
FRIDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 2019

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

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

The House met at 10:30.

National Anthem rendered by all present in the House.

The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

The SPEAKER: Good morning hon members, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. It is indeed a privilege and a pleasure for me to welcome you to this very auspicious occasion today - that of the State of the Province Address.

I would like to draw the attention of the guests in the gallery to the fact that you need to put your cell phones on silent, use no flash photography, and that you are not allowed to participate in the proceedings of the session. That includes no heckling, no clapping, no cheering and no interjections. We are pleased to have you with us but please kindly abide by the rules as they are posted on the reverse of your tickets and in the gallery above you.

I have to call you all to order to announce that due to the resignation of Mr Dan Plato a vacancy occurred in the representation of the Democratic Alliance in the Western Cape Provincial Parliament. This vacancy has since been filled by the nomination of Mr Reagen Ivan Allen with effect from 11 December 2018.

Mr Reagen Allen was sworn in, in the Speaker's Chambers, on 11 December 2018. We welcome the hon member. [Applause.] [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please!

An HON MEMBER: ...hereby making a ministerial welcome.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Who is going to pay your salary... [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Order please hon member Dugmore; may we proceed.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER: I have to announce that in terms of Rule 14 of the Standing Rules today 15 February 2019 at 10:30 has been determined as the date and time for the Premier's State of the Province Address. This sitting is meant specifically for the purpose of affording the Premier an opportunity to deliver the State of the Province Address. On this occasion no business other than the address by the Premier is entertained.

I also wish to remind members that the debate on the address will take place on Tuesday, 19 February 2019, when members will have an opportunity to fully engage and debate the Premier's address. On Thursday, 21 February 2018, the Premier will reply to the debate.

I also want to take this opportunity to welcome our esteemed guest to the Western Cape Provincial Parliament. I now afford the hon, the Premier, Premier Helen Zille, the opportunity to address the House. Premier.

HON MEMBERS: Hear-hear! Hear-hear!

The SPEAKER: Premier. [Applause.]

Premier's State of the Province Address

The PREMIER: Fellow citizens of the Western Cape, hon Madam Speaker, hon members of the Provincial Cabinet, hon Mayor of Cape Town, hon Leader of the Opposition, members of the diplomatic corps, hon leaders of political parties, members of the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces, hon members of the Provincial Legislature, Director-General of the Western Cape and all heads of provincial departments, leaders of local government present today, religious leaders, community leaders, colleagues, friends and family.

Madam Speaker, this is my final State of the Province address and I am

deeply grateful for the opportunity we have had together, to serve our citizens over two stable terms in office. [Interjections.]

I received some lovely messages wishing me well for this big occasion, for which I thank you all.

An HON MEMBER: We do not need for you to vote. [Interjection.]

The PREMIER: I quote from one of them, with apologies to the poet Robert Frost.

“Ten years ago, voters stood before two roads that diverged, in a yellow wood.”

An HON MEMBER: You need to answer to what?

The PREMIER: “Those in the Western Cape chose the road less travelled by...” and it has made all the difference. My speech today will explain why. Since May 2009, together with many partners, the Western Cape Government has made progress towards our long-term vision of a “highly skilled, innovation-driven, resource efficient, connected, high-opportunity society for all”. [Interjections.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: You promised a Children’s Commissioner [Inaudible.] You promised that in 2009, you made a promise and you broke the promise. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Our first term was dedicated to establishing and embedding sound systems to secure good governance. This created the foundation for our second term, during which we have gone further, focusing on our game-changing interventions that over time will make a significant positive impact on people's lives. We also pioneered a new delivery methodology to turn strategy into reality in a focused and effective way, using data never before used to measure impact. I hope it has been sufficiently embedded to leave a lasting legacy. [Interjections.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: Drugs got worse, gangsterism got worse under your watch.

The PREMIER: Madam Speaker, to put it plainly, South Africa's greatest problem is unemployment. That is why our top priority has been to create an environment that encourages job creation through investment and growth - the only sustainable way of beating poverty.

We have raised the quality of basic education and laid the foundation for the digital future our children will face. We have supported land reform like no other province... [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: That is a... [Inaudible.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: Uh-uh, in your dreams, Alice in Wonderland!

The PREMIER: And we have made more South Africans home owners through title deeds and refined game-changing models for well-located housing opportunities... [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: One percent of agricultural land in black hands in the Western Cape.

The PREMIER: ...which we know can be replicated country-wide. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please!

Ms S W DAVIDS: Get the information!

The PREMIER: As a caring government we have expanded social services to the disabled... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Exactly, like the farmworkers here in [Inaudible.]

An HON MEMBER: Are you beginning to fool yourself?

The SPEAKER: Order please!

The PREMIER: ...and those in need of protection; those who have suffered from substance abuse, treated. [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: Ooh! Are the farmworkers being protected then? Were the children [Inaudible.] [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: We have treated those via substance abuse treatment and counselling. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, kindly take you seat please. Hon members, interjections are allowed, but I am not going to allow a running commentary. Similarly if everyone interjects at the same time it drowns out the Premier. So kindly limit your interjections so that we do not have a running diatribe. [Simultaneous interjections.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: Like the DA that was doing that yesterday [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: I am speaking to all hon members. [Interjections.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: [Inaudible.] It is the DA's culture to back the white youth... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please, hon member Magaxa, compose yourself. [Interjections.] Compose yourself. [Interjections.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: That is the running comment here. [Interjections.]

Ms P Z LEKKER: It does not happen this side. It does not happen this side

when we are acting.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Lekker, you have been chirping and I will not hesitate to call you to order if you are out of order. [Interjections.]

Ms P Z LEKKER: Am I?

An HON MEMBER: Ja, she is out of order.

The SPEAKER: So please allow the Premier to proceed. You may proceed, hon Premier. [Interjections.]

Ms P Z LEKKER: You are out of order. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Ja, she is out of order here.

The PREMIER: Hon Premier, we continue to build the partnerships necessary to foster safer communities within our limited oversight mandate... [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: Now we can see that [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: ...and to hold the South African Police Service and the National Government accountable for their policing mandate. The progress we are making is cause for optimism for every South African. There is a way

forward for South Africa.

Ms P Z LEKKER: Do you mean reversing the [Inaudible.] [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: The farmworkers drink water out of the river. Is that progression?

The PREMIER: I would like thank the Director-General, my Cabinet and caucus colleagues, heads of Department, the Delivery Support Unit, the Premier's office, my Department, and all of the 84 000 employees who go the extra mile to serve the public every day. No words can express the debt of gratitude that every citizen of this province owes you.

This Government is particularly grateful for those partners in other spheres of government, civil society, business and labour, disaster management services, universities, the diplomatic corps, families - not least of all our own - individuals and friends worldwide, who have contributed to achieving our objectives.

Madam Speaker, may I just ask you, in the lighting in this Chamber it is very difficult for me to read the Autocue so may I ask if I can just have a written version of my speech...

The SPEAKER: Okay.

The PREMIER: ...because I am battling to read the Autocue so I will prefer this one. Thank you very much. [Interjections.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: Wasteful expenditure!

The SPEAKER: Hon member Tyatyam, the Premier has printed the document on her own paper, excuse me! [Interjections.]

Ms P MAKELENI: It is a wasteful expenditure! That is very expensive.

The SPEAKER: You may proceed, hon Premier.

The PREMIER: A whole-of-society approach is essential to make our province better, together. Creating conditions for sustained progress towards prosperity for all requires three pre-conditions:

- The Rule of Law;
- A culture of accountability, in which all members of society take their responsibilities seriously;
- And a capable state that undertakes its duties efficiently, honestly, and cost-effectively. [Interjections.]

Make no mistake, Madam Speaker, good governance makes a difference to citizens, whether they are aware of it or not. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, I am sorry to interrupt you. Kindly take your seat please. Hon member Nkondlo, hon member Dijana and hon member Lekker, this is a serious occasion that does not require giggling that is so loud that it interrupts proceedings. It is my duty to maintain order in terms of Rule 41. Should you persist I will move to Rule 44 so kindly manage yourself with dignity in terms of your role as public reps. Thank you. You may proceed, hon Premier.

Mr K E MAGAXA: This is not a class. This is not a teaching class. You are not our principal. Do I speak... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Magaxa, may I address you. You sit there and you shout at me. I am not going to allow you to shout at me. You rise on a point of order and you address me. So manage yourself, otherwise you will run the risk of being sent out for being disorderly.

Ms P Z LEKKER: You cannot threaten us.

An HON MEMBER: Do not threaten us.

The SPEAKER: And it might not be a class. It is an auspicious occasion that requires dignity and respect. [Interjections.]

Ms P MAKELENI: You are not doing us a favour in the House.

The SPEAKER: That is all I am asking - dignity and respect. [Interjections.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: Madam Speaker, with due respect...

The SPEAKER: Yes.

Mr K E MAGAXA: I think, Madam Speaker, you are the person who is disruptive here. People are just doing their job. Our job here is to do what we are doing, you know. It is part of our work. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Magaxa...

Mr K E MAGAXA: If you are going to treat us as if we are students, you are our teacher in a classroom and that is not going to happen. You will rather chase us away if you want [inaudible] to listen.

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon member Magaxa. You are allowed to exercise your democratic right, but the minute it goes beyond the Rules of Order where it becomes disruptive and it affects the dignity and decorum of this House, then I have to call you to order. Thank you. [Simultaneous interjections.]

Kindly compose yourselves, hon members. Thank you. Hon Premier, you may proceed.

The PREMIER: Thank you Madam Speaker. Make no mistake, good governance makes a difference to citizens whether they are aware of it or not. Today I will share our story of progress on the road less travelled, over two terms... [Interjections.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: Progress for people in the gallery, ja.

The PREMIER: But first let me welcome President Ramaphosa's commitment last week to try to repair some of the damage of the Zuma years. Given the conflicting voices emanating from the ruling party on how to address the Eskom crisis, however, the prognosis is not altogether promising.

I have to state plainly that, as a Province, we have often made progress despite the National Government. While there are examples of constructive partnerships, many of the key areas under national responsibility, on which we all depend, have all but collapsed.

Mr C M DUGMORE: You chose to fight National Government...
[Interjection.] That is your legacy!

The PREMIER: These include, most worryingly, the criminal justice pipeline.

Ms S W DAVIDS: All your Tweets!

The PREMIER: Policing and investigative capacity, the train system, major

water supply projects... [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: No, we are still waiting for the... [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: ...land restitution and redistribution, the fishing rights regime, state procurement systems and of course all state-owned enterprises. Corruption is so entrenched in the fabric of National Government that it is hard to see how it can be eradicated without destroying the governing party.

Ms P MAKELENI: Which is right behind you...? [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: To the extent that our constitutional mandate allows, the Western Cape has a different narrative.

Ms P MAKELENI: In fact that is the legacy.

The PREMIER: We have been building the capable state for ten years now, and the results have begun to show. [Interjections.] At 83%, the Western Cape received the highest number of clean audits in South Africa in 2018/19 across all entities and departments. [Applause.]

Once again at 83% we were well ahead of the next Province - Gauteng, with 52% clean audits. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: So we can just clap.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Clean audits with dirty areas.

The PREMIER: Today we are the cleanest government in South Africa, quite a turnaround from the situation of zero clean audits when we took office in 2009.

Ms S W DAVIDS: There was service delivery; people will tell you.

The PREMIER: However, the requirements of achieving clean audits, which is a concept unique to South Africa, are often so constraining that they throttle innovation and progress. We need, therefore, to move urgently to a system of auditing for impact and results. [Interjections.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: And also you are qualifying it now. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: But what is undeniable, is that good governance enabled us to spend 82%... [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: We are still waiting for the [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: ...of the provincial budget on delivering services to the poor. As a capable state, we have also been able to leverage our monitoring and support role over Local Government to embed good practice, and it shows.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Not George, not Knysna.

The PREMIER: In 2009 when we took over, no Western Cape municipalities received clean audits from the Auditor-General, apart from the Cape Town Metro. [Applause.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: You cannot tell me. I do not believe anything you say.

The PREMIER: Fast forward to 2016/17 and 21 municipalities in the Western Cape achieved clean audits. [Applause.] In fact, throughout South Africa, Madam Speaker, 64% of all clean local audits were from one province - the Western Cape.

†n AGBARE LID: Mooi-mooi! [Applous.]

[An HON MEMBER: Good, good! [Applause.]]

The PREMIER: During this time we have learnt first-hand how an economy responds to good and stable governance. Our key economic strategy, known a Project Khulisa, has succeeded because of its focus on sectors with high-growth potential, low barriers to entry especially for young people, and rural impact. The sectors are agri-processing, tourism, oil and gas and the green economy.

The results of this, and other strategies, are clear. We have South Africa's lowest unemployment rate at a full 14 percentage points below the national average on the expanded definition.

An HON MEMBER: That is nothing new.

The PREMIER: We have created 508 000 new jobs in the Western Cape since the start of this administration's first term [Applause] based on this week's latest official statistics compared to the Third Quarter in 2009. [Interjections.]

It is worth mentioning, Madam Speaker that if every province had done that, South Africa would be close to the five million job opportunities Jacob Zuma promised the country by 2020. This is the only province that has made this contribution towards that objective. [Interjections.]

Ms P MAKELENI: How far are you from the process?

The PREMIER: Employment in the Western Cape grew by 24,8% between 2009 and 2018, well ahead of Gauteng at 18,6% and KwaZulu Natal at 8,8%. We have South Africa's lowest rural unemployment rate at 15,7%. This solid economic record would not have been possible without our strategic focus... [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: But what are the conditions of our rural areas?

The PREMIER: ...combined with Red Tape Reduction and the Ease of Doing Business Strategies.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Do you want to speak about the conditions of the rural areas?

The PREMIER: A full R1 billion saving has been achieved across 27 Red Tape Interventions studied, where bureaucracy would otherwise have stifled growth. The momentum of our pro-jobs strategies has been seen as we passed some major economic milestones over the past two years, and these are just some of them, Madam Speaker.

Cape Town was named the top financial centre in sub-Saharan Africa, overtaking Johannesburg on the 2018 Global Financial Centres Index.
[Applause.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: With the highest tariffs.

The PREMIER: Cape Town is the city with the most job opportunities...
[Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: And most drugs.

The PREMIER: ...based on an analysis of over 140 000 vacancies in January 2019 by jobs search engine Adzuna. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Davids, your interjections are becoming a running commentary.

Mr K E MAGAXA: For only white people.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Only white people.

The PREMIER: We are Africa's tech hub. The Cape Town-Stellenbosch Tech Ecosystem is the most productive in Africa, employing over 40 000 people.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: This is more than Lagos and Nairobi combined according to the Endeavour Insights Report of 2018.

We are now also Africa's green economic hub. 70% of South Africa's renewable energy manufacturing takes place in the Western Cape. This is the driving force behind our country becoming the fastest growing green economy in the world, according to Moody's. [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: People on the ground do not believe you anymore.

The PREMIER: Cape Town was also named Top Events and Festival Destination in the World at the 2018 World Travel Awards.

An HON MEMBER: And Day Zero?

The PREMIER: This is, in part, the result of our support to 163 major events

since 2011, including the Cape Town Cycle Tour, which is now the world's largest cycle race, the Cape Town Carnival and the Klein-Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees. [Interjections.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: What about the Minstrels? What about the Minstrels?

The PREMIER: And for the tenth consecutive year, we were named the Top Meetings, Events and Conferencing Destination in Africa by the ICCA. [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: Ja, but how many jobless [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: We were also South Africa's most successful province for building plans approved per square meter. This is a key indicator, Madam Speaker, of investment into an economy, with R130 billion in new developments approved in our region since 2009. By building the capable state, the Western Cape Government has been able to spend R42 billion on infrastructure since 2009, including R22 billion on roads, R9 billion on schools, R5,6 billion on health facilities, and R1,5 billion on libraries. On top of that, we have unlocked R1,8 billion in provincial and private-sector infrastructure funding for the Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone since 2014/15.

There are now, Madam Speaker, eight confirmed major investors in the IDZ, with a total investment value of R3 billion. We were also instrumental in

establishing the Atlantis Special Economic Zone for Greentech.

An HON MEMBER: National Government did that.

The PREMIER: That was the Western Cape Government and the City of Cape Town. [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: National Government.

The PREMIER: It is projected to attract R3,7 billion in investment, create nearly 3000 direct jobs by 2030 and save us from the toxic legacy of Eskom. [Interjection.]

Ms P Z LEKKER: Tell us about Day Zero.

The PREMIER: At local level, we have helped municipalities create 15-year infrastructure investment plans through our Local Government Department. Wesgro, our world-class Trade, Tourism and Investment Promotion Agency, has secured 299 investments since 2009, attracting R100 billion worth of foreign direct investment and creating over 19 000 jobs in our region. [Applause.]

Madam Speaker, in just three years, we have added over 750 000 international inbound seats to Cape Town and 13 new air routes, generating jobs, tourism and investment. These expansions have injected an estimated

R6 billion in tourist spend into the local economy.

Madam Speaker, tourism means jobs. Estimates based on the new Hong Kong route have shown that 1000 jobs can be created in our economy for each new air route added. We continue to add new tourism offerings to attract more visitors such as cycle routes, a Mandela Legacy Route and a new Archaeology and Palaeontology Route to show the world that humanity did indeed begin in Southern Africa. [Interjections.]

In today's world and especially in our climate-sensitive region, we recognize that growth and development must be sustainable. As Government we are playing our part. We have reduced electricity consumption in our metered buildings by 24% since 2015. Remarkably, these public buildings are now so energy efficient, that monthly electricity usage is roughly half that of the private sector. Water consumption is also down 20% over the same period.

Ms S W DAVIDS: No Day Zero.

The PREMIER: During the worst of Eskom's load-shedding five years ago, we recognised the essential need for greater energy security, and a diversified energy mix. At that time, we agreed on an Energy Security Game-Changer, jointly with the City of Cape Town and today we are in a much stronger position to respond to the current power crisis as a result.

While the generation and distribution of energy is not a mandate of

Provincial Government, our Energy Security Game-changer has focused on driving small scale embedded generation and rooftop solar PV in particular. In addition, we undertook much of the groundwork needed for the importation of liquid natural gas at Saldanha Bay and the only obstacles remain those generated by National Government. We have enabled an increase in rooftop PV installations from 18 megawatts to more than 110 megawatts, mostly by businesses. This is equivalent to adding an entire wind or solar PV farm to the grid. We have assisted 22 municipalities to put in place the necessary systems to accept rooftop PV power into their grids - and 18 of these municipalities have approved tariffs in place so that consumers can be compensated for electricity that they feed into the grid and that is genuinely a game-changing transformation.

Ms S W DAVIDS: That is a national programme, Premier.

The PREMIER: We have also led by example, having committed R43 million for fourteen solar PV installations on Provincial Government buildings, which will have a projected annual saving of just over R4 million once completed.

These initiatives, and other sources, such as the hydro plant at Steenbras Dam have helped to reduce the grid-load, providing insulation from Stage-1 load-shedding. However, this could not protect us from the latest Stage-4 crisis when Eskom unexpectedly dropped 4 000 megawatts from the grid.

The need to drive local energy security remains as great as ever and I call on businesses and households in the Western Cape to invest further in solar photovoltaic. We will continue our efforts to make this as easy as possible, while ensuring public safety and this is essential in order to ensure that there are not any disasters generated by poor installations of solar PV.

There has been much fanfare around the announcement by Total of a significant gas discovery off the southern coast of our country. It has been called another game-changer for South Africa. However, the prospects of realising this are still a long way off and it is not a quick fix. A much more immediate game-changer, Madam Speaker, would be the importation of liquid natural gas (LNG) through Saldanha Bay.

Firstly, this would enable Eskom to run its Atlantis power plant, Ankerlig, on gas rather than the hugely expensive diesel where trucks have been running non-stop during the past week at a million rand an hour. Second, liquid natural gas is a source of power coupled with renewable energy that can ensure a much greener future, together of course with consistency of supply which we have off our coastline.

The water-crisis, Madam Speaker, although its immediacy has been ameliorated... [Interjection.]

Ms P MAKELENI: From Day Zero to water-crisis.

The PREMIER: ...needs as a priority the fixing of the National Department of Water and Sanitation and this is as urgent as the need to fix Eskom.

Ms P MAKELENI: Also to find Day Zero there. Where is Day Zero?

The PREMIER: The National Department must now move on their bulk-supply mandate regarding the Clanwilliam Dam, the Brandvlei Dam and the Berg River-Voëlvlei Augmentation Scheme. If those had been done on time, we would have been in a far better position to weather the crisis of three years of unprecedented drought.

In the Province we have played our constitutional roles of Local Government oversight and particularly disaster management, and often stepped in with essential maintenance of infrastructure where the National Government failed to do so on its own infrastructure.

Since 2009, Madam Speaker, we have diligently overseen municipal spending of over R1,1 billion in grant funding for bulk water supplies... [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: No solutions!

The PREMIER: ...ensuring that all municipal infrastructure grants were fully spent. [Interjections.]

Ms P MAKELENI: I do not know why she is bringing solutions. She has just

[Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Order please.

The PREMIER: We have cleared more than 250 000 hectares of water-sapping alien vegetation from nature reserves... [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: Take up no responsibilities.

The PREMIER: ...and during the worst of the drought [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, kindly take your seat please. Hon member Davids, you will be afforded an opportunity at the debate. Your interjections are now becoming a running commentary. Kindly be aware... [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: Madam Speaker, how many times may we interject?

The SPEAKER: No, you may interject but if it becomes a running commentary then I need to call you to order. I am sorry. [Interjections.] Hon member Davids, be warned, I am cautioning you about running commentary. Thank you. [Interjections.] Hon Premier, you may proceed.

An HON MEMBER: They are scared. [Interjection.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: The bourgeois.

Ms P MAKELENI: I think you are doing it deliberately this time. You just like chaos.

The SPEAKER: You may proceed, hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you Madam Speaker. During the worst of the drought, technical and financial support was provided to municipalities, including geohydrologists to ensure successful groundwater interventions. This year the Department of Local Government spent R78,2 million on drought-related projects. By working with residents, municipalities and NGOs, we have so far managed to prevent any town from running out of water, although Beaufort West, the Central Karoo and Kannaland remain severely stressed.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Say thank you also to [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: We have installed groundwater systems to secure 61 critical healthcare, social development and office facilities, which will eventually supply 5,8 million of water per day.

Water meters have been installed at 354 schools through a successful collaboration with the private sector. Together, we have achieved a total saving of 346 million litres of water, which in turn has led to a combined saving for schools of over R27 million in municipal bills.

Madam Speaker, no sector has felt the impact of the drought more than

agriculture. Back in 2009 we passed the sector's first Climate Change Response Plan, compiled together with the industry. Since then some truly innovative responses to climate change have evolved.

I have addressed this House before on some of the technological innovations such as the satellite-driven FruitLook, which has enabled farmers to cut water use by up to 30%.

An HON MEMBER: It is not the Provincial Government.

The PREMIER: We have also introduced a method of conservation agriculture for wheat farmers, which has delivered an economic benefit of R341 million, with wheat production higher across the board despite the drought. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Minister Winde!

The PREMIER: We have spent over R200 million on direct drought relief for farmers since 2017, through a combination of provincial and national funding. This support has been particularly meaningful to emerging farmers, many of whom have remained in business due to emergency fodder supplies and other support measures.

Transformation, Madam Speaker, is not a quick fix and populist rhetoric does not keep emerging farmers in business under tough industry conditions.

Since 2014 we have supported 357 land reform projects with over R500 million in funding.

Mr C M DUGMORE: So why have we got 1% of agricultural land in black land owners; why only 1%?

The PREMIER: We also leveraged R80 million annually in private sector support for emerging farmers, including market access contracts and mentorship programmes. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Members, Minister Winde and hon member Dugmore, you cannot engage in a dialogue while the Premier is speaking, please compose yourself. Thank you.

Mr C M DUGMORE: It is Alan Winde.

The SPEAKER: I have called the Minister to order, as well as you, hon member Dugmore.

Mr C M DUGMORE: But he wants to speak... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Do not engage each other. You will have an opportunity or leave the room. Thank you. [Interjections.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: He is the Premier in waiting. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: You may proceed, hon Premier. [Interjections.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: Premier in waiting.

The SPEAKER: You may proceed, hon Premier.

The PREMIER: I am very pleased to hear the hon the Opposition acknowledge that Minister Alan Winde is the Premier in waiting. Thank you very much. [Applause.] [Interjections.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: You must remember to [Inaudible.] us also Premier in waiting.

Mr C M DUGMORE: I think that will explain McKinsey's procurement in this Province. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order please members. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Madam Speaker, of the 357 land reform projects that we have supported, 72% have been successful compared to an estimated 10% nationally. In fact our success is up, despite the drought, by a full ten percentage points since the last time this independent evaluation was done in 2013.

Our services to emerging farmers include training courses, mentorship,

market access support, and farm development support. Drought recovery has started, shown by the fact that our agriculture and agri-processing sectors added a combined 35 000 jobs between the Third and Fourth Quarters of 2018 and that is truly remarkable. [Applause.]

But despite three years of drought, these sectors still managed to create 10 000 extra jobs since 2015. Over the last decade, we have gone to increasing lengths to protect our people and our economy from major disasters and there have been a very significant number.

Mr C M DUGMORE: How many farmworkers were used? Give us that sum.

The PREMIER: We have invested in cutting-edge technology in our Central Joint Operating Command centre... [Interjection.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: What about sanitation and all of that?

The SPEAKER: Order, hon member Davids... hon Premier, take your seat please. You are really getting close to Rule 44, hon member Davids! Since I cautioned you, you have made ten interjections. I have actually been ticking off here. [Interjections.] So it is important, †en ek sien jy lag, asseblief, bedaar! [and I see you are laughing, please, calm down!] Thank you. You may proceed, hon Premier.

Hon member Davids has acknowledged, kindly manage yourselves.

[Interjections.] Order please.

Ms P MAKELENI: A new Rule 44 must be [Inaudible.] [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: You may proceed, hon Premier. Hon member Makeleni, you might incur a Rule 44 very quickly. Thank you. You may proceed, hon Premier.

Ms P MAKELENI: I will actually be happy with that.

The PREMIER: Madam Speaker, we have invested in cutting-edge technology in our Central Joint Operation Command Centre which has served us well during the drought and particularly during the annual fire season. Our expanded disaster management resources have achieved an exceptional success rate, with 95% of wildfires being brought under control within the first hour of being reported. Now when you say 95% of wildfires, I was studying the statistics this morning, and there were over 10 000 wildfires in this fire season and 95% of them were brought under control within the first hour of being reported and that is an extraordinary statistic. [Applause.] [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: Since 2012 we have gone from eight to 26 fire-fighting aircraft operating across 36 runways.

Mr S G TYATYAM: Tell me about it [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: We have also added ten purpose-built fire-fighting vehicles, deployed to rural municipalities across the province. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Tyatyam.

An HON MEMBER: He is frustrated.

Mr S G TYATYAM: Because do not tell me a lot of... [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Excuse me! The hon member will have an opportunity to express his frustration in the debate - not today. Thank you. You may proceed, hon Premier. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: In the meantime people must say, untruth!

Mr S G TYATYAM: Untruth, we must listen to the [Inaudible.]

Ms P MAKELENI: This is Cape Town for you.

The PREMIER: We have also added ten purpose-built fire-fighting vehicles, deployed to rural municipalities across the province. [Interjections.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: This is her last speech.

The PREMIER: Our resources enabled us to lead South Africa's largest fire-fighting effort around Knysna in 2017, during which 10 000 people were evacuated. In 2018 we combated the largest geographically-spread fire in South African history - the Outeniqua fires over a front of 180 kilometres.

We continue to support the City of Cape Town in their disaster relief efforts for urban fires, and we remember all those who have lost their lives and earthly belongings, from Khayelitsha to Betty's Bay. Even as we report on the extent of the relief efforts we express our deepest condolences to the loved ones of the 44 people who have lost their lives in fires since October last year, both in urban and rural settings... [Interjections.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: You did nothing about that.

The PREMIER: ...including fire-fighting and helicopter pilots.

An HON MEMBER: Ja, that helicopter did not go to Khayelitsha.

The PREMIER: Their job is hazardous and they perform it selflessly. We pay sincere respect to them and all their colleagues today. [Interjections.] Many of the thousands of fires in our province this summer were caused by human agency, mostly accidentally, often foolishly and sometimes even deliberately. Only human agency can solve this problem, Madam Speaker, and we must make concerted efforts to do so. Everyone can start by clearing alien vegetation on their property, never engaging in careless actions that

risk starting fires like shooting flares to celebrate something, and innovations that combat fires in dense urban settings.

Mr S G TYATYAM: What happened at the [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: Madam Speaker, I summarise the economic progress we are making and how we are innovating in response to economic threats. I now turn to the reason why we do what we do and the people to whom I dedicated my final term of office, which is soon to come to an end, and that is the youth.

An HON MEMBER: Where are the youth?

The PREMIER: Over the last ten years, we have spent R171 billion on education, skills and social opportunities for our young people. [Applause.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: You just share the money of the bourgeois. [Inaudible.].
It never reaches the poor.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Listen!

The SPEAKER: Order please.

Mr K E MAGAXA: Including your son.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Listen!

The SPEAKER: Order!

An HON MEMBER: Those that are not in school... [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: In 2018, Madam Speaker, we spent over R24,8 billion, 38% of our budget... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: I am sorry, Madam Speaker, I am addressing both sides of the House. Ministers Fritz, Schäfer, hon member Makeleni, you cannot engage in a conversation. Please compose yourselves.

Mr B D JOSEPH: I think he is sick.

The SPEAKER: I know you were sick, hon member Joseph, and it is very good to see you back. Thank you.

Mr B D JOSEPH: Thank you.

The SPEAKER: That is not a point of order. Carry on Premier, you may proceed.

An HON MEMBER: Because he was sick.

The PREMIER: Madam Speaker, in 2018 alone we spent over R24,8 billion, which was 38% of the budget, on child- and youth-related services, including eLearning, Broadband infrastructure, education, early childhood development and child protection services. Our Government has also prioritised a range of bursaries, skills training, internship and learnership opportunities for young people.

Mr C M DUGMORE: You did so much for children that you did not appoint the Commissioner that you promised in 2009.

The PREMIER: We designated Apprenticeships as a Game-Changer, and committed to work with National Government partners who run Technical and Vocational Education and Training colleges, known as TVET colleges. Much needs to be done to improve and promote TVETs. They really should be the engine rooms of opportunity for the majority of young people looking to start their careers.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: We are working with local high schools and colleges to create a skills pathway for our learners and with employers to open up the workplace for apprenticeships and other training opportunities.

An HON MEMBER: There is nothing new, there is nothing new from what you were saying.

The PREMIER: Despite the country's sluggish economic growth, our Apprenticeships Game-Changer is on track to meet our 2019 target of 11 000 learners entering apprenticeship training opportunities and of 13 000 qualified apprentices entering the labour market in our key sectors. This is significant growth from a base of just 1170 and just 540 respectively and if the hon the Opposition was not so busy trying to interject they would understand how significant those statistics are as a pipeline to jobs and skills for young people. [Interjections.]

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

Ms S W DAVIDS: We do not see any of this. There is more poverty. We do not see any [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: Since 2012, Madam Speaker, we have run a government-wide internship programme, known as the Premier's Advancement of Youth, or PAY Programme. Around 4 300 internship opportunities have been created since PAY's inception. [Interjection.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: Go Enkanini, go Barcelona.

The PREMIER: This includes 700 opportunities just this year alone, which the Province is funding to the value of R31 million. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Tyatyam! [Interjections.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: Come to [Inaudible.] The people do not feel that way.

The PREMIER: Our other major bursaries and learnerships over two terms include the Masakh'iSizwe Bursary scheme in disciplines involving the built environment - that is 776 bursaries at R86 million; and the National Youth Service Learnership and Skills Programme. That is 2959 beneficiaries at R65,8 million. [Interjections.]

Ms P MAKELENI: And it is not how you said, it is not [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: The Chrysalis Academy trains 600 youth annually and our Further Education College Training Partnership has afforded more than 1000 youth the opportunity of furthering their education. [Interjections.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: It is carrying on with things that National Government implemented. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: You have got to be joking.

The PREMIER: The Chrysalis Academy, Madam Speaker, was a purely provincial intervention... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr C M DUGMORE: Like your TVET claims.

The PREMIER: ...and it always has been and perhaps one of the biggest mistakes we made as a government was to transfer control of the TVETs to National Government, which is where much of their problems emanate from.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: We have spent R53,7 million over five years on youth opportunity initiatives for the agricultural sector. Over 990 young people have benefitted from bursaries, internships, exchange programmes and post-graduate studies. [Interjections.]

At our own Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute, 915 youth completed various qualifications.

Since 2014 we have provided 6575 Health bursaries to medical students across various disciplines at a cost of R247 million.

Mr K E MAGAXA: And you are preventing our children from learning too, free.

The PREMIER: We have quadrupled the number of young people benefiting from Youth Development Services, specifically through our Social Development Department, from 5600 in 2009 to 19 400 in 2018. [Applause.]

Madam Speaker, our biggest budget item for youth is, of course, basic

education - perhaps the most intractable challenge in democratic South Africa.

Mr K E MAGAXA: 6000 children without school as we talk now.

The PREMIER: Those are outdated figures, so get your figures and your facts right before you come and interject here. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Premier, kindly address the Chair.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Talk about the real issues.

Mr K E MAGAXA: I want you to give us the right figures.

The SPEAKER: Order please! [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Madam Speaker... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Take your seat Premier please. Kindly take your seat. We cannot via interjections pose questions to the Premier. If you wish to pose a question you do it through the Chair. I will then request if the Premier wishes to take the question. [Interjections.]

If she does not then you need to wait for the debate on Tuesday. Thank you. [Interjections.] You may proceed, Hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Hon Premier, may I address you?

The SPEAKER: Yes, of course you may.

The PREMIER: Madam Speaker, I have resolved not to respond to interjections from the hon the Opposition.

An HON MEMBER: But you have been doing it up to now.

The SPEAKER: They are so uninformed... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Uh-huh, like you are doing now.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The PREMIER: And I am afraid ignorant and unfounded in fact that to let these facts that allegedly are given by the hon the Opposition, hang in the air, are totally intolerable. [Interjections.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: I was addressing them yesterday, Madam, for your attention.

The PREMIER: But from now on, Madam Speaker, I will ignore them on condition that this House realises how without foundation they are, and I will continue and take them on head-on in the debate next week.

An HON MEMBER: I think I am going all [Inaudible.]

An HON MEMBER: Ja, because you think you are the only one that knows.

[Interjections.]

Ms P MAKELENI: Because you have got to be centre, you like to do so.

[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Excuse me hon Premier, there is a point of order. Hon Premier, kindly take your seat. Hon member Joseph, is it a point of order?

Mr B D JOSEPH: Yes. I would like to say that we - myself... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Is it a point of order hon member Joseph?

Mr B D JOSEPH: I am taking exception for the attitude that the Premier displays in terms of thinking of us ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: That is not a point of order, hon member Joseph. Kindly take your seat. Chief Whip Wiley, it is not sustained. Take your seat. That is not a point of order. You may proceed hon Premier. [Simultaneous interjections.]

May I appeal to both sides of the House, on my right and on my left.

[Interjections.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: Does she have a monopoly on [Inaudible.]

An HON MEMBER: Please sit!

The SPEAKER: Order please, hon member Dugmore.

The PREMIER: I do not have a monopoly! You do not have anything.
[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore, if I may address you, there is no “she”. In terms of the proceeding it is the Premier or the hon Premier. We do not refer to each other as “he” or “she”, we refer to each other as “honourable”. Thank you. [Interjections.] Order please!

Mr K E MAGAXA: With dark glasses †nogal! [at that!]

†Me S W DAVIDS: Jissie.

[Ms S W DAVIDS: Oh my.]

The SPEAKER: That is so irrelevant hon member Magaxa!

Ms P MAKELENI: She has been talking about us, you did not protect us.

The SPEAKER: Hon members, please! [Interjections.]

Ms P MAKELENI: Why are you allowing her to insinuate to us, and our features. You should have stopped that from happening.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Will you shut up!

Ms P MAKELENI: She does not have the [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Sorry, I heard that, hon member Davids. Minister Fritz? Hon Premier, take your seat please. [Interjections.] Minister Fritz, Minister Fritz, may I address you?

Ms S W DAVIDS: I am not your dog! I am not your dog!

The SPEAKER: Hon member Davids [Interjections.]

Ms S W DAVIDS: Do not tell me to shut up! I am not your dog!

The SPEAKER: Hon member Davids! [Interjections.] Hon member Davids, please, I am addressing the hon Minister Fritz. Minister Fritz, if I may address you, to say “shut up” is completely inappropriate and unparliamentary. I would like you to withdraw that.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: I withdraw. Thanks.

[Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon members, this is an important occasion. Let us try and manage ourselves with dignity and respect - both sides of the House. We have an audience, we have the electorate out there and they expect better from us. We are paid with taxpayers' money. The least we can do is give them their money's worth. So let us manage ourselves and get on with the business of the day. You may proceed, hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you. Thank you Madam Speaker. Our biggest budget item for youth is of course basic education, perhaps the most intractable problem in democratic South Africa.

To address this challenge, we recently passed the most significant measure in education reform since 1994... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: The introduction of an independent Schools Evaluation Authority (SEA).

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Hear-hear! [Applause.]

The PREMIER: We believe the SEA will deepen accountability in public education. In time, every school in the province will be independently

evaluated, with a focus on the efficacy of teaching and learning in the classroom. [Interjection.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: And drinking, and drinking!

The PREMIER: The reports will be published online for parents to see how a school is performing. Our reading and math scores are higher than the national averages of all African states included in the wide-ranging SACMEQ IV report.

†n AGBARE LID: Asseblief tog!

[An HON MEMBER: Oh, please!]

The PREMIER: This is an authoritative internationally published study around the mid-point of our time in office, and we only expect to improve from this point.

Ms P MAKELENI: Our people are waiting for us outside, just you are wasting our time. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: The SACMEQ report further indicated that the Western Cape has an advanced reading score that is double the national average...

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Hear-hear! [Applause.]

Ms P MAKELENI: According to her.

The PREMIER: 72,7% compared to 36,1% nationally. We were also well ahead of the second-ranked province, Gauteng, at 54%. So our advanced reading score was 72,7% and Gauteng, the second-ranked province, was 54%. Part of this success has been a drive to get children into education earlier.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Give the dropout rate also.

The PREMIER: By 2018, the number of children in our funded Early Childhood Development Centres had increased to 76 000, compared to 50 000 in 2009.

Monitoring and testing in the earlier grades is another key part of our strategy, and our systemic tests require 50% for a pass. Our approach to matric results is also different because we look beyond the pass rate, emphasising key indicators of quality: keeping young people in schools for as long as possible, which we call the retention rate; access to higher education measured through the number of bachelor passes; maths passes; and science passes, and we are also still the only province testing matric markers for competency. Again the results are showing.

Our retention rate from Grades 10 to 12 is the highest in the country by a significant margin, at around 63% for the 2018 cohort. No other province managed even to get a retention rate of over 50%.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: In summary, since 2009 the overall matric pass rate has increased from 75,7% to 81,5% in 2018. [Interjections.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: I do not clap for her.

Ms P MAKELENI: I still do not believe her. [Applause.]

The PREMIER: The Bachelor pass rate, Madam Speaker, has increased from 31,9% to 42,3% in 2018. The proportion of Bachelors passes in Quintiles 1 to 3 schools, which are the poorest schools, has more than doubled since 2009.

An HON MEMBER: hear-hear!

†n AGBARE LID: Mooi! [Applous.]

[An HON MEMBER: Good! [Applause.]]

Ms P MAKELENI: Thank you to the teachers and the learners! The teachers [Inaudible.]

The SPEAKER: Order please.

The PREMIER: The Maths pass rate has increased from 64,9% in 2009 to 76% in 2018. The Science pass rate increased from 52,9% to 79,5% in 2018.

It is simply impossible to achieve these results without pro-poor education policies and that is what we have followed.

Ms P MAKELENI: And it is not you who did this.

The PREMIER: Around 40% of all Western Cape schools are no-fee schools. We also use our own provincial funds to assist a further 218 Quintile 4 schools that need support because of the poverty-stricken children who attend them. [Interjections.]

This year we budgeted R53 million for fee-exemption to assist poor learners to attend fee-paying schools, far exceeding any other province in this pro-poor policy. [Applause.] In 2009, the pass rate in the poorer schools was 57,5%.

Mr S G TYATYAM: Because of the number of people.

The PREMIER: By 2018 it had risen to 70,5%.

An HON MEMBER: Now that is a good story.

The PREMIER: We have seen similar pass rates increase by 10,6% in Quintile 2 and 15,6% in Quintile 3 during the same period so poor learners have shown the greatest improvement because of our investment and efforts. If we want every child to get access to quality education, we have to improve

education quality in all schools and in all our schools. [Interjections.]

It is impossible to fit every child into the limited number of really high quality schools in the system, and it is unfair to make them responsible for systemic failure. There are many willing private sector partners who want to make a difference in basic education, and we will continue to promote their involvement.

An HON MEMBER: What are the challenges?

The PREMIER: We are refining a unique model called Collaboration Schools. So far we have established ten collaboration schools in disadvantaged communities... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: That is privatisation.

The PREMIER: ...as part of a pilot project, attracting R150 million in private funding to public schools. The model involves a genuine partnership with the private sector, where operating partners with educational expertise enter into contracts with the Western Cape Education Department and with funders, to achieve specified education outcomes in particular public schools.

This is not only improving education outcomes, we are also seeing improved parental involvement, which is a critical success factor. Madam Speaker, there is no doubt our education system is under major pressure on a number

of fronts. Demand for places is growing, and learners often arrive in January without being registered by their parents the previous year.

Mr K E MAGAXA: What are you doing with the children out of school in February?

The PREMIER: More than 113 000 learners have relocated to the Western Cape since 2014, with an additional 16 285 learners arriving from other provinces for the start of the 2019 academic year.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Gauteng has got the same [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: Each learner that enters the province costs the Department around R14 000 per year excluding infrastructure costs...

Mr C M DUGMORE: What is your plan to help the children?

The PREMIER: ...and we do our best to meet their needs. The cost over the last five years is more than R1,84 billion and for this year alone it is estimated at R414 million.

Mr S G TYATYAM: So it is about the cost?

The PREMIER: But the funding from the National Treasury does not follow the learners. [Interjections.]

Mr S G TYATYAM: How long are you talking about?

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, kindly take your seat. Is it a point of order, hon member Magaxa?

Mr K E MAGAXA: Yes Madam Speaker, but also we have been really tolerant in listening to the Premier... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Your point of order, hon member Magaxa?

Mr K E MAGAXA: ...and I think we cannot continue listening to this.

The SPEAKER: Take your seat please, Chief Whip. [Interjections.]

Mr K E MAGAXA: Therefore, Madam Speaker, as the ANC we are going to go out here... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, thank you.

Mr K E MAGAXA: ...and give the real State of the Province outside this.

An HON MEMBER: With 200 people?

Mr K E MAGAXA: This is a distortion. This is a distortion of the reality that this province is facing. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Ms S W DAVIDS: Yes.

Mr K E MAGAXA: There are 6 000 children who are out of school and the Premier is saying absolutely nothing about that. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon member Magaxa! Hon member Magaxa that is not a point of order. [Simultaneous interjections.]

The House is suspended. [Applause.]

[Business of the House suspended and the ANC leaves the chamber.]

An HON MEMBER: DA must go! DA must go! [Simultaneous interjections.]
[Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members, kindly leave, do not be rude and disrespectful. Hon members, kindly leave. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: [Inaudible.] What is he going to say to us?

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dijana! [Interjections.] Hon member Dijana, hon member Dijana and hon member Nkondlo... [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: You must not do this!

The SPEAKER: Please leave!

An HON MEMBER: Leave! [Interjections.]

†n AGBARE LID: Skande!

[An HON MEMBER: Disgrace!]

[Clicking of tongue.]

The SPEAKER: I heard that, hon member Dijana! Thank you.

[The ANC leaves the chamber.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr M G E WILEY: Madam Speaker, may I address you?

The SPEAKER: Yes, Chief Whip.

Mr M G E WILEY: The thuggish behaviour we have just experienced by the ANC cannot go unpunished and I am going to at a later sitting put a motion of censure to those members. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Take your seat please, hon member Joseph.

Mr M G E WILEY: Interacting with the hon Premier's husband is totally unacceptable.

An HON MEMBER: Unacceptable.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Joseph, take your seat please. There is a member on the floor. Take your seat.

Mr M G E WILEY: It is totally unacceptable.

The SPEAKER: Take your seat, please!

Mr M G E WILEY: And I would ask for your support when this motion comes about.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. I will certainly revert to Hansard. I will revisit the visuals. I could not see the altercation on this side but it would be the duty of the House and the Table staff to revisit the incident. I apologise for what has transpired and I apologise to our guest in the Chamber.

You may proceed, Hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. After that staged walkout the hon members of the Opposition were just waiting for a big enough crowd to assemble outside.

The SPEAKER: If you could take your seat please, hon Premier. The hon Joseph is on the floor.

Mr B D JOSEPH: Madam Speaker, I take exception to the way that you have shown me with the finger.

The SPEAKER: Yes.

Mr B D JOSEPH: In layman's terms you want to constitute a fight.

The SPEAKER: Okay. [Laughter.] [Interjections.] That very finger you were pointing...

Mr B D JOSEPH: But, but I will put it in writing, my complaint.

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr B D JOSEPH: Because I see you do not want to address certain people in the gallery... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Joseph, this is not... [Interjection.]

Mr B D JOSEPH: No-no-no.

The SPEAKER: Should you wish... [Interjection.]

Mr B D JOSEPH: I see you do not want to address certain people from the gallery if they are having an attitude in this House. You have said at the start of this sitting... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: I did.

Mr B D JOSEPH: ...that the people in the gallery should not participate in the debate and you have explained...

The SPEAKER: Participate in the proceedings - that is right.

Mr B D JOSEPH: ...but I see you allow it.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Joseph, I did not have full vision of what was transpiring. I told you that I will revert to Hansard. We will revisit the audio but as an hon member - Chief Whip, kindly take your seat please - you should know that when an hon member is on the floor it is deemed prudent for you to stay in your seat until you are recognised and that was what I was calling you out on because you defied me by standing, knowing that you should have been seated. Thank you. Chief Whip Wiley.

Mr M G E WILEY: Thank you Madam Speaker. Under the Rules of the House, Rule 41 and 44, I must insist please that if members want to stand up and unilaterally make statements without authority they must be asked to withdraw from the Chamber.

The SPEAKER: Thank you Chief Whip. It is noted. May we proceed? Hon Premier, I apologise for the walkout. I do suspect there was method to the madness but you may proceed with your presentation.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. As we know that was a staged walkout and they chose their timing very badly because I am just explaining exactly what we are doing to place the children who have not been able to be placed because of late arrivals at schools and we are working day and night to ensure that those children can be placed, but the hon the Opposition was, as I said, waiting for enough of a crowd to gather outside to go and hold their protest and now we can continue in peace and the rest of the citizens listening in on YouTube and other mechanisms can actually hear what I am saying.

An HON MEMBER: Thank you.

The PREMIER: So I am very grateful for that. The cost over the last five years for learners coming into this province for which there was no budget, was R1,84 billion and for this year alone it is estimated at R414 million. The problem is that the funding from the National Treasury does not follow the learners. If the funding did follow the learners we would be in a far better position to accommodate all of the learners from infrastructure to learning resources and teachers.

This is a major flaw in the system, Madam Speaker that must be rectified.

Besides these pressures, the nationally negotiated wage increases have had a devastating impact on our budget. Provinces were left to cover those increases without any additional funding, despite the recklessly negotiated salary increases that went way beyond the agreed negotiating mandate.

The result of all of this is very sadly growing class sizes, because of insufficient funding to provide additional educators and classrooms, which we so desperately need.

What is more, the Western Cape's population is projected to grow by 57 000 people each year between now and 2030 so budgets in which funding follows people is an absolutely essential prerequisite for meeting governmental obligation in this country. To run a rapidly growing education system, the reality is that spending will need to increase by 3,5% a year, with a 57% real increase required between now and 2030.

Without a capable state at provincial level our system would already have seized up. We have waited long enough for reforms in national funding policy and there is not a moment to waste if we want to be ready for the enormous challenges ahead that I have just spelt out.

For our part, we have built on average 13 schools and 206 new classrooms, for every year we have been in office since 2009. This amounts to 132 schools and close to 2,057 classrooms over our two terms. Between 2004 and 2009 under a previous administration, just 42 schools were built at a far

slower rate.

The Fourth Industrial Revolution has been central to our planning for education. Learners need to be prepared for a digital world and the smart use of technology is one way of coping with a growing education system. This is an enormously challenging undertaking and involves a great deal more than getting a tablet to each child.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: There are many complex inter-dependent steps that need to be successfully undertaken before technology can make any difference in education, but for the infrastructure needs we have made significant progress and have reached our target of full Broadband coverage reaching a total of 1 875 sites, including over 1 200 schools, more than 200 libraries and approximately 400 other public facilities.

We are now converting 1 600 of the province's Broadband points into free WIFI sites, with three gigabytes free data to the public each month, and South Africa's cheapest top-up rate of R15 for two gigabytes, which is 40% lower than the nearest mobile competitor. [Applause.]

The Broadband programme prioritises schools and our eLearning Game-Changer and those are laying the foundation for our children's digital future. In total, we have invested R1,4 billion into eLearning and the

infrastructure required over the past five years. We expect the positive results to become evident over time as we continue to resolve obstacles in the pipeline, simplify the system, gather data and measure learner outcomes. During this term we connected over 80% of schools to free internet, refreshed 1 160 computer laboratories, delivered over 28 800 devices, created an online portal with 11 000 learning resources and trained 70% of teachers in eLearning techniques.

Our biggest challenge remains stable connectivity capable of supporting multiple devices simultaneously, and the Eskom crisis certainly does not help. We must nevertheless press ahead to create a transformed culture of education, supported to the maximum extent by cutting-edge technology and our teachers who have been so willing to grasp this new opportunity must be thanked and congratulated for their efforts.

The general public can also access free internet in 70 Cape Access Centres, the majority of which have been built in some of the most remote rural towns in this province. Since 2013 our Social Development Department has established nine Youth Cafés, now receiving 10 000 visits from young people every month and four more cafés will be opening soon.

Our 373 library centres account for more than 20% of all libraries across the nine provinces in South Africa. We have built 53 new libraries and upgraded a further 18 since 2009, for a total investment of R1,5 billion. This has empowered 42 more communities in 22 municipalities since we came into

office. Rural libraries have also been connected to free, high-speed internet in 24 municipalities. Over 15,6 million library items were issued to the over 811 000 registered library users in the province during 2017. For this reason, the Western Cape holds the highest library membership in South Africa and by far the highest book circulation figures of any province.

†n AGBARE LID: Mooi! [Applous.]

[An HON MEMBER: Good! [Applause.]]

The PREMIER: Madam Speaker, since the start of our After-School Game-Changer in 2014, we have achieved a more than four-fold increase in learners attending regular quality After-School Programmes. There has been a concurrent 187% increase in schools with registered programmes, up from 188 to 539.

The number of learners participating regularly and consistently has increased from 14 900 at the start of the project to 81 100 this year, with a positive effect on learner outcomes, reducing school dropout rates and helping to prevent high-risk behaviour. We are also professionalising the After-School sector with nearly 500 coaches professionally trained to date. We have introduced a Practitioner's Code of Conduct at NQF Level 6, which is a training programme and a post-graduate qualification, in partnership with universities.

Funding for local sports organisations has increased by 124% since 2009,

with an average of 120 organisations supported at grassroots level each year. From the grassroots upwards, Madam Speaker, we are placing Cape Town on the global sporting map.

Since 2009 the number of major sporting events we support has increased by 248% with 92 events this year, compared to just 25 events when we took office. No government - no government anywhere - can substitute for active and involved parents.

That is why one of our flagship partnerships involves more than 2 000 parents and volunteers actively chaperoning school children via Walking Buses to and from some 222 schools in 75 communities.

During school holidays our Youth Safety Religious Partnership (YSRP) has been funded to the tune of R29 million and reached more than 108 000 young people since its inception in 2012.

Our Alcohol Harms Reduction Game-Changer has also focused on recreational alternatives for the youth, introducing a computer-based I-CAN Gaming Centre in Town 2 in Khayelitsha to keep our young people safe and occupied during the school holidays. CCTV cameras were also installed in the area as part of this initiative, and in a recent community survey a total of 74% of respondents in the area said that they felt their neighbourhood is a better and safer place compared to a year ago due to these initiatives.

An HON MEMBER: Well done!

The PREMIER: Madam Speaker, South Africa is one of the few countries in the world that does not devolve policing functions to Regional and Provincial Government. This is a major challenge and something we believe needs to be changed. While we do not have operational control in any sense over policing, we have worked hard to build the partnerships needed for safer schools.

We are improving coordination amongst law enforcement authorities by chairing a provincial School Safety Priority Committee. Our Education Department runs a dedicated Safe Schools Call Centre and we have a permanent Safe Schools representative at the Cape Town Traffic Management Centre, where law enforcement agencies converge. The dedicated schools officer co-ordinates his responses to safety problems at schools across all law enforcement agencies from this point.

In addition, Madam Speaker, a total of 109 school resource officers have also been deployed to 53 schools in high crime areas playing a crucial role in enhancing safety. Crime has an impact on a range of critical infrastructure and services, none more so than our rail commuter network. PRASA, the National Government entity which operates the train service, requires 88 train sets to run an effective service in greater Cape Town. The available sets are now down to 46 - just over half the number required - due to arson, cable theft, and vandalism. Arson damage to trains has amounted to over

R500 million with 148 coaches destroyed in 32 incidents since October 2015. Passengers have been forced to abandon the train service in large numbers.

In 2014, over 608 000 Capetonians used trains every day to commute. By 2017 this number dropped by over 60% to approximately only 200 000 daily commuters. This statistic, more than any other, shows the direct link between the dysfunctional rail system and congestion on our roads. The other consequence has been increased daily commuter costs - as all other modes cost more than rail - as well as an increase in travel time and frustration for everyone. We have had no choice but to invest provincial resources to compensate for the collapse of vital functions under National Government control.

One is a new Rail Enforcement Unit (REU), which is now in operation, thanks to the Province's Transport and Public Works Department and the City of Cape Town, signing a Memorandum of Agreement with PRASA. In this province we have invested R16 million towards a hundred additional security officials on trains and the results are beginning to show.

In just over three months of operation, the Rail Enforcement Unit has conducted over 11 800 searches; made over 430 confiscations and arrested 52 individuals across 75 operations.

Rail safety, school safety and general vandalism - all of these are symptoms of a police force that is under-resourced and demoralised. As many as 85%

of police stations in the Western Cape do not have the necessary manpower or resources to effectively address crime, according to oversight conducted by the Provincial Parliament.

The average police-to-population ratio for the Western Cape currently stands at one officer to 509 residents. This is much higher than the national average of one to 369. In the Metro the situation is worse at one to 560.

Crime is highest where police are most under-resourced and the criminal justice pipeline is broken. The handful of convictions in gang-related crimes are failing to make an impact, with convictions rates as low as 10% in gang-affected precincts.

In response, we set up a unique Court Watching Briefs Unit, monitoring 3 269 cases in 40 courts across the province in 2017. In many instances the work of this unit successfully prevents cases being dropped from the roll and helps achieve convictions on the basis of evidence.

In total, we have made over a dozen formal demands for more policing resources in the Western Cape and we certainly do so every year in our annual policing plan, which the National Government is supposed to base its allocation to the Western Cape on. In this regard, because our petitions have failed, we welcome the recent High Court ruling ordering the National Government to provide more policing resources in poorer, unsafe communities and we are grateful to the NGOs that helped drive this

initiative.

More recently, we offered to fund additional policing reservists to bolster policing resources and to encourage our 84 000 provincial employees to take up administrative relief duties at identified stations in support of police personnel.

To hold the police and the National Government accountable the Western Cape has pushed the boundaries of its oversight powers over policing more than has happened in any other province, and there is much more in the pipeline.

The background to the establishment of the Khayelitsha Commission of Inquiry and the creation of the Office of the Police Ombudsman are well known. I do not have to repeat them here.

The bottom line is that we are the only provincial government to have defined our oversight powers in legislation, with the promulgation of the Community Safety Act. Formal accreditation and resource support to Neighbourhood Watches is another first for South Africa, also under that Act. So far we have accredited over 290 Neighbourhood Watch structures with a vetted membership of 14 000.

These organisations are the core of safety partnerships that must develop further to involve every resource, formal and informal, that our Government

and communities can muster, applying technology to help enhance community safety.

Madam Speaker, these partnerships must be bolstered by the work we are doing to promote spatial transformation. There are many components in this strategy, including Integrated Human Settlements, Affordable Housing, Development Planning, Traffic Management and Public Transport.

Since 2009, we have delivered 212 967 housing opportunities. I see that Minister Madikizela counted them to the last seven. So we have delivered 212 967 housing opportunities across the Western Cape. [Applause.]

In the current term we have exceeded our combined target for housing and service sites in every financial year since 2014 and we are on track to meet 100% of our targets by the end of this term. As a result of our Human Settlements delivery strategy during this term, we injected R19,3 billion into the construction and real estate sector, and consistently ensured that not less than 50% thereof benefits SMMEs.

This has facilitated an estimated 2 400 job opportunities in the construction industry, with 342 young people completing our capacity building programme.

Going forward a total of 105 500 housing opportunities are in the pipeline for completion by 2022, as part of our Catalytic Programme and all of those

projects are at various stages of design, planning and construction.

Opportunities are aimed at the poorest residents and will benefit amongst others, informal settlement dwellers along the N2 in Cape Town and we would be able to move far more quickly if it was not for internal community conflicts; also for farm workers in Transhex of the Breede Valley and Vlakkeland in Paarl as well as residents of the Southern Cape in areas such as Thembaletu, Wilderness Heights and Syferfontein. We are also placing a particular emphasis on property ownership as a pathway out of poverty. Since 2009, 103 000 people have received title deeds across the Western Cape.

In every financial year of the current term the Western Cape has exceeded its title deed delivery targets by a minimum of 2000. This has reduced poverty as beneficiaries are now property owners. Through our efforts in the Western Cape we have brought the title deeds backlog down to 25%, compared to 59% nationally. This has been possible through a dedicated team tasked to expedite the transfer of title deeds across the Province.

Madam Speaker, I have used this platform on many occasions to advocate for fundamental reform in the National Housing Policy and the nationally-set subsidy regime, within which we must work. Demand for housing is simply too high to sustain the old model of free housing only limited to the truly indigent. Government must understand that its key role in housing provision is to facilitate and incentivise large-scale private sector entry in low-cost

formal housing, using subsidies to make the end product more affordable for the end-user, rather than free.

The future of human settlements is for residents to make some contribution to their housing, supported by integrated financial models that include state subsidies, market cross-subsidisation and bank funding. But the basis of all this, yet again, has to be economic growth, investment and jobs. No-one can contribute to their own housing without a job. Without growth and jobs, little else is possible or sustainable in our view. [Applause.]

Madam Speaker, this brings to me what is known as the Conradie Better Living Model Game-Changer. Using a 22-hectare provincially-owned property in Pinelands, an inner city feeder suburb, we have devised a way of delivering affordable housing through a combination of subsidies, grant-funding and private sector involvement.

After a focused 3-year effort, run directly by a dedicated project team, we broke ground on the project in January this year. The development will provide 3 602 residential units, of which 1 764 will be grant-subsidised and therefore be more affordable. The pioneering Better Living Model leverages the remaining open market units to cross-subsidise the affordable units. This makes the overall development viable and replicable.

The R3 billion estimated total construction cost will include commercial space, parks and recreational spaces and two new schools. It will also

catalyse upgrades to road infrastructure and public transport in the surrounding area. Over 13 600 jobs will be created by this project.

Another game-changing affordable housing project that has reached execution stage includes the Belhar CBD Project, which will deliver 4 188 units in total near to several key education institutions, and the Somerset Precinct at the V&A Waterfront with over 300 units planned for the Helen Bowden site in Phase 1, if we can resolve the challenge of the current unlawful occupation of that building.

Outside of the Metro, we have gained approval for restructuring zones and status will be granted in eleven towns around the province, enabling grant-funding for affordable housing to be used in these areas. In total there are more than 23 000 social rental housing units and 19 000 affordable ownership projects in the planning pipeline over the next ten years. [Applause.] And this includes both Cape Town and eleven non-Metro towns, with a total value in excess of R7 billion.

One of the main factors encumbering development projects currently is the uncoordinated public participation processes required by various local, provincial and national authorities. This means one development can be subject to more than six different public participation processes, with timelines running up to 18 months each. Cabinet has agreed that it is a priority to integrate various public participation processes to allow for comment from the public in a more streamlined way, while still protecting

the quality and the purpose of public participation.

This will require changes in legislation but we believe that the critical need streamlining and speeding housing delivery requires this. Over and above this, we have also proposed significant amendments to other legislation that creates inefficiencies and blocks the delivery process without adding tangible value.

While very little of substance was said on housing policy in the State of the Nation address, I was pleased to hear the President's commitment to releasing National Government land in urban settings for housing development. We have asked the National Government to do this for a long time and now we at least have a verbal commitment. Cape Town is particularly well-endowed with such land, owned either by the South African National Defence Force or Transnet.

Our calculations indicate that the sites known as Culemborg, Ysterplaat, Youngsfield, Wingfield and Denel could yield close to 100 000 affordable housing units. The National Government is also responsible for developing District Six, but 23 years later this prime land remains mostly undeveloped, save for just 139 units.

The nationally-owned mega-properties in Cape Town and District Six demonstrate something very important. It is entirely possible to make progress with significant land reform without expropriating property without

compensation. The land is there. [Applause.] The land is there in large areas. It just takes a capable state to make efficient use of the prime land currently available.

HON MEMBERS: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: And so Madam Speaker, my challenge to President Ramaphosa today is this: give us an urgent public commitment to release these properties along with the necessary budget, and we will apply our Better Living Model for game-changing affordable housing on these sites. The model is now in place and we can move really quickly.

Local Government also has a big role to play across all of our housing programmes, particularly in terms of bulk infrastructure which is obviously needed to support integrated human settlements. Through our monitoring and support role we have assisted municipalities to deliver on their basic service mandate. Access to piped water stands at 99% overall in the province, according to Stats SA June 2018 Census for Municipalities. Access to electricity is at 97% - that is when Eskom is not load-shedding, it is at 97% and Waste Removal is at 98%.

On Sanitation, 14 out of the top 20 municipalities with the highest household access to sanitation are in just one province - the Western Cape. Overstrand at 99,2% is the highest in the land according to the Stats SA Community Survey 2016.

Poorer households in the Western Cape benefit the most from free basic services. According to Stats SA data in 2017, our province showed the highest proportion of consumer units for:

- Free basic water - 76,4% of consumers, and while in the Western Cape with 76,4% for free basic water, the next province was the Eastern Cape with 41,8%.
- Free basic electricity to 32% followed by the Eastern Cape at 27,8%
- Free basic sewerage and sanitation at 67,9% following by the Eastern Cape at 39,2%.

Today, residents in remote rural locations are also more easily accessible to a range of Government services. Since 2009 we have added nine new Thusong Centres to the 28 across the province and these provide services to 1.3 million people annually who would otherwise battle to access a range of Government support services due to their remote rural location. And travelling across the province as I do, it is quite touching to see what the provision of a Thusong Centre means in people's lives.

Municipal - given all these combined efforts, it is no wonder that in 2018 Ratings Afrika rated the Western Cape municipalities as the best in the country with a combined average rating of 62% compared to the national average of 41%. Municipal IQ also found that a total of eight out of top ten municipalities in the national Municipal Productivity Index are in the Western Cape. So 80% of the most productive municipalities in the country

are in this province.

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

The PREMIER: Beyond the monitoring and support we provide to municipalities, we view Local Government as our allies in development and growth. Our Regional Socio-Economic Programme that we know as RSEP is a joint planning initiative with municipalities to develop infrastructure in disadvantaged communities.

Since inception in 2014, we have expanded the RSEP programme to ten municipalities. A total of R310 million has so far been injected into RSEP projects through a combination of funding mechanisms.

Projects include safe walkways, trading hubs for local entrepreneurs, multi-purpose sports courts, and youth centres with free access to the internet in rural communities.

We are also applying both the RSEP and the Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading methods to a flagship development in Manenberg. Here we are giving substance to the vision of a Youth Lifestyle Campus spanning dozens of city blocks, connected by safe, well-lit promenades and state-of-the-art education facilities.

Together with our community partners, we have devised a preferred scenario

for how best to deliver a 590-bed Regional Hospital, four upgraded primary schools and a brand new School of Skills so desperately needed in that community.

Having laid the foundation in this term together with the City and the community, I look forward to witnessing the spatial transformation of Manenberg in the years to come [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: But this must go hand in hand with social transformation. The purpose is to offer youth a viable alternative to the gangs-and-drugs culture. It is up to them, their families and parents and communities to seize this opportunity.

Ongoing investment into our roads network in particular, has made communities more connected and economically active. In total, Madam Speaker, we have spent over R22 billion since 2009, half on maintaining the good network of roads under provincial authority and half on constructing new roads. Our investment has ensured that 95% of all kilometres travelled by vehicles in the Western Cape are on roads in a fair to very good condition, according to a comprehensive study. Not only do we keep roads in good condition, we are also making them safer by leading in traffic management innovation.

Our firsts include mobile evidentiary breath alcohol testing; random breathalyser testing; hand-held devices for traffic officials; award-winning public communications campaigns and a forthcoming Transport Intelligence Hub for world-class coordination, not to mention number-plate recognition which puts the fear of immediate detection on many non-law-abiding citizens. The results of our efforts are becoming clear. We have reduced road deaths by over 30% in the last ten years and child road deaths by over 40%.

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

The PREMIER: This is at least 2 587 lives saved, an estimated 50 700 injuries prevented and that could have been any one of us - who knows, and a saving to the economy of R18 billion in terms of income loss prevented. During this term we also established South Africa's first non-Metro Integrated Public Transit Network in George. The bus service currently operates on 14 routes, and conveys in excess of 300 000 passengers per month.

A total of 248 people are permanently employed by the vehicle operating company, all of whom - except for two - were previously involved in the minibus and small bus industries in George.

We recently introduced an Automated Fare Collection system and this service was also the first to introduce branded mini busses that are specifically accessible to people with disabilities, which brings me to a topic that is very

close to my heart - people living with disabilities.

This has been a consideration in all the work that we do, across every portfolio and I thank my Cabinet colleagues for caring so much about this important and often neglected sector of society.

In 2009, just 120 people with disabilities received specialised services from Provincial Government - just 120 people received specialised services from this Provincial Government. This has increased radically to 88 000 in 2018.

[Applause.]

This, Madam Speaker, was made possible by a survey to actually find people in need of this service and the trebling of our Disabilities Budget from R45 million in 2009 to over R162 million in 2018. Over 50 NGOs are now rendering specialised support services and we have also developed a referral pathway between the Social Development, Health and Education Departments.

Our range of support services is a key reason why 64% of all special needs matriculants came from the Western Cape - 64% across the whole of South Africa, of special needs matriculants came from the Western Cape...

[Applause.] despite the fact that our province is only home to 12% of South Africa's total population.

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

The PREMIER: As a caring Government, we have expanded our social services footprint dramatically since coming into office. Our Social Development Department has grown from one head office and 16 district offices in 2009 to 45 live local offices and various service points or satellite offices in 2018.

This has increased our reach by 176% between 2009 and 2018, bringing services closer to the vulnerable, the abused, the elderly and to children. In total there are 1 510 social work professionals across this province compared to a third of that number, just 503 available posts in 2009. We have also gone the extra mile to reach out to people in need of substance abuse treatment, which is such a critical problem and often intractable problem in this province.

We have grown our network of funded substance abuse treatment services from a mere seven in 2009, to 51 organisations working at 76 sites across the province today.

An HON MEMBER: hear-hear!

The PREMIER: During the current term of office, we provided:

- Early intervention services to over 30 000 individuals and of course the sooner you identify a substance abuse problem the more easily you can intervene;

- Aftercare and reintegration services to nearly 9000 individuals;
- In-patient treatment to over 5000 service users; and
- Out-patient treatment to nearly 10 000 users.

We have also focused on tackling the negative effects of alcohol abuse in communities under our Alcohol Harms Reduction Game-changer. Although we have such an intractable substance abuse problem, Madam Speaker, the one that still inflicts the most damage especially through violence and fatal car crashes, is alcohol.

One of our focused areas has been ensuring greater adherence to the rule of law as it relates to liquor sales both in terms of the regulatory environment and at a community level.

We have been working closely with communities and law enforcement agencies in three pilot target areas, namely Khayelitsha Town 2; Gunya, the abbreviation for Gugulethu and Nyanga, and the Drakenstein Municipality to increase safety in and around liquor outlets.

The Western Cape Liquor Authority's ability to tackle illegal and irresponsible trading was also dramatically strengthened, after new regulations under the Western Cape Liquor Act came into effect. It now compels the provincial liquor inspectors to include illegal outlets in their inspection routines and has increased the value of fines to R100 000 for outlets found operating beyond their license conditions. More inspectors have

also been appointed to ensure the regulations are properly enforced and communities are very grateful for this.

As a result of this and other measures, there has been a significant increase in the Liquor Authority's revenue since 2016, which is being spent on ameliorating alcohol-related harms.

As a caring Government, Madam Speaker, we have also gone the extra mile to mobilise a range of stakeholders around safe passage for young men through cultural initiation. Since 2014, a total of 7 689 people were initiated in the Western Cape with a 99,74% safe passage rate. This was made possible through our Customary Male Initiation Programme, which has catalysed collaboration with communities, practitioners, Government Departments and entities such as CapeNature, municipalities and traditional healers and surgeons.

Today, overall, life expectancy in the Western Cape, is the highest in the country, supported by a functional public healthcare system facing enormous strain. Since 2009, life expectancy for men has increased from 59 years to 66 years... [Applause.] and for women - listen to this, good news women, and for women from 64 years to a projected 72 years.

†'n AGBARE LID: Joe! [Applous.]

[An HON MEMBER: Goodness! [Applause.]

The PREMIER: Running public healthcare in the Western Cape is truly a massive effort, and our biggest budget item. Health services are provided to the 75,3% of the Western Cape's 6,5 million people who are uninsured.

In 2017/18, we had over 14 million primary care contacts across the system, which do not even include home and community-based care. To keep up with demand, we have spent R4 billion on capital infrastructure since 2009 and an additional R2 billion on maintaining existing infrastructure.

This investment includes:

- Major new District Hospitals in Khayelitsha of 330 beds and Mitchells Plain, 391 beds;
- An Emergency Medical Service Data Centre to the value of R250 million;
- Ten Emergency Centres replaced or upgraded;
- Fourteen new Primary Healthcare Centres completed;
- and eleven new facilities completed;
- and 11 new ambulance stations built.

Our growing network of facilities and numbers of patients have required new and innovative responses to service delivery. A central depot has been set up to manage medicine distribution to healthcare facilities across the province and this has made an enormous difference.

Our Health Department has refined a system which helps to prevent local

stock-outs of medicines which the Province is responsible for supplying. Patients are foremost in our planning considerations. To make it easier for stable patients to collect chronic medication, we launched the Chronic Dispensing Unit from 6000 collection points - other than health facilities - for medication sent by courier.

This service has grown to a point where, on average, 380 000 patients receive parcels from the CDU every month and over 4,5 million medicine parcels are distributed per year.

The Western Cape has the highest percentage of households living within 30 minutes of their nearest health facility at 91,5% of people according to Stats SA General Household Survey 2016.

To ensure rural access to healthcare, our HealthNet patient transport system operates at around 230 pick-up points across the province. Every year over 150 000 patients are transported to healthcare facilities, through this R90 million service. This system is unique to the Western Cape. It exists nowhere else.

At the start of this term, we added a School Wellness Mobile service, which has so far reached over 400 000 learners across 3000 school visits in the Metro and rural districts, picking up often problems that impede learners access to education, and Madam Speaker, we are the only province to digitise patient records in public healthcare. Digital records are helping patients to

move more efficiently between facilities.

We have also set our sights on shortening the waiting period for elective surgery by using electronic waiting lists, which have so far drastically reduced the waiting time on joint-and-hip replacement services from eight years to two years. It is still a long time but reducing it by three-quarters is an extraordinary achievement.

All in all, our digital records now cover 54 hospitals, around 300 primary healthcare facilities and currently host about 13 million patient records, spanning more than 25 years. This is a truly wonderful example of how this Government is using innovation to solve complex problems that affect people.

Speaker, I have reached the end of my final State of the Province address. It has been a privilege - my life's privilege, to serve Western Cape residents as Premier for two terms with a team of wonderful colleagues.

I have done so under this Government's slogan, *Better Together*, which was far more than a mantra. This Government and everyone in it, turned into a reality.

Of course, there is always room for improvement, but we are truly better, when a capable state delivers on its constitutional mandates and residents,

families, communities and individuals take full responsibility for the roles they must play.

We are a country with enormous potential, beauty and humanity. We also have many problems, which it will take the whole of society working together to resolve. Let us make the right choices for ourselves and our children. Let us learn the right lessons from the last decade, and remember that it fundamentally matters who we place our trust in to govern.

HON MEMBERS: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: Let us continue to choose the road less travelled and build one nation with one future for all.

Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Premier. [Applause.] Order! Order please members! [Applause.] Order please!

Thank you. In terms of Rule 15 of the Standing Rules the Premier's Address will be placed on the Order Paper for debate. Members and guests are requested to remain standing in their places, while the procession leaves the Chamber.

However, before we do that, I do wish to apologise on behalf of the

institution of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament, Prof Maree, to you and to all our guests for the unsavoury altercation that took place earlier in the sitting.

I have undertaken that I will revert to Hansard. I will get the audio. I will get the video and if action needs to be taken it will be dealt with. Once again I apologise for the unsavoury incident.

I would like to at this stage invite members to a light luncheon in the member's lounge, on this floor, after the adjournment of the House. Please note that on Tuesday, 19 February 2019, the proceedings will commence at 14:15.

That concludes the business for the day.

The House adjourned at 12:30.