No.181 - 2022: Fourth Session, Sixth Legislature

**GAUTENG PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE**

**========================**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS,**

**TABLINGS AND**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**========================**

Monday, 23 May 2022

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

none

**TABLINGS**

none

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**1. The Chairperson of the Community Safety Portfolio Committee, Hon. A A Ndlovana, tabled the Committee’s Oversight Report on the Detail of the Department of Community Safety Budget Vote 10 of the Provincial Appropriation Bill *[G001-2022]* for the 2022/23 FY, as follows:**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT REPORT ON THE BUDGET VOTE 10 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY FOR THE 2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR**

| **Committee Details** | | | **Department Details** | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Committee** | **Community Safety Portfolio Committee** | | **Name of Department** | **Department of Community Safety** | |
| **Financial Year** | **2022/23 FY** | | **Dept. Budget Vote Nr.** | **Vote 10** | |
|  |  | | **MEC** | **Hon. Faith Mazibuko** | |
| **Committee Approvals** | | | | | |
|  | **Name** | **Signed** | | | **Date** |
| **Hon. Chairperson** | **Hon. Alphina Ndlovana** |  | | | **May 17, 2022** |
| **Adoption and Tabling** | | | | | |
| **Date of Final Adoption by Committee** | | **Scheduled date of House Tabling** | | | |
| **May 17, 2022** | | **May 24, 2022** | | | |

**ABBREVIATIONS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Abbreviation** | **Full Wording** |
| APP | Annual Performance Plan |
| CCTV | Closed-circuit television |
| CJS | Criminal Justice System |
| CPFs | Community Police Forums |
| CPR | Community Police Relations |
| CSFs | Community Safety Forums |
| DVA | Domestic Violence Act |
| GBV | Gender-Based Violence |
| GBVF | Gender-based violence and femicide |
| GGT | Growing Gauteng Together |
| GLEAF | Gauteng Law Enforcement Agency Forum |
| 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 |
| PFMA | Public Finance Management Act |
| RSS | Road Safety Strategy |
| RVOs | Regional Victim Offices |
| SOM | Sector Oversight Model |
| TMR | Transformation Modernization Re-industrialization |
| VAWAC | Violence Against Women and Children |
| VEC | Victim Empowerment Centre |
| WASPs | Women As Safety Promoters |

**COMMUNITY SAFETY PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE**

**24 May 2022,**

The Chairperson of the Community Safety Portfolio Committee, Hon. Alphina Ndlovana, tables the Committee Oversight Report on the assessment of Budget Vote 10 of the Gauteng Department of Community Safety for the 2022/23 Financial Year as follows:

1. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The assessment of the 2022/23 Budget Appropriation Bill, Vote 10 of the Gauteng Department of Community Safety seeks to ascertain the correlation between the Department’s priorities, objectives and allocated resources to achieve its legislated mandate.

The Committee welcomes the 20% increase in the Department’s allocation for this financial year. The Department received **R1.153 billion**, marking an increase by R191 million when compared to the previous financial year’s allocation of R962.2 million.

The Department’s programmes received their respective share of the allocation as follows:

* **Programme 1:** **Administration** received **R174 million,** marking an increase by R4.4 million (3%) when compared to the R169.6 million which was received in the previous financial year.
* **Programme 2**: **Provincial Secretariat** received **R280.7 million**. This marked an increase by R39.7 million (16%) when compared to the R241 million which was allocated in the previous financial year.
* **Programme 3**: **Traffic Management;** received a substantial share of the allocation of **R698.6 million**. The allocation increased by R147 million (27%) compared to the R551.6 million which was received in the previous financial year.

The Department reaffirmed its commitment to the Growing Gauteng Together (GGT2030) strategy to improve the safety of people in the province. The Department plans to continue to monitor police performance on a quarterly basis and roll-out crime prevention initiatives aimed to reduce crime.

The Committee noted the Department’s plans to continue participating at the Operation Okae Molao initiative, which is intended to increase visible policing and maximize crime prevention efforts. The Committee also noted the Department’s plans to procure fifty (50) patrol vehicles and four (4) mobile police stations for the Gauteng-SAPS. In addition, the Department plans to continue with the deployment of safety kiosks in high crime policing precincts to enhance police visibility.

The Department further recommitted to supporting victims of gender-based violence and femicide through the Gender-Based Violence and Femicide Response Plan. This include providing victims with psycho-social support services, establishment of additional Green Door Houses and support to Victim Empowerment Centres (VECs) in all the 144 police stations.

The Committee also noted the various road safety operations planned by the Department, which are aimed at achieving its 12% target in reduction of road crashes and fatalities. Moreover, the Committee welcomes the plans to absorb 133 Traffic Law Enforcement Officers. The Committee is optimistic that the appointment of the officers will positively contribute towards attaining the set target on road fatalities and improve the safety of road users.

The Committee believes that the Department’s plans are aligned to its mandate of police oversight and crime prevention. The Committee will monitor progress on the implementation of these plans on a quarterly basis.

1. **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.

1. **PROCESS FOLLOWED**
   1. The Gauteng Department of Community Safety’s Budget Appropriation Bill; Budget Vote 10 for 2022/23 financial year was formally referred to the Committee for consideration, deliberation and reporting by the Speaker of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature, Hon. L Mekgwe on 12 April 2022.
   2. The Committee then considered the research analysis on this Budget Appropriation Bill, Vote 10 of the Department of Community Safety on 05th May 2022.
   3. The Department of Community Safety presented its 2022/23 Annual Performance Plan (APP) and Budget Vote to the Committee at a meeting which was held on 06th May 2022. The presentation included the Department’s responses to questions which emanated from the Committee’s analysis of the Budget Vote.
   4. On the 17th of May 2022, the Committee considered and adopted its oversight report on the Budget Vote 10 of the Department of Community Safety.
2. **COMPLIANCE AND QUALITY**

Although the 2022/23 Budget Appropriation Bill, Vote 10 of the Department of Community Safety was submitted in accordance with the Standing Rules of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature, there were later changes made on the total allocated budget. This had a negatively impacted on the Committee’s assessment of allocations to respective sub-programmes.

1. **OVERSIGHT ON STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**
2. **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 2022/23 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.

Furthermore, 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.

The GGT 2030 interventions of the department are as follows:

* Developing initiatives that target a significant reduction in poverty, inequality, and unemployment such as Tshepo 1 Million; welfare to be upscaled,
* Creating a platform for youth ownership in our province through co-production of social spaces – building sporting, arts, cultural and development opportunities, and
* Improving policing and community safety efforts, with particular emphasis on gender-based violence and supporting the rights of women, youth, senior citizens, people with disabilities, military veterans and the LGBTIQ+ community.

1. **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.

1. **OVERSIGHT ON TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE**

1. **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 Committee recommends that the Department must speed-up its recruitment processes and fill in all vacant positions. There were 266 vacancies at the time of consideration of the Budget Vote. The Committee also noted the report that certain positions are ringfenced for people with disabilities (PWDs) to ensure achievement of the 4% target on appointment of people with disabilities.

The Committee noted the commitment by the Department to improve its integrated Supply Chain and Financial Management Systems and processes to ensure good financial management. The Department has planned to reduce irregular expenditure incurred in the previous financial years by 50%. The Department also plans to achieve 100% on payment of service providers within the 30-day period. The Committee will monitor progress on quarterly basis.

**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.

**Policy and Research:**

The main objective of this sub-programme is to conduct research projects which are aimed at achieving safe and secure communities. These include conducting evaluations and impact assessment studies on crime detection and prevention programmes.

The Department reported that it will continue to conduct research work through five (5) research projects, four (4) knowledge sharing sessions and produce four (4) publications for this financial year. The Committee will monitor progress in this regard on quarterly basis.

**Monitoring and Evaluation:**

Through this programme the Department discharges its functions intended to improve the quality of policing and crime reduction through monitoring police performance. For this financial year the Department plans to continue to monitor the performance of law enforcement agencies on a quarterly basis, including the implementation of IPID recommendations by SAPS, compliance with the Domestic Violence Act (DVA) as well as police conduct.

The Department plans to continue monitoring police performance to ensure crime reduction. The Committee also noted that the Department plans to build capacity in the 144 police stations through Gauteng Information on Police performance System (GIPPS). The Department must provide the Committee with a detail plan on how it intends to build capacity at police stations for purposes of oversight and accountability.

The Department also plans to continue to support Operation Okae Molao which is intended to increase police visibility and maximize crime prevention to achieve crime reduction. Although the Committee acknowledged interventions made through Operation Okae Moloa, it was proposed that the SAPS consider enhancing roadblocks to increase police visibility and its crime prevention efforts, thus achieve crime reduction.

Furthermore, to enhance police visibility, the Department has planned to procure fifty (50) patrol vehicles and four (4) mobile police stations for the Gauteng-SAPS. The Department intends to further enhance the deployment of safety kiosks in high crime police precincts.

The Committee noted the Department’s plans to analyse1800 crime dockets, monitor 10 court watching briefs and track 1000 GBVF cases within the criminal justice system. This is intended to improve criminal justice system coordination thus improve the conviction rate.

**Safety Promotion:**

The Department plans to support victims of gender-based violence and femicide. Through its Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) Response Plan, the Department targets to support 3000 GBVF victims by providing psycho- social support services and to establish 36 additional Green Door Houses. The Department also plans to continue with the monitoring of Victim Empowerment Centres (VECs) in all the police stations in the province.

The Committee welcomed the plans to provide support to GBVF victims. However, it is concerned about the lack of plans regarding the performance or functionality of Regional Victim Offices (RVOs) which are established to be extensions of the victim support programme The Department must report on the status of the RVOs.

The Committee welcomed the plan to train police officers within the various police stations on matters related to gender-based violence and femicide. The training must help police officers to improve the way they handle the cases of GBVF and further reduce secondary victimization of victims by the police. The Committee will monitor progress on quarterly basis.

The Committee also noted the plans to conduct 550 social crime prevention programmes and 460 school safety interventions. The Committee acknowledges these efforts however it is greatly concerned with the spate of violence in schools. Thus, the Committee recommended that a multi-faceted strategy be developed and implemented to curb crime and increasing violent behaviour in schools.

**Community Police Relations:**

The Committee noted the plans that 144 Community Police Forums (CPFs),11 Community Safety Forums (CSFs) and 110 Community Patroller teams will be assessed in line with applicable operating standards.

The Committee expressed its concern that the Department seemed to be neglecting the CPF programme and the continuous failure to provide tools of trade to CPFs and community patrollers. The Department reported that the tender process for the procurement of uniforms was in progress; however, the Committee was not satisfied with the response and urged the Department to speedily finalise the procurement process. The Committee also urged the Department to improve its support to CPFs and patrollers, considering their relentless commitment in the fight against crime.

Moreover, the Committee noted that the Department had not indicated its plans regarding the performance of Women As Safety Promoters (WASPs), and Men As Safety Promoters (MASPs). The Committee requests a report on Department’s plans related to the performance of these 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 is also intended to enhance road user knowledge, skills and attitude coordinates as well as road traffic incident management. Through this programme, the Department carries out traffic law enforcement programmes through various road safety operations, to enhance road safety and ultimately reduce road crashes and fatalities.

The Department had again set a target of 12% reduction of road crashes and fatalities. To achieve this various road safety operations are to be conducted. These include 9542 reckless and negligent driving operations,16 686 Speed operations, 2058 drunken driving operations, 2933 pedestrian operations, over 1.2 million vehicles to be stopped and checked as well as 217 800 vehicles to be weighed.

The Committee also noted the plans to conduct 190 compliance inspections and 6330 public passengers’ transport law enforcement operations targeting driver and vehicle fitness, operating license and route compliance. Also, 598 law enforcement operations are planned targeting learner transport. The Department further plans to conduct 1400 road safety awareness interventions and 1008 schools are targeted to be involved in road safety education programme.

The Department has further planned to support 4652 crime prevention operations conducted jointly with other Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs). Moreover, Department has planned to absorb 133 Traffic Law Enforcement Officers. The Committee welcomed this initiative because it will strengthen road safety interventions.

The Committee welcomed the plans by the Department which are aimed at enforcing road user compliance; however, cited a concern about the lack of integration within the various Law Enforcement Agencies.

The Committee also raised a concern about poor road conditions which includes unattended potholes, faded road markings, faulty traffic lights, etc. which contributes to road accidents. The Committee recommended that the Department through the Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) monitoring sessions encourage LEAs to report any road hazards that may potentially cause danger to road users.

1. **OVERSIGHT ON BUDGET ALLOCATION**

In this financial year, the Department received **R1.153 billion**, marking an increase by R191 million (20%) when compared to the previous financial year’s allocation of R962.2 million. The increase is attributed to an additional funding set aside for procurement of patrol vehicles and mobile police stations for the Gauteng-SASP as well as implementation of the e-policing infrastructure.

**Programme 1: Administration** received **R174 million** which is an increase by R4.4 million (3%) when compared to the R169.6 million which was received in the previous financial year.

**Programme 2: Provincial Secretariat**is allocated R280.7 million. This marks an increase by R39.7 million (16%) when compared to the R241 million which was allocated in the previous financial year.

**Programme 3: Traffic Management;** receives a substantial allocation of R698.6 million. Its allocation increases by R147 million (27%) compared to the R551.6 million which was received in the previous financial year.

1. **COMMITTEE CONCERNS/OBSERVATIONS**

The Committee concerns and observations are as follows:

1. The slow pace in filling vacancies,
2. The level of crime remains high in the province,
3. The Department seemed to be neglecting the CPF programme and the continuous failure to provide tools of trade to CPFs and community patrollers,
4. The spate of violence in schools,
5. The lack of plans regarding the functionality of Regional Victim Offices, Women As Safety Promoters and Men As Safety Promoters which were established to be an extension of the victims support programme,
6. The Committee noted the Department’s plan to build capacity in the 144 police stations through the Gauteng Information on Police performance System, and
7. The poor road conditions including unattended potholes, faded road markings, faulty traffic lights, etc. which contributes to road accidents.
8. **PROPOSED COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Committee’s recommendations are as follows:

1. The Department must speed-up its recruitment processes and fill in all vacant positions.
2. The Department must enhance its crime prevention interventions to achieve crime reduction. Moreover, the Department in consultation with Law Enforcement Agencies must investigate the possibility of increasing roadblocks to strengthen crime prevention efforts and enhance visible policing to achieve crime reduction.
3. The Department must improve its support to CPFs and patrollers, considering their relentless commitment in the fight against crime. Furthermore, the procurement of uniforms and tools of trade for these structures must be finalised with urgency it deserves.
4. The Department must develop and submit a multi-faceted strategy to curb the spate of violence in schools.
5. The Department must report on its plans aimed at strengthening the functionality and performance of Regional Victims Offices, Women As Safety Promoters and Men As Safety Promoters.
6. The Department must provide the Committee with a detailed plan on how it intends to increase capacity at police stations for purposes of oversight and accountability.
7. The Department through the Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) monitoring sessions must encourage LEAs to report any road hazards that may potentially cause danger to road users.
8. **The Department must submit a progress report on all the above-stated recommendations by 31 July 2022.**
9. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I Hon. Aphina Ndlovana; the Chairperson of the Community Safety Portfolio Committee thank the MEC of Community Safety, Hon. Faith Mazibuko; HOD Ms Nontsikelelo Sisulu and their team for their cooperation during the consideration of the 2022/23 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 2022/23 financial year Budget Vote of the Department of Community Safety, Hon. N Mhlakaza-Manamela; Hon. S Nkosi-Malobane, Hon. S Khanyile; Hon. C Bosch; Hon. N De Jager; Hon. N Radebe and Hon. J Hoffman.

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, Hansard Recorder: Sylvester Baloyi; Service Officer: Fezeka Royo, Communications Officer: Thebe Khumalo, Information Officer: Azwinndini Netshivhuyu for their participation in the assessment of the 2022/23 Budget Vote of the Department of Community Safety.

1. **ADOPTION**

In accordance with Rule 117 (2) (c) read together with Rule 164, I, Chairperson Alphina Ndlovana recommend that the Committee Oversight Reporton Budget Vote 10 of the Department of Community Safety for the 2022/23 Financial Year be adopted by the House, taking into consideration the concerns and proposed recommendations made in this report.