

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

Ref: WCPP 11/4/5

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Monday, 16 October 2023 (at 08:00), Chamber, 6th floor, 7 Wale Street, Cape Town

PRESENT

Members

Democratic Alliance

Sileku, I (Chairperson) Maseko, LM Murray, C

African National Congress

Dugmore, C

Apology

Klaas, T (EFF)Makamba-Botya, N

The following persons were in attendance:

Department of Local Government

Mr A Bredell, Minister for Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

Mr G Paulse, Head of Department

Ms B Sewlall-Singh, Chief Financial Officer

Ms N Zamxaka, Chief Director: Integrated Service Delivery

Ms E Barnard, Chief Director: Municipal Performance Monitoring and Support

Mr C Deiner, Chief Director: Disaster Management and Fire Services

Mr A Dlwengu, Director: Policy and Strategic Support

Mr K Makan: Director Municipal Governance Adv G Birch, Director: Specialised Support Mr M Brand, Director: Municipal Infrastructure Mr M Pretorius, Director: Service Delivery Integration

Mr G Mitchell, Director: Public Participation

Mr H Magerman, Director: Community Development Worker Programme Mr P Janse van Vuuren, Deputy Director: Integrated Development Planning

Western Cape Provincial Parliament

Mr J Coetzee, Procedural Officer Ms N Mshumpela, Committee Assistant

1. Opening and welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed the Members of the Committee, the Minister of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Head of Department, and the Departmental officials.

2. Deliberation on the Annual Report of the Department of Local Government for the 2022/23 financial year

The Minister and Head of Department provided a brief overview of the Annual Report of the Department, focussing on the highlights and challenges during the 2022/23 financial year. The Department received an unqualified audit opinion with no findings for the tenth consecutive year.

The Committee proceeded to a discussion on Part A: General Information, Part B: Performance Information and Part D: Human Resource Management of the Annual Report.

The Committee deliberated.

3. Information requested

The Committee REQUESTED that the Department provides the Committee with:

- 3.1 A detailed breakdown of the R1,3 billion loss in revenue by municipalities due to the decrease in the sale of electricity;
- 3.2 A report on the different categories of transfer payments indicating whether the funds were spent by 30 June 2023;
- 3.3 The reasons for the delay regarding the expenditure of the funds transferred to Oudtshoorn for the Dyselsdorp Thusong Satellite Centre;
- 3.4 The Western Cape Government Integrated Drought and Water Response Plan;
- 3.5 The date when the post of Director: Integrated Development Planning became vacant; and
- 3.6 Detail of their collaboration with Provincial Treasury on MSCOA to ensure the systems are being used appropriately and the staff are being trained appropriately.

4. Acknowledgement

The Committee congratulated the Department on their performance for the 2022/23 financial year, wherein they achieved 97% of their planned indicators. The Committee further highlighted that it took note that the Department achieved its tenth consecutive unqualified audit opinion without findings.

The Committee thanked the Department and in particular the Disaster Management and Fire Brigade Services for the role they played to ensure that the people of the Western Cape were safe during the recent storms and wished them well for the upcoming fire season.

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.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45.

MR I SILEKU, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT