
THURSDAY 18 JULY 2019

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

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

The House met at 11:00

The Speaker took the Chair.

The SPEAKER: Please be seated. I will now allow an opportunity for the rendering of the National Anthem by the learners from the Chris Hani Arts and Culture High School. That is my high school. I am an alumnus from that school. So welcome, you can see my uniform! [Interjections.]

National Anthem rendered by all present in the House led by learners of the Chris Hani Arts and Culture High School.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you, Chris Hani High School. They are from Makhaza in Khayelitsha. Let us pray.

The Speaker read the prayer.

The SPEAKER: Please be seated. Order!

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

I have to announce that in terms of Rule 14 of the Standing Rules, today, 18 July 2019, at 11:00 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 his State of the Province Address and on this occasion no business other than the State of the Province Address by the Premier shall be entertained. We will have our chance to respond. We have the date set. We all know.

I also wish to remind hon members that the debate on the address will take place on Tuesday, 23 July 2019, where hon members will have the opportunity to fully engage and interact; deliberate on the speech by the Premier. So on Thursday, 25 July 2019, the Premier will reply to the debate.

I also want to take this opportunity to welcome our guests to the Provincial Parliament, the Leaders of political parties, the Diplomatic Corps, Councillors, Mayors, Speakers, the community of the Province, but most importantly as the Speaker I am blessed here, hon Premier and hon members, my parents are here for the first time. They are sitting there in the Speaker's box. Will you please stand. [Applause.]

My siblings, my two sisters are also present and my two sons are also here. It

is a great opportunity. May you enjoy the speech, hon Premier, the opportunity is now yours; enjoy your maiden speech. [Applause.]

Premier's State of the Province Address

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Speaker. Citizens of the Western Cape, hon Speaker, hon members of the Provincial Cabinet and this Legislature, members of the Diplomatic Corps, hon member Maimane, leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly and leader of the Democratic Alliance, hon leaders of political parties and members of the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces, Acting Director-General and heads of departments, leaders of Local Government, religious leaders, community leaders, special guests, colleagues, friends and my family. *Molweni. Goeie môre.* Good morning.

Today we mark the birthday of the father of our nation, a day which South Africans and people from around the world celebrate by performing acts of service in his name. Madiba's birthday also serves as a reminder to me of his vision for us, and our place in the world, and of the personal strengths and qualities required to lead an entire people forward.

It has been six years since President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela passed away, and I know I speak for many of us here in saying that we miss him. We miss him because he seemed to understand and care for each and every one of us. We miss him because he reminded us, and our leaders, to never give up in the

fight for what you believe is right. We miss him because he embodied the integrity of mind that has become rare in today's body politic.

We miss him because every fibre of his being was committed to meeting our deepest and most basic desires - of being "free from want, free from hunger, free from deprivation, free from ignorance, free from suppression and free from fear." And we miss him because his vision for government, of creating a "people-centred society", gave our leaders a North Star, and the day he died, this too, seemed to burn out.

Standing before you today, I am recommitting myself and the Western Cape Government, to the path which Madiba set for us. We will build a province in which aspiring residents can find a place of work, or to start their own; in which hardworking parents are able to put wholesome food on the table for their children, to ensure they grow up healthy and strong; that these same children are afforded an education which primes them to take up jobs in the economy of tomorrow, where even the poorest of the poor are able to live dignified lives, and above all, a province in which we live free from fear.

What defines this new Government, other than just more delivery, is our vision. In 2009, we committed to a vision for the Western Cape Government "to realise an open-opportunity society for all, so that residents of the province can use their freedoms to live lives they value."

At the heart of this vision was the pact between the Government and the

people of the Western Cape. As Government we undertook to provide our citizens with opportunities, and in return we asked that they take personal responsibility for making the most of them.

Today I am recommitting to that vision statement – but with a new focus and sense of urgency: we will live and be accountable to our values as a Government and we will continue to build the capable state on this foundation.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: We will continue delivering opportunities to our people and we will expect them to take responsibility for improving their own lives with a culture of accountability. We will make this province safer under the rule of law. Values, responsibility, safety - all in a people-centred society of which Madiba would be proud.

I would like to take a moment here to recognise a fellow South African who embodies the values we hold dear. Nkosikho Mbele, who is here today, made the whole country proud when in a simple act of kindness he took money from his petrol attendant earnings to top up the empty tank of a patron that was fearful she would not make it home and had lost her wallet.

This type of selflessness and care serves to remind us of who we are as a people, and serves as an inspiration to us all. I salute you and I thank you.

[Applause.]

Speaker, I am thankful that ten years of good governance in the Western Cape under the Democratic Alliance, led by our formidable former Premier Helen Zille, means we are not starting from scratch and I also welcome her here today. I see her in the gallery. [Applause.]

Speaker, we are already the fastest growing economy in South Africa, and we have a proven track record in creating jobs. Since the DA was elected in 2009, the province has attracted R100 billion in foreign direct investment.

†n AGBARE LID: Mooi!

[An HON MEMBER: Good!]

The PREMIER: We have generated R1 billion in savings for businesses by reducing red tape in the Western Cape. Cape Town has been named the top financial centre in Sub-Saharan Africa. The City-region has become firmly established as Africa's technology hub - our very own Silicon Cape or Silicon Valley.

In the last decade, our tourism industry has boomed, with tourists bringing billions into our economy. We are also the events capital of Africa, and Speaker, we look forward to hosting the Netball World Cup in 2023. [Applause.] I would like to wish our netball team all the very best as they take on England in the semi-finals tonight at this year's World Cup.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: In a single-minded focus on growth and economic opportunities that creates jobs, in the last decade, Speaker, we have created more than 500 000 jobs, which is why we have the lowest real unemployment rate in South Africa and since 2009, have spent over R483 million on bursaries, learnerships and internships, providing opportunities for nearly 16 000 young people. In the last five years alone we have supported 357 land reform projects, providing more than R500 million to funding and support. We have also made huge strides in getting the basics right.

Our healthcare system treats 17-million patients a year, and we nurture professionals who continue to achieve world firsts, such as the 3D middle ear transplants. Today we also see these professionals putting their own time for free operations for patients who cannot pay, specifically now also recognising Madiba.

We have achieved the country's highest life expectancy and it is still rising, while life expectancy in the rest of the country is declining.

Our education system, in which we have invested R171 billion, achieves the highest retention rate in the country and the best outcomes in benchmark maths and literacy tests. We have improved the Western Cape matric pass rate to 81.5%.

40% of our schools are no-fee schools and we are spending in addition R53 million this year on assisting disadvantaged learners to attend fee-paying schools. Over 80% of schools have free internet access.

It is these schools that breed the future leaders, Speaker. I would like to especially acknowledge Sonwabo Primary School in Gugulethu, Siyazakha and Zanemfundo Primary Schools in Philippi, for being named the top performing maths schools in our whole province. [Applause.]

Speaker, in 2019 the household survey confirmed that we provide the best package of basic services for our citizens.

- 98.7% of homes have access to piped water;
- 87.9% have access to mains energy supply;
- 93.8% of households have access to improved sanitation;
- 77.4% of households have at least one salary earner.

We have also delivered housing opportunities to over 700 000 people.

In a nutshell, Speaker, this is the technical state of our province and I am proud of the achievements we have made during the first decade of DA service delivery. We were able to achieve these stats because we had a clear vision. We worked hard, and because we were aggressively committed to clean governance, we saw us achieve the best audit outcome countrywide each and every year. But we cannot rely solely on stats to tell us how we are

doing, Speaker. As leaders, we must walk the streets. We must talk to our people and we must understand the lived reality.

Only this morning I decided to walk to the Legislature up St George's Mall and quite interesting, just stopping and speaking to the public asking them what they would like to hear a speech in this Parliament talking about the next five years ahead of this Sixth Parliament, but also talking about what the issues are and almost to a person it was about the issues that we are going to be covering here in our key points of focus. You could feel it when you spoke to those people today walking up that street.

But Speaker, also during my campaign across the province, I saw places where this Government's work had achieved clear progress. Amongst others, I think of Thembalethu in George, where a new municipal bus service has meant connection for its residents to economic opportunities, but I also saw places and met with people who had yet to feel the full impact of the DA-difference.

It pained me to witness the tears of a mother from Kleinvlei who just lost her son in a gang fight, and my heart was sore when I witnessed the cracks in the RDP homes of young families in Zoar. Speaker, in these communities, service delivery issues and crime touch every part of life and impact every experience. This must change.

No matter which sphere of government is in charge of which issue, we must

start to live up to Madiba's dream of being a people-centred society by taking responsibility for growing our residents' freedoms, in partnership with them, because we know that it is the right thing to do.

To make our vision a reality, Speaker, we have put a plan of action in place based on four priorities. The first priority is our commitment to creating more jobs and more economic opportunities for our people, so that they may uplift themselves and their families.

Speaker, 508 000 jobs that businesses and entrepreneurs have created since 2009, is a good start. This Government will aim to create the enabling environment for a job in every household and work towards the 2.5 percentage point growth rate needed to achieve this.

Speaker, our successful Red Tape Reduction Unit will be supercharged to effect system-wide change to the regulatory environment in the Western Cape, and we will be expanding its focus to small businesses and entrepreneurs to mitigate the challenges they face in getting their enterprises off the ground. We will also help to establish Red Tape Reduction Units in all of our municipalities and provide them with the support they need to succeed.

Speaker, there are also technical issues that constrain growth unnecessarily like visa regimes, tariffs, port fees, licensing requirements and slow planning processes. We will fight tirelessly to remove and streamline these barriers for

our businesses. Within the next six months, we will develop our own provincial “ease of doing business index” in the Western Cape, to track our progress and hold ourselves accountable.

We want to support the informal and township economies so that they are enabled to thrive. This will be made possible through a support package to young entrepreneurs which will provide small business incentive schemes and help with registration for government and private tenders and provide mentoring services.

Following on from Project Khulisa, we will also be strengthening our support to sectors that specifically contribute to accelerated economic growth and job creation like business process outsourcing, the construction industry, finance and manufacturing, energy and utilities, the green and tech economies.

Speaker, since being elected as Premier 57 days ago, I have established an economic war room that has already set to work on some of the burning issues holding back our economic progress. The war room, in its pilot phase, is being funded by Harvard University and is made up of teams from the Province, from the City, from private sector, who are all focused on unblocking growth inhibitors in the construction and property industry, the informal light manufacturing sector, the Atlantis manufacturing hub, and in the tech and BPO sectors.

It will also be looking at the pressing challenge of commuter mobility. The

Cape Town City region is now ranked as one of the most congested nodes in the world. This is a downside we have to deal with and our rapid growth in population, because this is a major deterrent to job-creating investment and it must receive our focused attention until it is solved.

Speaker, some people say that entrepreneurs often succeed despite the prevailing economic conditions and actually in fact it is those pressures and those conditions that actually drive entrepreneurs. They are the ones that look for the solutions that we need, and Speaker, as a former entrepreneur myself I had started ten small businesses. I know the magic ingredient is being able to take advantage of gaps or spot opportunities in any environment. This is the sort of mindset we must champion and develop. There are so many great examples of this in action.

Speaker, last week I visited the Mfuleni Business Hub. In actual fact we visited the Mfuleni Business Hub, the full Cabinet and all of the heads of departments along with the DG. We visited this hub, which is a melting pot of entrepreneurs and business owners with big visions. The area, fittingly, has the nick-name “job creation”, and features a gym, crèche, panel beaters and other traders. It is a living embodiment of our residents’ entrepreneurial spirit.

I also recently had the pleasure of enjoying a gourmet meal in a beautiful, award-winning restaurant in our city. This entrepreneur has cooked meals for people from all around the world. I am so proud of Abigail Mbalo-Mokoena

from 4Roomed eKasi Culture in Khayelitsha, who took the risk and gave up her career as a dental technologist to start her own restaurant. It is now a shining star on our gourmet scene, creating jobs and income for her community and I am not sure if she is here today.

I also had the opportunity, Speaker, a few weeks ago to meet another like-minded entrepreneur, Suraya Williams, who is here today, I believe. Am I correct? There she is! Suraya Williams, when her mother passed away, leaving her two sewing machines, she decided that they could become the catalyst of change. She too left her corporate consultant salary, and started a fashion design and textile company with a training academy for young people. What heartened me most was her commitment to her community. She did not set up shop in the city, even though she could have, but she set up shop in the middle of Mitchells Plain. [Applause.]

Speaker, the challenge we face is how we facilitate the creation of many more Mfuleni Business Hubs, Abigails and Surayas.

Financing has always been a prominent concern for small business, Speaker, which is why we started a while ago the Funding Fair. We also developed an SMME booster fund, which has budgeted R21 million in this current year to assist 100 township and rural small businesses to meet their infrastructure needs. Working in partnership with Pick n Pay, another project, and the private sector, we have also been busy transforming spaza shops into fully fledged locally-owned supermarkets.

Speaker, our efforts have borne fruit. Today we are honoured by Mr Luvuyo Rani - there he is. Mr Luvuyo Rani, who is in the House today, he and his brother started their small internet café business in 2004 - not so long ago. This business received support to grow, from our Enterprise Development Fund. He has also been a winner of competitions, I still remember him winning the SAB Kick-Start Competition, but today his company, Silulo Ulutho Technologies, which operates IT stores and training centres in townships and rural communities across South Africa, has created over 200 jobs and trained thousands of people. [Applause.] Speaker, more than this, Luvuyo has also been recognised for his contribution to social entrepreneurship and he was part of Team South Africa at Davos at the World Economic Forum last year.

Speaker, I made the point earlier that this Government committed to delivering opportunities to our citizens, and in return, we ask that people take responsibility for grabbing those opportunities to make their own lives better.

A few years ago, we introduced the Long Street Kiosks which were designed to give opportunities to small, informal businesses. We placed them in one of the busiest streets in the CBD, and covered the costs of rent and utilities for a year.

A few of these traders, like Mpho Mopai, whose company Tees and Gees sells t-shirts that celebrate Cape Town and Africa, have gone on to take advantage of the opportunity given to him and Mpho was recognised for his hard work

as one of the winners at last year's Western Cape Entrepreneur Awards, but Speaker, and members of this House, some of these traders would arrive notoriously late or not at all. They would pack up and go home in the early afternoon. The roller doors of their kiosks were more often closed than open, until eventually they didn't open at all. On the other hand, we had desperate newcomers knocking on our doors asking if they could take up a place.

Speaker, as Government we will fulfil our side of the bargain. We will keep helping small businesses get access to affordable funding options, and we will keep seeking out innovative partnerships to help small businesses grow. We will work to eradicate the unnecessary red tape that makes it difficult to start new businesses, and we will make it easier to access Government tenders and incentives, but what we cannot nor ever should do, is take responsibility for the entrepreneur themselves. This is the deal that we are offering. It requires effort, dedication and hard work from us and from the entrepreneurs. There is simply no other road to success.

Speaker, in line with our opportunity and responsibility pact with business, Government must make sure that the provincial economic environment is as resilient as possible. In particular, this means a laser-like focus on securing our water and energy resources for the future.

This Province has already positioned itself as a green manufacturing hub, and with the development of the Atlantis Economic Zone, we expect to create over 1200 direct jobs in the area, and over 24 000 full time equivalent jobs

over its 20-year lifespan. We have pledged to expand the number of green businesses working out of our province, and the number of jobs that they create.

On the energy front, we will continue to focus on growing solar PV, and on taking forward our preparations to ensure that the Western Cape is ready to use gas as an alternate energy source. Our work in solar PV has seen us increase the uptake of solar from 20 megawatts in 2015, to over 112 megawatts currently.

Speaker, Eskom remains a major risk to South African business continuity and confidence and to mitigate this unacceptable risk, I will continue to push the Minister of Energy to authorise municipalities to buy power directly from independent power producers... [Interjection.]

HON MEMBERS: Hear-hear! [Applause.]

The PREMIER: ...and to agree to the inclusion of Saldanha Bay as a port licensed to import liquefied natural gas. There is one key point that could not only make the Winelands and the Langeberg region more water secure, but could unlock thousands of hectares of land for emerging black farmers and this is the raising of the wall of the Brandvlei Dam feeder canal by only 30 centimetres and this will increase the dam's storage capacity and open up water rights for farming. This House has heard this before.

Speaker, at a cost of R20 million - I will say that again; perhaps we should say only R20 million - this project just makes sound economic and ecological sense, and yet, this project has travelled through 17 departments or entities with varying degrees of interest and enthusiasm, for the last five years. Quite simply, it is stuck in the mud of bureaucracy, and while the dam falls squarely under the remit of the National Government, we are tired of stalling now. I have told President Ramaphosa this personally, and I am saying it here today: if this project does not break free from its muddy hold and get approval soon, we will go ahead and we will do it ourselves.

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

The PREMIER: In anticipation of this, Speaker, this Government will put the budget aside and just do it. Our message is clear: the National Government is on deadline.

Speaker, our second priority is to ensure that each and every resident is able to live a dignified life, and that we move from generation to generation, our people must become self-empowered.

Speaker, one of the most commonly asked questions by investors is about the pipeline of skills available. We have made major inroads in answering those questions over the past ten years. We have a strong, critical mass of dedicated and quality teachers to grow these skills.

We have seen a 13% improvement in matric results over the past nine years for learners from our poorest schools and we have made dramatic progress in the institution of e-learning. Going forward, we will build on this base and also develop the new skills required for today and tomorrow.

We have all heard of the focus on STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. We will future-proof our education system by moving from STEM to STEAMAC, and pilot projects in this respect are already in the pipeline.

Speaker, in explaining STEAMAC, the first addition is an A. That is for the Arts. If you have watched South African Idols or the Voice, or been to any one of the theatres or galleries in this province, you will know that our region has an abundance of artistic talent.

Research by the South African Cultural Observatory in 2017, found that over 6% of employment in this country was in the cultural sector, with the Western Cape employing nearly 60 000 people. As this province grows its film industry and looks to further develop its arts, music and culture tourism offering, these are skills we can use.

The second A is for Agriculture. Agriculture is a vital part of our economy, and we need to see agricultural education start to play a bigger role in our offer to learners and I am not talking about how to milk a cow. [Laughter.] I am taking about how to programme a robot.

An HON MEMBER: Yes, robotics.

The PREMIER: Our robotics, not necessarily even milk a cow but perhaps pick a peach.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: It is already there.

The PREMIER: It is already here, as the Minister of Education says. It is already here. Our students have to be prepared for this already here. Speaker, an injection of new, young talent into this sector will transform and revitalise it so that we can leverage our natural resources, leading to more jobs and food security into the future.

Then the C in STEAMAC is for coding and cloud computing. These are not skills for some point far off in the future; they are skills we need right now to offer young people with talent access to amazing opportunities in the workplace. We need these skills if we are to stay competitive on the global stage.

Whilst many of our young people take up the responsibility of studying hard and committing to their courses, they just do not have the experience, networks or skills to successfully apply for the jobs they seek. This is a problem that inhibits opportunity. That is why the Province has developed partnerships with businesses and rolled out innovative internship programmes to fill this gap. These programmes will be scaled up significantly with our

partners, doubling the number of young people who complete them in the next financial year.

We will also upscale our one-year work experience programmes, which will include skills and work readiness training and placement support. These opportunities are designed to get young people a foot in the door, and I am pleading with each learner that receives a spot to make the most of it. Use the opportunity that we give you.

Speaker, education and healthcare take the biggest share of our Government spending. As these budgets dwindle in inverse proportion to our population growth, we need to start innovating to find new ways to deliver these services to more people, more affordably and more effectively.

The private healthcare industry in South Africa has pioneered the idea of taking personal responsibility by rewarding members for making healthier lifestyle choices. As a government, we need to learn from this as we tackle the challenge of finding solutions to our high burden of lifestyle diseases like diabetes, high cholesterol and heart disease. We will announce a Behavioural Change Pilot Project, in which our health service users are rewarded for healthier choices, within the coming months.

For those who are already suffering from illness or need emergency care, it is about improving the basics: reducing waiting times and getting primary healthcare closer to the patient.

We have just visited the Grabouw Clinic. This was part of that same tour that the Cabinet and the heads of departments went on, where we now offer a 24-hour service. This is our new baseline, and we will look to roll out similar centres of healthcare service across the province. [Applause.]

Speaker, our third priority spells out what we will be doing to make sure that no matter where you live and where you work, your life is made easier. One of the keys to delivering real and tangible opportunities is in creating spaces where people and communities can live and prosper.

Last week the Cabinet and Provincial Department heads visited a project in the City of Cape Town where 4 000 new homes are being built at Forest Village, but we are building much more than new houses there. We are creating spaces where there will be gardens, grass and spaces for children to play and families to enjoy.

Speaker, our Better Living Model development at the old Conradie hospital site will provide a further 3 602 residential units in an affordable, mixed-use and residential-led development. The proximity of this site to the CBD is an important step towards undoing apartheid spatial planning and creating a space where people can live close to economic opportunities.

Additionally, there are five pieces of National Government-owned land that, if given over, would allow us to roll out this model or similar housing opportunities, *en masse* across the city. The National Public Works Minister

has promised to unlock land, while the National Minister of Housing has also called for the expropriation of Government-owned land for housing in the province. I look forward to working with them to deliver progressive housing solutions going forward.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: Speaker, for our part, I can announce today that the Western Cape will look at ways ... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: We shall see. We are waiting!

The PREMIER: ...to match the extent of any National Government-owned land released to us for the development of housing. [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: Start with Tafelberg. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes. [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: Human settlements and spatial planning cannot be divorced from transport and mobility. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order! Hon members, order please! Let us allow the Premier to proceed. There will be a time for us... [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: Premier Zille sold. We expect better from you. We expect better from you.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore! Please assist the Speaker in this case. On the 23rd we will have an opportunity to embark on our debate. So let us wait patiently for that. Hon Premier, you may proceed.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Speaker. Human settlement and spatial planning cannot be divorced from transport and mobility. This province needs a clean, safe and reliable transport system. People need to be able to move from home to work and to wherever they need to with relative ease and affordability. Restrictions on movement are restrictions on opportunity.

While our President dreams of bullet trains, and our Transport Minister cannot even make it from one end of our city to the other on board his Metro Rail Service, and while he gets to go back to his ministerial vehicle at the end of his junket, the ordinary citizens face months and years of late, overcrowded and unsafe trains that puts their jobs at risk.

We have to fix the basics in transport first - a functional, clean, safe and reliable system is an important building block in our economy. So, Speaker, let me give notice of our intentions: we intend to take over the management of the rail system in the province from National Government so that the trains work and run on time. [Applause.] [Interjections.]

We intend to introduce competition by licensing private sector operators to take over the operation of the railway system on qualifying routes in the Western Cape.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: And we intend to introduce a combined ticketing system to be used on all modes of public transport. [Applause.]

Speaker, I will be looking to roll out these initiatives working together with the Gauteng Premier, David Makhura, who has indicated to me that he shares this same vision. In fact, our respective Directors-General have already had their first meeting last week in this regard. [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: It is the Metropolitan Transport Authority.
[Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Once we have these basics in place, then we can start to think about bullet trains and building our new smart cities.

An HON MEMBER: Yes. [Interjection.] Come-on!

The PREMIER: Speaker, our fourth priority, which I have purposefully kept for last, it is the most complex of all but also the most important. It is to ensure that no matter where you call home, you live free from

fear. [Interjection.]

The reality is that many of our communities are defined by fear, a plight which I am determined to overturn, and I am not the only one. [Interjection.] I am pleased to have in the House today, Ms Aneesah Seale, who did not want her community in Bonteheuwel to be defined only by crime and poverty. So she started her coffee shop right in the middle of it all. This entrepreneur has not only created a business for herself, but a place where people can have a cup of coffee or a meal, and enjoy being in their own community. Where is the cake-lady? There is the cake-lady! Yes, you can give her a hand. [Applause.]

It is not only difficult as an entrepreneur to start a business in any environment but when you really go to the middle of a war-zone it is absolutely unbelievable. Well done! [Applause.]

Now, there has been much talk about crime not being our provincial mandate when we have tried to put programmes in place to help our residents feel safer. There has also been much talk about us, the Western Cape Government, using the blame game to deflect responsibility for the lack of safety in our province. [Interjection.]

Mr M K SAYED: Yes, it is true.

Mr D SMITH: It is true.

The PREMIER: Let us talk about just some of the facts. In our oversight role and visiting 151 police stations, we have discovered that this province has a shortage of 548 detectives. Almost half of the detectives in our province have a caseload of dockets of 200 or more, and then the ideal number of dockets should be somewhere around 50 and 60. A shocking 57% of detective commanders and 48% of detectives have not even undergone the requisite training. [Interjection.]

†Mnr P J MARAIS: Skande!

[Mr P J MARAIS: Disgrace!]

†n AGBARE LID: Net so, net so!

[An HON MEMBER: Exactly, exactly!]

The PREMIER: And lastly, only 2% have received any kind of specialist training - 2%. Our detectives are also working without the tools they need to do their job. 71% do not even have informers and more than half of our detectives do not even have a firearm. [Interjection.]

†n AGBARE LID: Sjoe!

[An HON MEMBER: Shoo!]

The PREMIER: I can assure you the gangsters have guns, many of them probably from the very police's armoury.

†n AGBARE LID: Ja.

[An HON MEMBER: Yes.]

The PREMIER: Speaker, how can we be serious about fighting crime and gangs when this is the current state of affairs in our police service? Where is the management, Minister Bheki Cele, where is the management?

Mr C M DUGMORE: You have been undermining it for years. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Speaker, while we are grateful... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members. Thank you. Order!

The PREMIER: Speaker, while we are grateful that President Ramaphosa has approved the employment of the SANDF in this province, this is a clear admission that the police have lost the war on crime in the Western Cape. What we need is a functioning police service, which is fully resourced and well-led, instead of plasters and temporarily plugging the wound.

Ms N D NKONDLO: What we need is economic development for people in the Cape Flats. [Inaudible.]

The PREMIER: The time for talk is over.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: We are taking charge. [Interjection.]

†'n AGBARE LID: Ja.

[An HON MEMBER: Yes.]

The PREMIER: Speaker, this week we started preparing to take the next steps in our inter-governmental dispute with Minister Cele. Last month we wrote to him setting a date for mediation, but, as with countless attempts before, our letter went unanswered. We are proceeding nonetheless, and will meet the Minister in court if not beforehand. [Interjections.]

Following our first Cabinet Bosberaad, Speaker, I am pleased to announce that we have established a Premier's Priority Committee on Safety to coordinate and oversee all safety stakeholders which act in this space, including role-players from across the criminal justice system, local and national departments, and every department of this Western Cape Government. This joined-up Government approach will see to it that we have a range of programmes in place to keep our communities safe. Knowing how urgent they are, we will make allowance for this in this Adjustments Budget process coming shortly. [Interjections.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: So you woke up after ten years, you had no integration. Ten years of no integration. Now you want to start [Interjection.] It is a start. It is a good start.

The PREMIER: We also agreed to accomplish the following new goals:

- increasing and enhancing our own enforcement capacity, including transforming our traffic police into a fully-fledged highway patrol and bolstering local law enforcement;
- building safety partnerships to improve collaboration and intelligence-driven coordination;
- building partnerships by bringing together Neighbourhood Watches and Community Policing Forums; Government Departments with a focus on Social Development, Cultural Affairs and Sport, Economic Development and Education and of course bringing in Municipal Police, Law Enforcement and the Private Security Sector.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: Promoting safe and cohesive spaces through the development of social infrastructure;

- And reducing the harmful impacts of alcohol and drug abuse.

In addition, we will ramp up our existing safety programmes from After-Schools all the way across Government to Project Chrysalis. In collaboration with the City of Cape Town, we have deployed peace officers and law enforcement officers to communities and schools under threat.

We now support over 300 Neighbourhood Watches with resources, training

and a financial kick-start. We also provide funding to Community Police Forums who are executing projects in their communities aimed at alleviating crime. In turn, we insist that these structures commit to holding their required elections this September, to renew their mandates with their communities.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Great!

The PREMIER: We have spent R3.7 million in the last year on the Youth Safety and Religious Programmes, through which we run 130 activity centres for learners during the school holidays and this will continue with a focus in our hotspot areas.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: Speaker, the police as our first line of defence, often bear the brunt of our frustrations and criticisms. The reality is our entire criminal justice system is in a dire state of disrepair. This is why we established a Court Watching Briefs Unit, which monitors court cases and ensures that criminals are effectively prosecuted. Despite all of this, we cannot make a major dent in crime without the support of our National Government, which holds the policing mandate.

We have put R5 million in funding on the table to resurrect the Police Reservist Programme, or to fund the police access to the City of Cape Town's

CCTV technology. We have offered our own staff to act as Commissioners of Oaths so that officers are relieved of desk work. These offers have received a cold reception. That is why we ultimately want control of the police devolved to the provincial level so that we can apply our track record of excellence to managing this vital service.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: In this respect, Speaker, we have assembled a team of law and policing experts who have already met to look at the provisions of the Constitution which we can make use of to increase our powers to deal a decisive blow on crime, and I am expecting this report soon.

Mr Speaker, in the midst of violence and poor police management, it is easy to lose track of the many good men and women who get up each morning, put on that blue uniform and go to work to make this province a better and safer place. [Applause.]

The police service in this province has a central core of really good people, whose image is tarnished by a minority of bad elements. Being a police officer is a responsibility of the highest order, and that responsibility should not be taken lightly. We salute those who understand and uphold that sense of responsibility and play their part in society.

I would like to pay special tribute today to two police officers who just last

month went above and beyond that call of duty.

Warrant Officer Michael Daniels and Constable Emile Farao received a call from police in eSwatini alerting them that Denzil Daniels, who had been reported missing six years earlier had been found. The family had given up hope of ever finding him to the extent that they had even held a memorial service for him. Speaker, these two officers took leave, they raised the funds themselves and also through their local church organisations they raised these funds and drove 3600 kilometres round trip in their own private vehicle, so that Jane and Denzil Daniels could be reunited again. [Applause.]

Speaker, this is humanity at its finest from two officers working in one of the areas most impacted by crime and gangs in this province. Speaker, I would like them to stand. [Applause.]

Speaker, thank you that we could all have the opportunity to thank them. The Community Safety Act allows us to recognise police officers for acts of service. These upstanding officers have not only helped to selflessly reunite a mother and her son, but have played an incredible role in building a relationship of trust between the police and the community. I will be presenting them with a formal commendation directly after this address. [Applause.]

Speaker, these four priorities spell out what we are going to do over the coming months, as we put our budgets in place for 2020 and beyond. We will

continue to work on the detailed plans and monitoring mechanisms required to ensure their execution. Speaker, underpinning them, is a set of principles which spells out our ethos and how we plan to treat our citizens. In short, the kind of government we are aiming to be.

This Government, Speaker, has over the years earned a reputation for its commitment to clean governance and clean audits. Today I stand by that commitment but I am going to say this clearly and explicitly, that we will not slow down a single second of delivery for the sake of compliance with the Auditor-General.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: Now Speaker, it is tough to say something like that in a Legislature and in a Parliament with our oversight sitting opposite and behind us, but Speaker - I am just looking at the time. I am going to tell you a short story.

An HON MEMBER: Proper oversight!

The PREMIER: I am going to tell you a short story, Speaker. Just over a year ago I was having feedback with Project Khulisa and some Economic Programme and Andrew Boraine from the EDP walked into the meeting and this meeting started with him actually telling the story I am telling you today. He says that the week earlier, in preparation for this evaluation or this

update, he walked into a meeting with very senior officials in this Government and when he walked in he made a comment. He said: “What a week.” Everybody in the room looked at him and agreed with him, “what a week.” And he said, “what a week, trains are burning, protest action, streets are blocked, main corridors and roads are blocked, people are being murdered, children are being abducted at our schools. What a week!” And senior officials looked at him and said: “No, the Auditor-General is in town!” [Laughter.]

Now Speaker, this specific conversation was a conversation that this Cabinet and these senior officials had yesterday with the Auditor-General. We also agreed that we will set aside another meeting to have these discussions with the Auditor-General. We believe in and commit to good, clean government. We commit that we will not tolerate any corruption, but when our head officials spent six months in auditing and ticking boxes every year and only six months out there delivering services, that cannot be.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: We have to find new ways in which government can be efficient and effective and clean at the same time. [Applause.] [Interjections.]

Speaker, in addition to this and during the election campaign the DA committed to lifestyle audits of our Cabinet members. So, against the

backdrop at the moment, the painful backdrop in our country of the Zondo Commission, the members of this Cabinet have individually signed permission for this audit to commence.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: A tender for a service provider has already been advertised. Speaker, we are also conducting a second review of the ministerial handbook, looking to find further efficiencies and savings. Our first rework of the handbook took place in 2011 and contributed to savings in excess of R100 million.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: Speaker, over the term, we will also be looking to streamline the number of departments in a bid to make the Government leaner, ensuring that more taxpayers money is focused on delivery to our citizens, but Speaker, we are one of three governments in South Africa and the only way for the people we serve to truly benefit is when we all work in an integrated and cooperative manner. I will continue to build stronger relationships of mutual respect and trust with our national counterparts, and when it comes, Speaker, to Local Government, we have a constitutional responsibility for this sphere and it is currently facing multiple pressures - from financial strain to service delivery protests. Speaker, this Government will be both a pillar of support and a fair oversight partner for Local Governments in this

province.

Speaker, allow me to take a moment on service delivery protests. I support everyone's right to protest and have their voice heard. What I will not tolerate is when these actions undermine the safety of others and become a threat to our economy and our democracy. [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The PREMIER: We will stand up against land invasions which are seen as a method of jumping the housing queue. We will stand up against those who destroy public property which has been put in place to the benefit of our communities. [Interjection.] This is a values and integrity issue. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order hon members, let us please allow the Premier to proceed. [Interjections.]

The PREMIER: Speaker, this is a values and integrity issue and I have made it my personal goal to see a return of values in our society. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Premier, will you please take your seat. Hon members, we have agreed that we will use every available opportunity to hold the Executive to account but let us allow the Executive to tell us the plans so that this Parliament and the people of the province are aware of the Government

plans. Then we engage afterwards, because you have got - the dates are clear and I am saying to all of us members on the right-hand side and members on my left-hand side, there must be no interjections. They are becoming unacceptable now because guests are expecting us to be orderly. Please assist me because I know you can. Thank you very much. Over to you, hon Premier.

The PREMIER: Thank you very much, Speaker.

Speaker, I think I am going to say that again. These protest actions, the destruction of public property, the disruption of public life, this is a values and integrity issue and I have made it my personal goal to see the return of values in our society. These are things that do not just happen quickly but we have to make sure and specifically the leadership in this Chamber, we have to play a role in making sure we help society get these values back.

Speaker, I also want people to know that they can come and speak to this Government. We are accessible. In fact, Speaker, every first Thursday of the month, communities, entrepreneurs and any other person, can come and meet me under the Concourse at 7 Wale Street. Speaker, they will not only meet me, because I will be there alongside the members of this Cabinet, members of our Government, who will be there to engage with people who say in general that Government sit in their ivory towers, are removed from the people and are not able to be contactable. We pledge that every first Thursday of this Government we will be open and accessible from five o'clock in the evening to nine o'clock in the evening for any citizen who

wants to come in and interact with us, to put one of their issues on the table or just to come and talk to us about an issue that they are facing.

Speaker, in closing, President Mandela meant so much to us all. He embodied justice, service and bravery. But perhaps the value we miss the most - particularly when it comes to public service - is integrity. This Western Cape Government will not only honour our former President by being the Government of integrity, we will do it to honour each and every person that we serve.

I thank you. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you hon members, thank you Premier, thank you guests. Thank you. May I also add and say happy birthday to Ubabu Nelson Mandela, as this is the International Mandela Day. On behalf of this House, hon members, may I please be allowed to do so?

It is also a coincidence that my son Kwanda sitting right there in the auditorium in the gallery, is celebrating his birthday today. [Applause.] Happy birthday, my son! [Applause.] You know I dragged him to come here because normally I celebrate this day with him so I said, "Come here, we will celebrate it together." †Somalusa soon. [He is going to initiation school soon.]

May I now take the opportunity to invite all of you hon members, to the

luncheon; it is going to be in the dining room of the members and I invite every single guest that is invited here today and thank you very much for being very disciplined guests, but also Members of Parliament have been behaving today. Thank you very much. The sitting is adjourned.

May we please wait for the procession? Let us all rise.

The House adjourned at 12:10.