



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

WCPP11/1/7

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY, CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT

(Community Safety Portfolio)

Tuesday, 30 August 2022 (09h00) via Microsoft Teams

(Briefing on SAPS Firearm Destruction)

#### Democratic Alliance

Bosman, G (Chairperson)  
Bartman, DM  
Plato, D

#### African Christian Democratic Party

Christians, FC

#### African National Congress

Kama, M

#### Additional Members

Fry, C (DA)

#### Apology

Minister RI Allen

#### 1. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed all present. An apology was rendered on behalf of Minister RI Allen. As such, the Committee's agenda was amended to postpone his briefing on the initial months of his term of office, to a later date.

#### 2. Introductions

The Chairperson emphasised the context of the meeting which was to be briefed by the South African Police Service (SAPS), led by Lt Gen T Patekile in his capacity as the Provincial Police Commissioner.

#### 3. Briefing on destruction sites

The SAPS reported that there are no firearm destruction sites in the Western Cape. Firearms and ammunition must be transported to the Silverton destruction facility in Pretoria. The impact of transporting these items on the provincial SAPS' resources could not be disclosed in a public meeting due to the sensitive nature of the information. Likewise, the SAPS could not publicly disclose the

process to transport the items for destruction. These operational details are confidential. The SAPS however, indicated its willingness to provide the information in a closed setting if the Committee so resolved. The SAPS emphasised though that its processes are secure.

The SAPS identified four potential sites earmarked for the provincial firearm destruction facility. The SAPS reported that the Arcelor Mittal (Saldanha Steel) facility, in Saldanha Bay, was closed due to financial difficulties. The Atlantis Foundry facility in Atlantis could not accommodate SAPS.

The SA Metal site in Bishop Lavis was not deemed suitable by the SAPS. The company was also not interested in assisting the SAPS. Cisco, in Kuilsriver, had been used previously but there are high security risks as well as non-compliance concerns with the legal requirements for a SAPS approved firearm destruction site.

The Provincial SAPS does not have sufficient budgetary capacity to build and maintain its own firearm destruction site. The Pretoria-based facility is also privately owned.

The SAPS informed that it would appreciate assistance from the Western Cape Government, via Committee recommendations, to either encourage potential companies to enter into agreement with the SAPS to destroy firearms, and/or, provide a suitable purpose-built facility for local destruction of firearms and ammunition.

#### **4. Resolutions**

- 4.1. Request an in-camera meeting with the South African Police Service on matters related to the impact on the provincial resources to transport items to the Pretoria-based destruction site, the protocol to approve and transport these items (i.e., the number of persons involved), including the logistical route taken from the Western Cape to the Pretoria-based site. The Committee should also seek to request experts within the firearm destruction industry to attend the meeting, or at least brief the Committee on the scientific dynamics of the destruction process.
- 4.2. To meet the owners and conduct an onsite meeting of the Cisco site to view the security and compliance concerns.
- 4.3. Request the Western Cape Provincial Parliament to conduct research on the international best practices for firearm and ammunition destruction and the costs associated with the process.
- 4.4. Conduct a study tour to the Silverton store, which is the national firearm and ammunition destruction site in Pretoria. Added to this, a visit to the South African Police Service's National Forensic Science Laboratory.
- 4.5. Resolved to meet the Gauteng Provincial Legislature's Committee on the Community Safety portfolio, to discuss their oversight over the firearms and ammunition destruction, as well as the backlog of forensic testing in their province.

The meeting adjourned at 09h53.



**MR G BOSMAN**

**CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY, CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT**

## Annexure A: Attendance Register



### WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY

#### Public Attendance Register

Tuesday, 30 August 2022  
Virtual Meeting via MS Teams



TITLE	INITIALS	SURNAME	DESIGNATION POSITION	DEPARTMENT INSTITUTION	CONTACT NUMBER
Mr	Bhekithemba	Simelane		Community Safety	
Mr	Wayne	Butler		Community Safety	
Mr	Razzaq	Lagkar		Community Safety	
Lt Gen	TE	Patekile		SAPS	
Maj Gen	p	Voskuil		SAPS	
Maj Gen	MM	Manci		SAPS	
Brig	Z	Matumbu		SAPS	