



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

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY

Wednesday, 14 June 2017 (08h30), Chamber, 6th floor, Cape Town

Department of Community Safety: EPP briefing

ATTENDANCE

Members:

Democratic Alliance

Wenger, MM (Chairperson)

Kivedo, BD

Mitchell, DG

African Christian Democratic Party

Christians, FC

African National Congress

Lekker, PZ

Additional member:

Dijana, TM

See attached registers for a list of persons in attendance.

1. Welcome and attendance

The Chairperson opened the meeting and allowed brief introductions. She provided a context for the meeting as well as the format of proceedings.

2. Key points on the Expanded Partnership Programme

Mr G Morris, Head of the Department of Community Safety, led the presentation. The Expanded Partnership Programme (EPP) was implemented 5 years ago. The Department reported that the EPP has been the most difficult of all programmes to implement since the promulgation of the Western Cape Community Safety Act, 3 of 2013. The Committee was informed of the resignation of Mr Thabo Shaku, former Director of Community Police Relations. The vacant post is expected to be filled by 1 August 2017. The Department is currently revisiting the criteria of CPF functionality and the EPP tool in consultation with the SAPS.

During 2016/2017 a total of 113 of the 150 CPFs participated in the EPP. On average CPFs submitted seven reports per annum. The reasons for non-participation by CPFs vary. The Department claimed that there have been some cases where CPFs accept upfront payments to register as part of the EPP but do not carry through with the required functions of the programme thereafter. Kleinvele CPF was reportedly resistant towards participating on the EPP. The Department reported that R2 million was paid to CPFs during 2016/2017 of which R367 000 in matching grants was paid.

The Department is currently working with SAPS regarding the placement of Chrysalis Academy graduates at police stations to assist CPFs. Some of the proposed duties include assisting at police stations. The Department's proposal is awaiting approval from the Provincial Police Commissioner.

The Department reported that CPFs have different training needs, and that training programmes are there not rigid but specific to the relevant CPF's needs. Key challenges include policy gaps, fluctuating membership in CPFs, an inability to deal with dysfunctional/non-participation, the Department's shortage of field workers results in a dependency on CPFs for support, there are expectations by some CPF members to be remunerated for their work, the changes in the SAPS management since the start of the programme as well as the Department have influenced the efficacy of the EPP. The Department also highlighted that the irregular and inconsistent submission of e-reports by CPFs. There has been a recent renewed interest from SAPS to adopt the EPP as a management tool within SAPS structures.

The Department reported that its relationship with the Western Cape Provincial Community Police Board (WCPCPB) is at its worst since the inception of the EPP. This strained relationship poses concerns for the effective facilitation of the EPP. The Department reported that the fluctuating membership of the Board is problematic. The Board however responded by stating that the relationship is not strained.

In response to concerns that CPFs have difficulty in carrying out functions, such as not being able to do cell visits, because of personnel shortages at some police stations, the Department stated that CPFs should record and report which functions could not be carried out. CPFs get funding for visiting the police stations and not for specific functions carried out at the station. CPFs must report shortcomings to the Department as well as through the station commander, and thereafter the Cluster Commander and the office of the Provincial Police Commissioner if needed.

The Department stated that the accessing of the funds by virtue of being compliant, is the key problem towards the non-use of funds. The Department requires proof of functionality. In this way, increasing funding does not necessarily equate to functionality. The current budget is not being spent, an increase in funds therefore would not necessarily relate to increased or successful participation.

The performance questionnaire is currently under review to simplify it and make it easier to use.

3. Public input

The Chairperson allowed members of the public to provide comment. Representatives from the various CPFs provided input. CPF input included difficulty in submitting online reports, outstanding payments, that several concerns raised by the CPFs prior to Mr Shaku's resignation in 2016 have not been resolved, that the Department of Community Safety needs to improve its service delivery and do so by consulting the communities on its needs,

that the Department has a problematic telephone system and that the categorisation of CPFs as non-functionality is misguided.

Other issues raised by CPFs include that training is questionable as these training sessions are seen as information sessions, training needs to be skills based to help CPFs address issues such as payment processes, and that training should be geared towards upskilling CPFs to be compliant with the EPP criteria.

The programme requires partnerships with SAPS and the relationship needs to be two way and respectful. CPFs also reported instances of late and irregular EPP payments, as long as three months which hampers project funding for CPF led initiatives. Another concern raised was that the CPFs were often left uninformed of initiatives facilitated and/or funded by the Department, in the communities. An example of such initiatives is the Youth Safety and Religious Partnership (YSRP) whereby CPFs claim that YSRP activities are carried out in communities without the CPFs being informed.

Another concern raised by the CPFs is the perception that CPFs are viewed in terms of monetary value, and as such, its compliance to the EPP criteria. CPFs claimed that when viewed in this manner, their work in their respective communities are not valued and go unnoticed and also asked that the EPP be reviewed.

4. Request for information emanating from the meeting

4.1 The Committee REQUESTED that the Department:-

- 4.1.1 Provides a written response on the concerns and questions raised by members of the public at the meeting of 14 June 2017.
- 4.1.2 Provides a copy of the performance questionnaire.
- 4.1.3 Provides a report on the reasons for the non-participation by the Kleinvlei CPF.
- 4.1.4 Provides a copy of the Transfer Payment Agreement with CPFs for 2017/2018.
- 4.1.5 Provides an updated copy of the training schedule which is to include the position of the CPF representative that attended the training sessions.
- 4.1.6 Provides a copy of the 2001 interim regulations.
- 4.1.7 Provides a copy of the Western Cape Provincial Community Police Board's most recent Annual General Meeting minutes.

5. Recommendation

The Committee recommended that the Department seek mediation between the Department and the Western Cape Provincial Community Police Board. The Standing Committee will monitor the progress of this process.

6. Resolutions

The Committee RESOLVED to send a letter to the office of the Civilian Secretariat of Police to request an update and timelines of the new CPF regulations and copy of the draft regulations should they be complete.

7. Requests emanating from the 7 June 2017 meeting

Prior to the adjournment of the meeting of 7 June 2017 on police resourcing, the Committee agreed to finalise its recommendations, resolutions and requests for information, during the meeting of 14 June 2017.

7.1 The Committee REQUESTED from the South African Police Service, a copy of the document listing all the factors considered when resources are allocated to a police station, as per the Theoretical Human Resource Requirement tool.

8. Resolutions emanating from the 7 June 2017 meeting

8.1 The Committee RESOLVED to send a letter to National Police Commissioner requesting clear indication as to how the issue of police resourcing in the Western Cape will be addressed following the response by the South African Police Service on 7 June 2017.

The meeting adjourned at 10h30.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MM Wenger', written over a circular stamp or mark.

MS MM WENGER, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY

Annexure A



WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT
 STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY
ATTENDANCE REGISTER FOR DEPARTMENTAL OFFICIALS AND VISITORS

Date: 14 June 2017
 Chamber, 6th Floor, 7 Wale Street

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