



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LIAISON
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LIAISON

BUDGET VOTE

BY MEC FOR TRANSPORT, COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LIAISON
MS NELISWA PEGGY NKONYENI (MPL)

10 MAY
2022

#KZNBUDGETSPEECH

**GROWING
KWAZULU-NATAL
TOGETHER**

“GALVANISING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION TOWARDS A CRIME FREE PROVINCE”.

BUDGET VOTE 9 SPEECH 2022/23: PRESENTED TO THE KWAZULU-NATAL LEGISLATURE BY MEC FOR TRANSPORT, COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LIAISON, HON. NELISWA PEGGY NKONYENI (MPL), PIETERMARITZBURG, TUESDAY, 10 MAY 2022.

- *Madam Speaker; Honourable Nontembeko Boyce;*
- *Deputy Speaker; Honourable Themba Mthembu*
- *Honourable Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Mr Sihle Zikalala;*
- *Members of the Provincial Executive Council;*
- *Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature;*
- *Director-General and Heads of the various Departments;*
- *Acting Head of Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Luvuyo Goniwe,*
- *Department of Community Safety and Liaison Management;*
- *Provincial Police Commissioner Lieutenant-General Nhlanhla Mkhwanazi;*
- *The South African Police Service Management;*
- *Members of the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster;*
- *The leadership of the Community Safety Structures;*
- *Members of the media; and*
- *Citizens of KwaZulu-Natal.*

INTRODUCTION

Madam Speaker and Honourable Members, I rise before this House to present the Vote 9 Budget Policy Speech for the Department of Community Safety and Liaison. Our budget allocation during this current financial year of 2022/2023 is **R236, 867,000**.

This policy speech is very essential if we are to turn a tide against the high levels of crime in our society. We are presenting this speech under the theme ***“Galvanising community participation towards a crime free Province”***.

This theme is an important call to all the people of KwaZulu-Natal to rise and take a stand against crime. It is also informed by our firm belief that only when we are united as a people – we can make a meaningful dent in ending crime and other societal menace.

Chairperson, today is a very significant day in the history of our country as it marks exactly 28 years since our first democratically elected President Dr Nelson Mandela took office. Madiba was inaugurated on the 10th of May 1994. The pledge Madiba made on this day of serving people guided by the supremacy of the law, is the same commitment we are making in this house today. The project of building a non-racial, non-sexist, democratic and prosperous South Africa is well under way and despite challenges it is progressing well.

Chairperson, in all satisfaction surveys, crime always feature as number one concern to the people of KwaZu-

lu-Natal. Like the Honourable Premier Sihle Zikalala mentioned in his State of the Province Address, crime is one of the 8 priorities of the current administration.

Central to our resolve to addressing the levels of crime in the province are the resolutions we have taken in various Maklotla's, of the Provincial Executive Council, African National Congress (ANC) manifestos and the National Development Plan, 2030.

IMPACT OF THE RECENT FLOODS

Chairperson, it has proven that our province is prone to floods and natural disasters. Climate change is with us. We are therefore required to prepare ourselves for its effect and impact.

It is deeply disturbing that at least **435 people** were confirmed to have died during this distressing period. This number could change, as we know that more than 40 people are yet to be found.

The Justice Crime Prevention and Security (JCPS) cluster was also deeply affected by these floods. We lost our officers as well, and some sustained injuries. Sergeant Busisiwe Mtshare (42) from the Pietermaritzburg Search and Rescue Police Diving Unit perished when trying to save three floods' victims in Henely Dam. Canine Leah also perished trying to save Sergeant Mtshare. Constable Thandazile Sithole who was attached to the Durban Central Police Station, also perished when her home collapsed on her. As government we pay respect to these female officers and many members of the security cluster, who perished during this period and those who perished in the line of duty. May their departed souls Rest in Eternal Peace.

Equally, we had a number of police stations damaged by these floods. A total of **30 police stations were affected by the floods** under uGu, eThekweni Metro, uMgungundlovu, Harry Gwala and Amajuba districts. The department of Community Safety and Liaison is assisting the police in making sure that the Department of Public Works is expediting the work of fixing these damages and ensure that all services are restored.

REFLECTING ON THE JULY UNRESTS

Chairperson, the unfortunate incidents of civil unrests which were experienced in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng in July 2021 should never happen again. These scenes reminded us of the disruptions caused by political violence in the 80's and 90's in the province, where the Province was burning.

The incidents of looting and burning of properties are serious criminal acts and the law enforcement agencies are still working in investigating a number of cases which were opened. These incidents are tantamount to economic sabotage and majority of our people today do not have services such as shopping centres, which were forced to close after the looting.

We are still outraged by the slaughtering of innocent people, mainly Africans, in areas like Phoenix, Chatsworth, Verulam and Northdale in Pietermaritzburg. In total the province lost over **230 people**. Again, we must commend members of the law enforcement agencies, including the members of the South African Defence Force and private security, who joined hands with other agencies.

We are awaiting with keen interest the outcomes of the Human Rights Commission and where there are findings that need to be actioned by the province we will do so without hesitation. We hope this process will also assist in identifying deficiencies within the police service and give direction of correcting those.

BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR 2022/2023

Honourable Chairperson, the Department of Community Safety and Liaison has the following budget allocation for the financial year 2022/2023.

Programmes budget allocation

Programme One	Administration	R 107 Million
Programme Two	Civilian Secretariat for the Police	R129 Million

Chairperson, once again we find it unfair and unjustifiable to the people of KwaZulu-Natal that crime is a number one concern, but the department entrusted with the responsibility of working with the police is among the least funded. This legislature must give attention to this matter. If we are to play a meaningful role in our oversight mandate and have fully functioning offices at district levels, we must relook at the resources allocated to this department.

PROGRAMME ONE: ADMINISTRATION

EXPENDITURE TRENDS ANALYSIS

Programme 1: Shows a fluctuating trend from 2018/19 to 2020/21 and this relates to in-year re-prioritization that was undertaken to provide for centralized departmental operational costs under this programme for all district offices. The decrease in 2020/21 relates to the budget cuts toward the provincial Covid-19 response, effected against *Compensation of employees* and *Goods and services* in the Special Adjustments Budget. The department was able to effect these budget cuts due to savings from vacant posts and reduced spending on operational costs because of the national lockdown. The programme reflects consistent growth over the 2022/23 Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), despite the 2021/22 MTEF budget cuts effected with carry-through against *Compensation of employees* due to the wage freeze and fiscal consolidation cuts.

This programme will continue to provide support to head office and Departmental district offices, and caters for operational and fixed costs, such as computer services for SITA, operating leases for buildings, security and cleaning costs, travel and subsistence, training, and development for staff. The MTEF also caters for 91 filled posts as well as provision for the 1.5 per cent pay progression.

BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF THE DEPARTMENT TO DELIVER

Madam Speaker, during the 2021/22 financial year, we reported that the vacancy rate in the Department

was at 18%. To date the vacancy rate has been reduced to 5% as 34 posts were successfully filled. These include Directors' posts in critical and strategic disciplines such as Integrated Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation, Risk Management and Corporate Services. These appointments have helped the Department achieve 50% representation of women in the Senior Management category.

Madam Speaker, under the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) programme, we will recruit **fifteen (15) unemployed Law Graduates** and invite law firms and advocates at various districts to allow the graduates to serve their articles or pupillage whilst also participating in the departmental programme of Court Watching Brief. Graduate lawyers will be contracted by the department for 2 years with effect from 01 July 2022. We will also recruit ten (10) unemployed graduates with a specialisation in research and development and Monitoring and Evaluation. Graduates will be contracted with the department for 2 years as well. Adverts for these programmes have already been distributed and the closing date is 13 May 2022.

The department continues to take the safety of the vulnerable group a priority. As per 2019 summit on the disabled the department will, as a special initiative allocate an amount of **R1.5 million** over a period of 3 years as a special bursary for the 11 disabled persons interested in pursuing careers in safety particularly scarce skills within the safety and security sector.

We have appointed six drivers under EPWP programme on 24 months' contracts. They commenced their duties on 03 May 2022. Five of them are deployed in districts as per the Departmental demarcation and the sixth one will be based at the head office.

PROGRESS IN THE ALIGNMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT WITH THE DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT MODEL (DDM)

Madam Speaker, the organisational structure is currently being reviewed with an aim to improve its capacity to deliver on its mandate and strengthen its visibility and impact at a district level in line with the District Development Model (DDM). Final consultations and costing of the reviewed organisational structure will be **finalised before the end of this month**. The proposed structure will see a drastic increase in the number of posts, **from 191 to 575**.

The bulk of posts were created to increase the capacity of districts to deliver on the mandate of the Department whilst more support related posts were created in districts to decentralise some of the support functions which are currently centralised at Head Office.

The Department has full representation in all 11 districts. To strengthen partnerships with relevant stakeholders in performing oversight role over police, the Independent Police Investigating Directorate (IPID) has been allocated office space in the Department's uGu, uMkhanyakude and King Cetshwayo district offices.

Last year we reported that offices of line function Directors are at the Head Office, I am pleased to report that 60% of line function Directors are now in district offices as means of getting closer to the people. Preparations are underway to ensure that all line function Directors relocate to their respective districts before end of July 2022. This will assist in ensuring that intervention programmes are packaged to suit the dynamics of district and communities are serviced effectively.

Partnerships with various local media houses, including community radio stations are being developed to strengthen the marketing of the Department and its services at a local level while spreading awareness messages on crime-related issues applicable to each district. Social media will also be utilized.

FIGHTING FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

Chairperson, last year, the department approved its Fraud Prevention plan & policies. This is our commitment to eradicating all possibilities of fraud and corruption. The Department is also taking seriously all investigations and recommendations by the competent agencies of the state.

AUDIT MATTERS

Chairperson, we are pleased to report that the department maintains the Unqualified audit opinion with other matters. The matters that have been raised by the Auditor-General are receiving special attention and we shall continue to improve the management of our books and sustain this trajectory. The audit improvement plan has been developed and is continuously monitored to ensure that matters that were raised by AG are corrected to improve the audit outcomes. We remain committed in obtaining a Clean Audit, good governance and in ensuring that we receive value for money as prescribed in the Public Finance Management Act.

The matter of the irregular expenditure is also receiving our attention and we are cooperating with the investigation to make a determination about the use of over R4 million.

4. PROGRAMME 2: PROVINCIAL CIVILIAN SECRETARIAT

EXPENDITURE TREND ANALYSIS

Madam Speaker, the budget for this programme was reduced by R28.863 million in the Special Adjustments Estimate against Compensation of employees and Goods and services to provide for the provincial Covid-19 response. There was low growth against Goods and services due to the reduction in the Social Sector EPWP Incentive Grant for Provinces in 2021/22, reprioritisation that was undertaken in the Special Adjustments Estimate, as well as slow spending in 2020/21 attributed to the national lockdown which delayed the process of appointing new recruits in the social crime prevention programme. There were also delays in establishing community safety structures which resulted in low spending on training and development, catering for departmental activities, as well as venues and facilities.

The negative growth of 0.2 per cent from 2021/22 to 2024/25 is partly due to the Social Sector EPWP Incentive Grant for Provinces, which is not yet allocated over the MTEF. There were reductions to the baseline implemented in the previous MTEF in respect of freezing salary increases, as well as additional reductions implemented to support fiscal consolidation which was cut against both Compensation of employees and Goods and services in this programme. As mentioned, the department indicated that they have not budget-

ed for salary increases and performance bonuses for filled posts. However, 1.5 per cent pay progression is provided for and critical vacant posts will be filled based on continuous assessment of affordability of carry-through costs.

CRIME TRENDS IN THE PROVINCE (RESEARCH BASED FINDINGS)

MURDER

Chairperson, our series of studies has demonstrated the precarity of life in such a fractured society. Young men are drawn into acts of lethal violence merely to entrench their street credibility, this in the absence of any alternative meaningful place and purpose in society. These studies have also revealed our society's problematic relationship with alcohol and how petty disputes escalate into deadly attacks among the intoxicated. They have laid bare the deadly tendency of many desperate individuals to settle grievances by taking the lives of others, be it in the taxi industry, the illicit drug market or in factional conflicts of various kinds.

Madam Speaker, in the third quarter of 2021/22 murder cases increased drastically with 17%. This means an increase of 245 murder cases compared to the same period in the previous financial year. Disturbingly cases of attempted murder also indicated an increase of 15%, marking an increase of 119 reported cases compared to the previous financial year.

Among the interventions recommended have been the addressing of violence at, or in any way related to, alcohol trading premises and the intensification of awareness work related to alcohol harm reduction. Risk factors related to liquor consumption and violence will be widely publicised. Awareness work among women - especially on how to escape cycles of violence - together with ongoing support for women in abusive situations which may escalate into murder will be prioritised. Importantly, the effective and rapid investigation and prosecution of Murder and other serious violent crimes continues to receive attention from the relevant role players, and in this regard, efforts to enhance forensic evidence collection as well as witness protection is critical.

Chairperson, we have held a series of consultative sessions with the provincial South African Police Services (SAPS) top echelon to figure out practical solutions or deterrent to curb the murder rate in our province. Active community involvement by means of providing intelligence information to police remains one of the most effective ways of removing murderers from our streets. We urge all communities to play their part and assist law enforcement, especially with active cases of mass murders in Nquthu and Umlazi, where a total of ten people were mercilessly killed in separate incidents.

We are continuing to prioritise Murder and violent crime in our Research endeavours. To this end, the Department is part of an international study on Murders in partnership with the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

CHILD SAFETY PROMOTION

Chairperson, the safety of children is a high priority of every society. Our research conducted in this area has demonstrated that while most children grow up in relatively safe and stable environments, there are in-

variably many children that face risks to their well-being in their daily environments. These risks range from family-level neglect to being criminally victimised in various ways by a range of persons. In South Africa, girls bear the brunt of abuse, neglect, and bullying, while boys are more likely to experience physical violence.

These experiences of abuse and victimisation have long-lasting effects on the future well-being of these young victims. Our research has highlighted that in the long term, we must seek solutions to providing structural support for children which include adequate after-school care and expediting of Criminal Justice System (CJS) processes involving children. In the more immediate term, conscientisation and capacitation of parents and caregivers will be included in our awareness work to make this target group aware of how to prevent child victimisation.

This will extend to capacitating caregivers in recognising when abuse may be taking place and being aware of the course of action to take when abuse is detected or suspected. The building of local networks to address matters of interest pertaining to children and to assess the state of child safety will be included in our workshops and capacity building sessions.

POLICING NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

Chairperson, the department has a Constitutional mandate to improve the quality of policing and safety provision, a study on *Policing Needs & Priorities for KZN* focusing on 5 districts with high prevalence of Stock theft namely Amajuba, uThukela, Zululand, uMgungundlovu as well as Harry Gwala has been conducted. The main purpose of this study is to better inform the deployment of resources (human, physical as well as financial resources) and implementation of the most effective safety strategies. Stock theft is a serious issue in KwaZulu-Natal, and it is limiting the province's farmers' ability to prosper.

In most rural communities in both developed and developing countries, agriculture remains the most important economic sector. The unit visited and engaged 5 SAPS districts and community structures which were in Taylors Halt for uMgungundlovu, Intsikeni and Kokstad in Harry Gwala, Nongoma in Zululand, Bergville in uThukela and Utrecht in Amajuba. These areas were identified as high contributors in stock theft in SAPS crime statistics for 4th quarter 2021/2022. Out of 80 SAPS members in the units that were visited only 10 members are trained on Stock theft. This is one policing need that will help in improving the stock theft policing in the province, therefore it needs an urgent attention.

The proper offices are needed for stock theft unit in Zululand (Nongoma), Utrecht, and refurbishment of uMgungundlovu offices. This is one of the policing needs that will improve the morale and conducive working environment. Almost all units need Motorbikes for patrolling areas that are not accessible by vehicles as well as Mounting Unit and Airflight to be linked to stock theft unit. The shortage of manpower and vehicles in all 5 SAPS districts Stock Theft and Endangered species Units visited is identified as a common challenge.

SECTOR POLICING MODEL

Chairperson, the research unit conducted a research project to analyse the sector policing model, the study

was undertaken in 11 identified police station which is 1 per SAPS district in KwaZulu-Natal with a high prevalence of crime. The stations were namely: Newcastle SAPS in Amajuba, Kokstad SAPS in Harry Gwala, Pietermaritzburg SAPS in uMgungundlovu, Margate SAPS in uGu district, Durban Central SAPS at eThekweni, KwaDukuza in iLembe, Richards Bay SAPS in King Cetshwayo, Hluhluwe SAPS in uMkhanyakude, Dundee SAPS in uMzinyathi, Vryheid SAPS in Zululand district and Ladysmith SAPS in uThukela district.

Sector Policing is a method of policing in smaller manageable geographical areas within a police station. It involves all role-players in identifying the policing needs in each sector and addressing the root causes of crime, including the enabling and contributing factors to ensure effective crime prevention to reduce the levels of crime within communities and to improve community safety (White Paper on Safety and Security, 1998). Sector Policing involves the assignment of police officers to a specific sector, on a full-time basis. These police officers regularly patrol their own sector and have regular contact with a sector community and can identify problems and seek appropriate solutions in conjunction with the sector's community.

Sector Policing encourages constant and continuous contact with members of the community. The main objective of this study is to gain insight on how the Sector Policing Model influences SAPS service delivery, how the programme is impacting on linking police to the communities and community leaders. All police stations view sector policing as the best policing because it links police with communities and stakeholders or other role players in community safety. Station resources are not enough to be shared with sectors and Sector Policing needs adequate resources for it to work in all areas. Almost all police stations are divided into a manageable sector but no or few resources are aligned with sectors due to shortage of manpower and physical resources.

INTERVENTIONS IN THE TOP 10 CRIME LEADING STATIONS

Chairperson, we are deeply concerned with most crimes and stations which are showing signs of being stubborn in addressing some crime categories. Our province always feature among those ravaged by serious crime whenever there are release of quarterly crime statistics.

Our government has identified ten crime leading stations with the view to create and implement a turn-around-strategy. We are determined to restore the trust that our people once had on law enforcement, more especially the South African Police Service. To this end, the Department has upped the ante in executing its oversight role on police performance.

We are pleased to report to this House that in the last financial year the Department implemented public participation crime prevention programmes at Plessislaer, Taylors Halt, Osizweni, Madadeni, iNanda & KwaMashu. In total 18 of these public participation programmes were conducted throughout the province. Also, as part of our implementation plans, we conducted twenty (20) customer and victim satisfaction with Police service survey out of the 30 worst performing stations in the province.

This financial year, we plan to implement the vulnerable groups crime prevention programme at all the identified stations. This will include campaigns against Gender Based Violence, Senior Citizens Dialogues on Domestic Violence Act (DVA) in partnership with the identified crime leading stations. The Department has also

developed plans to monitor the functionality and effectiveness of specialised police units in the province.

Chairperson, we genuinely believe that the recent visit by members of the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) and Members of the Provincial Legislature to police stations around the province will immensely help our goal of improving the standard of police performance in KwaZulu-Natal. We sincerely hope that police management through the guidance of Provincial Police Commissioner Lieutenant General Mkhwanazi, will give serious consideration to their well thought out recommendations and they (SAPS management) will act diligently to ensure that we achieve our noble course of always striving to create a safe living environment for all our people.

Chairperson, we are pleased to inform this House that the Deputy National Police Commissioner: Support services has approved the filling of posts for District Commissioners for the following districts.

- Amajuba- Major General Alexander
- uThukela- Major General Khumalo
- King Cetshwayo District- Major General Ngubane
- Harry Gwala- Major General Xhelithole
- uMgungundlovu – Major General Madondo
- eThekwini – Major General Kheswa
- Deputy Provincial Commissioner: Support Services- Major General Ngcobo

We firmly believe that this move will greatly assist our endeavour of turning the tide against the scourge of crime and to reclaim our streets from hoodlums and criminals. We acknowledge the gesture by Provincial Commissioner for extending an invitation to the office of the Provincial Civilian Secretariat for Police to play an active role in the interview process of the above-mentioned district commissioners. Moving forward, we believe this initiative will improve the working relationship between the police, the Department of Community Safety and Liaison and the Civilian Secretariat.

GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND FEMICIDE

Chairperson, Gender Based Violence and Femicide is another pandemic we are wrestling with as declared by the President of the Country, Honourable Cyril Ramaphosa. The high density of these crimes is within the top 10 Police Stations which are in eThekwini Metro and uMgungundlovu Districts. Disturbingly, according to the third quarter report of 2021/22, there is still high prevalence of the sexual offences related crime despite a steady decline. During this period, the province recorded 2 481 cases which marks a decline of 6.7% (180 cases) compared to the previous financial year. Notably is the decrease of rape cases by 4.7%, attempted sexual offences by 30.5%, sexual assault by 12.9% and contact sexual offences by 19%.

The positive gesture though, is that these crimes are reported to the police. However, for communities to have confidence in the police we need successful prosecution and for that we need convincing evidence, which is why the department started with the programme of resuscitating Victim Friendly Facilities (VFF) checking if they are all functional, where victims will feel dignified during the assessment process. Our aim is to see all 184 police stations are having these facilities; however, the priority is given to the top thirty crime

leading Police Stations and subsequently all must prioritize the dignity of the victims of crime. We are aware that some police stations had these facilities but were no longer user friendly because of the condition they were in, then the department intervened to refurbish them. While some districts report that there are no Victim Friendly Facilities at all, this is a challenge that needs urgent attention as we begin a new financial year. We need to mobilize all sectors of society to partner with government and the police in ending the scourge of Gender Based Violence and Femicide.

PROGRESS IN POLITICAL KILLING CASES

Chairperson, we commend the progress made in addressing cases of political killings in the province. Whilst we continue to witness pockets of killings, mainly of councillors, the reality is that these incidents are going down and not as rife as they were before.

The work of the Inter-Ministerial Committee looking into political killings in the KwaZulu-Natal Province is yielding positive results. Since 2018, the Task Team has investigated 258 dockets in which 289 arrests have been made on politically related cases - this is 32 more dockets compared to the last update in June 2021: with a 54% detection rate and 33% court rate and an 83% conviction rate.

Investigations of the political killings Task Team has revealed that the most affected political parties are the ANC, IFP and NFP. Motives for these crimes are linked to intra-political conflicts with a few cases linked to various motives, such as Taxi Violence and other domestic related issues. It is important to note the significant progress made by the task team which has secured life sentences for 10 accused.

Moreover, 22 accused have sentences ranging from 10-50 years handed down to them. Twelve (12) accused have been convicted for no more than 10 years and the remainder are going through the court processes. In addition, 116 case dockets not related to the Task Team's mandate but somehow linked to politically related cases, either with similar suspects and or ballistic analysis, are being processed by the Task Team for further investigation. This is an increase of 69 cases compared to the last update in June.

The 289 suspects arrested, 72 remain in custody, while 43 are out on bail. 13 of these accused have since died. Charges have been withdrawn against 71 accused and 31 have been found not guilty. Over and above the allocated and parallel politically related matters, the Task Team is conducting intelligence – driven operations targeting unlicensed firearms, which has resulted in 172 cases. **Over 250 unlicensed firearms have been taken off the streets through police operations. The arrests of hitmen and removal of firearms in the wrong hands is encouraging.**

We continue to encourage political tolerance by individuals and parties whether before, during and after the election period and beyond. The last call is for political parties to strengthen mechanisms to defuse inter and or intra-tensions and instability that often escalate and lead to political attacks and killings.

KILLINGS OF AMAKHOSI AND IZINDUNA

Honourable members, the killing, and kidnapping of Amakhosi and Izinduna is indeed a concern to all of us.

Since 2018 up to date, there are twelve (12) of Amakhosi killed and 32 of Izinduna killed. **As part of the interventions to put an end to this scourge, the Provincial Executive approved the establishment of Community Safety Intervention Unit (CSIU). This unit will be used as a pilot project in the hot spot areas of the three (03) Districts in the main, King Cetshwayo, uGu and uMgungundlovu. This unit will work with the police in finding solutions on serious matters including the killing of Amakhosi and Izinduna.** The Unit will be given clear indications in terms of its responsibilities working within the ambits of law. Amongst other things these are the responsibilities:

- Conduct a security analysis relating to any incidents, threat, or instability.
- Engage with law enforcement to facilitate appropriate deployment and investigation.
- Facilitate threat analysis by the SAPS in respect of targeted individuals and facilitate the provision of recommended interim static and/or personal protection services by private security service providers.
- Conduct an analysis of the underlying causes and environmental factors relevant to the incident, threat or instability and formulate and intervention strategy and plan.
- Engage relevant stakeholders and facilitate / monitor the implementation of the intervention plan.
- Review the security situation on an ongoing basis and facilitate remedial / adjusted measures where necessary.

The roll out of the workshops on the Memorandum of Understanding with Amakhosi as signed in 2020 November has taken place. The workshop was a joint operation by both the Department of Community Safety and Liaison and Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs. Attendance was extended to all security cluster departments being SAPS, DCS, NPA and Department of Justice and Constitutional development. This also provided a platform where Amakhosi were able to engage with the security cluster departments welcoming the initiative as means of capacitation and also used the platform to raise their concerns with the security cluster as a whole. The Department working with all the security cluster Departments, we are working closely with COGTA in coordinating the follow up workshops on issues raised.

RURAL SAFETY ENCHANCEMENT PROGRAMME

Madam Speaker, a large portion of KwaZulu-Natal is rural or semi-urban. Despite the gains made by the ANC led government to improve the quality of life in these areas, there are some challenges that our people are still faced with. We acknowledge our short comings as the leader of society, and we are making huge strides to improve the standard of living for all our people.

Crime trends in rural areas are steadily becoming a thorn in our society. According to the crime statistics released in February 2022, stock theft increased by 0,8% (17 cases). We know this margin might seem insignificant but the fact that the numbers are growing must and is of great concern to us as government. The Department of Community safety and Liaison has gone to great lengths in partnership with police, community safety structures and other stakeholders to intensify the war against the theft of livestock. We have trained and deployed almost 100 volunteers as means of combating stock theft. They are deployed in Harry Gwala, uThukela, uMzinyathi, Amajuba, and Zululand Districts. We have also conducted several anti-stock theft

awareness campaigns in almost all our districts.

Chairperson, we have also, and we continue to work closely with Rural safety Forums that are housed at Local or District municipalities. We are also working closely with traditional leadership to ensure that we strengthen crime fighting operations in rural areas. The Memorandum of Understanding that was signed by the Department, Department of Corporative Governance and Traditional Affairs and the Provincial House of Traditional Leadership, will help bridge the gap in all spheres of government and civil society and bolster our concerted effort of uniting against crime. Already, this bold move is yielding results in many districts, collaboration, and cooperation in the fight against crime has greatly improved and the future promises to bear more fruits for all of us as we continue to intensify the fight against rampant criminality targeting our people in deep rural areas. We remain steadfastly committed to working with Amakhosi, Izinduna, the KwaZulu-Natal Community Crime Prevention Association (KZNCCPA), to protect our people and their possessions from criminals who are always ready to pounce.

During this financial year we pledge to establish village and street committees to augment the number of pro-active crimes fighting structures, we must make it our primary objective to protect our families against thugs and criminals. Our people, working closely with law enforcement must take the lead in crime detection in their respective areas.

We are deeply concerned by the high number of crimes being committed against the vulnerable, elderly, women and children in rural areas, especially sexual offences and the backward practice of ukuthwala. This is precisely why we are intensifying programmes that are educational and create awareness to those who are victims of such acts of cruelty against them. The sad part honourable members is that most of the victims know the perpetrator. Through our district offices, working side by side with law enforcement, Amakhosi and other stakeholders i.e., Department of Social Development we are going to roll-out awareness campaigns to empower and to protect especially young women from falling prey to such vile criminal acts.

We want to urge all traditional leadership to adopt a progressive way of thinking and to play a key role in exposing those that are still practicing ukuthwala in their respective areas. We also want to discourage the act of vilifying, manipulating and shaming victims of sexual abuse in rural areas.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING

Madam Speaker, according to the Global Organised crime Index report of 2021 on human trafficking South Africa scored 4.5 out of 10 in their research. According to this report this heinous crime against humanity is mostly prevalent in urban areas such as Cape Town, Johannesburg and on our doorstep in Durban. It further states that South African trafficking rings exploits girls as young as ten (10) years for the purposes of sex trafficking. A non-profit organisation, eXpose HOPE, based in Durban also reports that human trafficking and sex work are often linked.

Chairperson, we must report that since last November, the Department working closely with the Durban Central SAPS and other key stakeholders convened a workshop to highlight the plight of young women who are victims of the growing trend of Trafficking in Persons, widely referred to as human trafficking. During this

informative session, it was revealed by law enforcement that a 14-year-old girl was rescued by police from her capturer before this vulnerable young woman was trafficked to a foreign land where she could be forced to partake in drug smuggling or drug-induced prostitution.

The Department had planned to coordinate and convene a Provincial Indaba on Trafficking in Persons, however that did not materialise due to several obstacles that we encountered. However, this financial year, plans are underway to make sure that we do host a successful Indaba where issues of Human Trafficking will be dealt with at length, and we want to come out of that Indaba with practical solutions on how we can curb this dastardly practice before it destroys more dreams and the lives of our daughters.

COURT WATCHING BRIEF (CWB)

Chairperson, the department adopted the implementation of Court Watching Brief project by employing six docket auditors within the Department. The implementation of the CWB programme is in line with the Constitutional Oversight Mandate of the Provincial Secretariat in monitoring police conduct and overseeing their efficiency and effectiveness in providing services to the community, regarding court processes. The main aim of the programme is to promote professionalism in how the police handle their responsibilities in court and enhancing the Criminal Justice System by reducing the number of service delivery related complaints due to poor performance by the police at the courts and ensuring that cases are dealt with speedily without unnecessary delays on the side of the police. Furthermore, the programme contributes to the reduction of courts workloads caused by unnecessary remands and postponements of cases and reduce pressure on both the police and Department of Correctional Services (DCS) detention facilities by ensuring that cases are not remanded unnecessarily due to systemic failures on the side of SAPS in performing their court duties. The ultimate goal of the CWB programme is to ensure that citizens get justice and their cases are processed speedily without unnecessary delays on the side of the police.

The department conducted Court Watching Brief visits to nine (09) Magistrate Courts (i.e. Empangeni, Esikhawini, Greytown, Kwamsane, Msinga, Mthunzini, Mtubatuba, Ngwelezane and Richards Bay). A total of two hundred and twenty-nine (229) cases were struck off the courts rolls due to what is seen as police inefficiencies throughout the nine (09) Magistrates Courts visited during quarter 4 of the 2021/2022 financial year. Majority of the cases were struck off court rolls due to **Dockets not being brought at court on time or at all by the Police**. Richards Bay Magistrate Court is leading in the category of cases being struck off the court roll due to docket not being at court, with twenty-three (23) cases, followed by Empangeni with eleven (11). What is more concerning is that the police stations are based next to the courts, so the issue of lack of vehicles to get to courts cannot be sited as an excuse by the police services. As part of our oversight we are paying serious attention to these matters.

Incomplete Investigations come second as a reason why cases are being struck off the court rolls, as reflected above. Empangeni Magistrate Court is leading in this category with a total of ten (10) cases being struck off the roll to investigations being incomplete. Msinga and Ngwelezane Magistrate Courts are second in this category, with nine (09) cases each. Esikhaleni and Mthunzini Magistrate Courts are leading in the category of cases that were struck off the roll due to witnesses not being attending on time or not attending at all, re-

ording seven (07) and five (05) cases respectively.

Our men and women in blue play an integral role in the Criminal Justice System`s (CJS) successes, as they are the first contact of the CJS to the victims. Addressing systemic failures on the side of SAPS will go a long way in ensuring that the people of KZN and the country regain their confidence in the justice system. Recommendations were compiled and forwarded to the Provincial Commissioner, Lt. General Mkhwanazi for his action and intervention.

COMMUNITIES IN DIALOGUE PROGRAMME (CiDP)

Chairperson, this programme seems to have yielded and continue to yield positive results amongst many families and communities, because it introduces a culture that says; if there are problems we sit down and talk about to resolve them. Through this programme we discover family conflicts that escalates to community feuds kube impi yezigodi. The St Paul (Esiphangeni) community killings in the Harry Gwala District, that involves Mpumalanga and Gauteng Provinces. Through the CiDP programme, the department initiated a Peace Committee with representatives from the provinces, which aims at alerting each other of the new developments, that might lead to conflicts. We are, however, done a hard blow by the passing of iNkosi Msingaphansi, who was very active in working together with structures in bringing peace and stability amongst his people.

We do not want to speculate the unfortunate passing of iNkosi Msingaphansi, we hope and believe that the police work tirelessly on this case and many other cases of this nature to ensure that these criminals are brought to book. In another persistent conflict at uMgungundlovu District, Taylors Halt where Ngcobo family is involved. There are people who left their homes in fear for their lives, are still in hiding places and the department is working on bringing about an end to all those conflicts. Still on uMgungundlovu, in Imbali unit 14 in Ward 41, 13 people were in different incidents between December 2021 and February 2022. The department has intervened and the process is ongoing; however, the community members need to come fourth with information that will assist the police so that perpetrators will be arrested. Therefore, community dialogues have a fundamental role to play if we really mean business with rooting out the elements of crime, hence we recommit in serving the people of KwaZulu-Natal.

SCHOOL AND CAMPUS SAFETY PROGRAMME

Chairperson, the safety of our children and educators, be it at basic level or institutions of higher learning is important to us. We are still committed in creating an environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. However, the University of Zululand Dlangezwa campus still experiences on and off campus students' residence criminality. The department working together with Mkhwanazi Traditional Leadership, off-campus landlords, UNIZULU management, Umhlathuze Municipality, Community Based structures, and student's representatives are engaged in programmes of finding solutions. Series of interventions were executed amongst others there was an establishment of off-campus Landlord Structure, Safety Structures Patroller and on and off Campus safety audits were conducted in order to bring about tailor made interventions. Several meetings

were held in preparation to stage the Campus Safety Indaba on the 08 and 09 April 2022 which was later suspended because UNIZULU went on recess after the destructive strike that took place on the 09th and 10th of March 2022. It was therefore not possible for the department to stage the event without students.

However, we are optimistic that eventually we will sit and find amicable solutions. We must admit that we are relieved that now as a country in terms of Covid-19 regulations relaxed, for this will afford us an opportunity to further execute departmental programmes.

SPORTS AGAINST CRIME PROGRAMME.

Madam Speaker, in 2006, our first democratically elected president Dr. Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela once said about the importance of sport in our society ***“Sports have the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire, the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where there was once only despair. It is more powerful than governments in breaking down racial barriers. It laughs in the face of all types of discrimination. Sports is the game of lovers.”***

It is for this reason that we strongly believe that this programme is and will remain one of the well-received programmes partnering with the department of Sport, Arts and Culture. We have staged these programmes in four Districts so far, uMkhanyakude, uGu, eThekweni Metro and iLembe Districts. The target is to bring together young people and take them away from the substance abuse and other social ills.

Sports Against Crime programme incorporates several events within it, aiming to educate while entertaining at the same time. It does not only attract young people but old people as well, and we have combined several activities in one day, starting with a roadblock, visitation of a local police station, community engagement before the actual sporting activities.

Chairperson, our aim is to expand on this programme and escalate it to the level of the province, this is where all the winners at district level will come and represent their district at the provincial level. Wherever we have been, we have emphasized to the local municipalities that we are laying a foundation for them to continue. We are going to roll it throughout the province, we are also strengthening police relations at the same time with communities, because there are police teams that participate in this programme.

Madam Speaker and Honourable members, as earlier mentioned that this programme is well received by young and old in our communities. We, therefore, plan to intensify it this financial year and we are also looking at the possibilities of inviting current and former players, not excluding Absa Premiership Coaches to come watch our young talent. Who knows, perhaps a crimefighting initiative can turn out to be a job opportunity to one or two of these poverty-stricken young people we hope to remove from the streets.

We would like to appeal to local business people to support this programme with sports kits and even medals to be awarded to the participants. As both departments including Sports, Arts and Culture in the province we

do our part, but it is not enough. I was impressed to see oMama beyingxenywe yamaqembu ebhola lezandla nabo bebambe iqhaza kanye nabantwana babo, kanjalo nalabo abadayisa khona ezinkundleni zemidlalo. Bangikhumbuza izikhathi kusenemiqhudlwano yezemidlalo ezikoleni, abangahlali nje phansi dekle, kodwa akuthi noma ngabe ithuba lincane kangakanani balisebenzisele ukuxosha ikati eziko. We will continue to use whatever platform at our disposal to display a united front against crime.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

Madam Speaker, the Department has piloted a project of educating learners and parents of special needs pupils to report any acts of sexual harassment at home or in the school vicinity. Gone are the days when society saw it as a norm to look away whenever something illegal or unethical is done to a child or a person living with a disability.

Through a collaboration with the uMkhanyakude Department of Education, Social Development, the National Prosecuting Authority and the SAPS, the Department undertook awareness campaigns within the uMkhanyakude district and visited these special needs schools; Khulani Special School in Hluhluwe, Intuthuko Special School kwaHlabisa and Sisizakele Special School in Ngwavuma. During these consultative sessions parents of these learners were encouraged to always put the safety and the rights of the children above everything else.

These parents and learners alike were assured that they should not hide any cases especially those of a sexual nature, because they fear being stigmatised or physically attacked by the perpetrators, who are usually family members or close neighbours.

This financial year Honourable speaker we are going to roll-out this initiative in all our districts. We must treasure and protect all our children and our department is going to continue implementing projects with service delivery impact during 2021/22 financial year.

ACCOLADES

Madam Speaker allow me to congratulate our teams who won in the 2021/22 Premier's Service Excellence Awards. We are proud of them, and they must continue being exemplary and doing the good work.

- uMgungundlovu District for obtaining a certificate of commendation in the Best Implemented Project of the year category (2018/19 financial year),
- uMkhanyakude District for winning silver in the Best Batho Pele Team of the year category (2019/20 financial year),
- The Provincial Secretariat for Police for winning bronze in the Best COVID-19 Team during the national lockdown
- Communications sub-directorate for winning bronze in the Best Communication Team category during the COVID-19 period (2019/20 financial year).

CONCLUSION

Chairperson, allow me to express my words of gratitude to my colleagues in the Provincial Executive led by the Honourable Premier Sihle Zikalala for the support and guidance that they always give to me.

Let me also thank the Honourable Members of the Portfolio Committee led by the Chairperson Honourable N.B Mthethwa for the wise guidance that they have always provided to us at all times.

I also thank my organisation, the African National Congress for entrusting me with this responsibility. I am humbled by the trust that they have shown to me.

My appreciation also goes to the entire staff complement of the Department of Community Safety and Liaison. A special thanks to the former Head of the Department Mr BS Gumbi, who left the department at the end of March 2022, after having served the department from June 2020. Gumbi has now assumed a new responsibility in the Office of the Premier and we wish him well. Currently Mr Luvuyo Goniwe is acting as the Head of Department, and we wish to thank him for accepting this responsibility.

I would also like to acknowledge and express my appreciation to the Provincial Commissioner, Lieutenant-General Nhlanhla Mkhwanazi, your senior management and staff, for your hard work and commitment in making the people of KwaZulu-Natal safe.

To my family, especially my grandchildren who always brighten my life during my darkest days – I appreciate them. I know that my work and political responsibilities are consuming me a lot but thank you for your patience and understanding

Let's all stand up and build a crime free KwaZulu-Natal!

I THANK YOU!



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LIAISON
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

BUDGET

VOTE 2022

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
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