

WRITTEN REPLY

3. Mr G Brinkhuis to ask Mr A T Fritz, Minister of Community Safety:

- (1) What oversight measures does his Department have in place to ensure that the City acts against known tenants who sell drugs from council houses;
- (2) whether his Department has statistics of council tenants evicted from homes for selling drugs; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) what new strategies are in place to encourage the public to report drug houses without fear of being identified;
- (4) whether the same stringent action apply to illegal shebeens; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (5) whether his Department has statistics on how many illegal shebeens are in the province; if so, what are the relevant details?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY WAS INFORMED AS FOLLOWS:

The reply of the South African Police Service (SAPS):

- (3) The SAPS has implemented the 08600 10111 toll free line as well as 10111 Call Centre line where information can be provided whilst simultaneously ensuring the caller's anonymity.

The recruitment of informers by detectives and visible policing members is also governed by a National Instruction that is aimed at ensuring anonymity.

- (4) There is no distinction to the action taken in addressing drug houses or shebeens as both are based on dealing in illicit items namely drugs and the illegal dealing in liquor. Both are dependent on proving the transaction to provide sufficient grounds in order to ensure successful prosecution. Addressing shebeens and drug houses are both dependent on police actions which includes operations such as undercover traps or the execution of search warrants. Prior knowledge of these premises is based on observations made by SAPS or relies on information obtained from the community.
 - (5) Yes, 2 281 illegal shebeens have been identified as at 31 July 2021.
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Refer to annexure A for DoCS response submitted to Parliament on 20 August 2021.
