Monday, 12 February 2018]

**No 53 - 2018] FOURTH SESSION, FIFTH LEGISLATURE**

**LEGISLATURE OF THE PROVINCE**

**OF THE EASTERN CAPE**

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**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER**

Note:

1. Questions for oral reply will be printed in full in the Question Paper for the day for which they have been set down for reply.
2. \*Indicates a question for oral reply.

**QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

MONDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2018

**352. Mr R S Stevenson to ask the Premier:**

1. Whether an amount of R171 million was allegedly prepared to be paid to Liquid Telecommunications for the roll-out of broadband services in the province which is reported to have been subsequently stopped by Provincial Treasury; if so, (a) who authorised the payment; if not, (b) on what basis was the payment made;
2. can he kindly provide reasons as to why was documentation prepared for the abovementioned service provider when the National Treasury did not approve of this contract;
3. (a) who prepared the authority for payment and (b) who approved such payment;
4. (a) what total amount has his Department envisaged for piggyback contract with the abovementioned service provider, (b) how was this amount calculated and (c) whether the piggyback contract included upfront payments; if not,
5. can he kindly provide reasons as to why (a) was an upfront cash payment of R57 million made and (b) does this contract differ in material terms with the piggyback contract of the Western Cape and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;
6. whether a contract exists with the abovementioned service provider; if so, (a) whether the Director General’s signature is on it and (b) who are the other signatories;
7. (a) what services were provided by the abovementioned service provider that justify the abovementioned amount, (b) whether (i) this was intended to be an upfront payment; if so, (ii) any other services were rendered to justify the upfront payment;
8. what was the intention behind paying the abovementioned service provider when there was allegedly no valid contract in place;
9. whether his Office was informed of the contract; if so, (a) did he approve it and (b) when did he approve it;
10. whether his Office is in favour of open bidding processes; if not, why;
11. whether his Office consulted State Information Technology Agency (SITA) in regard to the roll-out of broadband in the province; if so, what did they approve and recommend;
12. (a) can he kindly provide reasons as to why has the said roll-out not been put out for public tender and (b) on what basis has his Office envisaged going into a contract when no competition bidding had taken place;
13. (a) how his Office envisages that a contract will be entered into for the roll-out of broadband in the province and (b) what amount will be budgeted in this regard;
14. (a) whether his Office has any plans in place with a view to conducting a forensic audit into the circumstances surrounding its alleged signing of a contract with the abovementioned service provider; if not, why?

**353. Ms J Cowley to ask the MEC responsible for Education:**

*Noting that Nkwezana Primary School near Sunrise on Sea is reported to be currently undergoing renovation and upgrading:*

1. Whether his Department has conducted an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) before the tender process began; if so, whether the assessment included groundwater testing for potable quality;
2. whether the new structure complies with his Department’s minimum norms and standards with regard to sufficient space for sports fields as well as sufficient toilet facilities, considering that last year’s enrolment was reported to be 712 learners and the likelihood that during the current academic year the school will have increased in numbers;
3. whether his Department envisages (a) the alleged current *modus operandi* of the bus drivers, which involves turning the buses on a narrow main road, thus allegedly blocking all oncoming traffic, will continue after the school is complete, or (b) an alternative arrangement will be made once the school is completed;
4. whether the school was in existence on the same piece of land prior to the development of liquor outlets across the road or the liquor outlets were established first?

**354. Ms J Cowley to ask the MEC responsible for Education:**

*Noting that learners in the rural areas of Committee’s Drift living on the farms of Glendowan, Glen Boyd and Nonzaliseko Farm, are reported to attend schools in the village of Glenmore more than 8km, and in some cases up to 12km away (one way):*

1. Whether he can kindly provide reasons as to why some of these learners are allegedly paying a taxi owner R300 per month in order to be transported to and from school;
2. can he kindly provide reasons for the alleged failure of the schools in Glenmore, namely Zomncane Primary School and Qhayiya High School to initiate the application process for scholar transport for which all the learners qualify and which would bring huge financial relief to the parents of the learners who are reported to be farm workers?

**355. Mr P E van Vuuren to ask the MEC responsible for Education:**

1. