunal, the professional team proceeded with preliminary work on the following activities, and the following activities have been completed:

- Topographical surveys
- Conceptual layout

and the following activities are also planned over and above what has been done:

- A meeting with the community and other stakeholders, to present the progress and the draft conceptual layout:

- Tribunal hearing to motivate for site specific circumstances in terms of Section 22 of SPLUMA
- A detailed design and assessment to commence after the Tribunal hearing

My Department is committed to the project and Wilderness Heights as you might have heard, hon member, was recently approved by the National Department of Human Settlements, as one of our eight catalytic projects in the province. I thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Is there a follow up? Hon member Dugmore?

Mr C M DUGMORE: Thank you. I would like to ask the MEC whether he regards consultation with the community that he met on the 29th of January 2016, as important in the formulation of such planning phase that he has referred to.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Thank you very much for the follow up. Yes, very important. If you remember, hon member, what we are doing currently is what we communicated already. In fact, what has been done now in terms of the conceptual design and topographical design, is what was communicated already to the community.

Now we cannot go back and say the same thing that we said before. I think what we are waiting for now is for the outcome of the Tribunal, because as I just said now,

because the area falls outside the urban edge in terms of the Spatial Development Framework, if we can get that go ahead from the Tribunal, we can then go and report to the community in terms of the progress that we are making, but there is a very serious commitment from our side to get the project going, and that is why we are engaging with the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore?

Mr C M DUGMORE: Just a follow up. When you were there, MEC, on the 29th of January, you promised that officials of the Municipality and your Department would follow up over the next month to meet with the community. It is now March 2017, almost 13 months later, not a single official from your Department and not a single official from the George Municipality has visited that community. I would like to, therefore, as a follow-up question, ask whether you think that is acceptable or not?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Well, as I just said now - I do take the point that it has been a very long time since we communicated with the community. I think from my side, and to the hon member that has asked the question, I was under the impression that by now we would have moved further from where we were at the time when we were engaging with the community. As I just said, what has happened already is what was communicated to the community.

Now for us to have another engagement we must be able to give a progress report

rather than engaging the community for the sake of engaging and saying the very same thing that was said to them. I do take the point but it is the process that has taken longer than we anticipated. So we are hoping that this matter will be resolved, especially the issue – and that has now been taken to Tribunal so that we can be given the go ahead there, so that we can go back and report to the community.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore?

Mr C M DUGMORE: May I ask, Mr Deputy Speaker, when will the MEC ensure that officials from his Department, as well as the George Municipality, visit the community of Wilderness Heights?

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: I receive a lot of correspondence, particularly from the ratepayers, because if you will recall, hon member Dugmore, we did request particularly that ratepayers be our partners and we committed to engage them on a regular basis.

I have set up a meeting, in fact the last mail that I received from a representative of the ratepayers was a week ago and I did commit to see the ratepayers before the end of the month and I will keep you informed as to the date, so that we give them the progress report in terms of where we are. But as I said, until we get the response – because this is very critical for us because it hinges on the progress of this project. That is why we are pushing, engaging with the Department so that they can give us a go ahead on that, because as you know the issues of the urban edge and SPLUMA requirements are very critical issues for us to continue.

Mr C M DUGMORE: A last follow-up question, Mr Deputy Speaker, arising from the reply, I am not talking about the ratepayers. I am talking about the community in Wilderness Heights who for 20 years have been without services. You are now responding to the ratepayers that you will meet them before the end of the month. Will you also meet with the community themselves who need houses, before the end of the month?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you very much. I think the hon member is quite correct, he is talking about 20 years and I think we must not now come here and grandstand.

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: If you are as concerned as you say you are about that community you would have dealt with that matter way before the time that you are talking about. So I think ... [Interjections.] No, no, no, can I respond, because the last follow-up is now grandstanding from the member.

Mr C M DUGMORE: 13 months ago.

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Now, I did mention that we are busy with the planning process and I think I have given sufficient explanation as to where

we are with regard to the planning process. So we must not come here and act as if we are more concerned about the community when we did not do these things when we had an opportunity. So this is grandstanding.

I did respond to the question that was put here and I did say that ratepayers are one of the stakeholders that we are dealing with, including the community, of course, but I just said now that we want to report a progress to the community. It is not going to help us to convene a meeting to say the very same thing that we said is going to happen, because the thing that we are committed to do in terms of the design is already happening. Now we need to give a progress report after we get this approval from the Tribunal in terms of the Spatial Development Framework processes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. We move on to the next question, Question 4. Hon member Gillion to hon Minister Mbombo. Minister Mbombo?

Substitute hospital for Manenberg

4. Ms M N Gillion asked the Minister of Health:

When will the substitute hospital for Manenberg and the surrounding area be built to replace the G F Jooste facility that was closed down by a unilateral decision?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you for the question, hon member. The business case for the new Klipfontein Regional Hospital has been approved in principle by the

National Department of Health. We submitted it in August 2015 and the last response to a follow up on the approval was 23rd January.

Parallel to that there is a planning process that involves other governments and also inter-governmental, with the City, in terms of integrated development for the public investment in Manenberg with the regional hospital included around that.

So what we are waiting for is the final approval from the Department of Health and also the planning process and then, by at least the second quarter, we will have been able to submit the briefing document for the funding application to NDOH, but firstly we need the complete approval of the business case.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is there a follow-up? Hon member Gillion.

Ms M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker. Thank you, hon Minister, for the response. I want to refer this House back. When the Jooste Hospital was closed down this sign was put up:

“Coming soon, a brand new G F Jooste Hospital will be rebuilt on the premises from 2013 to 2016. Health services and emergency care will continue from nearby health facilities.”

Now, hon MEC, you took over this portfolio from your predecessor, the MEC Theuns Botha, who made this promise to the community.

†Mnr Q R DYANTYI: Arme Theuns!

[Mr QR DYANTYI: Poor Theuns!]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Gillion ... [Interjection.]

Ms M N GILLION: And I want to ask ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Get to your point, get to the question.

Ms M N GILLION: This is the point.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Get to the question.

Ms M N GILLION: This is my question, my question is, MEC ... [Interjection.]

†‘n AGB LID: Dit was ‘n lekker draai daardie, ‘n lekker draai. [Gelag.]

[An HON MEMBER: That was a nice digression that, a nice digression. [Laughter.]]

Ms M N GILLION: There is one Speaker in this House. Arising from your reply, MEC, can you please explain to this House why, according to your predecessor, nothing happened until 2016 from when the promise was made that the new Jooste Hospital would be opened?

Mr Q R DYANTYI: It was the promise of the DA Province. [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you, hon member. The promise was replacing the same district hospital ...

Mr Q R DYANTYI: Do not change now.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: ... with another district hospital and then after research was conducted by the CSIR and also by us, Health, in terms of the burden of disease, it was found that for a district hospital, which is level 1, it could not accommodate the large population and the disease profile of that area. Previously the old Jooste Hospital did not cater for women and children, with paediatrics as a specialty, because it was level 1.

Hence now, in terms of the research conducted independently, firstly, that hospital needed to be demolished and started afresh if we were going to build any new hospital, even a Level 1 hospital. But because the research indicated that we needed to expand for speciality services, a Level 2 hospital, it also meant the site was too small - I think from three hectares to what is required now, about seven hectares and it meant we would not be able to use the same site, and then we let the site go to the Department of Public Works. So that is the reason that it was never built – the promise was replacing the same Level 1 with another Level 1 but after research it meant we would have to go up to specialist Level 2.

Mr Q R DYANTYI: So you did the planning after the announcement. [Inaudible.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Gillion?

Ms M N GILLION: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I would like to ask the MEC today ...

†Mnr Q R DYANTYI: Ek kan dit nie verstaan nie.

[Mr Q R DYANTYI: I cannot understand that.]

Ms M N GILLION: ... to reveal to this House where the new replacement hospital for G F Jooste is being built and by when will it be finished? Also referring now to your reply around the demolishing of the building, what is the plan for this building?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you. As I indicated, once we do not use a building it goes to Public Works as the custodian of the building. So whatever they want to do with the building, it depends on them ... [Interjection.]

For us, what we are looking at is a Level 2, 550-bed hospital, which is double what we had and it needs a bigger space than where it is. So in parallel, it is a site that is being sought after, which is through the inter-governmental processes as part of the Manenberg upgrade and then the other part being the National Department of Health providing the final approval of the business case which we submitted in August 2015. As I indicated, it has been approved provisionally and the last communication was the 23rd January 2017.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon member Gillion?

Ms M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker, the MEC did not answer my question. I asked if the MEC can reveal where this hospital will be built?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: When it comes to building hospitals it is difficult to answer that because we are in Phase 1 of the service delivery model. Phase 1 can take almost 18 months, depending on the funding application from the DOH, depending on the site availability ... [Interjection.]

Mr Q R DYANTYI: You must first research.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: The stages of constructing a hospital takes about nine phases. For example, Phase 3, which is the concept, can take 18 months. If you look at our 2016/2017 APP you can see what we have put in in terms of the infrastructure for Jooste. We have put in an allocation for 2018/2019 now for the other aspects of it whilst we are waiting for that approval.

So it is not like when it is about a school, when we know it could be out within a year. With a hospital it can take three to five years depending on all these processes that I have just mentioned.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Gillion?

Ms M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker, my question is still not answered but I can understand because last year the MEC said they are not going to reveal where this hospital will be built. I think the MEC, on behalf of this Government... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Gillion, this is not the time for statements. It is now ... [Interjection.]

Ms M N GILLION: No, it is not a statement.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am waiting for the question.

Ms M N GILLION: I am getting there. On behalf of this Government, can the MEC apologise to the people of the Western Cape for not upholding the promise made by her predecessor and, again, reveal the space of where the hospital will be built? Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: What happened to the million jobs in [Inaudible.] that Zuma promised?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH: The promise from my predecessor was to replace the Level 1 regional hospital and the promise that I have made is that the Level 1 will be

Level 2 but the site where it was, the Level 1, cannot be accommodated. And therefore the promise I am still making in this House is that this Government will build Jooste, but in terms of the time frames it depends on several issues: the National Department, in terms of the approval of the business case finally; the other part of the processes in terms of the rebuilding the whole of Manenberg, which is inclusive of other departments and also of the City. That is the promise I am making. [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question 5, hon member Beerwinkel to Minister Bredell.
Minister Bredell?

Wind-farm application: Swellendam municipal area

5. Ms C F Beerwinkel asked the Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:

(a) When were the Mayor's delegations to approve projects given to the Swellendam municipal manager, (b) when did the municipal manager approve the wind-farm application in the Swellendam municipal area, (c) on which erf has the project been approved, and (d) who is the owner?

†Die MINISTER VAN PLAASLIKE REGERING, OMGEWINGSAKE EN ONTWIKKELINGSBEPLANNING: Dankie, agbare Speaker, dankie aan die agbare lid vir die vraag.

5(a) Delegasies rakende die goedkeuring van projekte was aan die Munisipale Bestuurder, soos per item A1045, gedurende die raadsvergadering op 29 September 2011 plaasgevind het, toegestaan. Verdere delegasies aangaande die grondgebruikbeplanning is aan die Munisipale Bestuurders, soos per item A2488, gedurende die vergadering wat op 12 Desember 2013 plaasgevind het, gegee.

(b) gedeelte: Die aansoek rakende die vergunningsgebruik vir die windplaas is op 13 Desember 2013 goedgekeur. Dit was op 10 Februarie 2012 ingedien.

Die (c) gedeelte: Die aansoek hou verband met die res van die plaas Vrede nr. 352, gedeelte 7 van Vrede nr. 352 en gedeelte 4 van die plaas Uitvlug nr. 362.

Die (d) gedeelte van die vraag: Die eienaar is Vryheid Boerdery Trust en Swartdam Trust. Dankie, mnr Adjunkspeaker.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you to the member for the question.

5(a) Delegations with regard to the approval of projects were handed over to the Municipal Manager, as per item A1045, during the Council meeting that took place on 29 September 2011. Further delegations regarding the land use planning were handed

over to the Municipal Managers, as per item A2488 during the meeting that took place on 12 December 2013.

(b) part: The application regarding the use concession for the wind farm was approved on 13 December 2013. It was submitted on 10 February 2012.

The (c) part: The application relates to the remainder of the farm Vrede nr. 352, portion 7 of Vrede nr. 352 and portion 4 of the farm Uitvlug nr. 362.

The (d) part of the question: The owner is Vryheid Boerdery Trust and Swartdam Trust. Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker.]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Agb lid Beerwinkel, is daar 'n opvolgvraag?

[The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Beerwinkel, is there a follow up question?]

†Me C F BEERWINKEL: Jammer, ek is net so bietjie dronk, Minister, omdat u nou Afrikaans gepraat het – dink u nie dit is snaaks dat die delegasie aan die Munisipale Bestuurder op die 12de van die 12de gegee is en op die 13de van die 12de word hierdie aansoek hanteer vir hierdie windplaas op 'n spesifieke plaas? Dit is my eerste vraag.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[Ms C F BEERWINKEL: I am sorry, I am just a little confused, Minister, because you now spoke Afrikaans – don't you think it strange that the delegation to the Municipal

Manager was handed on the 12th of the 12th and on the 13th of the 12th this application for this wind farm on a specific farm is being handled? That is my first question.]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Agb Minister?

[The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister?]

†Die MINISTER VAN PLAASLIKE REGERING, OMGEWINGSAKE EN ONTWIKKELINGSBEPLANNING: Agb Speaker, net vir duidelikheid, my opinie word gevra. Dit is moeilik. Dit is binne die wetgewende raamwerk, reg. Die vergunningsgebruik, net dat ons dit verstaan, die vergunningsgebruik was volgens Artikel 8 van LUPO, dit was op 23 November 2012 gegee aan munisipaliteite om die soneringskemas bietjie oop te maak vir hernubare energie. So al die munisipaliteite, dit het binne daardie raamwerk gebeur om hernubare energie goed te keur.

Ek het bietjie verder daarna gekyk, en ek wil nie op die lid se volgende vraag uitbrei nie – maar die EIA was goedgekeur deur die Nasionale Departement van Omgewingsake en dit was goedgekeur in November 2011. Dankie.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Mr Deputy Speaker, just for clarity, my opinion is asked for. It is difficult. It is within the legislative framework, right. The concession use, just so that we understand it, was in terms of Section 8 of LUPO, it was awarded to municipalities on 23 November 2012 to open up the zoning schemes somewhat to

renewable energy. So with all the municipalities, it happened within that framework to approve renewable energy.

I have looked at that further and I do not want to elaborate on the member's next question – but the EIA was approved by the National Department of Environmental Affairs and it was in fact approved in November 2011. Thank you.]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Agb Beerwinkel, as u nog 'n vraag wil vra?

[The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Beerwinkel, do you want to ask another question?]

Ms B A SCHÄFER: Happy birthday!

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: It is not a good day Beverley. Thank you but it is not a good day for me.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM: Happy birthday to you, happy birthday ... [Interjection.]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Orde. Ons kan na die tyd sing, Minister Winde.

[The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. We can sing afterwards, Minister Winde.]

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Mr Deputy Speaker, to the MEC, and I have a fear that you might rule this as a new question; the members of the Trust to whom that farm belongs, on which this wind farm is going to be erected, did that come out in the

response to your question or – I cannot ask you now because that would be a new question - but did it come out?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question can relate to the response of the Minister also, so if the Minister had referred to something like that in his response then your question is quite in order.

†Die MINISTER VAN PLAASLIKE REGERING, OMGEWINGSAKE EN ONTWIKKELINGSBEPLANNING: Agb Speaker, nee. Ek het die vraag geneem en die ondersoek gedoen op die vraag. Dit het nie uitgekom wie die lede van die Trust is nie. Solank die lede van die Trust nie deelneem aan besluitneming binne die Raad nie, as dit van jou raadslede is, kan dit ook nie buite die wet wees nie tensy hulle deelgeneem het aan die proses, en dit is weer 'n volgende een wat ons dan sal moet ondersoek.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Mr Deputy Speaker, no. I took the question and did the investigation on the question. It did not transpire who the members of the Trust are. As long as members of the Trust do not participate in decision making within the Council; if they are members of your Council, it also cannot be outside the law unless they have participated in the process, and that is then another one that we will have to investigate.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Beerwinkel?

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Mr Deputy Speaker, may I ask the MEC whether he would be prepared to find out who those members of the Trust are, who the owners of this farm are, where that wind farm is going to be erected? I will then follow up in other questions.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister Bredell?

†Die MINISTER VAN PLAASLIKE REGERING, OMGEWINGSAKE EN ONTWIKKELINGSBEPLANNING: Ek is doodseker ons kan uitvind wie die lede van die Trust is, agb Speaker. Ek het geen probleem om dit uit te vind nie.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: I am very sure that we can find out who the members of the Trust are, Mr Deputy Speaker. I have no problem to find that information.]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Dankie.

[The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.] †Hon member Beerwinkel, your last opportunity. You are done? Okay, then then we move on to the next question. The next question is Question 6, also Minister Bredell.

6. Ms C F Beerwinkel asked the Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:

(1) What is Swellendam's policy, if any, regarding councillors who may attend portfolio committee meetings, (2) where are the committee meetings normally held, and (3) (i) is there a conduct committee in place and (ii) who are the members of that committee?

†Die MINISTER VAN PLAASLIKE REGERING, OMGEWINGSAKE EN ONTWIKKELINGSBEPLANNING: Weereens, dankie aan die agb lid vir die vraag.

Die Swellendam Munisipaliteit het nie 'n beleid ten opsigte van die bywoning van raadslede by portefeuljevergaderings nie. Nie-lede van die portefeulje mag as waarnemers bywoon, maar mag nie aan die verrigtinge deelneem nie.

6.2 Die portefeuljekomiteevergaderings word in die raadsaal gehou.

6.3.1 Die Raad het geen gedragskomitee en formele dissiplinêre komitee van die Raad soos in terme van die Gedragskode vir Raadslede, Skedule 1, van die Wet op Munisipale Stelsels, Wet 32 van 2000, wat gedurende 2015 gestig en wat funksioneel is.

6.3.2 Die dissiplinêre komitee bestaan uit drie lede, raadslid M Pokwas van die DA, raadslid S du Rand van die DA en raadslid A Swart van die ANC. Dankie, Speaker.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Again, thank you to the member for the question.

The Swellendam Municipality does not have a policy with regard to the attendance of councillors at portfolio meetings. Non-members of the portfolio may be present as observers but may not participate in the proceedings.

6.2 The portfolio committee meetings are held in the Council Chamber.

6.3.1 The Council has no conduct committee or formal disciplinary committee of the Council as in terms of the Code of Conduct for Councillors, Schedule 1, of the Municipal Systems Act, Act 32 of 2000, that was established in 2015 and is still functional.

6.3.2 The disciplinary committee consists of three members, councillor M Pokwas of the DA, councillor S du Rand of the DA and councillor A Swart of the ANC. Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker.]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Agb lid Beerwinkel?

[The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Beerwinkel?]

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Mr Deputy Speaker, it is common knowledge that anyone may attend a portfolio committee meeting, whether you are a member or not. You may

not partake in voting on the committee, if such happens.

In this case, is the MEC aware that if councillors attend a portfolio committee of which they are not members, they are compelled to remove themselves and sit in the gallery, not in the area where the meeting is being held; and, if not, they are charged?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

†Die MINISTER VAN PLAASLIKE REGERING, OMGEWINGSAKE EN ONTWIKKELINGSBEPLANNING: Wel, ek is nie bewus daarvan nie, maar ek is seker dat ons dit ook in die Staande Komitee kan bespreek, dat ons eenvormige reëls het. Dit is praktyk buite in enige raad waar die komiteelede om 'n tafel sit en komiteesake bespreek, dat die ander lede nie deelneem nie, nie stem nie en dit is standaard praktyk. Ek weet nie van die "charge" deel waarna u verwys nie, waarvan hulle aangekla word nie.

As dit 'n oortreding van die Gedragskode is, moet ons gaan kyk na die Munisipaliteitsgedragskode, of dit daarin gestipuleer word. Maar dit is standaardpraktyk dat net die lede op die komitee die sake van die komitee bespreek en daarvoor mag stem.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Well, I am not aware of that, but I am sure that we

can also discuss it in the Standing Committee, that we have uniform rules. It is the practice outside in any council where the committee members are gathered around a table and discuss committee matters that the other members do not participate, do not vote, and that is standard practice. I am not aware of the “charge” part which you refer to, that they can be charged.

If it is a contravention of the Code of Conduct, we will have to go and look at the Municipal Code of Conduct, if it is stipulated in there. But it is standard practice that only the members on the committee discuss the matters of the committee and may vote on it.]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Dankie. Agb lid Beerwinkel?

[The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon member Beerwinkel?]

Ms C F BEERWINKEL: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Through you, to the MEC. Can I get a commitment from the MEC that he would investigate this practice at Swellendam Municipality where non-members are not allowed to sit in the venue where meetings are held, that they are compelled to sit in the gallery, otherwise they are charged?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister Bredell?

†Die MINISTER VAN PLAASLIKE REGERING, OMGEWINGSAKE EN ONTWIKKELINGSBEPLANNING: Ek sal navrae doen. Dankie, mnr Adjunkspeaker.

[The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND

DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: I will make enquiries. Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker.]

†Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Dankie. Kan ons voortbeweeg?

[The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can we move on?] †We are going to the next question, Question 7. Hon Tyatyam to Minister Bredell again.

City of Cape Town: new organisational structure

7. Mr S G Tyatyam asked the Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning:

Who approved the City of Cape Town's new organisational structure, namely the Organisational Development and Transformation Plan (ODTP) that is being implemented by Mayor Patricia de Lille?

†Die MINISTER VAN PLAASLIKE REGERING, OMGEWINGSAKE EN ONTWIKKELINGSBEPLANNING: Baie dankie aan die agb lid vir die vraag. Die Organisasoriese Ontwikkelings- en Transformasieplan ...

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraph follows.]

[The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Thank you to the member for the question. The *Organisasoriese Ontwikkelings- en Transformasieplan*, the Organisational

Development and Transformation Plan ... †was approved by the Council and implemented on the 26th August 2016.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Tyatyam?

Mr S G TYATYAM: Thanks, Mr Deputy Speaker. My first question would be: though the Council approved, were you consulted or did the Standing Committee appraise you on the process that was going to be unfolding in the City of Cape Town in terms of the new structure?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Ja. Mr Deputy Speaker, it is difficult to answer on behalf of the City of Cape Town. Obviously there was a process and if I recall correctly - but I did not check the facts because again the question was posed to me in a certain way and that is what I was asked to respond to - but if I recall correctly it was a two year process. They have got unions, they were included. It is the Council's prerogative to put an organogram on the table which they think will service the people of this province the best. We cannot interfere into democratically elected councils' processes. If they change the organogram within the framework of the law and then they voted it through in a Council meeting, then they have got the right to implement it.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is there a follow-up, hon member Tyatyam?

Mr S G TYATYAM: Yes, Mr Deputy Speaker. I just want to understand, what is the cost of the new structure that is being implemented? Is the money for the new structure taken from other services of the City, service delivery issues that are supposed to be serviced by this particular money, because when they were planning, in this financial year, the issue of the new structure was not there. So I just want to know when they were implementing it, this year, in January, where did the money come from, and how much? [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Mr Deputy Speaker, I really respect the oversight role because I think the oversight role is core to our democracy, but we need to realise that there are certain questions that the City must answer and the members have got members in that Council. If they lost the vote in the Council, they cannot then use other mechanisms to get answers. They see the statements, they see the financial reports within the Council.

Obviously when the Council enters into the redesign of the organogram, it is always a question: will it be cheaper than the previous one? I think this would have been part of the City of Cape Town's debate, that this is going to cost us less, but I cannot answer questions on behalf of the City of Cape Town.

I think we need to respect that we are interrelated, interdependent government spheres, but we need to respect their role within this and it is their mandate to change their organogram and I cannot speak on behalf of them.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Tyatyam, your third opportunity.

Mr S G TYATYAM: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I thought the Minister understood the work of co-operative governance amongst the spheres of government, but in any case my question would be ... [Interjection.]

Mr D JOSEPH: The Minister does understand.

Mr S G TYATYAM: In terms of the new structure, hon Minister, what is the profile of each area under this new mini-mayor, as opposed to the objectives that were set for the Unicity established in 2000? For instance, if you take Area 1, what is the profile? Does it assist the purpose that the Unicity was formed for?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Mr Deputy Speaker, again, it is not for this House to debate that. The members have got members in the City of Cape Town, they must ask the questions. They obviously lost the vote because they have only got 20% of the Council, now they want to use another platform to get the information. [Interjections.]

We have got 154 councillors they voted through, they think this is the way they are going to serve the community. If the member wants these answers, his members must

ask it in the Council. Thank you. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Order! Order! Hon member Wenger, do you want to ask a supplementary? That will be the last one, hon member Tyatyam, unfortunately. I am giving you the fourth one. Hon member Wenger?

Ms M M WENGER: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister whether the regulations of the Systems Act require municipalities to consider the optimal organisational structure of their councils?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING: Yes, you are correct.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. That then disposes of that question. Chief Whip, I am looking at Question number 8, Question number 9 and Question number 11, do they stand over?

Mr M WILEY: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Led by hon member Olivier, I believe that Question 8 will stand over, 9 will be converted to a written answer and 11 will stand over.

[Question 8 standing over and question 9 to be submitted for written reply.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Then we proceed, thank you. Question number 10, hon member Davids to Minister Madikizela.

Payment for own homes: poor people

10. Ms S W Davids asked the Minister of Human Settlements:

Whether his Department has conducted a survey to back up his assertion that poor people can pay for their own homes; if so, whether the report can be submitted?

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Thank you very much, Mr Deputy Speaker, and thank you to hon member Davids for the question. Just to reiterate the question:

Whether the Department has conducted a survey to back the assertion that poor people can pay for their own homes?

Let me answer this question by saying the following, before I read my response. The State, of course, has a certain responsibility to make sure that those people who have fallen through the cracks, those people who are poor, are provided for by the State. I think this speaks to the current criteria that we are using, hon member Davids, in terms of people who are getting houses for free, but to now respond to your question.

Yes, during 2015 my Department undertook a study of the demand for housing in the Western Cape, based on the 2011 census, known as the Human Settlement Demand Study in the Western Cape. The study provides information on the profiles of

households in the province, which includes housing needs and income variables. It also gives the understanding and the extent to which households can make a contribution to meeting their housing needs from this data. These reports are available on my Department's website.

By comparing a household's income to the property price, value estimates and selling prices, a picture of the household's affordability for existing house stock can emerge. So that is my response, thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Davids, a follow-up question?

Ms S W DAVIDS: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I still think the Minister did not answer my question because the Minister said that poor people can pay for their own houses. I want to know, did that survey or study that the Minister is speaking about, show 80% or 60% of people can pay in the Western Cape, just after we had the debate that the majority of grants are paid out in the Western Cape? So can the MEC say to me, to the House, yes, that study showed that 80% or 60% can pay for their own houses.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Thank you very much. We must first agree on what definition you use for poor. How do you define poor? Perhaps that is another debate that we must have. To again respond to your question, if you look at that survey which I just said now is available on my website, it tells you exactly the

different income categories and the type of contribution that people can make. But again, the fact that people are poor does not necessarily mean those people are unable or unable, because we must draw the distinction.

When we talk about contribution, hon member Davids, we are not only talking about financial contribution. We are talking about people contributing in the construction of their houses in various ways, through sweat equity, for example. In fact, within that study, again, there is a clear indication of a very strong saving culture in our communities where people who are not very rich are saving towards contributing to their own homes.

For example, just to illustrate my point on the saving culture that I am talking about, there are more than 811 000 stokvels in South Africa, mainly formed by the people that I am talking about, hon member Davids , through you, Mr Deputy Speaker. They contribute over R44 billion a year in South Africa.

Now the point that you are making - in fact this is a debate now nationally, these things are coming out very strongly in the White Paper that we are discussing – is to look at the current criteria, whether the people who are getting houses now for free in terms of the criteria, indeed are all people who should be getting houses for free. And I think, as I said earlier, we do have an obligation as Government to subsidise very poor people who cannot afford it. Some are even unable to contribute with their sweat equity or through sweat equity. Those are the people that we should be taking care of as the State, but if you look at the criteria currently, not everyone who is getting a house for free should be getting a house for free in the manner in which we are doing

it now, where we give the impression that everyone can just fold their arms and the State will provide a house for everyone. I think that is the point.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Davids?

Ms S W DAVIDS: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Hon Minister, are you aware that what you just said now about sweat incentives, incentives of giving money, that is an old programme of the National Government.

Just to give one example, if I may, Mr Deputy Speaker. If you go to Drakenstein you will have a housing section in Drakenstein, Dal Veda. That was built on the people's own sweat. If you go through Bakweni Project 2, that was built with people's own sweat. So my question to you ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just one second.

Ms S W DAVIDS: My question to you, MEC, is: how is it that poor people – you said in public, out there - can pay for their own houses, but what you said now is contradictory to what you said out there.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member, you have made your point.

Ms S W DAVIDS: One, my question to you, MEC, is: will you apologise to the public out there, especially to the poor communities that can really not give their sweat or money for a house?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, in response?

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Mr Deputy Speaker, I did respond to this question extensively.

Mr K E MAGAXA: And you are apologising?

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: There is no need for me to apologise. I will take this issue offline with the member and I commit to further explain what I just said, respectfully, but I am not going to apologise because I stand by what I said. I just said the criteria that we are using *vis-à-vis* – in fact, I even asked you to define, we must agree on the definition of poor. So I am not going to apologise. I think I have responded to this question extensively.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. We then move on to the next question. Order! Question number 12, hon Makeleni to Minister Fritz, Minister of Social Development.

[Question 11 standing over.]

Disability Desk

12. Ms P M Makeleni asked the Minister of Social Development:

(1) (a) What is the plan to make the disability desk effective, and (b) whether the Department has a plan to capacitate this desk;

(2) (a) what is the total budget allocation to the disability desk for the year 2016/17 and (b) what is the staff component for the Province?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I just want to start off by saying I think the question must, in fairness – and I am saying this with respect – must be rephrased because I think it says “disability desk effective,” I think you must say “more effective”.

Mr K E MAGAXA: Just answer the question.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: I just want to say – if people can just keep quiet for a second ...

Mr Q R DYANTYI: [Inaudible] answer the question.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: ... and shut up!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. Order. Hon Minister, order.

An HON MEMBER: Are you feeling good?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: The Department ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr K E MAGAXA: [Inaudible.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, that – order! [Interjections.] Please take your seat, hon member Gillion. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: [Inaudible.] outside. I will stab you also.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister ... [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: A gangster from [Inaudible.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister Fritz, that remark towards the member, to threaten the member, is unparliamentary.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: I will withdraw.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: The hon member must be careful not to find me outside. [Interjections.]

The Department embarked on a media disability campaign during the months of November and December 2016 to raise awareness specifically around issues of disability as well as the availability of the desk.

I think we are probably one of the first provinces to introduce it, but that also is not the issue, we are not in competition. I think one wants the best and the most accessibility for people - specifically people living with disabilities. This campaign will be repeated in the 2017/18 financial year. Public disability related calls will be dealt with via the Departmental toll-free number and Provincial Call Centre.

[Hon member Davids takes the Chair.]

The desk has achieved a lot already with improving access to all Government buildings. Madam Chair, the one interesting thing about the fact that we have just appointed a person who deals specifically with disability, that is stuff that we, as able-bodied people, take for granted. It really means a lot to another person who lives with a disability.

And I want to say, Jeremy Opperman has done a phenomenal job since he started working on the desk and he has really rattled the hon Minister of Public Works around accessibility to Government buildings. Starting at home, with us here in our buildings, before you go out to the other people.

In addition, the desk has worked with all departments to make communication easier and more user-friendly for disabled staff, especially the deaf and blind staff. You

know sometimes, just a personal thing, some people must go to a toilet on another floor because of the inaccessibility of the toilet. So you must go in your wheelchair and then to another floor.

To this point, the desk developed a centralised plan for procurement of assistance devices and it is currently talking with the Provincial Treasury with regard to the central procurement system for the assistance devices. The desk is not just insular in its approach, Madam Chair. It is currently engaged with municipalities and is working with all funded NGO organisations to address matters of access.

I want to say this man is really quite amazing – living himself with a disability – he travels to all the outlying municipalities and doing a really amazing job.

The second part of the question (b): in order to increase capacity, the desk has established a disability work group emanating from Provincial Strategic Goal 3. This work group consists of representatives from provincial departments and the City. So the Department of Transport is a key player in this regard, with the City and all the relevant units within the City.

The members of the work group assist the desk to deal with relevant matters pertaining to the mandate of the Department. The desk also has liaison with the disability NGO sector and shares capacity issues with the NGO sector; the plan is to strengthen this partnership with the NGOs.

At the moment, the second part, we have a total budget and that is just for salaries, of R894 000 and this includes the salaries of two staff and goods and services budget.

The (b) part; there are two staff members on the Provincial desk and 13 staff on disability and six regional disability co-ordinators assisting the desk, when required.

[The Deputy Speaker takes the Chair.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is there a follow-up question, hon member Makeleni?

Ms P MAKELENI: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Hon Minister, this question was asked in the context that last year many departments reported that they could not make or reach their target for disability and people living with disabilities. Therefore, this question was asked in terms of the capacity of that desk being able to sit in on all the interviews and ensure that disabled people are recognised and given opportunities. So, this question was coming from there and their response was: they are not able to do that. Hence we were asking, is there a plan to capacitate them to ensure that they are able to influence on that level?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Thank you, hon member, for that. It would be practically almost impossible to sit in on all interviews, but I think it is a very valid question you are asking. The question is to get the communication going constantly, also because we have a centralised corporate service system in the

Department of the Premier. So the communications officer there - he works very centrally with human resources.

But it is more than just jobs and it is more than just people appointing that quota. We are really doing very well in a number of departments and I think we are leading the gang, you know, specifically people living with disabilities right through the province. But I think we need to, all the time, be conscious to effect that what you are saying. Thanks very much for the question.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No further follow-up? Hon member Gillion?

Ms M N GILLION: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Hon Minister, I heard what you said about the NGO sector and you spoke about in-house plans. What are the plans for this disability desk for the broader public?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Yes, again a very interesting and important question because it is implicitly that; the reason why we want to work with NGOs – they are the public, by the way. It is civil society organisations who are the NGOs and it is through their activism and their advocacy that we reach the ordinary people. We need to have them, hon member Davids, need to get the stuff to these different sectors, not only in the formal way.

Let me just give one practical example of the important role that they play, specifically with regard to the sector. That whole project that we are doing in Saldanha, Emfuleni, to go find children locked up in shacks that are disabled, because people are ashamed of them. But I also want to say, I see a far bigger goodwill from parents saying: this is my kid, I am proud of this kid and I accept him, whether he is living with a disability or not. And I have seen this in Khayelitsha, Hanover Park, all those places. And so I am saying that advocacy towards the ordinary public that hon member Gillion is asking, is really starting to bear fruit. Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon member Gillion, another follow-up?

Ms M N GILLION: Thank you. The other question, MEC, is ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just allow member Davids to get some order there ... [Interjection.]

Mr M G E WILEY: Compose herself.

Ms M N GILLION: The question is on the disability desk and the interaction of the disability desk with the different departments. You have highlighted the interaction, especially with Public Works. Now, if a person with disabilities in the City of Cape Town is complaining about the transport accessibility, which is a problem, MEC, that people with disability have raised, it is a big concern; what are the plans of this disability desk to assist them?

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Thanks, Mr Deputy Speaker. Again I think that is a very valid question and that is the reason why the work group becomes so important. The work group deals specifically with the City directly and, in fact, they serve on that. And one of the issues we are addressing in a far more serious way is that with the City, because that is the competency, they run that whole transport system, Dial-A-Ride at the moment. And you know there is stuff that you really hope improves but the advocacy must never stop. It must continue and it is only through that, that you will get results. And thanks, I think those are important questions. You are right.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: We then move on to the following question, Question 13, hon Mackenzie to Minister Mbombo. I see Minister Mbombo.

Mitchells Plain and Lentegeur Hospitals: volunteers

13. Mr R D Mackenzie asked the Minister of Health:

Whether her Department has a policy on volunteers (nursing or retired nurses) working in hospitals such as Mitchells Plain or Lentegeur; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Thank you. A draft policy on volunteers has been prepared for review but is still to be approved. However, in the absence of an approved policy, health institutions do make use of retired nurses on a voluntary basis, provided that they are registered with the South African Nursing Council, which is the

registering, accreditation body for the nurses, and also they need to provide proof of registration every year. At some institutions they also make use of home-based carers who volunteer in the wards to make up their hours. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Mackenzie?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you, hon Minister, for the answer. Hon Minister, what sort of services are these nurses and home-based carers providing to the hospitals, particularly in Mitchells Plain and Lentegour? Thank you.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: With the nurses, it depends on what the person is qualified to do, but when you are a volunteer you are not allowed to do invasive procedures. When you are registered as a nurse you are able to do things like vital signs, which is the normal, taking of temperatures, checking the pulse, but they cannot do invasive things in terms of invading the body and all of that.

Home-based carers are completely different. For them it is more work that is normally done at a level of below a nursing assistant because they are not registered with any professional council.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon member Mackenzie, a second chance?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you. Hon Minister, I know you indicated that the policy was in draft form but will the policy make provisions for the nurses and home-based

carers to be paid a stipend or some sort of fee while they work during those periods at hospitals?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: That is why we call them volunteers, because if there is a post that needs to be filled, it needs to be advertised and then everybody needs to apply. So the reason that they are being accommodated is because they are volunteers and they cannot do any normal invasive procedures that a ward does. So when they are called volunteers it is because they are volunteers. In terms of whether there will be a stipend or not - for example HIV counsellors used to be given a stipend of some sort in terms of transport, but not necessarily as a payment.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. We then proceed to the last question, hon Mackenzie to Minister Plato. Minister Plato?

Walking Bus Project

14. Mr R D Mackenzie asked the Minister of Community Safety:

What does the Walking Bus Project operating in Mitchells Plain and the surrounding areas entail?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Mr Deputy Speaker, thank you. The Department of Community Safety has currently embarked on the rolling out of the Walking Bus Project as part of its safety improvement partnership initiative. With the participation of many schools, municipalities, South African Police Services, law

enforcement, Metro Police, CPFs and neighbourhood watches, who are notified and briefed by the Department, this initiative entails encouraging members of the broader communities, specifically parents, to voluntarily walk groups of children to school and back home from school in the afternoon and, at the same time, keeping an eye on the perimeters of the school. This is purely on a voluntary basis.

The Walking Bus provides peace of mind for parents and children, specifically those working and concerned about their children's safety. We encourage parents that are at home to do this as part of their responsibility to ensure safe passage for all the children in a specific area.

The Department of Community Safety provides the kits for the members of the Walking Bus, such as the bibs, the whistles, panic alarm buttons, also the training. Members are registered with the Department and the programme is further maintained with daily contact via various methods such as social media, regular follow-up meetings, workshops and training on conflict resolution, amongst others. While an ongoing method of support is currently being considered, the Walking Bus is growing in many areas at an alarming rate and is fast becoming very popular.

The initial launch of the Walking Bus was held in March 2016 in the area of West Bank and started with 150 members covering four schools. The group, however, grew to nearly 300 members within a couple of days. Since its inception in the area of West Bank schoolgoers are feeling more secure and protected and that is the response we received from many of these areas and the headmasters of schools.

This was repeated with launches in areas such as Lentegeur, Beacon Valley, Tafelsig, Bishop Lavis, Scottsdene, Blue Downs, Eerste River, Leonsdale, Elsies River, Bonteheuwel, Hanover Park, Manenberg, Ocean View, Delft, Lavender Hill, Steenberg, Atlantis, Paarl East, Mossel Bay, George, Macassar, Bredasdorp, Kleinmond, Khayelitsha, Nyanga, DuNoon and many, many other areas. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Mackenzie.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you. Hon Minister, can you tell us how are members for this Walking Bus Project recruited?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: As I said, voluntarily. We send out a communiqué, a leaflet, pamphlet, word of mouth, a letter, schoolchildren to take a letter back to mom and dad at home, encouraging them to come to a meeting for the necessary initial training and I must say the response was quite good.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon member Mackenzie?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you. Hon Minister, as you know, there are mothers and fathers that undertake the service and obviously walk through quite dangerous areas in the morning to schools. Is there or has the Department a policy in place to provide them with any assistance, medical or otherwise, should you get injured on the way to school, by gangsters or anyone else?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Mr Deputy Speaker, no such thing. Voluntary means voluntary, but what we try to do, and that is why we are talking about the Walking Bus; it is always difficult, specifically in violence-stricken areas, for a mum or a dad to walk alone, and that is why we encourage them to gather in groups on a street corner, 10, 15 mothers, dads included, and the group walks. And that is where we find that perpetrators stay away. It is easy for them to prey on and to attack one or two people but if it is 10, 15, they feel much, much more secure and safe and that is what we try to encourage.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon member Mackenzie, and then I will come to hon member Gopie.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Hon Minister, how effective has the Walking Bus been since implementation?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: As I said in my address, very, very successful. Look, I could have reached a lot more but in here I have a list of 28 requests, 28 areas we still need to go and visit. That is how popular this initiative currently is and we will try to find a means and a way to reach the 28. That is only in the Metropole area of Cape Town and I do not want to talk about the rural areas, the Beaufort Wests and the Kannalands. All over the show there are many, many requests for this initiative to be rolled out to those areas as well.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Gopie, the last opportunity.

Ms D GOPIE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I want to ask the Minister how are the workers who walk to trains and to buses in the morning, five o'clock, six o'clock, being assisted by this Department?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Mr Deputy Speaker, we must understand there are two issues, the one is the Walking Bus concentrating only on the schools to enhance school safety particularly. That is the role of the neighbourhood watches. Many Walking Bus members do belong to a neighbourhood watch as well. If the hon member does have a specific concern in a specific area, let us talk about it. I am willing to sit with you and listen to you but we could encourage neighbourhood watches in a specific area to fulfil a similar kind of a role where there is violence in that area, where people get robbed. On the passage from home, specifically to a train station and to a bus, we are aware of the fact that early morning they do get robbed of their cell phones and other belongings. Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, that brings us to the end of questions for oral reply. We move on to Statements by Members. I see the DA first, hon member Joseph.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

†Mnr D JOSEPH (DA): Dankie, Adjunkspeaker. Addisioneel en onderliggend aan die debat wat die Huis vandag gevoer het met betrekking tot Sassa, is dit ook duidelik dat daar wangedrag is, finansiële wangedrag deur sekere lede wat vir Sassa werk en wat 'n nadelige uitwerking het op die Sassa verbruikers. D.w.s. daar is aftrekkings wat gemaak word ook van die armste van die armes.

Dit is belangrik vir die DA om te vra vir 'n ondersoek na al hierdie insidente en te vra dat die Sassa-begunstigdes wat geraak word deur hierdie onwettige aftrekkings, alle sake sal aanmeld by the polisiestatie en dat hierdie persone vervolg sal word. Dit is belangrik dat die DA 'n punt hier maak en ons almal 'n punt maak dat ons nie hierdie inligting net sommer so verby sal laat gaan nie, ons moet omgee vir die mense.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[Mr D JOSEPH (DA): Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Additional to and underlying the debate the House has conducted today with regard to Sassa, it is also clear that there is misconduct, financial misconduct by some members who work for Sassa and who have a detrimental effect on the Sassa consumers. In other words there are deductions from also the poorest of the poor.

It is important to request the DA to ask for an investigation into all these incidents and to ask that the Sassa beneficiaries who are affected by these unlawful deductions, report all cases at the police station and that these people are prosecuted. It is important that the DA makes a point in this regard and that we all make a point that we will not merely allow this information to pass us by, we have to care for the people.]

†The DA will not allow lawlessness and we, in this debate earlier, have come to the conclusion that we must ask the ANC Minister and the Cabinet and the ANC members to go on a risk management course. I thank you. [Interjections]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see the ANC. Hon member Magaxa.

Mr K E MAGAXA (ANC): Thank you, Deputy Speaker. Last week hon Premier Helen Zille performed an egg-dance when I questioned her about the increasing racial intolerance in the province on her watch. Instead of telling us how she actively promotes an inclusive society, she irrelevantly raged on. She opted to indirectly point a finger at blacks for attacks and murders. Many see this as prejudice. I did not ask her about murder, deliberately.

Did she forget her social media racist rants? It is in the Cape where people of colour are urinated upon, called the K-word at a rugby test, her councillor calling homeless people criminals, called stupid animals that must be tied to a rope, scorned for bad songs. A gardener is sjambokked or a domestic worker is assaulted for being in the street, a cleaner is kicked and a man in Noordhoek can rant about them.

The DA-run Western Cape Government must still reveal what it is going to do for National Anti-racism Week that starts on Tuesday.

In another reply, the Premier admitted to using state workers' time and Government resources like computer, e-mail and data, to compile her memoirs for which she receives royalties and is now featured at a festival in Stellenbosch.

She is again abroad and one wonders who is now going to work on her next book.

Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see the DA. Hon member Maseko?

Ms L M MASEKO (DA): Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, as the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Human Settlements, I am deeply concerned about the Sassa situation because people have homes to run and these homes are dependent on the grants. Our portfolio is responsible for, in particular, building communities.

Instead of helping to build these communities, Sassa and the ANC are doing their best to again fail these 17 million beneficiaries. In fact, we are talking about 30 million and not 17 million, when we include the dependants.

I want to echo my colleague, the honourable Mike Waters, who said, when talking about the SABC report, and I quote:

“This report has all the ingredients of the Shakespearean tragedy of treachery, corruption, deceit, intimidation, abuse of power, trickery and sheer greed.

In Sassa’s case, we have to add “unruly bunch” with the main character being Minister Bathabile Dlamini as Macbeth.

Today I am standing up for 58-year old Mary Has, from Bishop Lavis, who says she is disappointed about what is currently happening; for 54-year old Georgina Hill, also from Bishop Lavis, who says it is not the Minister that is suffering, but them, the poor.

What more, what more I ask? It is the SABC, SAA, Eskom, Prasa and now Sassa and I am just going to leave Nkandla out. Maybe this entire mess is part of the ANC's GDP, their Gupta Development Plan.

As DA in the Western Cape we condemn with great contempt this great tragedy and we will not allow this moral degeneration to continue any further. Therefore, come 2019, South Africans will make it clear to the ANC again that their shenanigans are no longer welcome. I thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. It is again the DA. Hon member Mngqasela.

Mr M MNQASELA (DA): Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. The desperate faction of the ANC led by Faiz Jacobs, Provincial Secretary of the ANC and the Deputy Chairperson of the ANC, Mr Khaya Magaxa, is a serious concern for this province; their insatiable appetite to destroy municipalities, yesterday it was Beaufort West and today it is Kannaland.

The Mayor, who is an ANC Mayor and the Speaker, who is a DA member, in Kannaland, were today assaulted in full view of everybody in a council meeting by ICOSA and the ANC-led faction, that is led by Faiz Jacobs and Khaya Magaxa. Now if we are going to allow that kind behaviour by the ANC ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, order. Order, member.

Mr P UYS: A point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr P UYS: By [Inaudible.] the member is saying that hon member Magaxa initiated the assault in Kannaland. It is not correct and it is not parliamentary.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, if that is the inference of what the member said, it is unparliamentary. So, I want the member to say that the member was not involved in instigating violence in Kannaland.

Mr M MNQASELA: Mr Deputy Speaker, I am talking about his faction. I did not say him.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Talking about the faction? Okay.

Mr M MNQASELA: His faction. This ANC faction needs to be ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr M MNQASELA: ... condemned with the contempt it deserves.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order hon member. Just one second. Hon Leader of the Opposition?.

Mr K E MAGAXA: Mr Deputy Speaker ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your own members are making a noise. I cannot hear you.

Mr K E MAGAXA: Ja. Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like you to also consider this, that the young honourable person is referring to me as Khaya Magaxa.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, I have ... [Interjection.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: It is unparliamentary.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will correct him. [Interjections.] Order, order. It is the honourable Leader of the Opposition in this House.

Mr M MNQASELA: Well, I will refer to the Deputy Chairperson of the ANC in the Western Cape, because he has not been recognised as the Chair yet in the documents of the ANC. [Interjections.] They are running away from the forensic report which ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just one second, order. Order. Hon member Lekker, is it a point of order or a question?

Ms P Z LEKKER: It is a point of order, Mr Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is a what?

Ms P Z LEKKER: A point of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of order.

Ms P Z LEKKER: May I address you, Mr Deputy Speaker?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes.

Ms P Z LEKKER: The honourable Leader of the Opposition is an honourable member here and not a Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson of the ANC. I would like you to rule on that matter. Is it honourable for hon Mngqasela to refer to member Magaxa as the Leader or the Chairperson of the ANC when he speaks about him here in the House?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have no problem if he refers to him in any other way. He is the Leader of the Opposition in the House and I have already ruled upon that. In the House he addresses him as the honourable Leader of the Opposition. Please continue.

Mr M MNQASELA: Mr Deputy Speaker, I am referring to the ANC as a political party. The ANC faction led by these two gentlemen is a serious concern for us all in this province and I am going to call on the Department of Local Government to come and talk to us as the Standing Committee on Local Government, because if we allow this kind of character and behaviour to continue, we are going to see municipalities

fall apart.

The forensic report in Kannaland must come out. Nobody should stand in front of it. Nobody should stand before the forensic report of Beaufort West Municipality. We want to get to the bottom of corruption, which destroys the basic fabric of service delivery in this province, especially in those communities in Zoar, Ladismith, Vanwyksdorp, Calitzdorp and Beaufort West. We will get to the bottom of this and we will leave no stone unturned. [Interjections.] We will get to the bottom of it and all criminals will end up in jail where they belong. [Time expired.][Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. Order. Order! Hon member Dijana, allow your member to start his statement. Hon member Olivier, once you get peace and quiet around here you can start.

Mr R T OLIVIER (DA): Mr Deputy Speaker, the crisis that you will never hear from the ruling party in the Western Cape is the looming crisis in the Western Cape schools. It is getting worse on a daily basis. Children are traumatised, attacked, assaulted and bullied in schools where they are supposed to be safe.

A bullied young girl of 9 years took her own life. A bullied learner in Parow had to get reconstructive surgery after being severely beaten and kicked in the face. A young Wynberg learner gets nightmares as he is brutally bullied at school by another learner who hit his face against an iron gate and kicked him. These daily horror stories continue under the watch of the DA Education MEC, who does nothing to improve the lives of the downtrodden.

Furthermore, almost 2000 learners are still not placed in schools at the end of the first term. Many classrooms in poor areas are overcrowded, which hampers learning.

This you can see in the protests and petitions on a daily basis at schools. Mseki, KwaFaku and the list goes on. In marginalised areas inferior services are delivered and schools are arbitrarily closed down.

Inequality abounds, especially in township schools while those in the leafy areas are fully resourced. Most under-performing schools are in poor areas. Children are endangered in some dilapidated schools, like in KwaFaku, a school that is constantly falling apart with no flushing toilets and an experimental structure that was already declared unsafe 10 years ago.

Some schools still wait to get their full quota of books, and we have got a list of schools that still ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr R T OLIVIER: ... do not have their full quota of books.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let me - just finish off.

Mr R T OLIVIER: Racism and intolerance grow in many schools. I believe Mr Deputy Speaker, I have been making this call that that uncaring MEC, honourable

Schäfer, must really now do the honourable thing ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order hon member.

Mr R T OLIVIER: ...and allow another ... [Interjection.][Time expired.][Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time has expired. I see the DA. Hon Chief Whip.

Mr W G E WILEY (DA): Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Earlier this week I listened to the regional manager of Metrorail glibly tell a radio station that some 17 trains had been cancelled that morning. The usual excuses of cable theft and breakages were trotted out. The talk show host was equally blasé, because he has heard this discussion several times a week over the last period from Metrorail managers or the spokesperson.

The question is, in a vibrant, progressive city like Cape Town, one regularly touted overseas as a top tourist destination with a positive growth rate, how is this possible?

We have a world class bus system that is being added to year by year. Although we have many problems in the minibus taxi industry, it is always present and plentiful and the other private initiatives like touring bus operators are excellent. Uber has a vibrant presence.

Our road infrastructure is the best on the continent and being upgraded constantly. Yet, our traditional bulk commuter transporter, rail trains, which inherited the most

established infrastructure post 1994, cannot deliver even a single day of normal service.

Metrorail trains sets dropped by 10 between January 2016 to January 2017 down to 72 sets. And this number is in any case 51 sets short. On-time performance is poor at 72%, when the norm is 85%, if one believes Metrorail stats.

The Prasa turnaround strategy was presented to the Minister in October 2016, but nothing happened. Now the Prasa Board has been dissolved and the Minister herself is asking for a judicial board of inquiry into a host of criminal allegations.

But what about the commuters, the ordinary citizens who simply want to get to work or school or the clinic? Who pays for their loss when their pay gets docked or they have to face an irate boss because they are so often late? Who looks after the children because you can't pick them up as arranged?

Why must poor people be subjected to unsafe taxis and joblessness due to an incompetent parastatal who refuses to accept responsibility and is constantly bailed out? Their political bosses do not care, because they get away with it. They simply contract another parastatal like Translux to provide luxury buses ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr W G E WILEY: ... at high rates.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member, just finish off.

Mr W G E WILEY: It is about time every Peter, Paul and Mary stood up and said “enough”. [Time expired.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. I see the ANC, hon member Dijana.

Ms T M DIJANA: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. The DA rested on its laurels when it had to properly plan and implement programmes to improve the use of our scarce water. It is a dereliction of duty.

Cape Town DA-puppet, Mayor Patricia de Lille, is now a Donald Trump signing all sorts of decrees, like her unilateral declaration of a local disaster in the Metro.

It is done to hide her and her party’s incompetence to duly manage the Cape Town water allocation. The truth is: the DA has failed Cape Town’s residents. There is no disaster, even MEC Bredell says so. The fact is, Cape Town did not stick to its restriction targets. There is no or little usage of runoff storm water, neither ground water nor enhancing water management.

Clean drinking water is used to flush human waste and in gardens, parks or pools. The ANC encourages all to save our water resources and calls on the DA to stop development that may destroy the Philippi Horticultural Area Aquifer.

We further propose that the City should give free or subsidised rainwater tanks for every household and all communities to report to our PCO's, water wastage and leaks in households and communities.

As the ANC, we will continue to engage our National Department on sustainable and long-term solutions. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. The DA. Hon member Schäfer.

Ms B A SCHÄFER: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I would like to remind this House of the importance of South Africa's social grant system to our free market economy. 17 million South African citizens are reliant on social grants to survive and support themselves and their families. This number equates to 32% of our country's population, with 1.5 million grant recipients residing in the Western Cape.

This is a massive amount of money that stimulates a myriad of trade and service-providing industries at grass roots level, and which has a knock-on effect on the upper echelons of our economy. Money from social grants feed the poor. It allows them to pay for transport to get to work, and enables them to engage in trade.

Furthermore, the grant system gives previously disadvantaged South Africans an opportunity to free themselves from the shackles of economic oppression and be included in a free and functional economy. It is the foundation of a social-economic movement to reverse apartheid's legacy, to provide the downtrodden with economic dignity. The DA supports the provision of social grants to provide skills and

economic opportunities to impoverished South Africans, gradually reducing the frightening inequality gap in our country as a result of our turbulent past.

Each and every month, money from social grants provides a huge injection of funds into the Western Cape's economy and any threat to this regular inflow of money affects each and every South African. The fact that the ANC Government does not care about the plight of the poor and their capacity to lift themselves out of poverty, shows that they clearly do not care about our most marginalised citizens, nor about correcting the wrongs of South Africa's past.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Order. That is the end of Members' Statements. Please attend now. We are going to move over to Motions. We now move to notices of motion. Are there any motions where notice is given? Hon member Olivier.

MOTIONS WITH NOTICE

Mr R T OLIVIER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House deliberates on the various cases of collusion by contractors and price fixing of tenderers or corruptive companies under the DA rule in Cape Town and the Western Cape, which amounts to bribery, kickbacks and donations to leaders and the DA. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice is taken of that one. Are there any more? Hon member Mngasela?

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

That the House debates the obsession by the ANC to cause chaos and instability to local government in the Western Cape and the perceptible disposition for violence and rampant corruption. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice is taken of that one. Are there any more? Hon member Magaxa.

Mr K E MAGAXA: Thank you. Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates DA Premier, Helen Zille's belief that the majority of murders and assaults in the province are not perpetrated by white people on black people.

[Notice of motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice is taken of that one. Hon member Gillion?

Ms M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the increase in unnatural and other deaths in the Western Cape as recorded in the “Mortality and Causes of Death in South Africa Report 2015.”

[Notice of motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Notice is taken of that. Hon member Olivier?

Mr R T OLIVIER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the admission policy for Western Cape Schools and the impact it has on the persistent late enrolment of pupils in schools in the province and other related problems that are encountered by parents. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice is taken of that one. Any further? Nothing further. Is there another one, hon member Olivier?

Mr R T OLIVIER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the increase in bullying incidents in schools in the province, its ramifications and the failures of the Western Cape Education

Department to deal with this problem. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice is taken of that one. Are there any further motions where notice is given? Hon member Olivier?

Mr R T OLIVIER: Deputy Speaker, I give notice that I shall move:

That the House debates the overcrowding in schools under the DA-run Western Cape Government. I so move.

[Notice of motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Notice is taken of that one. Was that your last one? Are there anymore?

Mr R T OLIVIER: No.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No further? We then move on to Motions without Notice. Are there any motions without notice? I see hon member Mitchell first. Hon member Mitchell at the back.

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Mr D G MITCHELL: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House condemns the abusive behaviour of Beaufort West ANC councillor Evelyn Lawrence, having aggressively assaulted a female journalist from *The Courier*. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any objections? There is an objection to the motion.

An HON MEMBER: Objection!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. It will be printed on the Order Paper. Hon member Mngasela?

Mr M MNQASELA: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes that 8 March marks the annual commemoration of International Women's Day. Further notes the incredible contribution and integral role played by women in building a sustainable society, human dignity and equality before the law. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any objection to the motion being moved without notice?

No objection to the motion itself? Agreed to. Hon member Magaxa?

Mr K E MAGAXA: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes struggle veteran, Ahmed Kathrada is recovering well in a Johannesburg hospital, following a successful surgery to remove a blood clot on his brain and wishes him a speedy and full recovery. I thank you.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to the motion being moved without notice?

No objection to the motion itself? The motion is agreed to. Hon member Mackenzie?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes the resurgence in gang violence in Mitchells Plain and calls on President Zuma to urgently reinstate the Specialised Gang Units which he announced during the State of the Nation Address. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any objection to the motion being moved without notice?

There is an objection.

An HON MEMBER: Really! [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. I see the Hon member Magaxa.

Mr K E MAGAXA: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes that this year South Africa celebrates 20 years of the Constitution and the establishment of the National Council of Provinces. Further notes this Legislature has not done anything tangible so far to commemorate this national event. I also note it was the DA that removed a display of the evolution of our Constitution from the lobby of this Legislature and now hides it in the passage on the 7th floor, which proves the DA only pays lip service in pledging its loyalty and reverence to the Constitution.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any objection to the motion being moved without notice?

There is an objection. It will be printed on the Order Paper.

Mr M MNQASELA: Mr Deputy Speaker, may I address you please? This is not a motion. It is a statement. And the ANC likes doing this. We would like you to rule ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order ... [Interjection.]

Mr M MNQASELA: ...on this. I have raised it before. They are doing the same thing.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will have a look at the wording, but my impression was that it was in fact a motion. I see the hon member Maseko.

Ms L M MASEKO: Thank you very much. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House congratulates our very own honourable Masizole Mngqasela for being acknowledged and recognised by an online magazine, *Avance Media*, as one of the 100 most influential young South Africans for 2016. Further notes that this achievement represents his service to humanity and an outstanding commitment to influence change and create a better South Africa. A South Africa where there is food, work, shelter, human dignity and equality before the law. I so move. [Applause.]

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any objection to the motion being moved without notice? There are objections. The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. Hon member Botha?

Ms L J BOTHA: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House acknowledges and expresses its gratitude to former member, Rodney Lentit, who has resigned as a member of this Parliament. Mr Lentit served this Parliament diligently as Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Environmental Affairs and Planning and that we wish Mr Lentit everything of the best for his new ventures. Mr Deputy Speaker, I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

†Die MINISTER VAN MAATSKAPLIKE ONTWIKKELING: Mooi!

[The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Well done!]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any objection to the motion being moved without notice?

No objection to the motion itself? The motion is agreed to. Hon member Lekker?

Ms P Z LEKKER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes with concern the unrest in New Crossroads caused by the killing of a young woman from the area; appeals for calm and an end to violence; condemns looting and vandalism and calls on all community leaders to assist to calm the situation. [Interjection.]

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. Any objection to the motion being moved without notice? No objection to the motion itself? The motion is agreed to. Hon member

Joseph.

Mr B D JOSEPH: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes and congratulates the accolades of gold status for the Sanlam Cape Town Marathon by the IAAF. This is a first for Africa and with less than 35 IAAF gold label status marathons internationally, this is a huge honour and achievement. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to the motion being moved without notice?

No objection to the motion itself? Agreed to. Hon member Tyatyam?

Mr S G TYATYAM: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House congratulates Chadwin Johnson and Tasreeq Martin from the Cape Flats Development Association in Retreat, who will represent South Africa at the World Eight Ball Pool Championship in June in Blackpool, England. Further notes that they were selected after they excelled at the National Championships in Secunda, Mpumalanga last year; commends their Twelve Shooters Pool Club for the work they did in developing these young lads and calls on the Provincial Government to support fundraising efforts to enable them to attend the tournament.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. No objection to the motion being moved without notice? No objection to the motion itself? Agreed to. Hon member Mitchell.

Mr D G MITCHELL: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House commemorates the 180th anniversary of the Beaufort West Municipality. Beaufort West is the oldest town in the Central Karoo and its municipality proclaimed in 1837, is the oldest in South Africa. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to the motion being moved without notice? No objection to the motion itself? Agreed to. Hon member Dijana.

Ms T M DIJANA: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House commends the National Department of Water and Sanitation for its care and leadership to call stakeholders together to discuss water availability in the province and welcomes the move to conduct water audits to determine why municipalities, like the DA-run City of Cape Town, fail to adhere to water restriction targets. I thank you.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is there an objection to the motion being moved without notice? There is an objection. The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. Hon member Schäfer?

Ms B A SCHÄFER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House commemorates the 40th anniversary of the Cape Town Cycle Tour as an inclusive and competitive international sporting event, drawing some 35 000 cyclists to the Western Cape this year. The event has always been a key contributor to economic growth and tourism in the City of Cape Town. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to the motion being moved without notice? No objection to the motion itself? The motion is agreed to. Hon member Lekker first.

