



Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement Western Cape Provincial Parliament IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Standing Committee on Transport and Public Works on the Annual Reports of the Department of Transport and Public Works and Government Motor Transport (GMT) for the 2020/21 financial year.

The Standing Committee on Transport and Public Works, having deliberated on the Annual Reports of the Department of Transport and Public Works and Government Motor Transport (GMT) for the 2020/21 financial year, reports as follows:

1. Introduction

The Annual Reports of the Department of Transport and Public Works (the Department) and Government Motor Transport (GMT) for the financial year ended 31 March 2021 were tabled on 4 November 2021 in accordance with section 65(1)(a) of the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act 1 of 1999), as amended.

As part of its oversight function, the Standing Committee on Transport and Public Works (the Committee) considered the Annual Reports of the Department and GMT on 12 November 2021. Annual reports are the key instruments for departments to report on performance measured against their performance targets and budgets as outlined in their strategic plans and annual performance plans. In addition, hereto, it accounts for the success of each programme that was implemented.

Standing Rule 111(1)(a) of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament provides standing committees with the mandate to consider departmental annual reports submitted in accordance with the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act 1 of 1999).

The Annual Report Programme for the 2019/20 financial year was advertised in newspapers to invite stakeholders and members of the public to attend and participate in the discussions.

The Committee deliberated on Part A: General Information, Part B: Performance Information and Part D: Human Resource Management, after which the Chairperson afforded an opportunity to the public to ask questions to the Department.

2. Overview

The Minister and the Head of Department made introductory remarks highlighting that this report period was at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic and the Department is proud of the role it has played, and continues to play, in support of the overall health response by providing quarantine and isolation (Q&I) facilities as well as purposefully designed transport initiatives, namely patient transport to Q&I facilities (Red Dot), transportation of frontline health care workers, and transport for discharged patients from medical facilities. Despite these challenges and the lockdown restrictions the Department has achieved a clean audit report for nine consecutive years and managed to spend 98,5% of its budget. GMT obtained

an unqualified audit with no findings for nine consecutive years thus continuing with the positive trend of the past years.

The Committee proceeded to engage with the Department by asking questions on Parts A, B and D of the Annual Report. All questions were satisfactorily answered and the Committee is satisfied that the Department achieved its predetermined objectives for the 2020/21 financial year and that it was accurately reported on.

3. Information requested

The Committee REQUESTED that the Department submit:

- 3.1 For the past three academic years, the number of students that were supported by the Department through the Masakh'iSizwe Bursary Programme and the annual cost of the bursaries per student and collectively;
- 3.2 The number of students that graduated successfully during this period with the financial assistance of the Department and the number of these graduates that were absorbed onto the payroll of the Department and the qualifications of the bursary holders that could not be absorbed onto the payroll of the Department;
- 3.3 A status report on the Founders' Garden/Artscape Precinct;
- 3.4 A status report on the Conradie Better Living Model Exemplar Project;
- 3.5 A status report on the Provincial Road Maintenance Grant and the interaction and communication with the National Department for more funding to address the deteriorating surface roads.
- 3.6 A report on the losses suffered by Government Motor Transport, whether inspections are done on a regular basis to prevent these losses, the extent of such losses and what plans are in place to prevent such losses in the future; and
- 3.7 A status report on the role out of Phase 4A in Thembaletu of the Go George bus service.

4. Resolution

The Committee RESOLVED that at a future date:

- 4.1 The Department be invited to present the Employment Equity Strategy of the Department and Government Motor Transport to the Committee; and
- 4.2 The City of Cape Town be invited to brief the Committee on the status of the My City Bus Service in Mitchells Plain and Khayelitsha.

5. Recommendation

The Committee RECOMMENDED that the Department collaborates with the Department of Local Government to explore the possibility of graduates, who received financial assistance from the Department and who could not be employed by the Department, be employed at Grade four, five and six municipalities.

6. Conclusion

The Chairperson thanked the Members of the Committee, the Minister, the Head of Department and all the officials of the Department for their preparation and responses to the questions raised by the Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Mackenzie', is written over a large, loopy scribble. The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

MR R MACKENZIE, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Date: 7 December 2021