



Report: Kwamakhutha Police Station

25/02/20

Police Station Details	
Name of Police Station	Kwamakhutha Police Station
Name of Municipality	Durban Metro
Contact Person	Colonel Nkomo

Background, objectives and purpose of the visits

The report seeks to source out information on the functionality of the police station as to evaluate and assess whether there is efficient and effective policing taking place at Kwamakhutha police station. In line with the approved annual oversight plan (AOP) the Committee for Community Safety and Liaison Portfolio Committee was tasked to conduct an oversight visit at Kwamakhutha police station as an activity of the Portfolio Committee in executing its oversight mandate over the Department of Community Safety and Liaison (CSL).

The aims of the oversight visit were to:

- Evaluate and assess on the functioning of police station.
- Explore issues related to infrastructure, tools of trade, human resources and the general working environment.
- Ultimately, the visit aimed to ensure that effective and efficient policing is taking place in the community.

Findings

Presentation by War Room- Mdu Khuzwayo

- It was reported that the police do attend the war room
- Mr. Khuzwayo reported that there is a shortage of man power only two members work at night
- This station was reported to provide service to seven municipality wards and the areas are developing at fast speed.
- He further noted that the station has no space to keep prisoners and must place them in the nearby stations with holding cells.
- The community experience high number of cable theft in the same road as the police station. It was further mentioned that the station was once victimize by criminal who stole cables.
- It was reported that station is not functional and people don't get effective and efficient service.
- There is a shortage of cleaners at the station and the station has no generator which imposes a great danger to the station and the community at large in terms function maximally. A report was escalated to the province but nothing done in that regards.

Cele- Office CPF

- Mr. Cele reported that Station is not functional and there are shortage members.
- Vehicles were reported not in good condition
- The station has 4 members at the station and cannot attend to cases reported.
- The Detectives at the station have too many cases and cannot close them successfully.
- The toilets were reported to be in a bad condition and no cleaners.

Bonga Ngcobo- Community member.

- Mr. Ngcobo reported that the station is not accepted by the community.
- The station has too many park- home, furthermore to that, the area is under a high risk and it services a total of 7 wards.
- There are issued of drugs Wonga, gangs, gun violence but no effective and efficient assistance from the police.

- He further stated that the station was noted as not viable.
- He reported that all these issues have been raised to numerous platforms but not assistance.

Community Policing Forum

- It was reported that there are major Infrastructure a challenge, no proper plan.
- The station provides poor service to the community.
- The Populations is beyond what was reported and the allocation does not meet the demands of the station. There is serious shortage of man power.
- The station was not reviewed as it was previously used as a satellite station.
- A site study was conducted at Adams mission and Illovo to build satellite station and was approved but never implemented.
- The Cluster management from the province was engaged and response were promising but nothing came forth.
- The Management of the station is not done accordingly in terms of deployment of members which affects members and ultimately crime fighting.
- The station needs to be upgraded according to the size in the same manner as compared to Umlazi station which is a Brigadier rank.
- The station needs to build cells, as the facility has holding cells which was condemned but police end up using it because of the demand pressure.
- It was noted that a permanent building of the station needs to be speeded up.
- The Province is required to approve satellite station, allocate resource and filling of post
- It was reported that there is poor service to the community.
- Geographical area of the station to be reviewed to speak to the members.

Colonel Detective Supervisors.

- It was reported that the estimation population of the area is 300 000 but has increased.
- The station mentioned that the detective vehicles allocated are eight vehicles.
- The cars are bakkies and not conducive cant put witness at the back

- The Workload was reported to be about 300 dockets which is not the normal allocation.
- He then mentioned that the figures are based on the fixed establishment but not talking to what's on the ground.
- The station has one cleaners as opposed to three and this possess a challenge.
- On the matter reported in news and social media platform on the closure of the station at night. The Colonel reported that the station acted according to the Nation instruction, if there are 3 members inside at night police station must close due to safety reasons.

Recommendation

- The Province to conduct a review of the structure of the police station and align to the catchment and the demand of the serviced communities.
- The province to conduct the visibility study to assist with a proper alignment of the human resources.
- The committee to ensure that the CPF are always included in the oversight visit.
- The station to providing a comprehensive detail report on the station.
- The Province to assist the station in providing them with suitable vehicle as this dangerous and cannot accommodate witnesses when going on trial.
- Back-up generator to be prioritized at the station and the removal of the park home construction inside the station.