Ms P Z LEKKER: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes with profound sadness the passing of a mother of 3 children, Phumza Pita from New Crossroads, who was allegedly pepper sprayed and shot by police officers after she had questioned their conduct when shutting down a tavern in the area. Further condemns police brutality in the province of *Kragdadigheid* [forcefulness]. Calls for the immediate suspension of police

officers involved in the murder; welcomes the investigation by IPID and conveys condolences to her family and friends. I thank you.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to the motion being moved without notice?

No objection to the motion itself? The motion is agreed to. Hon member Mackenzie.

†Mnr R D MACKENZIE: Mnr die Adjunkspeaker, ek stel sonder kennisgewing voor:

Dat die Huis die Suid-Afrikaanse bekroonde digter, skrywer en kunstenaar, Breyten Breytenbach, gelukwens omdat hy die 2017 Zbigniew Herbert Internasionale Litirêre Toekenning ontvang het. Breytenbach ontvang die toekenning in amptelike seremonie op 25 Mei 2017.

[Voorstel soos deur lid voorgestel.]

Die ADJUNKSPEAKER: Enige beswaar teen die voorstel sonder kennisgewing?

Geen beswaar teen die voorstel self nie? Goedgekeur.

[Translation of Afrikaans paragraphs follow.]

[Mr R D MACKENZIE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the prize-winning South African poet, author and

artist Breyten Breytenbach on receiving the 2017 Zbigniew Herbert International Literary Award. Breytenbach will receive the award at an official ceremony on 25 May 2017.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any objection to the motion without notice? No objection to the motion itself? Agreed to.]

Ms M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes the persistent attacks on our Emergency Services, including Police, Fire and Rescue, as well as paramedics. Further notes that a paramedic staff member was attacked yesterday in New Crossroads; notes further that there were too few stakeholders at the public hearings that the Legislature held last week and calls on communities not to attack our Emergency Services vehicles or workers. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. No objection to the motion being moved without notice? No objection to the motion itself? The motion is agreed to. Hon member Botha.

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

That the House expresses its condolences to the family and friends of Cynthia Claasen, who was a councillor in the City of Cape Town, who died last week after a long battle with cancer. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to the motion being moved without notice? No objection to the motion itself? The motion is agreed to. Hon member Magaxa?

Mr K E MAGAXA: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes that National Anti-Racism Week starts on Tuesday and calls on the Western Cape Government to disclose any programmes it may present to advance social cohesion and speak out against the growing intolerance under DA-rule.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any objection to the motion being moved without notice?

HON MEMBERS: Yes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is an objection. The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. Hon member Joseph?

Mr D JOSEPH: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House sends condolences to the family of the renowned Western Cape gospel artist, Pastor Ivan Siegelaar, who last week tragically passed away in Groote Schuur Hospital after a long battle with cancer. He was 46 years old. In 2013 Pastor Siegelaar shared the stage with the international star, Barbara Streisand in the Netherlands. In his last contribution to the gospel world he collaborated with music's great Loyiso Bala and Neville D on the Great Hymns of Faith CD and DVD's. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to the motion being moved without notice? No objection to the motion itself? The motion is agreed to. Hon member Davids.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes Premier Helen Zille is again touring abroad and further notes her present trip to Singapore is arranged to coincide with her birthday, and calls on the Premier to urgently report to this Legislature on her overseas visits.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is there an objection to the motion being moved? There is

an objection. It will be printed on the Order Paper. Hon member Olivier?

Mr R T OLIVIER: No objections. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes the DA-run Cape Town Municipality still employs the services of a company found guilty of collusion and price fixing. Further notes that another questionable company was employed by the DA-run Western Cape Government by the Provincial Department of Transport and Public Works until 2016 after this corruptive practice was uncovered in 2014; understands that the double standard DA pontificates about clean governance but also easily sweep matters under the carpet, after a slap on the wrist-fine for the two companies and calls on Cape Town to immediately terminate its continued contract.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is there an objection to the motion being moved without notice? There is an objection. It will be printed ... [Interjection.] Order! It will be printed on the Order Paper. Hon member Dijana, I am busy speaking. You cannot shout all across the floor just like that. Hon member Schäfer.

Ms B SCHÄFER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House congratulates the accolades of Cape Town International Airport having scooped third place in the 2016 Airport Service Quality Awards in the Africa category. The airport is a key access point to the City of Cape Town,

bringing millions of Rands in the province's economy every year.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any objection to the motion being moved without notice?

No objection to the motion itself? The motion is agreed to. Hon member Olivier first.

Mr R T OLIVIER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House calls on the Western Cape Department of Education to urgently submit plans to the Legislature to curb school bullies and to assist victims of such brutality. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to the motion being moved without notice?

No objection to the motion itself? Agreed to. Hon member Joseph.

Mr D JOSEPH: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House commends the brilliant work done by the Cape Town Central City Improvement District over the last 3 months as this period experienced the highest influx of tourists, both local and international. The CCID's work in the Central Business District is vital to keeping visitors safe. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to the motion being moved without notice?

No objection to the motion itself? Agreed to. Hon member Davids.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House institutes an urgent inquiry into Premier Zille's use of Government staff, time and resources in writing her memoirs for which she receives royalties, including a forensic audit of all IT equipment that could have been involved. I thank you.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is there an objection to the motion being moved without notice? There is an objection. The motion will be printed on the Order Paper. Hon member Mackenzie.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes the increase in backyard fires in Mitchells Plain which has led to the loss of many lives and urges the community to be more vigilant as the winter months approach. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to the motion being moved without notice?
No objection to the motion itself? Agreed to. Hon member Dugmore?

Mr C M DUGMORE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House welcomes the initiative by Road Traffic Infringement Agency and the National Department of Basic Education, which will see driving lessons introduced into the high school curriculum for learners. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to the motion being moved without notice?
No objection to the motion itself? Agreed to. Hon member Dijana.

Ms T M DIJANA: Thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House calls on all residents of the Western Cape to save and sparingly use our scarce water in order to prevent a possible disaster due to low water levels in dams and; to communicate this call in public media to appeal to all to cooperate. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objection to the motion being moved without notice?

No objection to the motion itself? Agreed to. Are there any further? Hon member Gillion.

Ms M N GILLION: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House notes with concern the ordeal of 59-year old Graham van der Hoven, who was admitted to Groote Schuur Hospital, after the care home he stayed in closed down. He was robbed after being discharged from the hospital and told to find his way to a shelter in Green Point. Further notes that the same DA-run Government under whose watch this happened, was grandstanding on the Esidimeni issue and is failing to protect people suffering from mental illness in the Western Cape; condemns the DA-run Government for negligence in this case and calls for an investigation by the Legislature into this matter. I so move.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is there any objection to the motion being moved without notice? There is an objection to the motion being moved without notice. It will be printed on the Order Paper. I see the hon member Schäfer.

Ms B SCHÄFER: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House congratulates South African born comedian, Trevor Noah, who this week made *Time's* list of Next Generation Leaders. [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, order.

Ms B SCHÄFER: We commend him on his outstanding achievement and for proudly representing South Africa on the international stage.

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any objection to the motion being moved without notice? No objection to the motion itself? The motion is agreed to. Hon member Mngqasela.

Mr M MNQASELA: Mr Deputy Speaker, I move without notice:

That the House condemns the ANC's insatiable appetite for corruption and maladministration in the Western Cape municipalities and their insistence on destroying Kannaland Municipality. Further notes the desire to cause instability and distress in the communities of Ladismith, Zoar, Calitzdorp and Vanwyksdorp. I so move. [Interjections.]

[Motion as moved by member.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. Is there an objection to the motion being moved without notice?

HON MEMBERS: Yes!

Ms P MAKELENI: Very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is an objection. It will be printed on the Order Paper. Are there anymore?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. Order. Can I just get clarity? Are there any further? No further. Then we move on. That then concludes the motions. The Secretary will read the Order of the Day:

ORDER OF THE DAY

The SECRETARY: Consideration of Report of the Standing Committee on Community Safety on Police Resources dated 27 January 2017.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I see the hon member Mitchell.

Mr D G MITCHELL: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. On 25 November 2015 the Standing Committee on Community Safety resolved to host public hearings to understand the police resourcing challenges facing the Western Cape, as well as addressing the impact of the lack thereof on our communities.

The Standing Committee of Community Safety has conducted a total of 17 oversight visits to various police stations across the Western Cape since the commencement of the 5th Provincial Parliament in June 2014.

It became clear to the Standing Committee that the lack of police resources in the Western Cape places a significant challenge on police personnel to carry out their policing duties as well as the numerous complaints received by members of the public, relating to the impact of police resourcing.

The Standing Committee conducted these stakeholder meetings and public hearings from 3 to 5 October 2016 in Cape Town, Worcester and George, where we spoke to civil society, NGOs, members of CPFs and neighbourhood watches, two former police officers, safety structures and members of the public.

Given the impact that resource challenges have on policing in the Western Cape, a multitude of role players are involved in creating and maintaining safe communities across the province. For that reason the Standing Committee invited various stakeholders and community based oversight bodies, as well as members of the academia.

The following stakeholders provided submissions for consideration by the Committee during the public hearings:

- The South African Police Services,
- The Western Cape Provincial Community Police Board,
- The Department of Community Safety,
- The Department of Social Development,
- The Department of Transport and Public Works,
- The Department of Health,

- The Western Cape Education Department,
- The Office of the Western Cape Police Ombudsman,
- Agri Western Cape,
- The Dullah Omar Institute based at the University of the Western Cape,
- The Social Justice Coalition,
- Tygerberg Cluster Community Police Board,
- Athlone Community Police Forum,
- Maitland Community Police Forum,
- Pinelands Community Police Forum,
- Kraaifontein Community Police Forum,
- Thembalethu Community Police Forum,
- Thembalethu Neighbourhood Watch,
- Hout Bay Neighbourhood Watch,
- Greater Cape Town Civic Alliance,
- Community Law and Order Foundation South Africa,
- Rural Farm Workers,
- George Municipality Community Liaison Officers,
- Ward Councillors from the City of Cape Town and Bitou Municipalities,
- Koerland Neighbourhood Watch members,
- Members of the public in their individual capacities.

The input of these departments as well as civil society greatly assisted us with the additional information in the compilation of this report and many of the submissions confirm what we have noted about police under-resourcing in this province.

This was a valuable oversight and parliamentary exercise and this report is important for its content and it is important for the recommendation we as a Committee have made. I thank you.

†Die MINISTER VAN MAATSKAPLIKE ONTWIKKELING: Mooi!

[The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Well done!]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. I see the hon member Lekker. Is she here?
Hon member Lekker?

Ms P Z LEKKER: Today's debate requires maturity. It must not be reduced to cheap politicking. Crime is everyone's responsibility. This House must show its willingness to assist all law enforcement agencies to achieve the desired outcome.

The core functions of the South African Police Services in terms of section 205 (3) of the Constitution are:

“How to prevent, combat and investigate crime, maintain public order, protect and secure the inhabitants of the Republic and their property and to uphold and enforce the law.”

In addition, SAPS and its contribution to the NDP focused on 4 pillars for the implementation of the NDP. These pillars are:

- Strengthening the Criminal Justice System

- Professionalising the police
- Demilitarisation of the police
- Building safety using an integrated approach.

We in this Provincial Legislature have a responsibility to support SAPS' efforts beyond our political affiliation. A lot has been done in the past 21 years, under the political dispensation. To date a number of police stations have been built in areas where there were none before. We welcome the commitment to address the infrastructure challenges. In the meantime the following has been done:

- A new Nyanga SAPS building
- SAPS Khayelitsha
- SAPS Milnerton
- Newly constructed building in Lenteguur
- A new Grassy Park SAPS building
- A mobile SAPS station for Site C in Khayelitsha and
- A temporary site at Philippi railway station has been opened.

Surely these interventions will go a long way in addressing the issues that we have always been raising. It is hoped that the huge percentage of crime figures in Nyanga will be addressed in the near future. These are all resources that were never there and SAPS nationally is doing its best to bring the services closer, despite all the challenges that SAPS face.

The ANC has taken note that SAPS is at work. A temporary structure was erected at

Weltevreden Valley. Surprisingly the DA-led Government refuses to release a site clearance for the identified land because it wants to build a new clinic, despite a plea by the community of Samora Machel that the clinic can be revamped on the existing plot. On the identified SAPS site, the SAPS station can be built as a multiple storey building.

I must say that the Hon Premier was very economical with the truth in this regard. I took note with interest that she said, to her knowledge no request was made for land to build a second police station at Nyanga. This is far from the truth as SAPS national office has a letter from the Provincial Public Works Department, on the Western Cape Government's letterhead, regarding their plans to build a clinic at Samora Machel on a piece of land that was identified by the community.

We ask, are there double standards or who is fooling who? We acknowledge the courage demonstrated by some police station commanders who went out of their way to tackle some of the challenges which were not within their mandate.

Interestingly, members of SAPS for some reason had to transport people who are mentally ill to hospitals, despite the fact that they must prioritise policing as their core responsibility. In many of these areas we were also informed that some of the contributing factors to crime were as a result of absent Government departments in dealing with crime.

Often other role players were not there to help with policing. We heard how the Road Metro Police effected arrests with no tangible convictions and hence crime still goes

up because there is no proper coordination. Interestingly, we have also taken note that there is no political wheel from this DA-led Government to help in strengthening the police.

The DA-led Cape Town has some of its vans stationary at the MyCiti Bus Terminus in Mitchells Plain whose primary responsibility is simply to escort the MyCiti buses to Kapteynsklip Railway Station instead of reinforcing SAPS.

During the public hearings the Agricultural Sector, namely Agri Western Cape, made a call for an inter-departmental approach from all spheres of government to address all social ills, including the road infrastructure which makes it difficult for SAPS members to access some of the roads.

We are still reiterating that crime is everyone's responsibility and of course we are making a call for a single police service instead of wanting to point fingers and cheap politicking. We can also attest that more still needs to be done in terms of addressing issues of equal distribution and material resources in areas like Beaufort West and the construction of a new police station there.

Deputy Minister, Maggy Sotyu , in her address in Khayelitsha, acknowledged the difficulty in which members of the detective services and VISPOL Unit work with challenges associated with the working conditions and adherence to discipline.

She further made a commitment that more resources would be deployed for detectives and members of VISPOL for Khayelitsha and Nyanga cluster specifically and that

detectives will attend to all the backlogs that are there.

To put it into perspective, the Western Cape is the third province in terms of shortages of police personnel and it is disingenuous of this DA-led Government to claim that the Western Cape is being punished because it is governed by the DA.

The ANC has a contract with the people of South Africa and it will continue to render a service to the people irrespective of race, creed or colour. The ANC will continue its efforts, ensuring that citizens feel safe walking alone during the day or at night and further, that the ANC has noted interestingly that there is a need to increase the intelligence capacity footprint in the province, particularly on operational posts with relevant training and capacity building, notwithstanding the strides that have been made when the specialised units were introduced. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. I see the hon member Wenger.

Ms M M WENGER: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I believe that the public hearings and the formal report that our multi-party Community Safety Standing Committee drafted is an important document and a review of police under-resourcing in our province.

It is important that we as representatives of the people highlight these issues so that they can be fixed. We conducted the public hearings and compiled this report with the aim of improving policing for the betterment of service delivery and for increasing safety in our province and, in particular, for the most vulnerable and crime ridden

police precincts.

We trust that this report will be read and engaged with as intended, which is to improve policing through our public consultation process and the recommendations that we have made. The findings of the report include that the Western Cape has one of the largest shortages of police officers and that resourcing is indeed a concern that needs to be addressed. In 2013, 85% of our police stations were understaffed. The research presented to us showed that there is empirical evidence to suggest that an increase in police manpower can decrease crime rates. More so where the police to population ratio is above the 220 per 100 000 mark.

It was noted that police levels below this have little impact on crime rates and in our context of an increasing murder rate, it is incumbent on the National Government and management of the police to properly resource the police in our province and give us sufficient manpower to actually have an impact on crime.

It must be noted in the last year there has been a concerted effort by the South African Police Services to recruit new officers and intakes. In June last year, 1140 new student constables were dispatched to Western Cape police stations. Of these, 790 were sent to the 30 stations that deal with half of the violent crime in our province.

The new recruitment drives are both commendable and necessary, however this cannot be viewed in isolation of the attrition rate. 2 375 officers have left the Police Service in the Western Cape in the last 5 years. We found that, on average, 475 officers leave the Western Cape Police Service every year. This means we need a commensurate

yearly graduation of new constables and re-enlistment of officers to fill the existing vacancies and to replace those officers who have left the service.

The SAPS recruitment rate is therefore insufficient to meet replacement levels and that means that resourcing levels are not being adequately addressed, despite these recruitment drives. We need continuous recruitment of at least 500 officers every year.

We saw shortages at all but one of the 17 police stations we visited on our oversight in our term so far. Every single station had less officers, either overall or in VISPOL or in detectives than what they had in 2010.

So let us look at the facts. The national police to population ratio is 1 officer for every 358 people, but in Cape Town 75% of our police stations have less officers serving their communities than this national average. The average for Cape Town is 1 officer for every 439 people and these resources are not equitably dispersed.

Many of the high crime stations have less officers to serve them than lower crime areas. In fact, 21 stations in Cape Town have less than 1 officer for every 500 residents. These are almost exclusively high crime areas.

Submissions from the public reflected our concerns regarding the need for more officers, particularly within the VISPOL Unit. In especially volatile and densely populated areas, several submissions informed us that the lack of visible policing could lead to vigilantism, strained community police relationships, communities

having to spend on private security, under reporting of crime and pressure on the current VISPOL officers as well as the economic effect of uncontrollable stock and produce theft in agricultural areas.

The Deputy National Police Minister could see for herself the extent of the resourcing challenges when she went to visit police stations in Lwandle and Lingeletu West this week. We hope that action will now follow.

Mr Deputy Speaker, we also found a very sharp decline in the number of police reservists that have been deployed and recruited. The number of active police reservists declined by 66% since 2008, from 5 059 active reservists to just 1 700 presently and there were zero reservists recruited in the last 3 years.

Even the K9 unit has half the number of dogs that it ought to have. So insufficient staff numbers mean, in real terms, that officers have heavier workloads. Responses to my parliamentary questions show disturbingly high numbers of docket to detective ratios. The effects of such substantial workloads can compromise the quality of investigations. They place staff under strenuous working conditions, which could compromise employee wellness and it also contributes to a low staff morale.

The Western Cape Police Ombudsman commented that the lack of resources can lead to negative effects on community police relations overall. Already understaffed police stations suffer additional burdens due to offsite training and secondment to other units as well as illness, which compound shift management. The result is that already understaffed stations are further strained.

We have now asked National Police Management to engage with us on our report. It is important that we, as Members of Parliament, can be assured that these issues will be addressed and we have a moral obligation to do the very best that we can to improve safety for the residents of our province.

In so doing, I share with this House some of the recommendations that we as a committee have made. We ask:

- That SAPS recruits and re-recruits reservists urgently so that they can assist SAPS where manpower shortages occur;
- That the reservist policy be reviewed to make reservist recruitment easier;
- That SAPS perhaps looks at advertising police reservist recruitment drives amongst Western Cape Government employees.

In a snap poll almost half of respondents indicated their interest in joining police reservists and this pool of people have already undergone a level of vetting for employment with Government. We ask:

- That training is improved for police officers on the Children's Act and Child Justice Act and SAPS responsibilities for children in conflict with the law.
- That the police addresses the severe under resourcing of the detective corps, which has resulting in unsustainable docket to detective ratios.
- That enough police officers are recruited so that every station in our province has a minimum police to population ratio of 220 per 100 000 and in addition

that the 30st highest crime stations have significantly more members than this ratio.

- To review and improve the shift management system for VISPOL. Current policy states that any member on any type of leave or course or detached duty or simply absent without leave, remains on the shift list. It is therefore quite possible for a shift to begin with members who are not physically present. In order to fulfil the agreed minimum service level agreement with the public, this system will need to be radically revised so that only members who are readily available and actually present, remain on the operational shift list. This will allow for accurate resource level analysis and allocation.
- That the Flying Squad Unit should be expanded to at least 700 members, which would bring us in line with the same number as Gauteng's Flying Squad, especially given that the Western Cape has a far larger surface area to service.

In conclusion, there is no doubt that we suffer severe manpower shortages and it is something that must be rectified in the interests of our communities. It is not fair on those officers and it is not fair on the citizens who deserve a better deal.

I wish to thank the various departments, the police, civil society, that participated in the hearing and contributed towards the information of this report. I also thank members of the Committee for their participation and cooperation in this process and that we could work together across party lines.

It is a pity that the ANC has today decided to deal with issues outside of the report

and hearings and despite making the plea not to politicise this issue, went on directly to politicise it.

Ms P Z LEKKER: You must have been sleeping!

Ms M M WENGER: I must inform the House that the recommendations were adopted unanimously in our multi-party Committee and the report has been sent to police management, which has been invited to brief us on the issues identified.

I then ask that the House adopts this report formally and that the recommendations of the Committee in section 7.2 of the report become a decision of this House. Thank you. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order. That concludes the debate on this report. Are there any objections to the report being adopted by the House?

HON MEMBERS: No.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No objections. Agreed to. That then also concludes the business for the day and the House is adjourned.

The House adjourned at 18:06.