

COMMUNITY  
SAFETY AND  
LIAISON  
PORTFOLIO  
COMMITTEE  
2022/23 BUDGET  
REPORT

PRESENTED ON THE 10TH OF MAY 2022

PRESENTED BY:  
COMMITTEE  
CHAIRPERSON:  
HON NB  
MTHETHWA



## ***INTRODUCTION***

The Portfolio Committee on Community Safety and Liaison has a mandate to ensure fiscal discipline, accountability, and good governance by holding the Department of Community Safety and Liaison accountable. The Committee has powers to interrogate the Budget and APP to ensure compliance to policies and legislative requirements.

Madam Speaker, Hon Members, the purpose of the report is to provide the Portfolio Committee's analysis of the Budget allocated to the Department of Community Safety and Liaison for the 2022/23 financial year.

The Department presented its Final 2022/23 Budget and APP to the Committee on 29<sup>th</sup> of April 2022. Comprehensive analysis was done focusing on the overall budget appropriation as well as budget allocation for all programmes. The budget was assessed to ascertain if it is in line with provincial priorities as set out by the Department in its 2022/23 APP. The report provides a summary of the Committee's overview on the budget allocations as distributed in its 2 programmes and Sub-programmes. The Department's budget is intended to achieve its functions and responsibilities related to strengthening police performance and community crime fighting structures.

## **2022/23 DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET & APP**

The department will receive an increased allocation totalling R236.867 million in 2022/23 compared to the adjusted R232.447 million in the 2021/22 year. The total final budget has increased by overall 1.9 percent between the financial years.

### **Programme 1: Administration**

This programme has an allocation of R107.318 million which equals to a 7,5% change from the previous year.

The programme reflects consistent growth over the 2022/23 year, despite the budget cuts effected against *Compensation of employees* because of the wage freeze. This programme will continue to provide support to head office and the 12 district offices, and caters for operational and fixed costs.

### **Programme 2:**

The Provincial Secretariat for Police Services programme has a decreased allocation of R129.549 million compared to the past financial year.

The programme reflects decline due to budget cuts effected against this programme in respect of Compensation of employees because of freezing of salary increases.

The 2022/23 budget provides for various service delivery activities, including crime awareness campaigns and interventions, such as dealing with issues associated with gender-based violence, anti-drug abuse, and victim empowerment, as well as the training of community safety structures such as ward safety structures, CSFs and CPFs.

Provision is also made for the 121 filled posts, as well as for the filling of 12 vacant posts which will bring the total posts to 133.

The department indicated that the reprioritisation in the budget was mainly undertaken within *Goods and services* in both programmes to offset pressures because of the fiscal consolidation budget cuts.

***Some of the departments 2022/23 targets worth noting are the:***

- Number of awareness campaigns to be conducted in relation to fraud prevention and ethics within the department
- Number of work opportunities created through departmental projects
- Number of reports compiled on police stations monitored per year
- Number of police stations monitored for compliance with lockdown regulations (COVID-19)
- Number of community safety forums (CSFs) assessed on functionality per year (Local and District Municipality)

***COMMITTEE CONCERNS***

The Committee noted the following concerns:

- The budget decrease in programme (2) two. Government budget cuts may affect the department's ability to fulfil its mandate effectively.
- The continued rise in criminal and violent activities (GBV Cases) and femicide in the KZN province even during the lockdown period.
- The poor infrastructural conditions of numerous police stations across the KZN Province

- The poor visibility of SAPS officers during the civil unrest and the lack of communication coming through from SAPS head which led to citizens losing confidence in the functioning of SAPS.
- The absence of a concrete civil unrest report and the none arrest of KZN unrest instigators.
- The racial violence that occurred during the civil unrest in KZN especially in Phoenix and Inanda areas.
- The lengthy turn-around times of police vehicles in garages for minor and major repairs
- The continued rise of motor vehicle hijackings and vehicles taken across the Manguzi borders in Mkhanyakude District.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- ✓ The Department must engage with SAPS leadership to develop a strategy to ensure that KZN moves from being the murder capital of SA
- ✓ A strategy must be devised to reduce crime in Plessisslaer, Inanda and Umlazi. A strategy to enhance community participation in the fight against crime in all the above hotspot areas must be urgently developed and implemented.
- ✓ The Department must strengthen capacity of CPF so that they achieve their intended outcomes
- ✓ The Department must work closely with municipalities to ensure establishment and functionality of Community Safety Structures (CSFs) following the 2021 local government elections
- ✓ The Department must submit a detailed plan to curb the prevalence of crime and gender-based violence in all institutions of Higher Learning in the province

- ✓ The Department must put measures in place to monitor Volunteers in the VSCPP programme. Volunteers should take their duties and responsibilities seriously.

## **VOTING ON THE 2022/23 BUDGET**

The Committee Members voted on the 2022/23 Departmental Budget & APP as follows:

Hon N Sibhidla – Supported the Budget.

Hon J Nxumalo – Supported the Budget

Hon T Mtshali – Supported the Budget

Hon N Ntombela – Supported the Budget

Hon MB Gwala – Supported the Budget

Hon T Rajbansi – Supported the Budget

Hon S Hoosen – Supported the Budget

Hon V Khoza – Not Present

Hon P Msimango – Apology received

Hon S Mshengu – Apology received

## **CONCLUSION**

The Committee noted the commitment made by the Department to strengthen its monitoring of police performance by monitoring 151 police stations.

The Committee intends to support the Department by holding the Police Stations Functionality Monitoring Programme stations which sees all Members of the Legislature performing oversight on 55 police stations across the province.

The Committee positively noted the Department's plan to monitor implementation of IPID recommendations by SAPS on a quarterly basis. The Committee also welcomes undertaking by SAPS to resume recruitment and training of new police officers.

Hon Speaker, the Committee wishes to thank the Department for its cooperation during deliberations on their Final 2022/23 Budget and APP. The Committee will continue to provide the necessary support to the MEC for Community Safety and Liaison.

We wish to encourage the Head of SAPS, the Provincial Commissioner and his Team to continue in their quest to fight crime in the province vigorously.

Gratitude goes to Honourable Members of the Committee and support staff of the Portfolio Committee for their continued commitment and dedication during all Committee activities.

pp ..... 

04 May 2022 .....

**HON NB MTHETHWA**

**DATE**

**CHAIRPERSON:**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LIAISON PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE**