



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

WCPP11/1/7

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICE OVERSIGHT, COMMUNITY SAFETY, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT

(Police Oversight and Community Safety Portfolio)

Tuesday, 23 April 2024 (09h00), SAPS Forensic Science Laboratory Auditorium, Platteklouf

(Update on spate of killings on the Cape Flats)

Democratic Alliance

Bosman, G (Chairperson)
Baartman, DM
Fry, C

African Christian Democratic Party

Christians, FC

African National Congress

Bans, A

Apologies

Cassiem, A (EFF)
Pretorius, G (DA)
Windvogel, R (ANC)

See annexure A for a list of persons in attendance.

1. Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed all present. The purpose of the meeting was for the South African Police Service to provide an urgent update on the recent spate of killings and shootings on the Cape Flats. Maj Gen M Mancini, Deputy Police Commissioner in the Western Cape, led the SAPS' delegation. Minister R Allen, Police Oversight and Community Safety, was also in attendance for the opening portion of the meeting. The Chairperson allowed the Minister to make opening remarks.

2. Context

Due to another surge in gang-related violence, and extortion-linked crimes, resulting in killings across areas in the Cape Flats, the Committee requested the Provincial SAPS to provide an urgent update. Despite the short notice, the SAPS agreed to present, and the Committee sought permission to host the meeting at the Forensic Science Laboratory in Platteklouf, upon the conclusion of its visit to the facility.

3. Briefing on the increased violence

The SAPS stated that the surge in violence is not isolated or random but needs to be contextualised. There are several contributing factors that led to the recent surge in firearm-related violence. Some of these include the ongoing court trials involving high-ranking gang leaders and the subsequent tussle for leadership positions of these respective gangs, fights for territorial control, smaller gangs forming alliances to challenge more prominent gangs, switching gang affiliations, and extortion violence.

The SAPS provided a summation of the mass murder statistics for the year 1 April 2023 to 22 April 2024. Mass murder refers to any case where three or more victims are murdered (in the same perpetrated act). The summation included a breakdown of cases per police station. There was a total of 43 cases within the City of Cape Town (40) and the Cape Winelands (3). There were 149 victims of which 138 were within the Metro and the remaining 11 in Cape Winelands.

The SAPS identified that the motivation for majority of the murders were revenge/retaliation murders, gang-related, and assassination hits. Most of these mass murders were perpetrated in the Gugulethu, Nyanga, Samora Machel, Delft, Hout Bay, Harare, Mfuleni and Ocean View police station precincts.

4. SAPS Interventions and Reactions to the violence

The SAPS presented its interventions and approaches to dealing with surges in mass murders of this nature.

These include interventions:

- i. Proactively curbing gang-related crime
- ii. Implementing firearms control measures
- iii. Disrupt illegal drug networks
- iv. Community mobilisation and awareness campaigns

The SAPS uses Operational Approaches, Visible Policing (VISPOL), Combat Approaches and Reactive Approaches.

The Operational approaches include:

- i. Lockdown 3, which is a proactive approach to prevent violence.
- ii. Operation Restore, which is focused on restoring safety and stability.
- iii. Anti Economical Task Team that targets extortion-related violence.
- iv. Anti-Gang Unit, to dislodge and permanently disable the capacity of gangs.

VISPOL to strengthen police visibility as a deterrent to crime.

The Combat approach uses various specialised teams such as the Tactical Response Team, the Airwing, the Task Force, respond to violent occurrences.

The Reactive approach uses resources such as local detectives, the commercial crime unit and the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation. Dockets for mass murders are centralised for high level investigation.

The briefing also included a summary of newsworthy convictions, especially of high-profile cases.

The Chairperson thanked all those present for their attendance and input. The meeting was adjourned at 13h30.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Bosman', written in a cursive style.

MR G BOSMAN, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICE OVERSIGHT, COMMUNITY SAFETY, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Annexure A: Attendance Register

**WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT
COMMITTEE SECTION**

Standing Committee on Police Oversight, Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport

South African Police Service Forensic Science Laboratory, Platteklouf



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Date: Tuesday, 23 April 2024

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