

PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

THURSDAY, 9 JULY 2015

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Annual Report of the Standing Committee on Finance for the 2014/15 financial year, dated 5 May 2015, as follows:**

Members

The Committee comprises of the following members:

D Joseph (Chairperson) (DA)
CF Beerwinkel (ANC)
LM Max (DA)
M Mnqasela (DA)
P Uys (ANC)

Alternates:

QR Dyantyi (ANC)
NE Hinana (DA)
RB Lentit (DA)

1. Introduction

The mandate of the Committee is to:

- 1.1 Maintain oversight over the Executive member and the Department and its Entity, of the way in which they perform their responsibilities including the implementation of legislation and to hold them accountable to the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.
- 1.2 To consider and report on legislation, other matters and the Annual Reports referred to it by the Speaker or the House.

In fulfillment of its mandate the Committee must:

- 1.3 Facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative and other processes of the Committee;
- 1.4 Conduct its business in a fair, open and transparent manner;
- 1.5 Promote co-operative governance; and
- 1.6 Report regularly to the House.

2. Reporting Department(s) and Entities

- 2.1 Provincial Treasury
- 2.2 Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board

3. Overview of Committee's Activities

Number of Committee Meetings:	15
Number of Public Hearings:	3
Number of Oversight Visits:	1
Number of Provincial Bills considered:	2
Number of NCOP Bills considered:	2
Workshops/ conferences attended:	1

4. Oversight activities

The Standing Committee on Finance convened its first Committee meeting in June 2014 during which the Provincial Treasury and its entity the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board (WCGRB) introduced their organisational structures and the operational aspects of its various programmes.

The Committee shortly afterwards received a briefing by Provincial Treasury on the implementation of the Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS) that will integrate the LOGIS, BAS and PERSAL systems. The Western Cape Provincial Government is a pilot project for the implementation of the IFMS and implementation will take place in the 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years. The Committee has undertaken to receive follow-up briefings on its implementation in order to keep abreast of the roll-out of the system.

The Committee also received a briefing on the 2014 Municipal Economic Review Outlook (MERO), a research document that analyses past trends and assesses present performance. The main objective of the MERO is to provide economic intelligence to municipalities within the Western Cape in support of enhanced planning for economic growth, job creation and socio-economic upliftment.

In November 2014 the Committee conducted interviews for the purpose of recommending a candidate for appointment on the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board. Section 3(1) of the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Act (Act 4 of 1996, as amended) requires that the Committee evaluate all candidates as to their suitability for appointment.

The Committee undertook an oversight visit to Grandwest Casino to oversee the way in which Provincial Treasury and the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board

(WCGRB) perform their respective responsibilities in terms of ensuring compliance to the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Act (Act 4 of 1996, as amended) and associated regulations. As part of the oversight visit the Committee was lead on a tour of the Casino complex.

The Committee also considered the Annual Report of Provincial Treasury and the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board for the 2013/2014 financial year. The Committee had received briefings on the quarterly performance reports for both the Department and Entity that allowed the Committee to keep abreast of progress and challenges with regards to the Department's and Entity's attainment of targets contained within their respective Annual Performance Plans, and prepared the Committee well for the Annual report process.

5. Legislation

In the 2014/15 financial Year, the Committee dealt with the following legislation:

5.1 Provincial Bills

5.1.1 *Western Cape Adjustment Appropriation Bill* [B 5–2014]

5.1.2 *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2015]

5.2 NCOP Bills (Section 75 and 76)

5.2.1 Draft *Financial and Fiscal Commission Amendment Bill*, 2014 (NCOP) (proposed section 76 Bill)

5.2.2 Draft *Banks Amendment Bill*, 2014 (NCOP) (proposed section 75 Bill)

6. Facilitation of Public Involvement and Participation

In line with its mandate to facilitate public participation as part of the legislative process, the Committee held two public hearings in consideration of Provincial Bills (the *Western Cape Adjustment Appropriations Bill* [B 5–2014] and the *Western Cape Appropriations Bill* [B 2–2015]) and one public hearing in consideration of the Annual Reports of Provincial Treasury and the Western Cape Gambling and Racing Board. To this extent the Committee advertised extensively, informing and inviting interested stakeholders to participate in public hearings.

7. Financial particulars

The Standing Committee was allocated a budget of R129 650 as part of the appropriations of Vote 2: Provincial Parliament, in the Schedule to the *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2014].

At the close of the 2014/15 Financial Year, expenditure attributed to the activities of the Standing Committee on Finance accumulated to an amount of R81 354.00. The underspending of R48 296.00 was as a result of the fact that the majority of committee meetings were held within the parliamentary precinct and therefore the Committee did not incur significant costs.

2. Annual Report of the Standing Committee on Local Government for the 2014/15 financial year, dated 13 May 2015, as follows:

Members

The Committee comprises of the following members:

M Mnqasela (DA) (Chairperson)
 QR Dyantyi (ANC)
 NE Hinana (DA)
 LH Max (DA)
 MN Paulsen (EFF)

Alternates:

RB Lentit (DA)
 LM Maseko (DA)
 RT Olivier (ANC)
 BA Schäfer (DA)

1. Introduction

The mandate of the Committee is to:

- 1.1 Maintain oversight over the Executive member and the Department and its Entity, of the way in which they perform their responsibilities including the implementation of legislation and to hold them accountable to the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.
- 1.2 To consider and report on legislation, other matters and the Annual Reports referred to it by the Speaker or the house.

In fulfillment of its mandate the Committee must:

- 1.3 Facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative and other processes of the Committee;
- 1.4 Conduct its business in a fair, open and transparent manner;
- 1.5 Promote co-operative governance; and
- 1.6 Report regularly to the House.

2. Reporting Department(s) and Entities

- 2.1 Department of Local Government

3. Overview of Committee's Activities

Number of Committee Meetings:	14
Number of Public Hearings:	3
Number of Oversight Visits:	2
Number of Provincial Bills considered :	2
Number of NCOP Bills considered;	2
Number of Workshops/conferences attended :	1

4. Oversight activities

The Standing Committee on Local Government convened its first Committee meeting in June 2014 during which the Department of Local Government introduced its organisational structure and the operational aspects of its various programmes. Given the important role Ward Committees can play in ensuring that strategic planning documents, such as Integrated Development Plans, are linked to community priorities, the Committee shortly afterwards requested the Department of Local Government to brief it on the functionality of Ward Committees throughout the Province. A number of matters of concern were raised during this meeting and the Department subsequently briefed the Committee on its intended interventions plans for improving Ward Committee functionality. The Committee also subsequently conducted an unannounced oversight visit to a Ward Committee meeting in Durbanville.

In response to the recommendation of the Auditor-General that political intervention is required to assist the Oudtshoorn municipality in improving its 2012/2013 audit outcomes, the Committee engaged with the Municipality in September 2014. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the way forward in improving financial and administrative governance within the Municipality.

The Committee hosted the annual symposium on the establishment and functioning of Municipal Public Accounts Committees (MPAC's) which was well attended by participants from across the Province. All participants were in agreement about the need to establish the Western Cape Association of Municipal Public Accounts Committees.

The Committee also undertook an oversight visit to the Stellenbosch Aerial Firefighting Base and the Provincial Disaster Management Centre. The purpose of the visit was to conduct oversight over how the Department of Local Government executes its mandate in relation to disaster management. As part of the oversight visit members went on a flight on a Huey helicopter. This allowed members to observe the aerial operations underway to combat a fire that had started on the Helderberg mountain in Theewaterskloof.

The Committee also considered the Annual Report of the Department of Local Government for the 2013/2014 financial year. Briefings the Committee had received on the quarterly performance reports for the Department allowed the Committee to keep abreast of progress and challenges with regards to the Department's attainment of targets contained within its Annual Performance Plan, and prepared the Committee well for the Annual report process.

5. Legislation

In the 2014/15 Financial Year, the Committee dealt with the following legislation:

5.1 Provincial Bills

5.1.1 *Western Cape Adjustment Appropriation Bill* [B 5–2014]

5.1.2 *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2015]

5.2 NCOP Bills (Section 75 and 76)

5.2.1 Draft *Attorneys Amendment Bill*, 2014 (proposed section 75) (NCOP)

5.2.2 Draft *Legal Aid Bill*, 2014 (proposed section 75) (NCOP)

6. Facilitation of Public Involvement and Participation

In line with its mandate to facilitate public participation as part of the legislative process, the Committee held two public hearings in consideration of Provincial Bills (*Western Cape Adjustment Appropriations Bill* [B 5–2014] and the *Western Cape Appropriations Bill* [B 2–2015]) and one public hearing in consideration of the Annual Report of the Department of Local Government. To this extent the Committee advertised extensively, informing and inviting interested stakeholders to participate in public hearings.

7. Financial particulars

The Standing Committee was allocated a budget of R129 650 as part of the appropriations of Vote 2: Provincial Parliament, in the Schedule to the *Western Cape Appropriation Bill* [B 2–2015].

At the close of the 2014/15 Financial Year, expenditure attributed to the activities of the Standing Committee on Local Government accumulated to an amount of R149 919.00. The overspend of R 20 268.56 was as a result of the fact that the Committee undertook a number of oversight visits as mandated.