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GAUTENG
LEGISLATURE

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GAUTENG PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tuesday, 30 July 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

none

TABLINGS

none

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. The Chairperson of the Community Safety Portfolio Committee, Dr. B E W Masuku, tabled the Committee's Oversight Report on the Detail of the Department of Community Safety Budget Vote 10 of the Provincial Appropriation Bill [G001-2024] for the 2024/25 FY, as attached:

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Following the Community Safety Portfolio Committee Oversight Report on the
to the People of Gauteng
**COMMUNITY SAFETY PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT REPORT ON THE
BUDGET VOTE 10 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY FOR THE
2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR**

Committee Details		Department Details	
Name of Committee	Community Safety Portfolio Committee	Name of Department	Department of Community Safety
Financial Year	2024/25 FY	Dept. Budget Vote Nr.	Vote 10
Committee Approvals			
	Name	Signed	Date
Hon. Chairperson	Hon. B Masuku		29 July 2024
Adoption and Tabling			
Date of Final Adoption by Committee		Scheduled date of House Tabling	
29 July 2024		31 July 2024	

ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Full Wording
APP	Annual Performance Plan
CJS	Criminal Justice System
CPFs	Community Police Forums
CPR	Community Police Relations
CPWs	Crime Prevention Wardens
CSFs	Community Safety Forums

DPSA	Department of Public Service and Administration
DVA	Domestic Violence Act
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GBVF	Gender-based violence and femicide
GGT	Growing Gauteng Together
GIPPS	Gauteng Integrated Police Performance System
GSS	Gauteng Safety Strategy
GTP	Gauteng Traffic Police
IPID	Independent Police Investigation Directorate
LEAs	Law Enforcement Agencies
MASPs	Men As Safety Promoters
MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Framework
NMT	National Monitoring Tool
PFMA	Public Finance Management Act
PICC	Provincial Integrated Command Centre
SOM	Sector Oversight Model
TMR	Transformation Modernization Re-industrialization
VFR	Victim Friendly Room
WASPs	Women As Safety Promoters

COMMUNITY SAFETY PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE

31st July 2024,

The Chairperson of the Community Safety Portfolio Committee, Hon. B Masuku, tables the Committee Oversight Report on the assessment of Budget Vote 10 of the Gauteng Department of Community Safety for the 2024/25 Financial Year as follows:

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Budget Appropriation for the 2024/25 financial year, marks the first Appropriation in the seventh administration term of office, aimed at ensuring crime reduction and a safer Gauteng.

The Department received just over R2.3 billion, marking a decline by R374.6 million (13.9%) when compared to the R2.7 billion which was allocated in the previous financial year. This allocation was shared amongst the three programmes of the Department as follows:

- **Programme 1: Administration** received **R183.5 million** which was an increase by R5.2 million (2.9%) when compared to the R178.3 million which was received in the previous financial year.
- **Programme 2: Provincial Secretariat** received **R268.2 million**, recording a slight decline by R537 hundred (0.2%) when compared to the R268.7 million which was allocated in the previous financial year.
- **Programme 3: Traffic Management's** allocation also declined by 16% (R380.3 million) when compared to the previous year's allocation of R2.2 billion. For this current financial year, the programme received **R1.9 billion**.

The Committee noted that the Department had aligned its plans and budget with the Growing Gauteng Together (GGT) 2030 Plan of Action to achieve its outcome of ensuring that the "people of Gauteng are and feel safe". However, the Committee is greatly concerned by the spiraling acts of criminality particularly ransom and banking app related kidnappings, human trafficking, drugs, gang-related violence, illegal mining activities, essential infrastructure vandalism and gender-based violence. The prevalence of violence at schools also remains of great concern.

It is therefore important that crime prevention efforts be intensified through integration and collaboration of the various Law Enforcement Agencies and other crime prevention structures. To achieve seamless integration of all the crime fighting structures, a functional Provincial Integrated Command Centre (PICC) is essential.

The Committee views community involvement as a critical aspect in crime prevention. It is therefore recommended that the Department empowers all its community-based structures such as Community Police Forums (CPFs) and patrollers teams to encourage and strengthen community participation in the fight against crime. The Committee also noted the Department's plan to professionalize and support CPFs to ensure improved oversight and relations between the police and communities. This will be monitored on continuous basis.

The Committee welcomes the efforts made in enhancing police visibility through the deployment of Crime Prevention Warders (CPWs). To date, the Department reported a total of 7 361 CPWs deployed across the province to enhance crime prevention efforts and police visibility. The Committee also welcomes the report that 1 529 military veterans were undergoing training as Gauteng Traffic Wardens, to serve as force multipliers.

The Committee further noted the Department's plans to support victims of Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GDVF) through the implementation of the GBVF Strategic Plan and the variety of services provided through Victim Empowerment Centres (VECs), Ikhaya le Themba and Green Door facilities.

Whilst the Committee notes the strides made to address crime, the level of crime remains at an alarming rate. The Department must intensify its coordination of all Law Enforcement Agencies, develop and

implement safety strategies to achieve a reduction in crime. This must include plans to strengthen working relationships and building trust between the police and communities to realise a safer Gauteng.

2. INTRODUCTION

The Committee's assessment of this Budget Vote Report of the Department of Community Safety was to ascertain the correlation between its budget allocation and the strategic priorities of the Department.

The Department's key functions are to enhance police performance through continuous oversight and meaningful community participation, enhance social crime prevention, prevent violent crimes against women and children, prevention of substance abuse and gangsterism as well as reduction of road fatalities through traffic law enforcement and road safety education. The purpose of the budget is to ensure achievement of these functions.

The purpose of this oversight report is to provide a summary of the Committee's overview of its assessment on the budget allocations amongst the various programmes and sub-programmes of the Department. The report also details the Committee's concerns and recommendations to assist the Department to strengthen its oversight functions and intervention programmes to achieve a safer Gauteng.

3. PROCESS FOLLOWED

- 3.1. The Gauteng Department of Community Safety's Budget Appropriation Bill; Budget Vote 10 for 2024/25 was duly tabled by Hon Jacob Mamabolo at a House Sitting of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature on 05 March 2024. Subsequently, it was referred to the Community Safety Committee for consideration, deliberation and reporting.
- 3.2. The Committee deliberated on the research analysis on this Budget Appropriation Bill, Vote 10 of the Department of Community Safety at a virtual meeting held on 25th July 2024. At this meeting, the Department of Community Safety was also invited to present and respond to questions emanating from the Committee's assessment of the budget.
- 3.3. The Committee considered and adopted its oversight report on the Department's 2024/25 Budget Vote at a virtual meeting held on 29th July 2024.

4. COMPLIANCE AND QUALITY

The 2024/25 Budget Appropriation Bill, Vote 10 of the Department of Community Safety was submitted in accordance with the Standing Rules of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature.

5. OVERSIGHT ON STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

a) Priorities

The Department's mandate is focused on achieving outcome three (3) of the National Development Plan (NDP) "All people are and feel safe". The Department has prioritized the following outputs in the 2024/25 financial year.

- Reduction in priority crimes.
- Reduction in crimes against women and children.
- Social crime prevention.
- Crime perception management.
- Effectiveness and integration of the Criminal Justice System.
- Reduction in corruption; and
- Reduction in road fatalities.

The Department's plans and budget supports the Growing Gauteng Together 2030 Plan and is aimed at implementing interventions linked to the priority, Safety, Social Cohesion and Food Security. Moreover, the Department had incorporated into its APP the elevated provincial priorities as pronounced by the Gauteng Premier. The priorities amongst others; are focused on the use of technology in crime prevention and the deployment of Crime Prevention Wardens.

b) Measurement of service delivery impact / Achievement

The utilization of the budget by the Department will be assessed on a quarterly basis based on the resources and the desired outcomes. The quarterly assessments are part on the Committee's oversight mandate to determine the impact of the programmes implemented by the Department. This will include the assessment of the budget with expected outputs and in relation to the national and provincial priorities.

6. OVERSIGHT ON TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE

a) Programme Information

Programme 1: Administration

The programme is mainly responsible for strategic support, governance structures and administration to the Office of the MEC and HOD. It also carries out all financial, supply chain, legal and auxiliary support and human resources management.

The overall Department's allocation decreased from the R2.7 billion in the previous financial year to R2.3 billion in the current financial year. This was a decline by R375.6 million, marking 13.9%. Also, both the Provincial Secretariat and Traffic Management Sub-programmes which are the main programmes of the Department have recorded a decrease by 0.2% and 16.8% respectively. The Department reported that the budget decrease resulted from austerity measures which had to be implemented by all government departments.

The Committee also noted the report that recruitment on vacant positions was halted as per a directive from the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA). It was also noted that there was a delay in reviewing the Department's organisational structure.

The Committee expressed concerns about the implications the decrease on the budget and freezing of filling vacant positions might have on service delivery, considering the high level of crime in the province.

Programme 2: Provincial Secretariat

The programme is aimed at facilitating the delivery of better law enforcement services through monitoring and evaluating the functioning of the Province's Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) and promoting good relations between the police and the communities. Other objectives of the programme include, monitoring and evaluating police service delivery and evaluating police performance in relation to priority crimes. Furthermore, it aims to promote safety in the province through provision of education, coordinate social crime prevention initiatives and encourage good relations between the police and the community.

The Department planned to continue monitoring police efficiency, implementation of the Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID) recommendations by the South African Police Service (SAPS), compliance and implementation of Domestic Violence Act (DVA), and implementation of the National Monitoring Tool (NMT) recommendations. The Department also planned to provide support to poor performing stations through the Gauteng Integrated Police Performance System (GIPPS).

The Department further planned to analyze 1800 crime dockets, track 1200 cases within the Criminal Justice System and track 290 priority cases, to improve the quality of investigations and minimise case withdrawals. These audits should assist the police with case preparations to increase the prospects of successful convictions. The Department must provide the Committee with a progress report on the outcomes of the audits.

The Committee further noted the Department planned to continue its support to survivors of Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) through the implementation of the GBVF Strategic Plan and the provincial GBVF response plan. The Department also planned to support 10 000 GBVF victims through the various services accessible at VECs, Ikhaya le Themba and Green Door facilities. Moreover, continuous assessment of the 144 Victim Empowerment Centres (VECs) would be conducted, and 38 Green Door facilities to be launched.

Under Safety Promotion Sub-programme, the Department had planned to conduct 850 social crime prevention interventions, 500 school safety interventions and ten (10) safety interventions at institutions of higher learning. The Committee also noted the commitment to use technology to fight crime by rolling-out e-panic buttons to vulnerable groups and installing of cctv cameras at crime hotspots. The Committee also noted the plans to conduct research projects through Policy and Research Sub-programme.

With regards to Community Police Relations, the Department planned to continue with assessments of the 144 Community Police Forums, 110 community patroller teams and 11 Community Safety Forums (CSFs) in line with existing standards. The Committee also noted the plan to professionalize and support CPFs to ensure improved oversight and relations between the police and communities. The Committee believes that community involvement in crime prevention was critical. It was therefore recommended that the Department empowers all its community-based structures such as CPFs and patrollers teams to encourage and strengthen community participation in the fight against crime.

The Committee noted the various interventions programmes made; however, the following remains a great concern to the Committee; violence at schools, spiraling acts of criminality particularly ransom and banking

app kidnappings, human trafficking, illegal mining activities, essential infrastructure vandalism and gender-based violence. The Committee recommended that crime prevention efforts be intensified through integration and collaboration amongst the various Law Enforcement Agencies and other crime prevention structures.

Programme 3: Traffic Management

The programme provides for the promotion of road safety and contributes towards the reduction in the number of road crashes and fatalities. It was also intended to enhance road user knowledge, skills and attitude coordinates as well as road traffic incident management.

The Department will be continuing with its various traffic law enforcement operations which are intended to improve road safety and reduce road carnages. These operations include reckless and negligent driving, adherence to speed limit, drunken driving operations, pedestrian safety, vehicle compliance inspections, driver fitness inspections and road safety education programmes.

Through the Special Law Enforcement Sub-programme, the Department planned to conduct 99 962 crime prevention operations in collaboration with other LEAs, train 68 drone operators, procure 101 patrol vehicles, monitor vehicles through the e-toll gantries, and the establishment of the Provincial Integrated Command Centre. The Department also confirmed that 30 drones and two helicopters were already procured. All these initiatives were linked to the elevated priorities to realise crime reduction.

The Department reported that a total of 7 361 Crime Prevention Wardens (CPWs) were appointed and deployed across all the corridors to intensify crime prevention efforts. In addition, 1 529 military veterans were being training as Gauteng Traffic Wardens. The Committee welcomed interventions and urged the Department to ensure that these structures were adequately trained and properly guided to operate within their legal framework to avoid unwarranted litigations.

The Committee noted the plan to procure additional vehicles for road safety operations and hope that this intervention will yield positive results in reducing road carnages. The Department has been struggling to achieve the desired reduction on road fatalities in the previous term. This could be attributed to lack of a clear strategy on how the Department plans to achieve a reduction. The Department must develop a detailed plan on how it intends to curb the scourge in road fatalities. In addition, it must consider initiating a study on the impact of its existing programmes in promoting road safety.

In responses to the Committee concern regarding the delay in the establishment of the Provincial Integrated Command Centre (PICC), the Department reported that a building had been identified and they were working closely with the Department of Infrastructure Development on the architectural design of the building. The Committee believes that the delay in the establishment of the centre was having a negative impact on effective coordination and integration of crime fighting efforts. However, the Department reported that there was a temporary command centre where all security structures were linked in the interim.

7. OVERSIGHT ON BUDGET ALLOCATION

The Department received just over R2.3 billion, marking a decline by R374.6 million (13.9%) when compared to the R2.7 billion which was allocated in the previous financial year. The respective programmes received their share of the allocation as follows:

- **Programme 1: Administration** received **R183.5 million** which was an increase by R5.2 million (2.9%) when compared to the R178.3 million which was received in the previous financial year.
- **Programme 2: Provincial Secretariat** received **R268.2 million**, recording a slight decline by R537 hundred (0.2%) when compared to the R268.7 million which was allocated in the previous financial year.
- **Programme 3: Traffic Management's** allocation also declined by 16% (R380.3 million) when compared to the previous year's allocation of R2.2 billion. For this current financial year, the programme received **R1.9 billion**.

8. COMMITTEE CONCERNS/OBSERVATIONS

The Committee concerns and observations are as follows:

- The Committee is extremely concerned about the budget decrease, particularly in the two core programmes of the Department, considering the high level of crime in the province.
- The Committee is concerned about the implications of the DPSA directive to halt filling of vacant positions on service delivery.
- The Committee is extremely concerned about the spiraling of horrendous crimes such as ransom and banking app related kidnappings, human trafficking, illegal mining activities, as well as essential infrastructure vandalism.
- The Committee is extremely concerned about the prevalence of drugs and gang-related crimes.
- The Committee observed the planned crime docket audits and cases to be tracked within the Criminal Justice System in efforts to improve the quality of investigations and minimise case withdrawals.
- The Committee observed the plans to professionalize Community Police Forums (CPFs)
- The Committee is concerned by the passive involvement and or participation of communities in crime prevention.
- The Committee is extremely concerned about the Department's failure to finalise the establishment of the Provincial Integrated Command Centre.
- The Committee further expressed concerns regarding the quality of training and trade of tools provided to Crime Prevention Wardens.
- The Committee observed the plans to rollout e-panic buttons to vulnerable groups and installing of cctv cameras at crime hotspots.
- The Committee is extremely worried about the Department's failure to reduce road fatalities.

9. PROPOSED COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee's recommendations are as follows:

- The Department must provide a report on what implications might the budget decrease have on its service delivery targets.
- The Department must report on the implications the moratorium on filling of vacant positions might have in achieving its planned targets, including the interventions employed to address such.

- iii. The Department must report on what interventions have been put in place to curb the spiraling acts of criminality particularly ransom and banking app kidnappings, human trafficking, illegal mining activities and essential infrastructure vandalism.
 - iv. The Department must report on intervention measures in place to deal with drugs and gang-related crimes.
 - v. The Department must submit a report on the outcomes of the crime docket audits and cases tracked within the Criminal Justice System.
 - vi. The Department must submit its plan and progress made on the professionalization of CPFs.
 - vii. The Department must develop and implement measures to strengthen community participation in fighting crime, through the Department's community-based programmes and provide a progress report in this regard.
 - viii. The Department must submit a detailed project plan with timelines on the establishment of the Provincial Integrated Command Centre.
 - ix. The Department must ensure that Crime Prevention Wardens are adequately trained, well-resourced and properly guided to operate within their legal framework and provide a status report on their functionality. Furthermore, the Department must indicate whether there is a plan to integrate CPWs into the Department's organisational structure on permanent basis.
 - x. The Department must submit a progress report regarding the rollout of e-panic buttons and installing of cctv cameras at crime hotspots, and their impact in crime prevention.
 - xi. The Department must provide an improved plan intended to achieve a reduction on road fatalities.
- The Department must report on all the above-stated recommendations by **31 August 2024**.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I Hon. Bandile Masuku; the Chairperson of the Community Safety Portfolio Committee thank Premier Lesufi; HOD; Ms Nontsikelelo Sisulu and the officials from both the Office of the Premier and the Department of Community Safety, for their cooperation during the consideration of the 2024/25 financial year Budget Vote 10 of the Department of Community Safety.

I further thank the following Members of the Committee for their cooperation and diligence in this assessment of the 2024/25 financial year Budget Vote of the Department of Community Safety, Hon. N Mhlakaza-Manamela, Hon. T Kunene; Hon. C Bosch; Hon. M Sun; Hon. J Moodey, Hon L Evans, Hon. M Moleka and Hon. S Nyathi.

Furthermore, thank you to the following support staff of the Legislature: Group Committee Coordinator: Zuziwe Pantshwa-Mbalo, Senior Researcher: Sekinah Nenweli, Committee Researcher: Paballo Malise-Banda, Committee Coordinator: Thabile Malumane, Administrator: Nthabiseng Mofokeng, Research Intern; Asanele Mginindo, Hansard Recorder: Sylvester Baloyi; Service Officer: Fezeka Royo, Communications Officer: Thebe Khumalo, Information Officer: Azwinndini Netshivhuyu for their participation in the assessment of the 2024/25 Budget Vote of the Department of Community Safety.

11. ADOPTION

In accordance with Rule 117 (2) (c) read together with Rule 164, I recommend that the Committee Oversight Report on Budget Vote 10 of the Department of Community Safety for the 2024/25 Financial Year be adopted by the House, taking into consideration the concerns and proposed recommendations made in this report.

