
TUESDAY, 23 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 14:15.

The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

The SPEAKER: Hon members, I would like to bring to your attention that before I call on the first speaker, I wish to remind members of certain key rules of the debate and that which we must all adhere to. Although the interjections are allowed and would be allowed, senseless interjections and running commentary will not be permitted because they will not help us in what we want to achieve in the debate. So as Speaker I would like to reiterate that as hon members we will all be treated equally and that members as I have been saying from day one, can count on the protection from the Chair, from time to time as and when required to do so but also the Presiding Officers, myself and the Deputy Speaker, because it is a long session, we really request hon members to assist the Presiding Officers by ensuring that there is decorum that is desired in terms of the Standing Rules.

Allegations of unparliamentary language would be dealt with on the merits on a case-by-case and the context will be taken into account when pronouncing on those. Remarks made in debate or by any other interjection would be put to a test and we therefore need to be circumspect of the language we use as hon members; then that suggests that you must use an honourable language as hon members. Members wishing to raise points of order may do so but please stand in your place where you sit and call the attention of the Presiding Officer to the alleged transgression and please highlight the rule. You will recall that during the Rules Workshop I have indicated to you, hon members, that it is important that we identify which rule is being transgressed so that we do not have a period that appear to look like a kindergarten.

I think we all want to assist the process and I am also going to request that hon members of the public, in fact members of the public who are present here, you are all welcome. It is always best to have the interest of the people of this province and the people of the world to this House, but I would like to request that you may smile and laugh but do not use your hands because we do not want you to participate, and we heckle from here, but do not heckle there. So you may not contribute to the debate.

It is also not the intention to stifle debate here in this House so as we seek to address issues that affect the people of the Western Cape, ours is to ensure that we confine ourselves to the issues within the confines of the Rules, that we do so in a manner that is dignified and in a manner that enhances and advances the cause of freedom.

Hon members, that is my little bit of assertion that encourages us to work from. Now we are going to go straight to the business of the day.
Mr Secretary.

ORDER OF THE DAY

†uNOBHALA: INgxoxo-mpikiswano ngeNtetho yeNkulumbuso engoBume bePhondo.

[The SECRETARY: Debate on the Premier's State of the Province Address.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore.

Debate on the Premier's State of the Province Address

Mr C M DUGMORE: Thank you. Hon Speaker, hon Premier, hon leaders of political parties and members of the Legislature, leaders of Local Government, religious and community leaders, special invited guests within the gallery, comrades and friends. A few months ago all of us as members of this House made a solemn oath or an affirmation:

“I swear that I will be faithful to the Republic of South Africa and the Province of the Western Cape and will obey, respect and uphold the National Constitution, the Provincial Constitution and all other laws of the Republic; and I solemnly promise to perform my function as a

member of this Provincial Parliament to the best of my ability, so help me God.”

We promised to uphold the National and Provincial Constitution and respect all laws that govern our country and province.

I believe, hon Speaker, that this oath is a good place to start as we participate in this debate. As we do so we should also remember the words of comrade Nelson Mandela when he addressed the crowd on the Grand Parade on 9 May 1994 as the President Elect of the Republic. He said, and I quote:

“You, the people, have mandated us to change South Africa from a country in which the majority lived with little hope, to one in which they can live and work with dignity, with a sense of self-esteem and confidence in the future. This needs unity of purpose. It needs unity in action. It requires us all to work together to bring an end to division, an end to suspicion, and to build a nation united in our diversity.”

I believe also that the words of Oliver Tambo are also relevant as we seek to make sense of our role as the 42 members of this House in confronting the challenges the people of our province face. Speaking from the vantage point as the commander of the forces fighting to liberate our country from apartheid colonialism, and anticipating what would follow victory, Oliver Tambo said, and I quote:

“Comrades, you might think it is very difficult to wage a liberation struggle. Wait until you are in power. I might be dead by then. At that stage you will realize that it is actually more difficult to keep the power than to wage a liberation war. People will be expecting a lot of services from you. You will have to satisfy the various demands of the masses of our people.”

What he also said was particularly apposite to our situation not only as the official Opposition but also the other opposition parties represented here, the Economic Freedom Fighters, GOOD, the Freedom Front Plus, the ACDP and Al Jama-ah, but also to those members on the opposite side of the House who are charged with the responsibility of governing this province.

Oliver Tambo said, once more:

In the process, be prepared to learn from other people’s revolutions. Learn from the enemy also. The enemy is not necessarily doing everything wrongly. You may take his right tactics and use them to your advantage. At the same time, avoid repeating the enemy’s mistakes.”

This quote actually makes me think of the contribution made by Mr Michael Louis, an MPO from the ACDP then, who was part of the Committee of this House that drafted and adopted the Provincial Constitution, which we have sworn to uphold. It was he and the ACDP who fought hard for the inclusion

of two Commissioners with the Constitution - the Environmental and the Children's Commissioner. Section 71(1) of the Provincial Constitution states there is a Provincial Commissioner for the environment. Section 78(1) states there is a Provincial Commissioner for Children.

It is a sad day, Mr Speaker, that ten years after the promise made by the Democratic Alliance in this House that a Children's Commissioner would be appointed, that we do not have one. In essence the DA has defied the provisions of both the National and the Provincial Constitution for over ten years. They are what some would describe as constitutional delinquents.
[Interjection.]

Mr R D MACKENZIE: I am sorry hon member. You did not hear that in the Committee meetings... [Inaudible.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: Now more than ever, we need, Speaker, these Commissioners. Our province has incredible natural endowments. We need to balance economic development with the sustainable utilisation of our resources. It is clear to us that the DA does not want these Commissions to see the light of day. Today we say as the Opposition, so far and no further. We have all sworn an oath to the Constitution. It is illegal and unconstitutional... [Interjection.]

Mr R D MACKENZIE: But he knows, he was part of.

The SPEAKER: Hon Leader of the Opposition, will you please take your seat.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Who is the enemy? I want to know who the enemy is.

The SPEAKER: There is a point of order. What is your point of order hon member?

Mr D G MITCHELL: Hon Speaker, I am rising because the Hon Leader of the Opposition is deliberately misleading the House because as a member of...

The SPEAKER: What order is that?

Mr D G MITCHELL: That is Rule 54 because the Hon Leader of the Opposition was a member of the Committee which took a decision and a resolution for it to stand over to the next Parliament. [Interjections.] So the member cannot now come and mislead the House and he was party to a decision that was taken.

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon member Mitchell. Let us allow hon, the Leader of the Opposition to proceed. Fortunately he is still on the floor. He may defend himself.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Who is the enemy?

The SPEAKER: Over to you sir.

Mr C M DUGMORE: I thank you. I trust that the Table will check the time.

The SPEAKER: Yes. You are not going to lose your time.

Mr C M DUGMORE: The reality is as we speak on this day there is no Children's Commissioner. There is no Environmental Commissioner. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

The state of our province, like other provinces, is one where despite commendable gains in providing basic services to our people the ravages of unemployment, inequality, poverty, crime, violence and corruption are part of the toxic mix which makes life for the majority very difficult to live. Add to these pathologies the scourge of domestic violence, racism, patriarchy and discrimination on the grounds of sexual preference, the enormity of the task facing us is apparent. It is our collective responsibility to take on this challenge - every one of us, whether you sit on this side of the House or on the opposite benches, we know these challenges. The real issue facing us, Speaker, is this. What is to be done to confront inequality, unemployment, poverty, violence, crime and corruption, patriarchy and discrimination?

The facts are staring us in the face. The reality is lived. Hon Speaker, it is

clear that the glib articulation of an open, equal-opportunity society by the Premier and his party, the DA, does not provide an answer to this question. He talks of jobs but never mentions ownership of the economy. He talks of education and skills but says nothing about the need for redress, for schools still impacted upon by the brutal legacy of apartheid education. He talks of unity but ignores the demon of racism as if the word racism is a swearword never to be mentioned in the same breath as an equal-opportunity society.

It mouths platitudes about reversing apartheid spatial planning but says nothing about the fact that for the last ten years not a single integrated housing development in the inner-city and our rural towns has seen the light of day. The equal opportunity mantra obscures the blatant preservation of privilege by selling a prime public asset, the Tafelberg School in Sea Point, ideally suited for social housing and identified by the Provincial Department of Housing's own admission to private interest. The question is which opportunities and for whom, we should ask.

The equal-opportunity society provides cover for the blatant attempt in the DA 2019 manifesto to allow employers to opt out of the minimum wage agreement of R20 an hour, plus minus R3 500 a month and pay R1 800 per month - the same amount as an old age pension. Hon members, it is there for all to see on page 12 of this DA manifesto, known quite ironically as the Manifesto for Change. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Shame on you!

Mr C M DUGMORE: So what has to be done when the very vision of the DA as the ruling party of this province is doomed to fail the majority of our people who are working class and poor and excluded from meaningful participation and ownership of this economy. What it means firstly is that the people of this province have to be active, engaged and willing to struggle for real people's power to change their lived reality.

It means communities have to intensify the struggle for socio-economic transformation in every corner of this province. This needs to be done with organisation, with discipline, without violence and in unity across the party-political divide. Such mobilisation must not lapse into populism. We must place the people's daily struggles at the centre of all of our efforts.

What it means secondly is that we as the ANC shall secure the active and ongoing support from our President and each and every National Government Minister to grow this province together and to share its wealth. We will secure national investment and support as we work night and day to address the needs of all of our communities but thirdly, hon Speaker, it also means seeking out those issues around which we can cooperate and work together. There are many international examples of how nations - in order to resolve fundamental challenges facing them in a war or post-war situation, ought to overcome natural disasters - have formed united fronts to confront a common enemy or a common challenge. As Oliver Tambo said, we should never reject ideas because they come from those we regard as the enemy or as the opposition. [Interjection.]

†Die MINISTER VAN MAATSKAPLIKE ONTWIKKELING: Mooi, mooi!

[The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Good, good!]

Mr C M DUGMORE: Given the scale of challenges we face we in fact do not have a choice. We have to and must work together. We know that local elections are looming. We know that there is a real temptation to conduct ourselves in a way which always places party interests first.

The time has arrived for a new approach in the Western Cape. As the new dawn represents a moment of opportunity and hope under the leadership of President Ramaphosa, so too must this moment in our province not be lost. We cannot simply do more of the same and expect different results. When we take decisions on narrow party political lines we face delaying the resolution of problems and ultimately it is our people, especially the poor, that suffer.

There are two examples from the Premier's speech which demonstrated the danger of putting the narrow interests of the DA first. We cannot afford a protracted intergovernmental dispute about rail and we cannot afford the negative impact of the DA's pipedream of a provincial police service. On the one hand the Premier, MEC Fritz, the Department attended a Crime Summit in Paarl on 14 July with the National Government, with community members, who are engaged in the fight against crime under the theme "Building United Front against Crime", and yet, the same time the DA has declared an intergovernmental dispute and is still pursuing the establishment of the Provincial Police Service.

Hon member, our Chief Whip Pat Lekker, will say more about community safety when she speaks, but clearly we need to place on record that our province is not unfairly discriminated against when it comes to police resources. The SAPS report of 2018 demonstrates that in fact the police population ratio in this province is better than a number of other provinces, but if we are honest... [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Which are those provinces?

Mr C M DUGMORE: ...the real issue is the failure to deploy the police resources that we do have to the areas most ravaged by crime, violence and gangsterism. This House also needs to unite around the appointment of a permanent Provincial Police Commissioner with experience and knowledge of our communities and I appeal to Premier Winde to call to order those in his party who seek to discredit potential candidates who may have a history within the liberation movement. [Interjections.]

Secondly, the call for clear and time-bound process to deploy existing police resources; [Interjections.] the end of the intergovernmental dispute about police resources; the ending of internal conflict within our Community Police fora and Neighbourhood Watches; [Interjections.] supporting the integrated approach to fighting crime and the causes of crime. While we support the deployment of the SANDF to our province... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon the Leader of the Opposition, will you please take your seat. There is a point of order behind you.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: The Chief Whip wants to tell us, where is the province. You know.

The SPEAKER: What is your point of order, Chief Whip?

Ms P Z LEKKER: Thank you Mr Speaker, can I request the members from the other side to tone down their voices. We can hardly hear what the hon member is saying. [Laughter.]

The SPEAKER: Alright, thank you, hon member Lekker. Hon members, that is simply a request and I hope that it will be carried. Hon member Dugmore, please proceed, Sir.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Thank you. We believe the army is making a difference in stabilising our communities right now.

Mr D G MITCHELL: You did not support our call [Inaudible.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: However, we must now focus on getting the integrated approach working, once again placing the people and our communities first in all that we do. The Premier's speech was in fact the clearest admission that the DA has for the last ten years in fact abandoned the integrated approach to

community safety. As the ANC we will support the coordination proposed by the Department of the Premier and make sure that all our ANC shadow MECs play their role in this House, on the Standing Committees in the community and on our streets. At the same time we will bring what we as the ANC can offer, direct access to our President and the National Cabinet. We will also bring what we have, the active support and mobilisation of our communities on the ground. In this regard we would like to inform this House that our shadow ANC MEC for Community Safety, hon Kama will bring a proposal to this House for a pilot project on the establishment of Street Committees, using the M-Plan used by comrade Nelson Mandela. As the Opposition we can call on all parties to support our call on the DA to withdraw their intergovernmental dispute and drop the campaign for a Provincial Police Service. We know it is a non-starter. It is not going to happen.

We are greatly concerned, at the second example, the call for a provincial rail service. I urge the Premier to actually read the Draft White Paper on Public Transport. [Interjections.]

Mr D G MITCHELL: It is in there. That is in there.

Mr C M DUGMORE: There is a reference to a metropolitan transport authority; not a provincial rail system. For now we need to work together... [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: He is canvassing.

Mr C M DUGMORE: ...in all spheres to fix Metro Rail. A party-political posture for a provincial rail service is a sideshow. We have seen cooperation between all spheres of government to recruit, train and deploy rail safety officers. Hon Speaker, many of the pathologies we face in our province can be traced back to the brutal legacy of colonial dispossession, the evil system of apartheid spatial planning. In our province, Group Areas removals in Cape Town and our rural towns created emotional and economic scars that live with us today.

The Oudtshoorn Municipality for example then prided themselves in being the first municipality to enforce group areas. Land, houses and thriving businesses were taken from those classified as African, Coloured and Indian. It was an unspeakable crime against humanity. As the ANC we are driving land restitution and land redistribution. Central to this must be concrete steps to integrate Cape Town and all our rural towns. We have noted Premier Winde's comment and I quote:

“Western Cape Government will look to match the extent of any National Government owned land released to be used for the development of housing.”

We do not believe that this has been thought through. Rather it is a political posturing and appears to be an excuse not to immediately release well located provincial and municipal land for integrated human settlements. However, we do fully support the use of all public land for socio-economic purposes. Let

us meet urgently and talk about this and find a practical way forward. As the ANC we propose that each municipality must complete a transparent and accessible land audit of all national, provincial, municipal and State-owned enterprise properties, this to include both land and buildings and such audit must also look at well-located land which can advance these particular purposes.

This reminds me of another innovative idea made many years ago by hon Peter Marais. I am not sure if he is in the House today.

Mr D G MITCHELL: Yes, indeed. †In pragtige blou! [In beautiful blue!]

Mr C M DUGMORE: He is in the House. He had proposed then that Cape Town literally... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Dugmore, may I please ask you to wrap up please.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Okay, I am going to but I have been timing myself and I actually feel I have been prejudiced by the interruptions. [Interjections.]

Mr R D MACKENZIE: No, 16 minutes [Inaudible.] [Interjections.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: But I want to say that hon Marais had proposed that Cape Town literally needs a new City within the City. He proposed looking at

the land between Blaauwberg and Atlantis, while we believe that much more needs to be done to integrate and densify our city and towns using for example underutilised school land to house teachers, we need to find out what hon Marais' current thinking is on this matter.

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr C M DUGMORE: And to conclude we then say that in regard to the land audits we need proposals to release such land by a leasehold for human settlements, social development... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Alright, thank you hon member Dugmore.

Mr C M DUGMORE: And as the ANC we will oppose any attempt to invade land illegally, and all this must happen within the framework of the law.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, Sir.

Mr C M DUGMORE: We are committed - the last sentence [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, Sir, no-no-no. Thank you, your time is up Sir.

Mr C M DUGMORE: ...to be vigilant constructive Opposition...
[Interjection.] [Time expired.] [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Your time is up, thank you, thank you. Did you see him trying; he is trying all these [Inaudible.] Thank you hon member, you have done very well! May I request the Minister of Transport and Public Works, hon Minister Madikizela.

HON MEMBERS: Hear-hear! Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Hon Premier, Leader of the Official Opposition and all other parties present, Cabinet colleagues, members of the Provincial Legislature, invited guests and people of my beloved province.

Let me start by thanking Premier Winde for delivering a well-balanced State of the Province Address. Premier was very honest about our state of the province. He did not only speak about our successes but he was also honest spot-on about our challenges that we continue to face as the Province of the Western Cape.

In his address, the Premier recommitted to our 2009 vision of realising an open opportunity society for all so that residents of the province can use their freedom to live the lives they value.

Mr Speaker, the Premier raised the matter of the development of a Highway Patrol as part of our Provincial Traffic mandate. Safety on our roads has steadily been improving, but that Mr Speaker, cannot substitute the

importance of behaviour of our drivers, despite a number of measures that we are putting in place.

Bringing the Provincial Traffic Service back into the Transport family five years ago has been bearing fruit. The road death rate was 29.25 per 100 000 population in 2010, and just after this administration came into power and took this strategic decision, by last year the death rate had been reduced to 20 per 100 000 population. This is a reduction of more than 30%, Mr Speaker.

However, colleagues, at the same time as we have made these strides forward, the communities our officers have served so well on the roads have been terrorised and crippled by criminals. The murder rate in our province jumped from 43.3 per 100 000 in 2009/10 to 57 per 100 000 population in 2018/19. Now again this is an increase of more than 30%.

It is well known that effective road policing makes the life of criminals far harder. For example, strict control of the highways can make it impossible to conduct criminal operations like the drug smuggling that is the lifeblood of the gangs tearing apart communities on the Cape Flats.

As a first step to show our commitment to taking a leading role in the fight against crime, I can inform to this House that the Department of Transport and Public Works has begun the process of redeveloping the Provincial Traffic Service into a Provincial Highway Patrol.

One of the offers during our campaign was the provincialisation of rail transport because I strongly believe, Mr Speaker, that we can do much better than PRASA, and I am very surprised that hon member Dugmore does not agree with this, because this is a call that was also supported by Gauteng Premier, David Makhura. [Interjections.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: You are misinterpreting.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: The problems on our trains and public transport in general have a crippling effect on our economy, and I have already met with the National Minister of Transport to talk about this. Mr Mbalula and I - and I agree with member Dugmore that for us to be able to come with solutions on this matter we really need to work together and strengthen our intergovernmental relations - and that is why both Minister Mbalula and I agree that fixing transport will be our number one priority, particularly rail transport.

I am saying it is our priority because both spheres need to work collaboratively to make sure that we do that, Mr Speaker, it is not something that we can do alone or the National Government that they can do alone. The situation is further complicated by a long history of poor management decisions and corruption within PRASA itself, which is something that the Minister lamented on when we had our Minmec recently. Some of these are currently in the various courts.

The Western Cape Government has already made significant contributions to improving safety and security on the commuter rail system. In partnership with the City of Cape Town and PRASA the Province established the Rail Enforcement Unit whose successes have been well documented in the media.

This has come at a cost of about R16 million a year and we think it is worth it. The contract was extended from 1 July for a further 12 months. We will need to work very closely together and avoid at all cost politicising the matter as this does not help our commuters as I keep on emphasising.

Mr Speaker, the state of our country is seriously concerning and the fiscal challenges will have a massive impact on our priorities as this province, but not only as the province but as a country as a whole. That is why it is imperative to find ways to augment our allocation by raising our own revenue through various means. We must balance the need for strategic use of our property. We must use some of it to address spatial transformation. I agree with hon member Dugmore. With the Conradie Better Living Model underway, we now must move to Two Rivers Urban Park or TRUP, Helen Bowden, Woodstock and Salt River sites, and we must also challenge the National Minister of Public Works to release some of the pieces of land that she fought for when she was the Mayor.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear, yes.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: But we must also

make it very clear, Mr Speaker... [Interjection.] We must make it very clear that some parcels of land that are not necessarily ideal for this particular goal must be sold in order to raise more revenue; because let us be clear here, if you look at the economic situation in South Africa, which is not about to get better, we will end up not being able to finance the commitments that we are making in this House and also in other provinces, because the fiscus will continue to shrink and therefore we must be realistic when we are having this debate and stop politicising it.

It is interesting to see the level of hypocrisy from the ANC Government. Now a lot of noise was made and the ANC again was based on manufactured outrage on selling the Tafelberg, which is what hon member Dugmore spoke about. Now this is a site that is only one hectare. We are talking about the site that has only one hectare here. Yet last week, Mr Speaker, the Department of Infrastructure and Public Works nationally published 25 pieces of land that are advertised to be sold. 17 of those are in District Six.

Now the only reason why that decision was reversed is because of the outcry from the people of District Six, which then revealed the hypocrisy from the ANC, because personally I do not disagree with the view that says let us look at certain pieces of land that cannot be used for housing development, for example and let us see how we use them to augment the financial challenges that we have. So the National Department is doing it. The National Government is doing it, and yet, when we are doing it, it is an outcry.

Mr Speaker, I also want to deal with factual inaccuracies that are coming from member Herron about his track record in the City of Cape Town on three aspects: MyCiTi N2 Express, housing delivery and inner-city development.

He has been waxing lyrical about these matters as his justification to leave the party and give the impression that he was the best performer.

Mr C M DUGMORE: When he was there it was not [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Now immediately after my appointment as the Minister of Transport and Public Works, Mr Speaker, I had to deal with the MyCiTi debacle. The contract between three parties, which is Golden Arrow Bus Services, Route 6 and CODETA, which was due for renewal at the end of June, was not renewed, and the main reason for that is because there are serious concerns raised by CODETA and they have now taken the City to Court, but what I found more shocking, Mr Speaker, was the fact that under member Herron, the Service Level Agreement, which was a condition - I need to repeat this. This was a condition precedent to the implementation of that contract. It was never renewed or it was never signed. Now when I raised this matter with the Standing Committee last week, he called that a red herring and I found that very surprising. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: A red herring?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Yes. He called it a red herring and I found it very surprising because as someone who was in charge of the Department he should have known that that contract was invalid unless that SLA was signed and clearly he did not know that, and he also conceded that he did not know that this SLA was never signed.

An HON MEMBER: He does.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Now during the previous Mayor's tenure, the City's Housing Department was broken morally and eventually broken down. Its capacity was stripped, which led to a dismal delivery record in both USDG and Human Settlement Development Grant. I must add that even the delivery that the City managed to do was due to my previous Department taking charge of some of the projects and the procurement because that Department was broken. So he went further to say exactly two years ago, in his then capacity at the City of Cape Town, he initiated inner-City developments. I can tell you now, Mr Speaker, that almost all the projects that were initiated by member Herron in the inner-City were halted by Court, all of them. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, you need to wrap up.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: So I do want to wrap up by saying that another issue, Mr Speaker, that we are dealing with together with the National Department is Go-George, and I am happy that

after the meeting that I had with the National Ministry and the National Department today, we will be going to George next week so that we can roll out the next phase. Thank you very much. [Time expired.] [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you hon Minister Madikizela. Now I recognise hon member Mackenzie.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Thank you Mr Speaker. It is with great pleasure and excitement that I participate in the first debate of the Sixth Parliament. The people of the Western Cape gave a clear mandate for the DA-led Government to continue governing and building on the foundation laid by the previous two administrations under the leadership of the greatest Premier South Africa has ever had, Ms Helen Nontsapo Zille. The Sixth Parliament owes a great debt of gratitude to the Fifth Administration for the foundation of good governance and accountability and for that we have to thank her.

Despite the size of the Western Cape Parliament and its administration within our limited means we set high targets and meet them to become the best Parliament in South Africa. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: 62% [Interjections.]

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Now Mr Speaker, the winds of change is blowing through the Western Cape and seeks to enhance performance by taking Government to the people by blowing fruits of opportunities throughout the

province. This, hon Speaker, has been the first order of business for this Government.

Throughout the Election Campaign we have seen the excellent work done by the Western Cape Government but we also saw opportunities where this Government can improve. The people told us throughout this campaign that they want to see more of us. They want accelerated Government delivery and they want more programmes in this community. This Government will not be deaf to the plight of the people; hence I was pleased to see that the Premier, his Executive and his head of department visited places in the Western Cape on a bus showcasing effectivity and efficiency. It will be up to us as members of this Parliament to follow suit in our oversight mandate. Therefore as Chairperson of the Premier and Constitutional Mandate I let our first Committee suggest to the members of this Legislature a programme of action that will take more of us to the furthest part of this province. We need to be that extra pair of eyes that the public meets because the youth not only battles to find employment but the unemployment is a major setback for skills development ironically required for employment. But allow me to consider our successes in this regard.

Our Apprenticeship Game-Changer seeks to address the skill shortages directly and the Premier's Advancement of Youth on the foundation of the Premier's administration created over 4 000 opportunities for the youth so far. In addition the rollout of the Broadband connectivity of nearly 2000 service sites creates a foundation to a holistic approach to the open

opportunity society and look forward to more success stories from Premier Winde.

Premier Winde, you noted the last, while there have been many deaths in our communities, particularly death of children, which brings me to the Children's Commissioner.

Now Premier, hon member Dugmore was a member of the Committee in the last term. Now during that Committee we made several resolutions, of which member Dugmore was a member of for five years. Now member Dugmore was also a member of the Executive during the time he was a member of the ANC, and he sat on the desk right in front of me. Now they never during their time even considered the appointment of a Children's Commissioner. It was never on any Committee agenda.

†n AGBARE LID: Ja!

[An HON MEMBER: Yes!]

Mr C M DUGMORE: But what you indicated that you had all [Inaudible.]

Mr R D MACKENZIE: We have done it, we had public hearings, which the member was a member of and that was unanimously adopted by the last Parliament. [Interjections.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: You had ten years.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: In fact hon member Dugmore is so predictable. I even printed out the Act before I came to this House, knowing how predictable he is. [Laughter.] So, because I knew he was going to raise this matter in a different fashion.

Mr C M DUGMORE: The Children's Commissioner, there is still no Children's Commissioner.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: So at the last Parliament of that Commission we made a recommendation: let the Sixth Parliament deal with this matter because there was no time to do so. So hon member Dugmore, the Sixth Parliament at our next Committee and I hope you attend that Committee, because as I remember on the last Committee in the Fifth Parliament during legislation...

An HON MEMBER: Absent!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: You did not come to the Committee. So I hope, as opposed to giving our press releases saying the Children's Commissioner is not appointed, you are going to come to the Committee next week so we can appoint the Children's Commissioner, because next week hon member Dugmore... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order, order hon members!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: We will set down the process to appoint the Children's Commissioner. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! [Interjection.]

Mr R D MACKENZIE: We will advertise it. We will put it in the newspapers. [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Mackenzie...

Mr R D MACKENZIE: We will invite you to the interviews, hon member Dugmore. So please stop grandstanding... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Mackenzie, will you please take your chair.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: ...attend committees so you can rightfully inform your constituents whatever you ... [Interjections.]

Mr D SMITH: Order Chair, Order Chair! Order Chair! [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Hon member Mackenzie...

Mr D SMITH: You may have some water!

The SPEAKER: Please, please. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Where is the Commissioner? Where is the Commissioner?

The SPEAKER: Alright, thank you very much. Thank you. Your time is not up, Sir.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: I know Sir, you called me to order.

The SPEAKER: Yes, yes, thank you. It is just that I want to draw your attention that if the Speaker draws you to a point of order please listen to the Speaker, but hon members, please assist me, this is our House. So do not look at me and think I must do some magic here, perform some miracles. Let us be orderly and assist the Speaker.

An HON MEMBER: You have had your chance hey.

The SPEAKER: What is your point of order hon member Dugmore?

Mr C M DUGMORE: My point of order is through you, Mr Speaker, to ask whether the hon member... [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: What is the rule number? Rule?

The SPEAKER: What, which rule?

Mr C M DUGMORE: No-no, hold on, No-no-no, to ask whether the hon member is willing... [Interjection.]

An HON MEMBER: Is it a point of order?

Mr C M DUGMORE: ...to take a question as to why the Children's Commissioner has not yet been appointed. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Hey you must sit down!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: When you come to the Committee you can ask the Committee.

The SPEAKER: Hon member Mackenzie... [Interjection.]

Mr R D MACKENZIE: No, he can ask the Committee if he comes.

The SPEAKER: Will you please proceed.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Yes.

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Hon member Dugmore can ask the Committee if he comes.

An HON MEMBER: Where is the Commissioner?

Mr R D MACKENZIE: So member, and then just on another point, hon member Dugmore spoke two minutes and 50 seconds on quoting O R Tambo and Nelson Mandela, yet a minute and 17 seconds later he went into an attack on the Children's Commissioner that is not appointed, of which he sat right here as a member of the Executive and did absolutely nothing about it, so it is quite ironic that he wasted three minutes putting two great leaders, yet you do the complete opposite a minute and 17 seconds later. So Premier Winde, this Committee that will meet next week... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: We unanimously have decided on the Children's Commissioner. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order hon members.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: We will map a clear process...

The SPEAKER: Hon Marran, hon Marran, Sir.

†'n AGBARE LID: Jaag hom uit!

[An HON MEMBER: Chase him out!]

The SPEAKER: Let us please conduct ourselves in a manner that promotes the decorum of this House. Hon Madikizela!

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Yes, can I continue Chair?

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Just monitor my time please, hon Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Alright, sir, your time is safe, sir.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Yes, Speaker, so I agree with member Dugmore that this Commissioner should be appointed speedily and hence the first order of business and I urge member Dugmore and he is not paying attention again, next week Tuesday when the Committee meets he must be there. You cannot influence the appointment of people if you are not present, which is what he did in the Fifth Term, then he arrives here six weeks after in the Sixth Term, and he says something completely different. That is what happens when you are absent from Committees. So I agree with the member that the Children's Commissioner is overdue and we will work with the Chief Whip and the Programming Committee to ensure that this Commissioner, the Children's Commissioner, gets appointed as soon as possible and we will do the same on the Environmental Commissioner and ensure that the legislative processes with regard to the Environmental Commissioner gets appropriated as soon as possible.

An HON MEMBER: We are waiting, yes.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Speaker, as previously stated this Government will have to do more with less. We just saw this morning the Bailout Bill or the special Appropriations Bill of R59 billion tabled in the National Assembly.

The SPEAKER: You need to wrap up. You need to wrap up, hon member.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: This means that this Government will have to cut more because the blatant corruption that has taken place at National Parliament and hon member Dugmore's Walking Buddy, the President, who used R400 million for his... [Inaudible]. Now we know where the money is going.

Mr D SMITH: That is none of your business.

Mr C M DUGMORE: He is my running buddy.

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Your running buddy, yes.

The SPEAKER: Who is doing this now, who is doing that? Hon Smith, is it you?

Mr D SMITH: What did I do, Mr Speaker?

The SPEAKER: Who is doing that noise, the funny noise? There is a sound that is very unusual.

An HON MEMBER: His mic is on.

The SPEAKER: Maybe it is that mic yes.

Mr D SMITH: Chair, this mic is on by accident. I was just correcting the member on the CR17 funding. It has nothing to do with this House.

The SPEAKER: Oh, thank you. [Interjections.] May we please not use the mic on such matters because you are not on the speaking list for now; thank you, hon member. We have the Minister of Transport Roads and Public Works, he deals with accidents so he can help us! [Laughter.]

An HON MEMBER: Accidents.

The SPEAKER: Thank you hon member Mackenzie. Now I recognise hon Xego.

Mr M XEGO: Thank you very much hon Speaker. Hon member Makamba-Botya, the Deputy Chairperson of the Province of the EFF, Western Cape, the hon members of the Provincial Cabinet and the Legislature, the

leadership and members of the EFF present in the gallery, the members of the public and most of all our man of the moment, the hon Premier of the Western Cape.

It is a privilege for the EFF to stand here today to respond to the State of the Province you delivered last week. Mr Premier, thanks to the votes and the voters who voted the EFF in the last elections. If it was not for the hard work and the dedication of the ground forces of the EFF I would not be here today. I was to quickly draw your attention, Mr Premier, to the dream you happen to share with the President, the former President of the democratic South Africa, former President Nelson Mandela, a dream of commitment to meeting a deepest and a basic desire of being free from want, from hunger, from deprivation, from ignorance, from suppression and fear. In your quest to make us believe that the Western Cape you aspire to build is indeed the one free from fear, you portray a picture of a dreamland far away from the actual reality. The Western Cape is the murder capital of South Africa and that is the fact you need to wake up from your dreamland and face.

We are here, therefore, Mr Premier, to remind you that you had an opportunity to instil confidence in the people of the Western Cape in your Government, offences such as Mzwanele Wellem, a 39-year-old security guard working at Phangela Group, from Kayamandi in Stellenbosch, who was ran over by Johan Steyn's Opel Corsa utility bakkie in broad daylight. You further missed an opportunity to condemn the harassment that was endured by Esethu Mcinjana who was unlawfully arrested by the police in Sea Point only

because she was at an area designated for certain people.

You have failed to take us into confidence that black people will have free access to Clifton Beach and other areas where our people experience fear of harassment by authorities under your Province.

An HON MEMBER: That is what Malema fought.

An HON MEMBER: Yes, yes.

An HON MEMBER: Indeed!

Mr M XEGO: While dealing with the issue of fear, Mr Premier, you have missed the boat of condemning your former predecessor, Helen Zille, who recklessly regard black people as refugees in this province, and hence also remarks of black privilege. When addressing challenges of human settlement, Mr Premier, you deliberately sidestepped the condemnation of evictions of farm dwellers that result in the displacement of the poorest of the poor and the vulnerable members of the society especially women and children. We all know the reason behind this was aimed at nothing but to avoid to step on the toes of those who are privileged and rich, who funded your election campaign in order for you to be a Premier.

For this behaviour you project yourself as one not different from Paul Kruger, from Hendrik Verwoerd, from P W Botha, from Magnus Malan, from

Hernus Kriel. [Interjections.]

Your commonality is the fact that black lives do not matter to you. In your introduction, Mr Premier, you have shared with us your wonderful experience of walking through the St George's Street on your way to this Parliament; something in your view is equivalent to climbing Mount Kilimanjaro or an Everest. We just wish that you should have walked through the streets of Malemaville and Marcus Garvey in Philippi.

An HON MEMBER: Malemaville?

An HON MEMBER: Yes.

Mr M XEGO: Yes, there is a Malemaville in case you do not know. Valhalla Park and Tsunami in Delft and then come and share these wonderful journeys towards here. Walking in the CBD is no significance, no bearing to anything experienced by our people in the Western Cape.

In your speech Mr Premier, you have highlighted that you are not prepared to find each other with the National Government regardless how that will impact on the service delivery. Your governing party has previously called for the deployment of the army in the province. Indeed the army is here and yet you want to tell us that you are going to take the people to Court. What are you aiming to achieve, the army or the interdict? [Interjections.]

Ms M M WENGER: The police.

Mr M XEGO: Now all of a sudden you have realised that what EFF has always said about socio-economic challenges that lead criminal activities experienced by our people and communities, you and your party agree that the army is not yet a permanent solution to these challenges, but a socio-economic nature. You have displayed to us how you are not willing to work with the National Government to deal with the building of dams in the province. [Interjections.]

You also told us you are not willing to cooperate with the Auditor-General only for you to prioritise service delivery. You went on to share with us that you prefer your independent power producers than strengthening Eskom.

An HON MEMBER: Yes, ja.

Mr M XEGO: These are all signs and symbols that you and your party view the Western Cape as a republic inside a republic. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Yes, yes.

Mr M XEGO: We heard from you Mr Premier, some fairytale stories about Lady Abigail from Mitchells Plain who has managed to make it in business in life in township.

An HON MEMBER: Yes, that is nice.

Mr M XEGO: Coming to you – no, I am not coming to the city centre, and according to you, that is an achievement of a lifetime. To our understanding you again, like many others before you, strongly believe that the place of black people is in the township.

An HON MEMBER: No man.

Mr M XEGO: In the congested dangerous Cape Flats where our people are supposed to be. This you have shared as a common achievement with your cheerleaders next to you, who are clapping in triumph, thinking that Mitchells Plain is the best place to be. In your bedside stories you told us here in this House, celebrated the business made by informal traders in the streets of the CBD, this to serve as an easy victory of a lifetime to you, will grant an opportunity to avoid rentals. This was your scene. To us this is a misrepresentation of facts.

As you remind our previous disadvantaged people that they must remain obedient to the streets, whilst the grandchildren of Verwoerd, Leon, Zille and many others are enjoying air-conditioned offices in our CBD. You have promised to jail our landless people who occupy unused land, a promise we all know you will be able to keep. You are the best and that is the best way to resolve the land dispossession question perpetuated by your forebearers to imprison our people.

An HON MEMBER: Who invaded land?

Mr M XEGO: This is our area. This is the area we will have to honour your invitation to the filling of the prisons in the Western Cape. Land shall be occupied whether you like that or you do not.

†USOMLOMO: Ngconde, noko ingathi soyigqibezela ngoku.

[The SPEAKER: Ngconde, I think you can conclude now.]

Mr M XEGO: Okay.

The SPEAKER: Ja.

Mr M XEGO: The healthcare services remain a challenge and piloting one 24 Service Clinic in Grabouw will not justify to the masses of our people...

[Interjection.]

†USOMLOMO: Siyabulela.

[The SPEAKER: We thank you.]

Mr M XEGO: ...and therefore in the Western Cape please take us serious and we will [Inaudible.] [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

†n AGBARE LID: Mooi, mooi! [Tussenwerpsels.]

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

The SPEAKER: Hon members, order! Order, hon members, I now recognise the Minister of Finance, Minister Maynier.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Thank you Speaker. It is obvious to everybody that that hon member listened to the Premier of the Western Cape's State of the Province Address with his mouth and not with his ears. [Laughter.]

Now the Leader of the Opposition is quite wrong. We have done more than any other province over the past ten years to promote economic growth and to create jobs in the Western Cape. We have worked hard to create an enabling environment for the private sector which has created more than 500 000 jobs in the Western Cape. [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: You failed to transform the ownership of this economy. You did not even try to transform [Inaudible.] [Interjection.]

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: But despite our hard work we still have hundreds of thousands of people who are unemployed in the Western Cape.

Mr C M DUGMORE: What are you going to do differently?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Sir, we have to find a way...

The SPEAKER: Hon members, sorry hon Minister. Please, will you please take your seat? I am battling to get understanding from members. I think they want to speak at the same time and it is making it difficult for us to hear you, hon Minister. I am calling on members to please exercise some restraint in this way. Hon Minister.

An HON MEMBER: Maiden speech!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Thank you Speaker. The Hon Leader of the Opposition does seem a little bit excited. Perhaps he could take some Calmettes or Rescue Remedy.

Mr C M DUGMORE: You do not look like a medical practitioner.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Thank you. As I was saying, Speaker, we have to find a way to give hope to those people, especially young people who do not have jobs or have given up looking for jobs in the Western Cape because they deserve to live with dignity, to live with independence and to live with hope in the Western Cape, but the scale of the challenge is huge because we are in deep economic trouble in South Africa and on this the Hon Leader of the Opposition is exactly right. The scale of the task is enormous.

We have stagnant national economic growth with the economy forecast to grow at an average of about 1.5% over the medium term.

We have declining per capita incomes as the population growth rate exceeds the economic growth rate in South Africa and we have high unemployment with a staggering 9.9 million people who do not have jobs or who have given up looking for jobs in South Africa.

An HON MEMBER: Shocking!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: We are in deep economic trouble not because of National Government's failure to implement economic policy, but because of National Government's reckless economic policy.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: We have land expropriation without compensation; we have prescribed assets; we have [Interjections.] State banks; and we have sovereign wealth funds; and we have the nationalisation of the Reserve Bank in South Africa.

An HON MEMBER: Yes [Inaudible.]

The MINISTER FOR FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: We

have President who is supposed to take [Interjections.] tough decisions on the economy, but who prefers to call summits, dialogues and conferences.

We have a Finance Minister who is supposed to be in charge of the macro-economy [Interjections.], but who is not taken seriously by his own Cabinet; and we have a Trade and Industry Minister who is supposed to be in charge of the micro-economy, but who is shackled to the idea of a Soviet style smokestack economy, where [Interjections.] where workers happily sing *The Internationale*.

That is why investors, including investors are used to investing in risky emerging markets, are hesitant to invest in South Africa, which, Speaker, is what happens when the intellectual centre of the governing party at national level is not the South African Communist Party [Interjections.] and nor is it Cosatu, but it is the Economic Freedom Fighters [Interjections.]; that is what happens. [Interjections.]

Now, Speaker, we have a National Government that makes it ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: A Theo Prins.

The MINISTER FOR FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: ... difficult, but not impossible to drive economic growth and job creation in the Western Cape.

An HON MEMBER: [Inaudible.] centre of the DA [Inaudible.].

The MINISTER FOR FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: We will not give up and we will do what it takes to give hope to people, especially young people who do not have jobs [Inaudible.], who have given up looking for jobs in the Western Cape. [Interjections.]

We will create an efficient regulatory environment by supercharging the Red Tape Reduction Unit to begin dealing with sector wide challenges to economic growth; such as the visa regimes, tariffs, port fees, slow planning processes, and licensing regimes which negatively affect economic growth in the Western Cape. We must eliminate obstacles to opening new businesses and growing existing businesses [Interjections.], because with more employers we can have more employees in the Western Cape.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER FOR FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: We will strengthen support for sectors of the economy that can contribute to economic growth and job creation. We will support small businesses, especially small businesses in the informal economy, through support packages like the SMME Booster Fund. We will scale up our workplace experience programmes to prepare people, especially young people, for the world of work in the Western Cape, and we will build an economy that is resilient by ensuring that it becomes, most importantly, more energy

independent, where municipalities can buy power from independent power producers in the Western Cape.

We will also build on our successful Cape Town Air Access programme, which has done such great work, launching new routes, expanding existing routes and growing seat capacity at the Cape Town International Airport; and we look forward to welcoming the inaugural flight of United Airlines, which will fly non-stop from New York to Cape Town on 16 December 2019, and which will generate millions of rands in additional tourist spending in the Western Cape.

We are particularly pleased to be able to announce here today for the first time, that we have reached a new milestone when it comes to the establishment of the Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone. We were informed late last week that the application to make the port and key portions of land adjoining the port, a customs control area, had been approved by the Revenue Services. [Applause.] [Interjections.] That means that there will be a less onerous customs procedures for goods moving into within and out the Industrial Development Zone to export destinations, and hefty upfront taxes for goods coming into the Industrial Development Zone for repair and maintenance will be waived by the Revenue Services; which will go a long way, we think, to make the Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone a destination of choice for the oil and gas sector, and will bring us closer to the vision of creating a world-class oil, gas and maritime centre right here in the Western Cape.

An HON MEMBER: [Inaudible.] will deal with that.

The MINISTER FOR FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: We must acknowledge [Interjections.] however that stagnant economic growth and declining per capita incomes, and staggering levels of unemployment, are only part of the problem in South Africa, because with stagnant economic growth comes collapsing revenue, ballooning fiscal deficits, eye-watering national debt and a looming sovereign credit ratings downgrade.

The triple challenge of unemployment, poverty and inequality, I promise you, will soon be replaced by a new triple challenge, which will be to regain our investment grade rating from Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch.

What we must not forget is that in two years' time National Government will be spending R247 billion servicing our national debt, which is a staggering R179 billion more than we will spend in this province here in the Western Cape.

Worse we have zombie State-owned enterprises such as Denel, South African Airways, and worst of all Eskom, gobbling up billions of rands in bailouts in South Africa. The full horror of National Government's mismanagement of the economy, mismanagement of our public finances, and mismanagement of our State-owned enterprises, is going to have major implications for provinces in the form of unprecedented budget cuts over the medium-term, which risks wiping out service delivery in the provinces across South Africa.

To underline the point, we heard a few hours ago in a brief statement from the Finance Minister, that we have, and I quote:

“A very serious financial situation on our hands and that taxpayers will have to fork out an additional R59 billion to bail out Eskom.”

We are not going to simply stand by and allow National Government to impose budget cuts on this province, to in effect bail out National Government so that they can bail out zombie State-owned enterprises like Denel, like South African Airways and like Eskom. [Interjections.]

What we are going to do in the end is to work hard to give hope to people who do not have jobs or who have given up looking for jobs, and who deserve to live with dignity, with independence, with freedom and with hope in the Western Cape. I thank you. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Hon member Dugmore. Thank you hon Minister Maynier.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Thank you, Mr Speaker. [Interjections.] Mr Speaker, I would like to rise on a point of order, because I think it is only correct that in regard to the convention of maiden speeches that we do not interject, and I must admit that because I have seen hon member Maynier so often speak in the National Assembly, I forgot that this was in fact his maiden speech today.

So I would like formally [Interjections.] to apologise, and request that obviously we respect all the maiden speeches today. It is a genuine apology. Thank you. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member the Leader of the Opposition. Thank you very much, Sir. [Interjections.] Hon member Maynier?

The MINISTER FOR FINANCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES: Mr Speaker, I thank the hon Leader of the Opposition for his point, but what he does not realise is that I was in fact being uncontroversial. [Laughter.]

The SPEAKER: Alright, thank you very much, hon members. Now I recognise hon member Nkondlo. [Applause.]

†UNksz N D NKONDLO: Somlomo, [Mr Speaker], hon members, colleagues in the Sixth Administration, our guests in the gallery, the administrators of both this House and those from the Executive that are here, the media - allow me to say †molweni [greetings].

Let me start off by welcoming Premier Winde and his maiden SOPA, and his tribute to the foundation father of our democratic nation, Tata Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, and the former President of the African National Congress.

As the SOPA places upon us as the citizens of this province and of the

nation, to use Madiba's life and legacy to reflect on who we are today and who we have been, and indeed who we wish to become, let us rise to the occasion, honourables, and be honourable both in thought and in act.

[The Deputy Speaker takes the Chair.]

Madiba's vision for South Africa is clearly spelt out in the strategic objective of the ANC to create a non-racial, non-sexist, democratic and prosperous South Africa for all, so the dream he had of a people-centred society is emboldened in that objective, and as such cannot be equated at all with the equal and opportunity society that the Premier and the DA preach for our country.

In receiving his Nobel Peace Prize in 1993, Madiba has this to say:

“It remains our hope that these, too, will be blessed with sufficient reason to realise that history will not be denied, and that a new society cannot be created by reproducing the repugnant past, however refined or enticingly repackaged.”

Equal opportunity as a concept is a buzz word to sidestep the thornier political question of the legacy of apartheid. It is like a song with a nice rhythm, but with highly offensive lyrics. It is an oversimplification of a complex social reality of South Africa of decades of class, race and gender degradation, and it is mischief of quick-fix reforms, using meritocracy that is

the survival of the fittest in, and actually is a sophisticated form of apartheid.

The assumption of meritocracy that former Premier Helen Zille would be heard here in this House denouncing employment equity, that she is not bothered whether the cat is black or white; knowing for a fact, as statistics proves, that merit levels, if one using academic progress, are not evenly distributed, and all accept the high number of young black citizens, including in this province, that are not in employment, nor in education or training.

So funnelling through opportunities surely using a pure arithmetic, including Maths Lit, will arrive at the same conclusion: that only white cats will be advantaged due to the unchosen inequalities, or an unfair advantage from the black cats, based on the apartheid engineered positioning.

So, Premier, you plan to vanquish stubborn apartheid tenants that fashioned racialized opportunities for the white sector of our society, by using a racially blind opportunities framework, where generations from the black sector of society must compete equally with those that have been given a head start, whilst they race against those opportunities with one leg. Please, do not play with us.

Entrenched white privilege cannot be resolved by just opening the door to non-whites to the same table of whiteness, thus guaranteeing them opportunity to enjoy privilege and whiteness as the epitome of civilisation. We cannot allow a system in which an elite hold themselves in power by

controlling access to merit via advantaged access to education, an advantage experience, an advantage economic standing. Such is an insult to be equated to Nelson Mandela, who fought to transform a system of domination, both in content and in form.

We must eliminate all unchosen inequalities as a precondition to levelling the playing field for fair and equitable competition.

Madiba said:

“We must use time wisely and forever realise that the time always is ripe to do right.”

Rules by the elite and supposedly schooled and surely not educated, the DA 10 year rule in this province resulted in acts peddled by the former Premier's son, which enabled business with the Department his mother manages. A colleague, MEC Leader of the Party, being thrown R134 000 birthday bash by contractors doing business with his Department, and, Premier, yourself leaving your former office as an MEC for Agriculture without completing your disclosure of financial statements to this House; thus curtailing financial oversight. Instead embroiling the illegal battle with the AG to avoid a negative opinion on your financial management of resources of the Agricultural Department. All this under the claim of DA clean and good governance.

Again the AG has reported a 404% increase of irregular expenditure, totalling to R667 million as reported in 2017/18, from R165 million from 2016/17. R65 million irregular expenditure was incurred from non-compliance of supply chain management processes, from traffic contravention services by the City of Cape Town.

What is even outrageous is that the amount is 87% of the original contract value, meaning that the taxpayer had to cough up additional R56.55 million for a service that originally was R8.45 million.

The Auditor-General exposes R183.5 million underspending by the same City of Cape Town on two water projects. [Interjections.]

Mr R D MACKENZIE: You are in the wrong [Inaudible.] House, Ma'am.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Does this include ...[Interjections.]

Mr R D MACKENZIE: You are in the wrong [Inaudible.].

Ms N D NKONDLO: ... the V&A [Interjections.], does this include the V&A desalination plant debacle between the City of Cape Town and QFS on allegations of non-compliance to contractual issues and potential scandal of pumping sewerage to the sea. Why did you omit these in your SOPA, Premier, whilst these issues are in the public domain?

What do you say about business confidence when an arm of government here in your province is able to bring into disrepute a relationship with business that has entered into a public private partnership with one arm of the State under your guise?

So yes, Premier, you must miss Madiba's leadership qualities and personal strength as yourself and the Blue Team, by your own admission, are examples of the rare integrity of the mind in today's body politic.

The Premier informs us of a R100 billion foreign direct investment the province secured since 2009, and the job benefits of this 10 year investment is 500 000 jobs.

So it means if one uses Maths Lit once again, it cost 200 000 FDI to create one job. Quite pricy, do you not think? Over 120 months, which is 10 years. A long-shot, Premier, which your dream of creating a job in each household ensure within this administration.

We must therefore enquire about the investment led growth as it is no silver bullet, especially given our uneven realities of our country. Let alone that literature shows a lot of ambiguity in FDI spill overs to host economies or domestic firms given some conditional factors such as absorptive capacity informed by knowledge and skills, technological gaps, productivity levels, amongst others.

So in believing the script of FDI and its job creation effect, more elaborative data must be sought as evidence to show the causality between FDI and the labour market outcomes. Actually at face-value one would need to use an example of what hon MEC Maynier has just spoken about the Saldanha. That if you look at the situation of Saldanha, which indeed a lot of investment has been placed there to attract foreign direct investment as a special economic zone; what is the socio-economic condition of that particular regime?

We are sitting here and the Blue Book which the MERO tells us that the reality in that regime is that the income inequality and its Gini coefficient is 0.60; which is highest in that region; plus the highest proportion of no income household is at 14.1%; and again Saldanha sits with 82% of formally employed with skills level being 41% of semi-skilled and 40% low-skilled.

Over the past 10 years of DA rule you omit to tell the public that inequalities in income distribution, as represented by the Gini coefficient of 0.61, closer to 1, is the highest, especially in the City of Cape Town, which is why the UN-Habitat has declared Cape Town as the fourth most unequal city.

Again you tell us how you were pained visiting Kleinvlei in Hermanus when you witnessed a mother's tears, and once again if you look at the socio-economic conditions of Hermanus in particular, it actually resembles almost a similar reality. The situation in almost all the six regions in this province demonstrates this particular phenomenon that is in the Blue Book for you to refer.

A phenomenon of increased income inequality; large proportion of low income earners; high Grade 12 job [Inaudible.]; decreasing matric pass; increase in informal dwellers; increasing indigent, amongst others.

Now this is information that you choose to omit in your SOPA, as the hon Minister Madikizela said you were truthful and speaking honestly in your SOPA.

So you must tell us, hon Premier, how is this environment going to be affected by an elitist, equal open opportunity investment-led growth? How are people going to be able to indeed move from the kind of situations that they find themselves in? Will they see themselves to the finishing line with a limping or one leg ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Time, hon member Nkondlo.

†UNksz N D NKONDLO: Ndiyakucebisa phuma kulokona yamakhumsha ayinamntu uze kulento kaMandela yePeople Centred Society.

[Ms N D NKONDLO: I advise you to remove yourself from your corner of English speakers. There is no one in it. Join Mandela and the People Centred Society.]

We congratulate the President, Cyril Ramaphosa ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Finish off.

Ms N D NKONDLO: ... whose administration launched the Atlantis Special Economic Zone in December 2018; in giving approval for the designation of this SEZ. Cabinet set out two main conditions ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Finish off, hon member Nkondlo.

Ms N D NKONDLO: ... which I think the province must also consider.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Last minute; if you could just finish off.

Ms N D NKONDLO: Last minute. Premier, one of the things that he said is the zone must have community and organised labour representatives on the Entities Board; and secondly, the local community and SMME's must be prioritised as part of the job creation and empowerment programme.

In conclusion, it is important to create a people-centred society of Mandela; we remain in a journey to commit to work with you, hon Premier, guided by the mantra of Nelson Mandela that says:

“A nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizen, but those that are lowest in the hierarchy.”

Thank you very much.

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

Minister Fritz, I see you.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Hon Deputy Speaker, hon Premier, Cabinet colleagues, hon Leader of the Opposition, and I call you members of the Opposition; not my enemy. No, we are not enemies, we want to work together. I do not understand what the Leader of the Opposition was doing.

An HON MEMBER: Official Opposition.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Hon - all our other members ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: ... also just say afternoon, hon member Marais, I am saying afternoon.

Mr P J MARAIS: Good afternoon [Inaudible.].

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Great, great. [Laughter.]
Special guests, NGO's, community leaders, citizens of the Western Cape. In Premier Winde's SOPA speech entitled:

“Let us get to work.”

Values, responsibility and safety. The Premier clearly highlighted that the

safety is a top priority for the Western Cape. [Interjections.] Premier Winde is on record for committing this DA-led Government to do everything in its power to ensure the safety of every person in this province, and all of us are fully in support of his pledge. My Department, fellow Cabinet members and various other departments under the leadership of the Premier, are already hard at work making this a reality.

As Premier Winde has said, the time for cheap politicking and for planned politics has passed. Can I repeat that?

†‘n AGBARE LID: Daar’s hy!

[An HON MEMBER: There you go!]

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Hon member Nkondlo, through the Deputy, the time for cheap politicking has passed. As the Provincial Government we have committed ourselves to working in good faith and towards a common set of outcomes with the National Government and all its stakeholders.

The DA-led Western Cape Government, hon Deputy Speaker, has been calling for the deployment of the South African National Defence Force for years.

An HON MEMBER: They are here!

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Between 2009 and June 2019,

approximately 50 000 people were murdered in this province. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: [Inaudible.] unemployment.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: If this deployment ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: No.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: ... happened sooner, many more would have been spared. [Interjections.] I also want to remind this House that the most active opponents of the deployment over the years came from our colleagues, the hon member Dugmore, [Interjections.] who is today - I am so happy to hear he is supporting it.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: It should be noted that this weekend the death toll was down to 25 people.

†'n AGBARE LID: Sjoe!

[An HON MEMBER: Phew!]

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: That is a reduction from 43 the previous weekend, and 55 the weekend before that, and it is clear that the

deployment, together with the intensified South African Police Services and Metro Police operations, is having a positive impact.

An HON MEMBER: Now you must do [Inaudible.].

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: In the short-term it is necessary to stabilise and normalise our most vulnerable communities affected by crime and gangs.

For those reasons the South African National Defence Force will be deployed for a minimum of two months. It will serve as a ring of steel which enables the South African Police Services and Metro Police to do their work, and to root out gangs holding our communities hostage.

Of course, hon Deputy Speaker, this is not a long-term solution.

An HON MEMBER: Yes. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: We have never said or suggested that. The deployment of the South African National Defence Force is but a short-term strategy included in a long-term integrated and intergovernmental safety plan in the Western Cape, with an eventual kind of outcome of a provincial police force under the leadership of the Premier and a DA-led Government.

Hon Deputy Speaker, I cannot emphasise enough that the South African National Defence Force and the law enforcement authorities cannot fight the scourge of gangs on their own.

An HON MEMBER: Ja.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Neither is this the sole responsibility of Government. Our communities together with our NGO's, together with our religious sector, together with all other formations in our communities, must work together in the interest of genuinely building a safer province for all, and in this regard I was very-very surprised that the hon Leader of the Opposition called us the enemy, because he pledged [Interjections.] his support to work with us ...[Interjections.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: It was a quote. [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Now you do not work with your enemies, you know, you work with your opponents.

Mr C M DUGMORE: In the 80's it was an enemy.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: It is important to note that.

Mr C M DUGMORE: [Inaudible.] to the enemy.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: The DA-led Government is hard at work finalising the terms of reference for establishment of an inter-ministerial Premier's Priority Committee on Safety, and I hope my colleagues will be serving on this, seeing that my dear colleague has been omitted from speaking here today because he is youth.

This Committee will be [Interjections.] ... †Net al die oumense ... [only all the old folks ...] This Committee will be chaired and report to Premier Winde on a regular basis. It will work towards a crowding-in of resources and at different levels of government, to assist communities identified as high-risk gang stations.

This Committee will also work in good faith with community organisations, counsellors and faith-based movements. We realise that the key task is to provide young people with alternatives to gangs [Interjections.] and I think that is the fundamental point you want to emphasise today.

It is no secret, hon Deputy Speaker, that many of the problems we face have to do with poor SAPS service delivery.

An HON MEMBER: Mmm.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: It is under-resourced. We are not calling - the services is under-resourced. They have [Inaudible.] boots on the ground. That is what we are saying in this debate. The Premier is

currently leading an inter-governmental dispute, challenging the current allocation of SAPS resources to this province and particularly in gang ravaged communities, and it is so ironic that this very ANC Government who talks about the poor, all the privileged stations along the Sea Board, all of them are very over capacitated and well-capacitated, and it is our poor areas where it is under-capacitated.

To address our SAPS poor service delivery we also need to repair the damage done to its crime fighting capacity through factional turf wars and chronic under-resourcing. This will be achieved through the appointment of a new competent and politically neutral Provincial Police Commissioner, we hope.

I cannot emphasise enough how important it is that this process be completed without delay. [Interjections.] The new Provincial Commissioner will have a number of immediate tasks. [Interjections.] The most important is to sort out the operational and other issues that are currently bedevilling the effectiveness of SAPS in this province.

Another important task for the Provincial Commissioner will be to facilitate a seamless community police forum elections in September. This will be a critical market towards improving relationships between SAPS, local stations and community. In turn the Department will play its part in overseeing these elections.

This Department has gone above and beyond its role of oversight by ensuring

that our resources are used optimally towards creating safer communities. Yesterday I joined a local councillor in Bonteheuwel where we commended the outstanding success of deployment of a hundred Metro law enforcement officers in Bonteheuwel since 2 July 2019.

Since the deployment of these additional law enforcement officers, there has been 43 arrests made; 372 illegal substances confiscated; 7 firearms and ammunition uncovered. What is more, the additional deployment led to 43 kilograms of stolen PRASA cables being found and confiscated. What is also interesting, no murders occurred since their deployment and so, hon members, there is a clear link between that deployment and people being murdered in many of the towns.

Hon Deputy Speaker, since the deployment there have been no gang-related deaths in Bonteheuwel. We will work with the City of Cape Town to deploy law enforcement officials to more gang-ravaged communities and we must find the money for it.

My Department will further be assisting the City in its crime-fighting initiatives by transferring R4.2 million towards school resources officers for the hon member next to me, who never kind of reciprocates. She never gives back to us anything [Laughter.]; you know, it is just us giving, but we have a good understanding with each other.

We will also be in the outer financial year, additional R4.4 million

transferred in 2020/21; and then the financial year 2021/22, R4.6 million.

I am reassured that by implementing these integrated short and medium-term and long-term safety strategies, that we will overcome the rampant criminality in this province. It is my hope that our citizens will feel safe; that children will be able to play freely; and that the streets and businesses and that tourism can be abuzz in our communities, and it is, hon members of this Parliament, it is not about keeping people in, the reality is people live there.

So let us make the most of it and if you can get out of it, get out of it. It is not saying that you want little colonies of poverty; we want to break that poverty cycle. [Interjections.] However, we can only achieve this if we work better together and I have asked the hon - you know, we had a very-very unfortunate situation on Friday with the National Minister, when we wanted to exercise our constitutional duty as the Premier and myself at the base where all the army troops were gathering and Metro troops and local SAPS, and as we were about to enter the kind of parade to - and we were invited, by the way, by the Provincial Commissioner, to go and ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister Fritz, please finish off.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: ... just to come and encourage. [Interjections.] You know, the National Minister phoned to say, "You cannot be there! You cannot!" We of course told him to, not to - I cannot use the word [Laughter.] in Parliament; it is unparliamentary, but the point we are

making, we will not stop exercising our constitutional obligations in this province. We are not a pass where people just sat and do the oversight ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Fritz.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: This is a different place.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is up.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: And a different space with this new Premier. [Interjections.] Yes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Fritz.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I see the hon Fernandez, Minister Fernandez.

The MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Hon Deputy Speaker, hon Premier, Cabinet colleagues, hon Leader of the Opposition, all hon members, guests in the gallery, members of the media, fellow South Africans, good afternoon.

Mr Speaker, hon Deputy Speaker, it is indeed a privilege for me to present my first speech as the Minister of Social Development in the Sixth Provincial Parliament today.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY: Since it is Mandela Month I would like to start with a quote by Nelson Mandela which resonates deeply with me. I quote:

“There is nothing I fear more than waking up without a programme that will help me bring a little happiness to those with no resources; those who are poor, illiterate and riddled with terminal decease.”

Hon Deputy Speaker, the Provincial Department of Social Development is empowered by statutory obligations, policy mandates and the Provincial Strategic Goals, amongst others.

Goal 2 calls on us to improve education outcomes and opportunities with youth development, whilst strategic Goal 3 calls on us to increase wellness, safety and to tackle social ills.

At present, hon Deputy Speaker, we are feeling the effects of an economy in distress. An economy plagued by fraud, corruption and maladministration

which has a direct impact on the funding to provinces, or the lack thereof. It is not only the Department of Social Development that is feeling the pinch, but it is Joe and Jane citizen too who has to struggle to pay for public transport to get to work; the mother who finds herself paying double the amount she did for her children's school lunches five years ago; the business owner who struggles to keep his doors open due to blackouts and ongoing protest action.

Our NGO partners and all other stakeholders who play a pivotal role in reaching all residents across this province, remain a key partner in our efforts. However, the current economic climate and the reduction of the overall fiscal base may have negative consequences for all the Department's support to NGO's.

Hon Deputy Speaker, these are indeed challenging times. I wish to reiterate that although we might not all represent the same political party in this House, we all do in fact represent all the people in this province.

So before I continue, I would like to use this opportunity to call on everyone here present to work together during these difficult times, to ensure that we can in fact leave South Africa better for future generations to come.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the Department of Social Development remains dedicated to providing adequate and quality early childhood development and partial care services. It has become increasingly understood that early

childhood development is an important aspect of human development.

At the end of the 2017/2018 financial year, 85,260 children had access to ECD and after school care facilities. This figure is projected to increase to 88,000 by the end of the 2019/2020 financial year, as compared to 50,000 in 2009.

Priority 3 highlighted by Premier Winde last week, spells out what we will be doing to make sure that no matter where you live and work, your life is made easier. This is very much in line with the Department's Strategic Goal 3, which calls on us to increase wellness, safety and tackle social ills.

I personally believe that with collaborative efforts between Government, SAPS, the Criminal Justice System, civil society, members of the community, we can beat the scourge of alcohol and drug abuse in our communities.

To help address the escalating substance abuse problem in this province, social work staff will continue to be capacitated to deal with both preventative as well as treatment options for substance abuse via the Department's funded studies at universities.

We continuously witness the fear and terror imposed on our communities because of substance abuse. In 2007/2008 there were 45,936 cases of drug-related crime in the Western Cape. A serious cause for concern is that this number has now risen to 117,157, according to the latest crime statistics.

Hon Deputy Speaker, only a whole of society approach through the efforts of all spheres of society can put a stop to the demonic acts of violence being witnessed by our communities.

It takes a community to raise a child. Let us unite to protect our children from the scourge of addiction and abuse. Let us go back to practicing the old adage of “your child is my child”. A key component to making this possible is ensuring that our programmes and initiatives include creating spaces where people and communities can live and prosper. This indeed includes those people living with disabilities.

Notable achievements thus far include the subsidy for the 24-hour care facilities for children with disabilities, which was increased substantially from R2,589 to R5,510 per child per month. This is in compliance with the November 2010 Court judgment, directing all departments of DSD to provide reasonable measures for the educational needs of severely and profoundly disabled children.

Provision has also been made for the payment of the salaries of carers and programme implementers for intellectually disabled children in day-care centres, and also the purchasing of safe, suitably adapted transportation for the children to and from the day-care centres has commenced.

Our province has geared itself towards the age of technological advancement,

commonly referred to as the Fourth Industrial Revolution, by introducing and electronic payslip system for visually impaired and partially sighted Provincial Government employees.

Finally, between 2014 and 2018 the Department increased the access of persons with disabilities to specialise support services from 55,323 to 88,089 persons. I wish to thank the hon Minister Fritz for leading the charge in this regard.

The Department has committed to providing social welfare services to persons with disabilities, to 89,698 people around the province by the end of the 2019/20 financial year.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the Department has invested heavily in ensuring it is able to respond timeously to cases of children at risk by improving our preventative services and early intervention services. In this regard I welcome the draft Provincial Plan of Action intervening to reduce child murders, which was started in 2017. This achievement is very much in line with Premier Winde's fourth priority, and that is to ensure that no matter where you call home, you live free from fear.

Hon Deputy Speaker, as the DA-led Western Cape Government, we will continue to work tirelessly to improve the services we deliver to the people of our province. However, Government cannot achieve this alone. More importantly at a provincial level we will strive to maintain and strengthen our

relationships with entities such as SASSA and the NDA to ensure that they fulfil their mandate.

Hon members, let us agree to unite and work together to address the issues that affect the poor, the vulnerable and the most marginalised in our communities.

I wish to thank the hon member Bakubaku-Vos for alerting me to a situation in her constituency which we will resolve together. This is a clear indication that we can be better together. I thank you. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you, Minister Fernandez. I see the hon member Herron.

Mr B N HERRON: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, let me start by saying that in this debate on the Premier's State of Province Address, how surprised I am to have featured so prominently in Minister Madikizela's speech.

Some would be flattered that they occupy so much of his head space, but I am really concerned that he fails to understand what is really happening between Codeta and the MyCiTi, and for as long as he fails to understand it, the commuters who are standing in queues in Khayelitsha and Mitchells Plain, have cold comfort.

Hon Deputy Speaker, it was pleasing to hear the word “integrity” being used and mentioned so many times in the Premier’s address. Goodwill supports a government of integrity and one that actually delivers on programmes, but integrity is far more than a lifestyle audit. Integrity is when your actions match your words, and what I heard last week was gimmicks and excuses.

The Premier pretends to be powerless; powerless to improve the rail service, unless the rail service is transferred to the Province; powerless to release land, unless National Government does it first; powerless to stop crime, unless the Province becomes in charge of the police force. [Interjections.] Yet there are good solutions that are available to those who are brave enough to use them.

Hon Deputy Speaker, my team improved rail safety in Cape Town by launching that rail police force that the Minister talks about. We doubled housing delivery within two years through efficiency; and my efforts to make well-located [Interjections.] land affordable ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr B D HERRON: ... available for affordable housing, failed only because the Premier’s DA colleagues in the City of Cape Town blocked it.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Ja, that is the truth. [Interjections.]

Mr B D HERRON: Hon Deputy Speaker ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr B D HERRON: ... we can change the status quo, but do we really want to? [Interjections.] We need action not gimmicks.

An HON MEMBER: Mmm.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Ja.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Herron, just sit down for a second. Hon members, we did decide that maiden speeches, there would be silence, and I would ask ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: But they must [Inaudible.].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: ... if you would respect hon member Herron's maiden speech. [Interjections.] I see you ...

Mr B D HERRON: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon member Herron, if you can just take your seat. I see the [Interjections.] Opposition.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. My point of order is that as you say we are respecting the convention of not heckling and interjecting, but what is the situation if you so much approve of what the speaker is saying that you just exclaim. Are you allowed to do that? [Laughter.] [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member. I see the hon Chief Whip.

Ms W W WENGER: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. The convention is indeed that maiden speeches should be heard without interruption. However, the convention also extends the fact that the speeches should be uncontroversial in their nature, and if that line is then crossed, then, well, the interruption and interjections can be entertained.

An HON MEMBER: Yes! [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members ... [Interjections.] Can we proceed with hon member Herron's speech? I see hon member Herron.

Mr B D HERRON: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. My speech would have been uncontroversial if the Minister had not introduced me into his speech.

Hon Deputy Speaker, we need action not gimmicks. Saying you believe in spatial transformation, but you offer a Forest Village housing project as an example of this, or as evidence of this, really exposes your government as

lacking credibility.

Forest Village is not spatial justice; Forest Village is not spatial integration; it does not vanquish apartheid as you say. It is more than 30 kilometres from the City of Cape Town. It is in fact further away from the City of Cape Town than the townships that apartheid created. It in fact entrenches racial inequality, spatial and economic injustice. It places the poor far from opportunity and it keeps them poor.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the Premier should know that he is not playing a game of Monopoly. His decisions on the fate of public land affects where people live and where people live matters.

Hon Deputy Speaker, when the Premier says he supports integration, when he says he wants to vanquish apartheid's legacy, when he makes these promises on Madiba's birthday and says he will walk in Madiba's path, but then he and his party act by selecting former Nats to lead the spatial transformation in this province. When they show Forest Village as the example of how they will vanquish apartheid, then the actions contradict the words.

Hon Deputy Speaker, the idea of taking Government to the people is an excellent one, but you insult us with another gimmick when you say you can achieve this by using First Thursdays. First Thursdays is a wonderful event; it is great for those who enjoy sipping Chardonnay, looking at art and visiting bars and restaurants in our City centre.

An HON MEMBER: Exactly!

Mr B D HERRON: Hon Deputy Speaker, if you are serious about taking Government to the people, then take it to the people who cannot come to you.

An HON MEMBER: Yes! [Applause.]

Mr B D HERRON: Take your Government to Nyanga, to Manenberg, to Thembalethu, to Zweliswa. [Interjections.]

†n AGB LID: Was u daar?

[An HON MEMBER: Have you been there?]

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

Mr B D HERRON: Hon Deputy Speaker, the promise of a job in every home and the commitment to reducing red tape sounds wonderful. Last year three out of ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr B D HERRON: ... every four jobs created in the country came from the construction sector, but let us examine what the DA is doing to the construction sector. [Interjections.]

Today the construction sector is in steep decline in the Western Cape ...[Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Across the country!

Mr B D HERRON: ... and those investors are looking ...[Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Across the country!

Mr B D HERRON: ... to invest elsewhere. Cape Town's achievements in efficiency are at risk, and this is due to new red tape being imposed or being considered by the DA Government that governs the City of Cape Town. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Really?

Mr B D HERRON: If the DA had chosen to support major infrastructure projects or inner-city housing, it could have helped grow the construction sector. Instead it is helping to collapse the construction sector.

Hon Deputy Speaker, we do need economic growth, but we need that growth to be inclusive. The Province's own Treasury Department has pointed out that in the Western Cape inequality is growing not declining, [Interjections.] hon

Deputy Speaker, and inequality is one of the root causes of crime.

For the thousands of lives being lost to violent crime, the Premier suggests a new committee. The Premier does promise a war room, but that war room will not even consider the actual war happening the Cape Flats.

Ms N D NKONDLO: War room from [Inaudible.].

Mr B D HERRON: Hon Deputy Speaker, we need to get rid of the gimmicks like the discredited, failed technology {Shot Spotter, and really invest in the communities that are ravaged by crime. [Interjection.] Hon Deputy Speaker, poor communities bear the brunt of deep inequality and crime, but they will also bear the brunt of climate change. We have a climate change emergency on our hands, and this Government does not mention it once.

Spatial and economic justice is much more than apartheid redress; it is also linked to the urgent need to tackle climate change.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you can finish off, hon member Herron.

Mr B D HERRON: The more Forest Villages the DA builds, the more carbon omissions this and future generations will emit heading to and from work.

Climate change; urban sprawl; Forest Village; economic, social, spatial, environmental justice - these are all issues that are connected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr B D HERRON: Hon Deputy Speaker, what we need is action not gimmicks. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much, hon member Herron. [Applause.] I see the Minister Simmers.

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Hon Deputy Speaker, hon Premier, Leader of the Opposition, hon Cabinet members, hon members of this House, and our guests in the gallery.

It was former President Nelson Mandela who said, and thank you, hon member Nkondlo, for stealing my quote, and I quote:

“A new society cannot be created by reproducing the repugnant past, however refined or enticingly repackaged.”

This is the very reason why we, as the Western Cape Government, are committed to accelerating human settlement delivery, while promoting social inclusion through the development of integrated, resilient and sustainable human settlements in an open society. Our settlements are and will continue to reflect citizens living together in one community, regardless of their colour, creed, language, culture or sexual orientation.

We are building true, united communities in our province, and as a party across South Africa, one community at a time. It is for this reason that we will be focussing on three radical drivers throughout my term of office, hon Deputy Speaker. These three focus areas are:

1. Radical acceleration of housing opportunities;
2. Radical implementation of innovative solutions; and finally
3. An integrated approach - the emphasis is “integrated approach” - to human settlements.

When I refer to being radical I am not suggesting that we will be militant or become violent. On the contrary I am saying there will be a significant push towards getting more of our people into housing opportunities, but also towards giving people true ownership through title deeds as in both instances not only are we creating a better life for our people, but we are restoring the dignity of our residents; given our past injustices.

Hon Deputy Speaker, over the last two terms we have managed to deliver just under 213,000 quality housing opportunities, and it is projected that by 2022, through our various catalytic and provincial priority projects, we will add a further 105,500 quality housing opportunities. This is acceleration; this is radical service delivery.

Already in our Forest Village housing project - and I just need to remind hon member Brett Herron, that that is a national catalytic project.

Mr B D HERRON: No, you are talking [Inaudible.].

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Which will see in excess of 4,500 people receiving an opportunity. Handovers are commencing every second week and yes, we are the only province that are delivering on these national catalytic projects, and you need to remember that. Thank you.

[Interjections.]

Already just three weeks ago and in the space of one week, hon Deputy Speaker, 67 beneficiaries in this project have received their keys, and tomorrow a further 23 will move into their homes. Last week I also visited Blue Downs where I had the privilege to hand over 52 title deeds. These are but the few radical accelerated deliveries over the last six weeks, with a lot more to come.

At our Belhar CBD project, which is estimated to yield 1,225 housing opportunities upon its conclusion at the end of 2021, we are seeing significant move into FLISP units. In fact, hon Deputy Speaker, of the 245 units already delivered, 241 are allocated to FLISP beneficiaries, and a further 32 more of these units are envisaged to be handed over by the end of July 2019.

†Ondervoorsitter, ons beweeg teen 'n versnelde pas, so julle moet dophou en julle moet bybly. [Deputy Chairperson, we move at an accelerated pace, so you must watch and you must keep up.]

We remain committed to rolling out our integrated urban development framework and a small town regeneration programme. This is evident in our various catalytic and other projects throughout the province. [Interjections.] We have to continue improving our rural communities and I am committed to ensuring this.

Hon Deputy Speaker, it is therefore that I have prioritised seven non-Metro projects, and they are:

1. The Metro Grounds in George, where I have had a sod turning;
2. Melkhoutfontein in Hessequa;
3. Zoar in Kannaland;
4. Vredenburg in Saldanha;
5. Louis Fourie in Mossel Bay;
6. Dysseisdorp in Oudtshoorn, where for the first time in 26 years people will actually start feeling the governance difference; and ultimately
7. The Hawston and Schulphoek in the Overstrand area, which from now on will be called the Greater...sorry...

In a further effort to accelerate housing delivery we have strategically focused our resources to three priority areas:

1. Directing more resources for the upgrading of informal settlements in the provision of basic services;

2. Increasing affordable or gap-housing, along with our Financial Link Individual Subsidy Programme, FLISP; and lastly
3. Prioritising the most deserving people in relation to the allocation of B and G houses.

Hon Deputy Speaker, so who are we prioritising for these opportunities and what are the criteria - †en ek moet net benadruk, want sekere mense het nie geweet wat hulle sê nie – [and I must just emphasise, because some people did not know what they were talking about –] firstly the elderly; people with disabilities; child-headed households; those who have been the longest on the waiting list; and our backyard dwellers, particularly those single mothers.

Hon Deputy Speaker, a few weeks ago I issued an Executive directive to all municipalities, that from now on backyard dwellers must also be a priority. This means whenever we identify beneficiaries from the housing waiting lists, backyarders must be prioritised, as we will work on a 50/50 split within the other criteria ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear.

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: ... and if you did not know, we are the first province in the country to officially make backyarders a priority.

Hon Deputy Speaker, it is a fact that we are in the Fourth Industrial Revolution and we have to use technology to our fullest benefit. [Interjections.] This is exactly what this Department intends doing. [Interjections.] Just earlier today we launched our exciting HomeWise Youth Competition ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.]

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: ... where we will be developing an app for ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: ... citizens to easily access information [Interjections.] on Government housing assistance, and have called on young people to help us do this by designing ...[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, order.

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: ... the mock-ups or prototypes or wireframes of this app. [Interjections.]

So let us therefore, as members of this House, [Interjections.] together encourage our young upcoming techies, to enter this competition. [Interjections.]

†Ondervoorsitter, op hierdie manier maak ons nie net seker dat ons jeug saam met die Department werk nie ...[Tussenwerpsels.]

[Deputy Chairperson, in this manner we not only ensure that our youth work along with the Department... [Interjections.]]

An HON MEMBER: Only one page.

†Die MINISTER VAN MENSLIKE NEDERSETTINGS: ... maar 'n geleentheid word ook gebied om die eerste behuisings-toep te ontwikkel; immers is ons beter tesame.

[THE MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: ... but an opportunity is also afforded to develop the first housing app; after all are we better together.]

Hon Deputy Speaker, the use of alternative building technology is also being encouraged as it is vital in sustainable development. In Mossel Bay we currently we have the Yak'indlu PHP project, where only ABTs are being utilised. 150 units are being built at a cheaper rate; the cost of electricity will be less; and it holds long-term benefits for our environment.

During my engagement this week with the banking sector, they have indicated their appetite for ABTs, and a willingness to support these programmes and our initiatives concerning.

Hon Deputy Speaker, our Premier mentioned in his State of the Province Address that we have to ensure that the spaces we create are safe, close to transport and economic opportunities.

I am currently engaging my colleague, the Provincial Minister of Transport and Public Works, Minister Madikizela, about releasing well-located provincially owned buildings and tracts of land for human settlement developments, which are close to the inner-city and economic opportunities.

†Hierdie gesprekke is besig om vrugte af te werp, want beide van ons wil verseker dat meer mense 'n behuisingsgeleentheid kry wat na aan ekonomiese geleenthede geleë is. [These discussions are bearing fruit, as both of us want to ensure that more people are getting a housing opportunity that is situated closer to economic opportunities.]

Hon Deputy Speaker, furthermore we will be embarking on creating smart townships; not a dream of a smart city. These settlements which are home ownership driven and inclusive of all the relevant services, will be piloted throughout the province in our existing projects. The process to establish these innovative integrated townships are already underway, and in due course we will announce the details.

Hon Deputy Speaker, over the last six weeks I have really covered the length and breadth of our province; covering nearly 8,000 kilometres, and

I have been to areas in the Southern Cape, the West Coast and the Metro area; I visited Emfuleni, Khayelitsha and many other areas. Visiting not only our provincial projects, but also engaging beneficiaries, key stakeholders, but ultimately also ward councillors, and I have made it abundantly clear that we need responsible citizenship.

This means that all residents, including our backyard dwellers, who need housing assistance from Government, must register at the local Housing Office, or if they have already registered before, should ensure that their details are up to date; particularly if contact information has changed since registration.

On Sunday, as a good example, during a meeting with Forest Village beneficiaries from Ward 17, quite a few people missed their housing, or nearly missed their housing opportunity as they failed to update their details. Fortunately for them they were present at this meeting and the councillor committed to finding the rest. Tomorrow they are part of those that are moving into Forest Village. This is accelerated delivery, hon Deputy Speaker.

What I have also found is that in some areas there are so-called community leaders, seeking to influence people to embark on protest action. In some instances I should agree they have legitimate cases as some residents are not receiving the services owed to them.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you can finish up, Minister Simmers.

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: I have however encouraged our residents to use relevant platforms such as their councillors, ward committees, or project steering committees, to resolve any issues they might have.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your time is up, Minister Simmers.

An HON MEMBER: Time is up.

The MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: Okay, as I conclude, let me state the following ...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Time is up.

An HON MEMBER: Your time is up. [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No ... You can finish your [Interjections.] ...

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Do not harass him.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members, hon members, I am sitting in the Chair, so I would allow the Minister to finish his sentence as I have

allowed a whole lot of you to finish your sentences.

Thank you very much. If we can move on to the hon member Marais.

†Mnr D G MITCHELL: In pragtige blou. [Gelag.]

[Mr D G MITCHELL: In beautiful blue. [Laughter.]]

Mr P J MARAIS: Hon Deputy Speaker, Premier, hon members
...[Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Peter Marais.

Mr P J MARAIS: ... the time allotted to me does not lend it to flowery, oratory skills here, so let me get to the point straight away.

I was sufficiently impressed by the speech of the Premier to look forward to developing a good working relationship with him. His speech contained considerable principles and ideas which the Freedom Front Plus advocated and supported during our election campaign.

Like you, hon Premier, we also want to give cooperative governance a chance, thereby putting the people's needs first above political expediency.

An HON MEMBER: Hear-hear!

Mr P J MARAIS: Let us play for the Barbarians team, take off your party jerseys and don the Western Province jersey and let us all fight for the Provincial Province. The Freedom Front desire a capable efficient state like the Premier said that is accountable to all its citizens and that is why I ask, to what extent did the Enterprise Development Fund also assist young Coloured entrepreneurs thus far? How many bursaries have been made available to Coloured and Afrikaans-speaking students wishing to study agriculture at Elsenburg College the past five years? Why did the DA controlled City of Cape Town allow the hubs at Bellville, business hubs at Bellville Station, Mitchells Plain, Elsies River and Grand Parade to be become the cash registers of Somalians, Zimbabweans and Nigerians? Where are my people? [Interjections.] They used to hawk on the Grand Parade. They have been pushed out, and we say we fight for everybody. Who put you in power? The Zimbabweans or the Capetonians? [Interjections.] Mr Speaker, what has the Western ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr P J MARAIS: ... Cape Government done to realise we have very little power. We need to co-operate with National if we want to get anywhere. Let me tell the members of the public who do not know and the media, these are the powers the Province has: they are in charge of abattoirs [Interjections.], ambulance services, archives, libraries, liquor licences and museums. That is the only power you have got ... [Interjections.].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr P J MARAIS: So what are you going to do about it? I want to tell you what you must do about it [Interjections.]. We expect too much ...

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr P J MARAIS: ... of a province that really in terms of this Constitution is purely an administrative extension of National Government, nothing else. They make the laws, you carry it out. [Interjection.] So we are playing doll house, *pophuisie* [Interjections.]. The issues have to be addressed and the City should remember ... [Interjection.]

Mr P J MARAIS: ... I will come to you just now. [Interjections.].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marais, please through the Chair. Carry on.

Mr P J MARAIS: The issues which should be addressed or the swing towards the Freedom Front Plus will be tripled in 2021. [Interjections.]. Our constitutional mandate was given to us by the voting public of the Western Cape, not foreigners. The Cape's distinctive cultures and values which minorities hold dear must be protected and it must be respected. Therefore I want the Premier to give his views on this with special reference to the descendants of the Khoi and the Griqua and the Bo-Kaap communities in his response. Red tape and regulations must be reduced to assist small

businesses, to create jobs and eradicate people's dependency on State grants. We are not a social state but 17 million of our people in this country live on grants. Dependency on grants may bring temporary relief but cannot eradicate poverty. State dependency feeds socialism and stifles economic growth, leading to the middle class being burdened with exorbitant taxes. But one thing I want to ask my Premier, you have failed to explain the DA's language policy in respect of Afrikaans, which is one of the three official languages of the Western Cape ... [Interjection.]

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Why do you speak English then?

Mr P J MARAIS: English has become ... [Interjections.] They say a fool can ask more questions ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, order. Order.

Mr P J MARAIS: ... than a wise man can answer. [Laughter.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order [Interjections.]. Order. Your time is nearly up hon Marais. so you need to hurry up. 30 seconds. Hon Marais ... [Interjection.]

Mr P J MARAIS: I have five years. He can *mos* hear me for five years [Laughter.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please continue.

Mr P J MARAIS: English has become like a locust plague that devours every other language in its path. It is a remnant of colonialism forced on the Cape by English settlers in 1822. Although Afrikaans replaced Dutch as the second official language at the Cape, it is now under constant attack.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you can finish off hon Marais.

Mr P J MARAIS: We must and will resist all attempts to destroy –
 †Afrikaans is my moedertaal, dit is n inheemse taal ... [Tussenwerpsels.]
 [Afrikaans is my mother tongue, it is an indigenous
 language...[Interjections.]]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

†Mnr P J MARAIS: Dit is die taal van bruinmense en ek sal daarvoor veg.
 [Mr P J MARAIS: It is the language of Coloureds and I will fight for it.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Marais.

†Mnr P J MARAIS: En jy, mnr Premier, moet vir ons hulp dat ons selfbeskikking kry vir die Wes-Kaap ... [Tussenwerpsel.]
 [Mr P J MARAIS: And you, Mr Premier, must help us that we gain self-determination for the Western Cape... [Interjection.]]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Marias.

Mr P J MARAIS: We do not want to be under National rule. We want
[Inaudible.].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Marais. Please take your seat.

Mr P J MARAIS: ... and the last thing you do to put your party's position on
federalism.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Marias, take your seat. Thank you very much
[Interjections.]. Hon members can I just ask for your attention for a second
please. We have been very lenient today but I can guarantee you that going
forward, as you will no longer be doing your maiden speeches, we will not.
You need to make sure that your speeches are well within the time. Thank
you. I now see the hon ... [Interjection.]

Mr P J MARAIS: On a point of order. Am I a maiden speechmaker?
[Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you hon Marais.

Mr D G MITCHELL: Hon Deputy Speaker ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: One minute. Can we have some order and can we

please proceed. I see the hon member Mitchell.

Mr D G MITCHELL: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, hon Premier, members of this august House, it is indeed a great honour to take part in this debate, the first of South Africa's sixth Parliament.

Hon Deputy Speaker, on 18 July we and many others across the globe commemorated and celebrated the life of the late President Nelson Mandela, who dedicated his life to the upliftment and the development of each and every child born on African soil. It is also on this very date that the Western Cape Premier delivered his maiden State of the Province address. But hon Deputy Speaker, whilst listening to the Premier outlining his vision for this beautiful province, I was reminded of the many hardships that so many in the Western Cape still face.

Not too long ago, the people of this province experienced the worst drought in a hundred years. The community of Wupperthal lost their homes, and families in Khayelitsha lost every last belonging in terrible shack fires. The community of Knysna had to succumb to raging wild fires which devastated the region and its people.

Hon Premier, through you, hon Deputy Speaker, it is clear that our province is at the mercy of various natural disasters which devastate communities and continually set back the people of this province. As the Western Cape gradually adapts to new norms in the face of climate change and an ever changing environment, we must come together to help our fellow man and

lend a hand to our neighbours in their time of need. Hon Deputy Speaker, in the spirit of Ubuntu, I would like to take this opportunity to formally request that this Government establishes a dedicated, provincially owned, donations depot where residents of the Western Cape, from across the province, can be involved in relief efforts by dropping off donations of any kind for Government to redistribute to those in need.

Hon Deputy Speaker, under a DA-led Western Cape Government we should endeavour to always unite communities to share resources and support one another by building a South Africa for all, 365 days a year. As we speak, the ANC National Government is auctioning off 13 of the Afro 4000 locomotives owned by the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa. The coaches, purchased in 2012 by the National Government, are unfit for South African lines, translating hon Deputy Speaker, to R3,5 billion in taxpayer's money down the train, or drain. Is there any wonder why we do not trust the ANC with our trains?

As the new Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Transport and Public Works, I pledge my commitment to Premier Alan Winde's goal to both address the issue of spatial planning in this province as well as wrestle control of the passenger rail transportation ... [Interjection.] from the ANC at National Government. Rail transportation is yet another disaster in the Western Cape, but Deputy Speaker, this is a disaster of the ANC's doing.

Just minutes before getting up to do this speech, the notorious central line,

the Lavistown line, had to be suspended again due to Metro Rail's inadequacy to provide for the 700 000 people who make use of rail transportation in the City of Cape Town each and every day. The collapse of this service under the ANC continues to set back our province. I welcome Premier Winde's intention to take over the management of the rail system in the province from the National Government so that trains work, hon Deputy Speaker, and run on time; that we introduce a competition by licencing private sector operators to take over the operation of the rail system ... [Interjections.] on qualifying routes in the Western Cape and to introduce a combined ticketing system, hon Deputy Speaker, to be used on all modes of public transport.

Progress on delivery of these intentions will be closely monitored by the Standing Committee. If the hon Dugmore and the ANC is so dedicated to resolving the rail transportation collapse in the Western Cape, I trust that he will support the devolution of rail from National Government to Local Government and Provincial Government as stated, and I repeat hon Deputy Speaker, as stated in the 2017 version of the Draft White Paper on National Rail Policy.

Indeed even the hon Dugmore's own political party supports the devolution by means of draft legislation at a national level. Playing politics with the issue in the province only serves to hamper the lives of the hundreds of thousands of commuters who rely on this service ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr D G MITCHELL: ... every single day. [Interjections.] In the process I also welcome the Premier's commitment to rail safety and security. While President Ramaphosa dreams of bullet trains, hon Deputy Speaker, the residents of the Western Cape merely dream of bullet free trains to arrive on time. [Interjections.]. Similarly, I trust that the hon Herron and I believe through the speech today by the hon Leader of the Opposition, also hon Dugmore, is as committed to addressing spatial planning in the Western Cape as ... [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: But you did nothing for 10 years. Let us just get on with it.

Mr D G MITCHELL: The hon Dugmore has committed ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order.

Mr D G MITCHELL: ... [Inaudible.] spatial planning in the Western Cape by having direct access to the Minister, the National Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure and perhaps they can now lobby Minister de Lille to release the various tracts of State-owned land in and around the City of Cape Town that the Provincial Government has been begging for over the last ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Mitchell, your time is up.

Mr D G MITCHELL: ... five years, playing politics.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Finish your sentence.

Mr D G MITCHELL: In closing hon Deputy Speaker, rail transportation, spatial planning, and ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members.

Mr D G MITCHELL: ... access for mobility and space should be at the forefront of this Government's plan for the next five years and I trust that the honourable Opposition ... [Interjections.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members, thank you.

Mr D G MITCHELL: ... will work with this Government to ensure that these issues are addressed. I thank you. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I see the hon Christians.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: Hon Deputy Speaker, hon Premier, hon members. The Premier said in his speech that the fourth priority crime is a complex but very important one and I will agree with him on that. But let us begin with the

deployment of the South African Defence Force. It is recorded in this House that the ACDP said that we are against, we oppose the deployment of the army in our townships. I also see that the Leader of the Official Opposition made a u-turn. He first supported us to say that we do not need the army, now he agrees that we need the army.

Hon Deputy Speaker, it is important that the army will be deployed for three months from 18 July to 16 September and it will cost R23 million and the question is, what then? What, when the army leaves? In Brazil, President Temer also got the army involved in community safety and he said that in Rio, a metropolitan area of 12 million people, the gangs have virtually taken over. It was worse after the army left and those measures appear to have had the opposite effect and the consequences of the failed intervention of the army has had a lasting impact in Brazil, Rio de Janeiro.

There is Ziyanda Stuurman, a graduate from Stellenbosch University, that said the deployment of the South African Defence Force will worsen the security of residents in the area. I cannot believe that when we say that deaths are down from 40 somewhat to 25, the army is making an impact. One life is too many. We cannot lose any lives in the townships.

So enough about the army, hon Deputy Speaker, but the Province needs to come within innovative ways of how to bring about community safety. And my plea to the Premier is that when it comes to the Appropriation Adjustment Budget, that Community Safety will get much more. I believe that budget is

too small, we need to do much more. We know, and I have reported in this House last year. It was said that by the end of December we would have 20 000 Neighbourhood Watch members. We only sat with 14 000 when it was recorded. Neighbourhood Watches play an integral part when it comes to ensuring the safety of our communities.

Community Police Forums also play a critical part and we need to resource the Neighbourhood Watches, we need to resource the Community Police Forums in order to make a difference because Community Police Forums are the platform where residents and organisations and the relevant stakeholders can meet and discuss the crime prevention initiatives. So the CPF's can also improve transparency when it comes to the accountability of the police and promote joint problem-solving. So, hon Deputy Speaker, this Province will have to look at ways to keep our communities safe.

I was at a meeting a month ago, and Minister Fritz is not here, where we spoke to about 300 leaders in Manenberg and they are all geared up to help and say how can we help, how can we reduce crime when it comes to Manenberg and other areas adjacent to that.

The Premier also mentioned about the City of Cape Town, the law enforcement officers, when it comes to safer communities and safer schools. The question is, and this is what I read the other day, the NCOP Safety and Justice Committee was briefed on how to increase the powers by the Institute of Municipal Public Safety of Southern Africa. We need to get our law

enforcement officers to do more. They cannot just enforce by-laws, they need to assist when it comes to combatting crime.

The same with our Metro Police, the Metro Police have got all the powers of the SAPS but they do not have investigating powers. Why not get the Metro Police to do investigations when it comes to petty crime? Petty crime. Why must detectives that are under-staffed and under-resourced sit with petty crimes? So I am asking the Premier to look at these things, to speak to the City and look at how they can get more powers in order to assist the crime as we look at this.

The other problem that we have, I do not think that the Shot Spotter is helping us. The Shot Spotter is costing a lot of money and it is reported that it is money down the drain. R32 million in total was spent, 3404 gun shots, 1040 incidents, but only nine people have been arrested with this Shot Spotter. It needs to be looked at. The CCTV cameras – when we sit in committees we hear that most of the cameras are not working and, yet the weekend, 25 murders. 18 victims come from Khayelitsha and Mitchells Plain. We need more CCTV cameras and it was said, that Khayelitsha will not get a single CCTV camera from 44 from the City of Cape Town. It will cost R17 million. [Interjections.]. Hon Deputy Speaker, the Premier also did not mention anything when it comes to farm murders. So when we talk about farm workers and farmers we need to have a clear plan ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, your time is up.

Mr F C CHRISTIANS: ... what will happen when it comes to that. Thank you very much.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much hon member. I see the hon Botha.

Ms L J BOTHA: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Deputy Speaker, hon Premier, hon members of the Cabinet and hon members of this House. In the essence of the proverb 'it takes a village to raise a child', allow me to highlight a gem in special needs education in Westridge, Mitchells Plain: Autism Connect. This gem is a product of parents who created a village in order to raise their children with special needs. I would like to introduce members of this House and the public to Nicolette Ripepi. Nicolette Ripepi is in this House today, she is sitting there in the gallery. Nicolette found that her son required special attention and in particular specialised education. Fortunately she also realised that the need was shared by many other parents and children in her community. So she started Autism Connect in 2012 with three children, a facility for the enhanced development of professional services and the potential opportunity for acceptance into autism specific schools.

Nicolette then left her formal employment in 2015 in order to run Autism Connect full time. Autism Connect now has 30 children. 30 children who now have the opportunity of education and its prospects despite the adversity that they faced. Nicolette is now the Director of Autism Connect and has

represented Autism South Africa at the World Autism Conference in Texas and also at the Pan African Congress in Kenya.

Hon Deputy Speaker, I have seen similar victories in the Western Cape. The Premier has quoted that over the last 10 years, R171 billion has been invested in our school system in our province. The fact that this province has improved its matric pass rate to 81%, that we have the highest retention rate and performed the best in Mathematics and Science, showcases a return on investment.

The WCED blanket covered schools with internet access to enhance learning experience through new sources. We boast with 40% no fee paying schools which exceeds other provinces in pro-poor policy by far. And our Collaboration Schools Initiative will further attract investment in our schools to bring about upgrades. But we cannot be blind to challenges in the province, hon Deputy Speaker. Vandalism has taken its toll on our facilities and challenges school security. It negatively impacts the education experience when e-Learning tools are stolen. Hon Deputy Speaker, maybe our Government should embark on a name and shame register so that communities see who the perpetrators are and be encouraged to take pride in their schools.

Drug and alcohol abuse negatively affects young minds and this results in poor decision making. I wish to encourage that more after-school initiatives be rolled out at schools. Hon Deputy Speaker, parents must take

responsibility for their children by law. The responsibility cannot rest with Government. Some parents are to be blamed for their children's' absence from school for long periods and often as we term it, all day, paydays when they are allowed to be absent.

Hon Deputy Speaker, our governing bodies should also be strengthened along with the input of ordinary parents who take on these roles. We continue to battle with overcrowding in our schools but it was consoling to note the Department's comprehensive strategy to tackle this problem. Hon Deputy Speaker, this may be due to our success rate in the province because in the Western Cape, we maximise opportunity, but at the same time this Province must insist that the finances follow these learners.

Hon Deputy Speaker, with all the above said, there are also excellent forces at our schools, the dedicated teachers who understand their roles and the dedicated parents. I want to thank those dedicated parents and teachers, they play a big role in making this a success. In the DA we take the bad with the good and we continue to seek opportunities for improvement to ensure quality education remains an engine for personal development. As the father of our nation, Nelson Mandela encapsulated:

“Education is the great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that the son of a mine worker can become the head of the mine, that the child of farm workers can become the president of a great nation.”

It is thus what we make out of what we have and not what we are given that separates one person from another. Hon Deputy Speaker, let us take a lesson from Autism Connect. After two years of negotiations Autism Connect can now purchase land in Westridge. However, their challenge now is to raise the funds to acquire this land. They are not sitting and waiting for the money to fall from the sky though, they have embarked on their biggest fund raiser ever. They started their Back-A-Buddy campaign which will run throughout the country. They have to raise R475 000 by September this year in order to acquire this land. This is a clear and concrete example of parental involvement in education but more so, a community involved in education.

Hon Deputy Speaker, through you, I call on the Premier and the Minister of Education to meet with Autism Connect. The WCED has earmarked 2019 as the Year of the Learner, with the vision of quality education for every child in every classroom in every school in this province. I would like thus to use this opportunity to encourage everyone to take responsibility to help see our learners succeed. I thank you. [Applause.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you very much hon member. I see Minister Mbombo.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: Hon Premier, hon Deputy Speaker, hon members of the House, guests in the gallery, the media, people of the Western Cape: †ndiyanibulisa [I greet you.]

†Okokuqala ndifuna ukubulela iPremia ngentetha yakhe engumkhomba ndlela wokuba thina apha kwiDepartment senze ntonina?

[Firstly I would like to thank the Premier on his speech which is a guideline as to what we as the Department should put in place.]

The cliché that says ‘health is wealth, wealth is health’ is still relevant and undisputed. Investing in health has triple returns which is economic development, a healthy population and it also bridges the inequality gaps. The Premier covered five areas in his speech but I want to zoom in on two which is the economy and safety. I want to make a case on how Health, with the microcosm of societal ills, have positioned ourselves as stewards in tackling these by investing in healthcare, of course working with other sectors to prevent these.

In my budget speech in March 2019, I did identify some of the highlights where we are actually doing good, for example, geographical accessibility to quality and comprehensive healthcare services; the health net coverage of rural services; better health outcomes including life expectancy; being the only health department with clean finance audits in four years and unqualified general audits for a decade. I also spoke about the cutting edge surgeries that we perform in our central hospitals.

However, hon Deputy Speaker, I will not only focus in terms of exactly what is happening but also beyond what we have seen. The reason that I am picking up on safety and the economy is because we are a department where

we find that anything can happen at any time. So there is no guarantee that we might be able to maintain all of that good story because we are the only Department that is open 24 hours, seven days a week, 365 days a year, rendering services from the cradle, the unborn child, up to the oldest person including deceased patients. Therefore, hon Deputy Speaker, health has got a lot of challenges and hence we have to look beyond.

Now starting with health and crime: crime and substance abuse increases the burden of disease but also compromises the Department's budget due to the fact that a significant portion of the Department of Health's budget goes to treating injured patients that were injured through, for example gunshots, assaults or even being stabbed. So that is why we always say do not politicise crime because it also impacts mostly on health.

It take an average of R25 000 per person to care for an injured person at our emergency care hospitals due to gunshots. This also negatively impacts on other patients that are waiting for elective surgeries or procedures because we have to prioritise these patients, as priority one. They are the 'red' patients.

Also if death from above occurs it requires forensic pathology services that puts us under pressure, actually for the whole system. For example, the homicide stats that we gathered from the weekend of the 31 of May to July 22, show that the province had a total of about 373 bodies that landed in our mortuaries which are in Salt River, Groote Schuur and also at Tygerberg.

... in our mortuaries which are in Salt River, Groote Schuur and also at Tygerberg, mostly as a result of gunshots and stabbings being major contributors of these.

One of our key projects in this financial year, hon Deputy Speaker, is the Observatory Forensic Pathology Service which will provide more space for such. It will offer services that are currently outsourced, externally, including toxicology, including also DNA that often has to be tested outside and the people have to pay more money. Now it is coming back to us. Even the dead do deserve to be treated with the utmost dignity. That is why we are building this FPS.

Hon Speaker, substance abuse is the leading contributor to the causes of crime in the province and stats show that the majority of the mentally ill young patients that we admit in our psychiatric health facilities have a substance abuse problem, with the top three substances including cannabis, tik and alcohol. The unfortunate part is that the majority of these patients admitted are young people that should be economically active.

Thanks to the Western Cape Mental Health Review Board that the Minister appoints – myself – it is the only one that is actually functioning and gives us the stats. Presently the South African Government does not track or specify dedicated budgets for mental health services, except for specialised psychiatry hospitals where the data does not address the expenditure in the country's psychiatry hospitals. Stikland Hospital has a detox unit that

provides a dedicated detox programme for substance addiction. On average we see 360 patients or clients that are admitted per year for a period of seven days. In addition to our response to these social ills that I have mentioned, we are building additional psychiatry units in existing hospitals because of the demand. But I must stress that the institutionalisation of people is not the only solution to curb mental health problems, especially from substance abuse. Community mental health awareness that we do must be met with the family's responsibility to take care of their loved ones.

One of the upcoming psychiatry units that we are going to build now is in Khayelitsha, We will also have an additional unit in Eerste River. Some of the other interventions, through the whole of society approach, working with other departments, Education, Social Development, Safety, Department of Sports and also within the municipalities, we are tackling through multi-lateral, multi-sectoral and an inter-disciplinary approach.

Hon Speaker, the Premier in his State of the Province Address also highlighted the critical factor around healthy lifestyles. Indeed, as a province we are faced with a quadruple burden of disease. More than half of our patients present with more than two preventable chronic conditions. The stats show that within the Western Cape, the number one cause of death is diabetes, which is a lifestyle disease. Diabetes, unlike some others, is a non-communicable disease that does not only rely on the provision of chronic medication but it requires active lifestyle modifications: healthy eating, exercise, weight management and no smoking.

In promoting wellness, you may recall in this House where we introduced the Western Cape on Wellness, a project that aims to fight non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and obesity. In case you are not aware the Western Cape is one of the provinces where we have people who are overweight, specifically women. The focus has been threefold: targeting Western Cape's staff in terms of the 'WOW', the communities at large and also for school going children.

Now for this forecast we have to emphasise where we have to replace the 'i' in illness with a 'we' in the wellness so that we can upscale and intensify this 'WOW'. Probably, hon Speaker, we need to start from here, in this House. We have been doing that on a weekly basis and probably now copying the Premier who introduced First Thursdays, maybe I should introduce First Mondays at the beginning of the month where everyone gets exercise and gets out.

Hon Speaker, we delivered our infrastructure, we delivered world class infrastructure projects in partnership with the Department of Transport and Public Works. In this financial budget we committed R1,2 billion. In addition to what I shared then, where we have constructed the Gansbaai Clinic, Laingsburg Clinic, Caledon EMS, Swartland Hospital, Helderberg Hospital, Victoria Hospital, we have now added De Doorns Ambulance Station as part of the new upcoming infrastructure. Of course, also the Klipfontein Regional Hospital/Jooste Hospital, the new Avian Park Clinic in Breede Valley and psychiatry facilities as I have mentioned.

Also another psychiatric facility that is going to be added, is the new Somerset Hospital. Every infrastructure contribution yields job creation. For example, for forensic pathology which is the Salt River Mortuary lab that will replace the old mortuary, already we have created more than 200 jobs. Is that not what we call 'health and wealth'? That is what we are calling it. And also, the issue of technology, as I indicated earlier, our e-strategic vision that talks about e-Discharge, e-Prescription, the unit patient identifier and all of those. We are well advanced in terms of scaling all of these technologies throughout the province.

Hon Speaker, the member mentioned Grabouw. The Premier was just making an example about the turnaround strategy or the improvement plan. Grabouw is part of the other interventions. We have had the Helderberg Hospital improvement plan, the Khayelitsha Hospital improvement plan, now we are introducing the Tygerberg EC improvement plan, the EMS Medical Services improvement plan because now and again we have to keep on being a responsive government. You do not say you do not have money, we have to continue doing that.

So the turnaround strategy for the EMS, the issue about waiting times, which is being contributed to by ambulances having to go to red zone areas, waiting for the police to pick them up ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, you need to conclude your speech now.

The MINISTER OF HEALTH: So we have got those. The other turnaround strategy is to extend the opening times of other clinics, especially in the rural areas. For example in Hessequa, Houtfontein we have to extend the hours, in Pacaltsdorp we have to extend the hours, in Thembaletu CDC, George we have to work around the hours.

Lastly, we are appealing for the DotP to extend the hotline numbers. Currently for the 'please call me' and all those hotline numbers. They only added four but now I want it to be at least 24-hours so that everyone, including Aunty Sara, has access to a hotline. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. I let you finish because I wanted to hear the extended hours. Hon member de Jager?

MR I DE JAGER: Hon Speaker, hon Premier, members and distinguished guests I greet you. †Salaam Alaikum [peace be unto you], good afternoon. Hon Speaker, hon Premier, Al Jama-ah, I applaud your commitment to good governance. We want to bring to your attention once again that the Western Cape is becoming one of the most dangerous and unsafe areas and that needs to change.

Safety in the Western Cape has now reached its peak to such an extent that we are resorting to just about all and every kind of extreme safety measures, this includes bringing in the SANDF. We applaud you for that, however, let me reiterate that gangsterism is on the rise in our townships. Our hospitals,

clinics and schools are far from being safe. People are being gun-pointed, traumatised, robbed on their way to work and to make matters worse, when they get to the station, then there are no trains or the trains are late.

To make matters even worse, commuters on the Mitchells Plain and Khayelitsha lines using the MyCiti buses are left destitute. Hon Speaker, the contract between MyCiti and the previous services provider has stopped months ago and yet there are still no buses on that route. I do not see the process to get the buses back on the road will be finalised soon as such I urge you to follow up and speed up the process to get the buses back on the road as a matter of urgency. Hon Premier, our commitment to deal with the non-existing railway system is not unnoticed as other provinces like Limpopo are faced with the same challenges.

We must start recognising Neighbourhood Watch groups, equip them with training, give them equipment and put them on the payroll. Most of them are unemployed people who do their bit to keep their neighbourhood safe. We need effective policing by Metro Police to fill the gaps as well.

Education and infrastructure in school should not be separated, that is why Al Jama-ah appreciates new schools being built, however not at the cost of a newly built hospital being thrown down, then an established school being demolished, then the same hospital being built where the school was and then they build the same school a few steps away from where it was previously.

How do we then count the amount of schools in the province? Is it plus one school or minus one school, as I am lost on the counting. What it is, is a waste of taxpayer's money. As I recall this community objected to the process and yet the Western Cape Province proceeded with wasting taxpayer's money that could have been used for more effective security measures to prevent burglaries at schools, efficient transport for all learners to schools, effective security measures implemented, revised school feeding schemes to reach more schools, put in place policies against households headed by children and strategies on how to give access to free education to all Foundation Phase learners. Proper monitoring systems or how many learners enter school and drop out of schools before the age of 16.

Al Jama-ah proposes that the Province puts more stringent control measures in place for the closure of any school and the Province takes serious National Government's aims towards creating safer schools.

Hon Speaker, when are they going to rebuild the new hospital that is to replace G F Jooste Hospital? We welcome the improved Steenberg education system, we do welcome the hon Premier's commitment to job creation and economic opportunities. However, opportunities should become more visible to reach the poorest of the poor. The poorest must benefit from the thriving economy you claim your Government is creating. These economic opportunities should go hand in hand with local manufactured goods and better monitoring of fake goods that are coming into our country and this is not a national issue.

Hon Speaker, the hon Premier mentioned in his SOPA speech that there is at least one per person in the household that should have a job. Hon Speaker, the Western Cape Government continues to issue licences to gambling dens and shebeens. Your good governance has failed to eradicate illegal shebeens. Tourism should reach the poor areas. In this way the Western Cape Government will be motivated to deal effectively with crime and gangsterism.

In closing, hon Premier, I hope that you take up the challenge and walk the talk in especially fighting crime. I propose, hon Premier, to stop the blame game and that there is accountability and people are taken to task, a balanced and holistic approach to solving challenges must include all and sundry. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon de Jager. Hon member Sayed?

Mr M K SAYED: Thank you very much, hon Speaker, hon Premier, hon Leader of the Official Opposition, hon members of the House, guests in the gallery, many of whom are dedicated activists in the struggle for learners to attain free quality education without fear.

Hon Speaker, as I rise today in this House for my maiden speech, I am mindful of the ordinary heroes and heroines especially from the youth movement in the Western Cape who dedicated their lives to fight apartheid and who demanded free, but quality education. Hon Speaker we pay tribute

today to the ANC Youth League, especially the generation of Nelson Mandela and Anton Lembede as well as the League's former leaders in this Western Cape.

We appreciate today the efforts and struggles of past generations and the current generation of YCL, COSAS and SASCO activists in the province, who champion the struggle for justice and education. More especially, hon Speaker, I pay tribute to Coline Williams and Robert Waterwitch, whose 30th anniversary of death by the apartheid regime, we remember today. But we must acknowledge and appreciate the efforts and sacrifices and dedication of every educator, parent, learner, administrator and community activist who works towards improving the state of education in our province.

As the ANC, we welcome Premier Alan Winde's commitment towards assisting disadvantaged schools throughout the Western Cape. We thank you, hon Premier. Dare we remind the House though that these are often poor Coloured and African schools in the main, the sufferers of apartheid legacy. Sadly upon the reviewing the record of the previous term, we are not confident that his MEC for Education will make the Premier's general promise a concrete reality.

In fact, the track record will compromise the Premier's stated commitment. And we believe in the Premier's commitment. [Interjections.]. The ANC is committed to employing effective oversight of the Western Cape Education Department. This we will do with various stakeholders on the ground, here in

the House and in our cooperative multi-party Standing Committee of Education, led by hon Chairperson Lorraine Botha.

Hon Speaker, the ANC knows the actual reality of our schools in underprivileged areas, which has hindered learner's rights to obtaining free quality education. In demanding a national competency to be devolved to the Province, the Premier spoke and I quote "a track record of excellence". While Hon Speaker, education and health are provincial competencies and the track records here have been anything but excellent, 450 learners are still not placed in schools for the current academic year, hon Speaker. Thousands are yet to be placed at schools for the upcoming 2020 academic year and no plan exists to address this situation. It is suggested that the manner in which the current electronic enrolment system is implemented now will have detrimental effects on our education system and on the education of the black child.

For example, how must the rural and urban poor access this electronic system with no access to the internet. The ANC proposes that all application deadlines for 2020 must be extended to ensure placement of all our learners. Hon Speaker, while learners are struggling to get into schools, the Department continues to close down schools in underprivileged areas. As we have just now seen in Graafwater, Graafwater High School on the West Coast. As a result Speaker, overcrowding is common.

At Wallacedene Primary School, the school governing body and the staff

have reached out to the Department, on numerous occasions for assistance to provide temporary classes and more teachers, but to no avail. Hon Speaker, there is another example of that throughout the province and I do not want to refer to all those examples. Elsies River is one of them, which hon Peter Marais, who has now left the House, will know, that no high school has been recently built to meet the increase in population in Elsies River.

In Electric City, hon Speaker, learners with Grade 3 must seek admission into schools already at full capacity in the surrounding areas of Delft and Emfuleni. Overcrowding and non-placement does not facilitate free quality education, and in fact, results in increased dropout rates and lowering matric pass rates in poor communities.

As we acknowledge the leadership of the Witsand Crisis Committee, hon Speaker, that are present in the gallery, the ANC welcomes the Department's decision to construct a new school in Witsand. However, we wish to bring to the Premier's attention that this decision was only implemented after the community had already placed immense pressure on the officials to assist with the issue. The ANC will monitor the swift implementation of the building of the school in Witsand.

The hon Premier spoke of 40% of our schools being no fee schools, the sad reality Speaker, is that this remains insufficient. We see in KZN there are 75% no fee schools. Hon Speaker, in this the most racist province in the country, it is disappointing that the hon Premier ... [Interjections.] did not

mention the issue of racism in his address while we know that in the recent past, racism has reared its ugly head at our schools.

For example, hon Speaker, racism remains rife at Swartland High School in Malmesbury. The school denied a learner's application with no reason stipulated, despite her parents being able to afford the R70 000 school fees per year. The learner's father was later told by the secretary of the principal to send the daughter to Schoonspruit High School, a predominantly African and Coloured public school in Westbank.

To mitigate racist attitudes in admissions to and dismissals from our schools, the ANC believes that a standardised admissions and dismissal policy for all schools needs to be implemented in the Western Cape. The Department's refusal, hon Speaker, for the amalgamation of the Herald and Franklin Primary Schools between George and Uniondale, a mere six hundred metres apart from each other, suggests that the Department is maintaining racial segregation in our schools. The merger works towards social cohesion, the activities of black farmers in the area, as well as ensure that our public funds are utilised correctly.

One of the gravest challenges today is the safety of our learners and teachers in our schools. Promises have been made to provide more fencing to schools in gang ridden areas. [Interjection.]. This is simply not enough, hon Speaker. An average of two schools are vandalised and burgled daily in this province with 42 schools having been attacked in June 2019 alone. The safety of

learners, educators and the infrastructure of our schools, for example Lavis Primary in Bishop Lavis, has been consistently compromised due to damage caused by criminals as a direct result of the lack of security provisions. Last Monday parents protested outside Nomsa Maphingwane Primary School in Mandela Park in Khayelitsha after the school was robbed at gunpoint. Representatives of the school had been pleading with the Department for CCTV cameras but these pleas have fallen on deaf ears.

We need greater physical and human security resources and better infrastructure, especially at schools which are vulnerable to crime, hon Speaker, prior to these schools having to ask for their assistance. The ANC calls, therefore for the reinstatement of community Babanani volunteers ... [Interjections.] who will act as both the eyes, ears and as their first line of defence for all security services at schools situated in high crime areas. [Interjections.] [Applause.]

Given the urgency of safety of our schools we are pleased with the Standing Committee of Education's decision to establish a Joint Standing Committee so as to have a multi-pronged approach and propose comprehensive solutions. [Interjections.]. We thank the Standing Committee for that. Hon Speaker, the ANC remains convinced that the Education Amendment Bill legalising the sale of alcohol at schools, yes, the sale of alcohol at schools, contradicts a number of policies and programmes in other provincial government departments ... [Interjections.]. The selling of alcohol at schools undermines ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon members.

Mr M K SAYED: ... hon Community MEC Alfred Fritz's fight against ...

The SPEAKER: Hon member Sayed ...

Mr M K SAYED: ... the running of shebeens near schools.

The SPEAKER: ... will you please take your seat, sir. Hon members, please help the Speaker to maintain order. I know that it is a bit exciting but can I request that we have a right to be excited about whatever news, good or bad but let us allow the hon member to proceed unhindered. Both sides. [Interjections.]. Hon member Sayed?

Mr M K SAYED: Thank you very much, hon Speaker. Thank you very much. The Bill passes in direct contradiction to the overwhelming public opposition. It lacks a contextual understanding of how this law will affect the quality of education, safety at our schools and experiences of violence for learners within poor communities.

We will continue to fight this law, hon Speaker. I want to reaffirm that education remains an apex priority for the African National Congress. We are committed to working tirelessly in a multi-party fashion, in the Committee in particular, towards defeating the legacy of apartheid among our youth with education as the source of hope. We will not agree on everything hon

Speaker, but there are certain things that we will agree on and work together.

I thank you. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon member Sayed. You were within your time. Thank you very much. [Interjections.] Hon member Mitchell, you spoke earlier. Please. [Laughter.] Okay. Thank you very much. The hon Minister of Education, hon Schäfer.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Thank you, hon Speaker. Hon Speaker, hon Premier, hon members of the Provincial Cabinet and Legislature and special guests. Please note that this is my maiden speech in the new term of office. [Laughter.]

Last Thursday, Premier Winde spoke of our vision for this province which includes values, responsibility and safety and the commitment to providing our citizens with opportunities. Yet, we know that in contrast to this vision, there are still too many people for whom the reality on the ground is not that of a safe society with opportunities for everyone.

As Education, we suffer with them and are affected daily by societal ills that affect our schools, our teachers and our learners. On average we heard already every day two schools are being burgled or vandalised. There have been numerous cases of stabbings and our teachers and learners are severely traumatised when gang violence erupts in and around our schools. Too many of our learners are learning and living in fear and we have heard about the

dire under capacitation of SAPS in the Western Cape from the Premier. As a result of the political posturing of the National Minister and the constant infighting among the Western Cape top management, whom the hon Dugmore wants us to consider for a Police Commissioner, who seem more interested in fighting each other than fighting the criminals, we are having to come up with more and more strategies to inspire and protect our people.

Robert Ludlum, *New York Times* bestselling author says that “hope is the only thing stronger than fear”. Therefore we are committed more than ever to providing traumatised and disheartened youth and the broader community with hope for their future.

Many of the ills that we are seeing result from a lack of basic values that should be taught at home. In addition, teachers and learners are traumatised as a result of the circumstances in which they live and work to the point where they cannot see anything positive. Our Transform to Perform Strategy involves all learners, teachers, principals and officials of the WCED and is about developing a positive mindset that can overcome some of the challenges that we face in our schools and communities every day.

Since implementing various aspects of this programme for the last year and a half, we have already seen some transformed attitudes within schools. And principals who are committed are reporting a decrease in bullying and ill-discipline and an improvement in team spirit, respect and learner behaviour.

The programme includes leadership development, a growth mindset programme and values driven learning within our schools. With schools having been asked to engage in conversations and activities on values incorporating them into learner lessons, activities, sports and cultural events and parent and community meetings. This programme will continue for this term of office. In order to provide hope to our youth, another thing we need is a school curriculum that can meet their needs and tap into the talents of all learners in this province and there are many talents, as I saw last night at Settlers High School.

In the next five years we are planning to resuscitate the Sports School which unfortunately has not lived up to its potential. Once we have more plans in place we shall report to this House. We also need to develop 21st century learners with the relevant skills. We now have a formal three-stream model of education including an academic pathway, a technical vocational pathway focusing on much needed technical and artisanal skills and a technical occupational pathway, such as our School of Skills, focusing on basic practical subjects for employment.

We currently have 24 schools offering the technical vocational stream and 26 Schools of Skills providing more practical skills such as upholstery, office administration and hospitality, to name a few. These schools change lives. I have witnessed first-hand how they can change community's attitudes towards education and decrease learner drop-out and apathy. They are giving the learners and their communities hope. Last year we opened the Jakes

Gerwel Technical School in Bonnievale, a community with a high drop-out rate in high school and a dispirited youth with little hope of employment. The school was built in collaboration with the Jakes Gerwel Trust and combines academic subjects with technical, vocational and agricultural, whilst also providing a more technical occupational curriculum in its modern workshops.

The no fees school is inclusive to all and custom designed for the local community to provide the best possible future for those attending. They are also working with businesses in the community to provide some workplace experience during their schooling. This has been made possible through creating legislation for Collaboration Schools which the ANC, in fact every other party in this House opposed, other than the DA, and the generosity and passion of people in that community.

Another school that has also been made possible by this new model in our legislation is the Botha's Halte School in Breede River. Not only has the donor helped to build a state of the art school for the farming community, they have also connected nearby schools for the live streaming of lessons, synchronised with their lesson timetables. In addition the school also received a base set of technology for the teachers with which to project these classes.

Our focus is to increase our offerings in this regard and we have other interested parties in the collaboration schools concept. Our drive to create a more skilled youth does not stop there. The purpose of education is to equip

our learners to be productive members of the economy. So it is crucial that what they learn is relevant to the outside world. The Premier has mentioned already that we are expanding from the traditional STEM to STIMA which also includes the arts, agriculture and coding. The arts incorporates 21st century skills by providing opportunities for creative and critical thinking and a content in which learners are motivated to communicate their ideas, promoting work habits that cultivate curiosity, imagination, creativity and evaluation skills. This year we are celebrating uplifting the arts in our schools, making our Provincial Arts Festival at the end of August and our Provincial Arts Exhibition in September, two of the main highlights of the year of the learner. Hon Speaker, agriculture contributes significantly to the economy of the Western Cape.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: It is therefore imperative that we educate in school new farmers for the future. In addition, these farmers need to be able to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century, as well as meet the advancements of technology in the field. As a department we understand the need to diversify this sector, as well as prepare our learners with the appropriate skills. For instance, recently six of our agricultural focus schools received state of the art animal handling facilities from the WCED.

The automated and computerised facilities include weighing, spraying, dosing, inoculation and sorting equipment and introduce learners to modern farming techniques and equipment. Learners are also being exposed to computerised management software for data recording, the use of radio frequency identification technology and artificial insemination.

The same technology is being used by Stellenbosch University and Elsenburg Agricultural College. Learners who will further their studies at these institutions will already have been exposed to this technology in school, while learners who do not study further, will be in a very good position to obtain employment on farms and feed lots, which use this technology or want to implement it. We are already in discussions with the Department of Agriculture as to how we can create the best opportunities for our learners to become economically active and grow our economy.

Hon Speaker, the skills that are considered most necessary for the twenty first century focus on how best to navigate the digital environment. The Western Cape is already leading the country in the roll-out of e-Learning and the development of digital skills in terms of a national curriculum. The Western Cape has connected over 1200 schools to the Broadband internet and 412 schools have received wireless Broadband over the past four years.

We have also adopted coding as the final edition to our STIMA focus. I am pleased that the Western Cape is leading the development of the digital skills curriculum at a national level. WCED officials are currently writing a curriculum for the GET band and the foundation phase curriculum is in draft and awaiting approval.

A process to develop the robotics and coding curriculum also began this year. We already have many exciting projects under way in our schools and at this Cape Teaching and Leadership Institute. There are ongoing coding and robotics workshops and courses, digital skills training and interactive distance learning programmes. A pilot, using virtual reality technology, is currently being implemented in two of our schools. There are over 80 coding clubs at schools, which host coding and robotics sessions with learners and coding collaborations

between schools like Klapmuts Primary and Simondium Primary.

The Coding Week for girls from Grade 9 to 11 is being hosted by the Metro South District. Learners are also being exposed to other forms of technology, such as the Sun Exchange Projects at various schools, which is also helping with our quest to make our schools greener and more sustainable, in line with the sustainable development goals – and the national satellite program at Soneike High School.

The Cape Academy for Maths and Science has a wonderful aeronautical program and we are also in discussions about creating an aeronautical science in school. In a nutshell, we want to create an enabling digital environment, integrate ICT into classroom practice, provide digital platforms and resources and provide learners with learning opportunities that go way beyond the classroom. Underpinning all of what we want to do is excellent teaching and learning and functional schools. This will be enhanced by [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Minister, you will need to wrap up, please.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: This will be enhanced by the appointment of our chief evaluator for the school evaluation authority, which is also being opposed by the ANC, which we are hoping will be done within the next month and they will then commence their operations and conduct informal assessments at schools. In all we do we want to give our learners hope and we will provide hope where the failed ANC Government has provided nothing but a failed captured state that is bankrupt both in finance and ethics. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. [Applause.] Hon the Chief Whip of the Opposition, hon Lekker.

An HON MEMBER: They did not clap for you.

The SPEAKER: Order. Hon Lekker.

Ms P Z LEKKER: Hon Speaker, hon Premier and all hon members and invited guests in the gallery, I greet you. Today marks 62 days since Premier Winde assumed office and 76 days after the 8th May elections. He is still failing you in the office. Allow me to congratulate Premier Winde on his election, as well as on the occasion of his first SOPA. I want to advise you to take heed of Professor Wole Soyinka's words when he says,

“And I believe that the best learning process of any kind of craft is just to look at the work of others.”

In order to be successful you simply have to look back at the good work that the ANC did when it governed the Western Cape. [Laughter; Interjections.] We had the lowest crime rate, lowest unemployment rate [Interjections.] and the fastest growing economy in the country. That is the Western Cape which Madiba was proud of. Do not fall into the trap of repeating [Interjections.] Helen Zille's mistake, as your SOPA suggests that you will continue on the downward trajectory when we had highest murder rates, highest number of drug related crimes and the declining matric pass rate.

Your success as a Premier will be measured on how you turn things around for the better. Your SOPA of last week really did not inspire confidence. It was really not in touch with the reality on the ground. It was not in sync with people's lived experiences. For instance, you bragged here about being proud of the achievements made during the past decade of DA service delivery.

If you were to take into consideration the people's lived experiences, your fallacious agreement would not stand. For instance, a ten year old girl from Kosovo informal settlements is fighting for her life at Red Cross Hospital, after she was raped while she went to a communal toilet in the area at night. Even though there were people walking around during that time, they could not see because it was dark. There is no lighting in the area. The poor service delivery of your Government over the past ten years contributed to the high crime rate in this province. The rape of this girl should be put squarely into the hands of your DA-led Government.

When we say poverty, unemployment and inequality needs to be addressed in order to address violent crimes and murders in the area, this is what we mean. It is a pity that only MEC Fritz agrees with us on this one. Your SOPA was very silent on these realities and the lived experiences of the people of the Western Cape.

The people of Marikana demonstrated several times in front of this Legislature in the past few years. They came to beg for Government to keep its promises [Interjections.] it made in 2016 to install high mast light CCTV cameras, better sanitation and open up off-roads for accessibility in Marikana. Your Government simply refuse to listen to them and as a result an innocent person was killed – comrade Andiswa Ndevu was killed and again we put her death squarely into the DA and Government's hands. When more deaths are being reported, poor communities like Philippi, Nyanga, Manenberg, Bishop Lavis - you will have to accept [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Chief Whip of the Opposition, will you please take your seat? I would like to request my two hon members here, hon Madikizela and hon Mereille, it seems you want to have a conversation – maybe for another day or

outside, but let us please help the speaker now and respect the hon Chief Whip of the Opposition to continue with your speech, Madam.

Ms P Z LEKKER: Thank you, hon Speaker. You will have to accept that it is because of your Government's refusal to render service delivery to these communities. Given all the above realities, you stood here, grandstanding about how committed you and your Government are to build a province where even the poorest of the poor are able to live dignified lives. I must say, that was so rich coming from you, the same Premier who turned a blind eye when the poor and vulnerable homeless people were targeted and purged by the City of Cape Town through by-laws that seeks to criminalise homelessness. Your Government simply has no will and commitment to change the material conditions of the poor and the working class. In the spirit of Professor Soyinka's words when he said,

“The man dies in all who keep silent in the face of tyranny.”

We will not keep silent in the face of these atrocities. Thousands of people died in the Western Cape under the DA rule. Last week hundreds of people converged in Paarl to find solutions to the problems. Your Government knows all the resolutions of the crime summit, yet in your speech you make no mention of it. All that you told us, is that you will continue to fight for a provincial police force. This shows you do not take people's lives seriously. To you and your party crime remains a politicking matter.

Premier, please accept this reality. South Africa is not a federal state. We will not have 11 police forces like in the apartheid days. We will continue to have a single police service. In our cries for more police visibility let us start engagements about astute allocations of police resources in the province. Let us call for more

resources to be deployed to the Cape Flats where they are needed. Let us call for Metro Police to conduct patrols in areas like [Interjections.] Marikana, Nyanga and Khayelitsha [Interjections.] Play your role in ensuring that [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order members. [Interjections.] Order, hon members.

Ms P Z LEKKER: Play your role in ensuring that we have improved service delivery in poor communities. Stop the blame game and complaining. Take responsibility and do your job. Premier, our health care services is in a terrible state. In our hospitals people sleep on the floors and chairs for days, without receiving necessary attention. [Interjections.] MEC Mbombo will attest to this, because I want to put her to task in Eerste River's Hospital. Community health care workers who are the backbone of public health care, are crying for your help. They are under-paid and work under terrible conditions. We did not hear how you intend [Interjections.] to address this. Your plan [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order, order, hon members. Let us allow the speaker to proceed please.

Ms P Z LEKKER: Your plans for the clinics that operate 24 hours is a step in the right direction, but I do not know how it is going to work if you do not have plans to employ more health workers. I was happy to see that [Interjections.] you finally agree with the ANC's call for land expropriation, but targeting only National Government land shows your intent to politicise the matter.

If you are serious about expropriation, start with the land and properties owned by the Provincial Government [Interjections.] Expropriate pockets of land owned by the City. Your Government must engage the City to buy the land in Marikana

informal settlement, expropriate the golf courses and the capture of the DA private property developers. [Interjections.] Address land theft by farmers in Stellenbosch and surrounding areas.

On the eve of our democratic dispensation these farmers entered into long term lease agreements with municipalities. They are paying R100 a month for many hectares of land, i.e. will be your KWV. You should also know this from your time as MEC of Agriculture, that KWV signed a lease agreement in 1991, with 60 hectares and only paying R100. Paradyskloof with 38.1 hectares, also pays R100 as a lease. All these were signed in 1991 and Premier Winde continues to leave this unchallenged, and yet he wants to expropriate Government land. If you do all of this then we will know that you mean business [Interjections.]. We are more than ready to punch holes in that [Interjections.] clean Government's [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order, hon members. Order please.

Ms P Z LEKKER: Our complaint about your alleged involvement in the unlawful awarding of contracts to Mackenzie to develop a strategy for project Xolisa, is getting closer to completion. We are also working around the clock to unearth housing corruption in the Western Cape. So, while you may want to continue believing your own misinformation, just know that we know about corruption in your Provincial Government. People are speaking. I thank you, hon Speaker. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Thank you, hon Lekker. [Interjections.] Order hon members. [Interjections.] I now recognise [Interjections.] hon members, order. I now recognise hon Allen. [Applause.]

Mr R I ALLEN: Thank you. Hon Speaker, I have noted media comments from the Opposition saying that one cannot politic around crime and that the solutions to the epidemic of gang violence in our province requires working across political lines. Sadly, today some are grandstanding, but having said that, while I agree with this sentiment it is rather unfortunate that the National Government has allowed the state of crime to continue unabated in this province, despite the countless cries of [Interjections.] innocent people whose lives are affected by violence [Interjections.] and criminals roaming our streets.

Hon Speaker, the truth of the matter remains that everything under the ANC rule is being run into the ground, including PRASA and the SAPS. The foundation laid by the former Premier Helen Zille is testament to the fact that the DA goes above and beyond to ensure that residents of the Western Cape receive superior services that will lead towards an open opportunity society for all. [Interjections.] Despite these efforts, the National Government continues to destabilise [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order, hon members [Interjection.]

Mr R I ALLEN: ...this province by arrogantly ignoring needs that fall within their ambit [Interjections.].

The SPEAKER: Hon Allen, please take your seat, Sir. Hon Mitchell.

Mr D G MITCHELL: Hon Speaker, I ask your protection for the speaker on the floor. It is his maiden speech [Interjections.] We have agreed [Interjections.] for everyone else when it is their maiden speeches that the convention would be respected. [Interjections.] Can you please protect the speaker?

The SPEAKER: Yes, thank you. Thank you, hon Mitchell. Hon, the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr C M DUGMORE: Thank you very much, Speaker. Could we be reminded, we have got no intention to make things difficult for the hon member, but this member joined us last year. In all that time, in all that time, did he never ever make a speech? [Interjections.] Because he ... [Interjections.] Well maybe it was ... [Interjections.] maybe it was Mark Wiley. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Alright. [Interjections.] Hon Dugmore [Interjection.]

Mr C M DUGMORE: Sorry. Maybe it was Mark ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: That is not a point of order. I would like to rule that it is not a point of order. Hon, the Chief Whip.

Ms M M WENGER: Thank you, hon Speaker [Interjections.] A maiden speech is a maiden speech and the hon member joined us just weeks before the end of the Fifth Parliament. So, I think that [Interjections.] that he did not have the opportunity and I would appreciate that the House does give him the opportunity now in order to deliver his maiden speech, as we have afforded other speakers a fair chance to do so.

The SPEAKER: I will rule on that now, hon Chief Whip [Interjections.] May I just for the clarity of the House – your time is not running, sir. It is okay. The hon member has joined us before the rise of the previous Parliament. However, he is now speaking for the first time, because he never got to enjoy the privilege. [Interjections.] I think, let us support him and the principle [Interjections.] May I

get the cooperation of the hon members please? Thank you very much, hon members. Hon Allen.

Mr R I ALLEN: I thank you. As such I welcome the establishment of the Premier's Priority Committee on Safety, which aims to oversee all safety stakeholders, including other role players. This approach will ensure that we have a range of programs in place to keep our communities safe. Speaker, it is no coincidence that the Western Cape – the only province not run by the ANC – has the highest shortage of police officers and policing resources, compared to other provinces. [Interjections.] We need to ask, why are communities in this province treated differently when it comes to policing resources? Why is it that the community such as Nyanga, the murder capital of South Africa, has a ratio of one officer to every 628 residents [Interjection.]

Ms P Z LEKKER: That is not true!

Mr R I ALLEN: ... while therest of the country has a ratio of [Interjections.] one officer [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order! [Interjection.]

Mr R I ALLEN: ...for every 362 residents.

The SPEAKER: Order. [Interjections.]

Mr R I ALLEN: While I recognise the many good men and women within the SAPS, who put their lives at risk on a daily basis, we cannot ignore the four U's, which is that SAPS remain chronically Under-staffed, Under-equipped, Under-

trained and Under-resourced. This undermines all efforts to keep the residents of the Western Cape safe. And let me continue with the U's because it is brutally Unjustifiable, Unacceptable, Unconceivable and it will not go Unchallenged. [Interjections.] I could potentially go on with the U's that it is Undemocratic and Unpatriotic, hence I support the Premier [Interjections.] who is taking further steps in our inter-governmental dispute with the Police Minister. [Interjections.]

This is a fight that this Government has entered into as a last resort, after numerous Police Ministers paid lip service to the Khayelitsha Commission of Inquiry's finding, which SAPS has failed to fully implement. After the Standing Committee on Community Safety, during the Fifth Parliament, tabled a detailed report on the lack of police resources and after the Equality Court found unfair discrimination in the allocation of policing resources within the Western Cape.

The conviction rate for gang related murder and attempted murder still stands at a mere 3%. If the ANC was serious about finding solutions to crime, they would join us in fighting for more policing resources, not to cut the national budget by over R6 billion. Speaker, the ANC National Government has failed in their constitutional obligation to oversee SAPS. We therefore welcome the deployment of the SANDF after nine years of calling for the SANDF to be deployed. [Interjections.] This will act as a temporary measure to supplement SAPS in order for police officers [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Allen [Interjection.]

Mr R I ALLEN: ...to concentrate on investigating crimes [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Allen will you please try and wrap up, sir?

Mr R I ALLEN: I think they stole of my time. [Interjections.] Let me [Interjections.] Let me cut it short. [Interjections.] So I await a report compiled as mentioned by the Premier, with regard to the law and policing experts that are looking at the provisions of the Constitution, which the Western Cape Government will use to increase the Provincial Government's powers to deal with crime.

In closing, see I started with U, let me borrow from the lyrics of Brian McKnight which said that "it is undeniable that we should be together in our fight against crime". Thank you. [Applause.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Allen, thank you very much. [Interjections.] I must say that I love that song, but I cannot clap. I must be impartial. [Interjections.]

An HON MEMBER: Come sing it here, Speaker.

The SPEAKER: No, I sang for you when I was on that side. Remember when I was shipping, I sank. Hon members, thank you. I now recognise the Chief Whip.

Ms M M WENGER: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Our Premier last week set out the main priorities of this Government, but he also spent time talking about his vision for the province, the role of Government and the role of citizens and the importance of values in this recipe. And the Premier set out not only his vision and values, but it was also quite clear that the State of the Province Address was all about this Government rolling up its sleeves and getting down to work.

The Premier committed to delivery and open opportunity society for all in the Western Cape. The open opportunity society for all brings together individual freedom under the rule of law; opportunity with responsibility and equality for all.

Our vision is grounded in the idea that every human being has a right to dignity. Human dignity is the foundational concept that informs our values and our vision.

The Premier committed this Government to transparency and accountability, where ordinary citizens can meet and talk to elected officials directly. In the days of Zondo, accountability is a quality that citizens most want from their political leaders and government institutions. Without a commitment to accountability, governments can easily abuse their powers and compromise the freedoms enshrined in our constitution, but Mr Speaker, there is no better form of accountability than a government that delivers.

This Government is working hard to expand choice and not determine choice; to encourage each person's independence through more jobs, better education and health care and not simply dependence on the State. As the Legislature we are also getting to work in our oversight role to ensure that the vision and values set out in the SOPA are realised, because as the DA, whether in the front benches or the back benches, we believe that we should work hard to ensure that every person really does have the right, the space, the freedom and the opportunity to be themselves, develop themselves and pursue a life that they value.

Unlike those across the bench, Premier Winde wants what is best for this province and not what is best for only the ANC, because those two aims are mutually exclusive. It must be a bitter pill to swallow for the ANC where the one province that they do not govern, comes tops, year after year after DA-year!

I would like to respond to some of the comments made in this debate, starting with hon Dugmore who mentioned the "building a united front against crime event", which was organised by Minister Cele, but the Western Cape Government and the

Standing Committee Chair were only invited three days before, as an afterthought, like so many times before when the Province was neglected from invitations from the [Interjections.] Minister. So, so much for a united front. [Interjections.] A recent study by the Department of Community Safety ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Order hon members.

Ms M M WENGER: ...noted that 85% of police cases were struck off the Court role [Interjections.] because of poor detective training and under-resourcing, but of course there is no mention of that coming from the Opposition and this is precisely the problem. The ANC has absolutely no interest in making the Western Cape safer and therefore we will proceed with the dispute, because to quote the man in front of me, hon Winde, “the time for talk is over”.

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear! [Interjections.]

Ms M M WENGER: I would then like to just follow on on what hon Nkondlo mentioned [Interjections.] She said that Cape Town is the fourth most unequal city, according to a UN Habitat study, which had me a little confused because my recollection is a little different. So I went to go and check and I would like to read from the *Argus* [Interjections.] entitled “Cape Town Least Unequal SA City” – a report compiled by the UN has found that Cape Town is actually the most equal city in South Africa. [Applause.] Africa Check reported the final – the finding show that Buffalo City, Johannesburg and Ekurhuleni are the most ... [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Hon members, order!

Ms M M WENGER: ...unequal South African cities and Cape Town the least unequal. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Hon Chief Whip, please take your seat.

Mr R D MACKENZIE: Yes, thank you Speaker.

The SPEAKER: May I please get your attention, hon members. [Interjections.] Hon members this is a debate, so it happens. [Interjections.] May we please allow the Chief Whip to proceed. It is a debate [Interjections.].

Mr R D MACKENZIE: I believe you are impartial.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Mackenzie. Hon Chief Whip. [Interjections.]

Ms M M WENGER: Thank you. [Interjections.] A later study which ... [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you. [Interjection.]

Ms M M WENGER: Africa Check wrote an article about, shows the United Nations Human Development Index, Cape Town has the best quality of life of any Metro in South Africa and in fact three DA cities are in the top four for top quality of life. [Applause.]

An HON MEMBER: Hear, hear.

Ms M M WENGER: Hon Sayed called for the reinstatement of the Bambanani's,

which is a call we have heard repeatedly in this House in the last term, but we are still struggling to understand how the ANC can explain to this House that, if it was so successful, why did the ANC shut it down?

An HON MEMBER: Yes!

Ms M M WENGER: Because in this Annual Performance Plan there is a lot said about the Bambanani's - and that is 2007 - concerns mentioned in this APP and in this APP both under ANC MEC signatures, I cannot find it anywhere. [Interjections.] It seems to have disappeared from the plans of the ANC Government [Interjections.] And so perhaps they could explain [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Order, order! Hon members [Interjection.]

Ms M M WENGER: ...why such a successful program was shut down [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! [Interjections.] Order hon members. [Interjections.] Order! Hon members, order please. [Interjections.] Hon members, I do not want to name you now, please assist me. I look at you. You must check me, otherwise I am going to mention you by name as I do. Are you going to help me, hon members? I am looking at you, hon Bredell. Thank you. Chief Whip.

Ms M M WENGER: We also wholeheartedly agree that it would be very important to appoint more people for schools and hospitals, but I am sure the Opposition would also agree that in order to do so, requires budget. So, instead of bailing out a failing Eskom yet again, paying for the ANC's failures – if that budget could be diverted to the likes of the Western Cape for service delivery, that money would

indeed be put to good use.

In conclusion, Mr Speaker [Interjections.] the DA Premier and the DA Government is the RE-government. The RE-government of REsponsibility, the REnewal of our commitment to the citizens of this province; REform of government; REvitalisation of the economy; REbuilding of confidence and the REstoring of faith [Interjection.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Chief Whip [Interjection.]

Ms M M WENGER: ...in the values and principles of REsponsibility and accountability. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Thank you, hon members. Thank you. [Applause.] Hon members, thank you very much. I would like to draw the attention of the hon members that the Premier will respond at 14:15 on 25 July 2019, which is this coming Thursday. †ngoLwesine [Thursday], yes. So we must now brace ourselves to hear his side, but what I would like to request from members is that [Interjections.] is that this now [Interjections.] hon members, I am going to request that we remain standing for the procession. The House is adjourned, thank you.

The House adjourned at 17:40.