

MEDIA STATEMENT

TO: ALL MEDIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 15 MARCH 2022

STANDING COMMITTEE HAS CONDUCTED EXTERNAL MEETING AND OVERSIGHT VISITS AT LICENCE (ROAD TRAFFIC) DEPARTMENTS

The Gauteng Provincial Legislature's (GPL) Standing Committee on Scrutiny of Subordinate Legislation had an external meeting, which was followed by oversight visits to two license departments in the West Rand. This took place on Friday, 11 March 2022 from 10h00-16h00.

The purpose of this oversight visits was to ensure the implementation of the Gauteng Provincial Road Traffic Amendment Regulations for 2020, as required by law and also to assess how COVID 19 has impacted on the department. The meeting with the department enabled the committee to question the current and past challenges faced by the staff at licencing centres and community members.

In 2021 financial year, the department made a request for approval to implement amendments to the Gauteng Provincial Road Traffic Regulations, 2021 on the 01st of April 2022, to the Standing Committee on Scrutiny of Subordinate Legislation (CSSL). This indicated that there will be no annual increase of the Gauteng Provincial Road Traffic tariffs for the 2021/22 Financial Year. The reason for the request was that the general sentiments from the

public was that they were facing economic hardships as a result of COVID 19

pandemic and thus fees should not be increased.

The Committee considered the request and reasons advanced by the

department and resolved to approve the request, hence now the meeting with

the department to present the amended Roads and Traffic Amendments

Regulations for the 2022 financial year.

The Committee meeting received the presentation of the Gauteng Department

of Roads and Transport Regulations for 2022 FY, which was presented for

Scrutiny and approval. The Provincial Government is compelled by legislation

to present every provincial regulation for scrutiny and approval by the

Legislature prior to them being passed.

The Department presented the proposed amendments to the Gauteng Roads

and Transport Regulations 2022, which was in relation to Schedule 2 of the

Gauteng Provincial Road Traffic Amendment Regulations, 2022 for the motor

vehicle registration and licensing fees. The proposed regulations were

increasing by an average of 7% which was reasonable and consistent with

previous financial years' adjustments. The Committee noted that there were no

increases and amendments in fees that were identified and warranted flagging

for attention of the Committee on the proposed Regulations.

The Department highlighted to the Committee that, public participation was

conducted through various media platforms, including newspapers, social

media and Licensing Departments notice boards. The Committee advised the

Department that, it should go on the ground and get to know what challenges

officials from Licensing Departments were faced with and resources required

for them to be able to do their work.

The Committee zoom into different kind of issues, from challenges of

Communication to insufficient resources and archiving of documentation,

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which were mostly raised by different licencing centres. The Committee further deliberated on the current matter of online registration which poses a huge challenge for the licencing centres.

The committee meeting took place at Krugersdorp License Department followed by the oversight visit there and also at Randfontein License Department.

ISSUED BY GPL'S COMMUNICATION UNIT ON BEHALF OF CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE, HONOURABLE DULTON ADAMS

For interview requests with the Chairperson of the Committee please contact: Mrs Tshadi Mashifane on 063 406 8692 email: TMashifane@gpl.gov.za

GAUTENG PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE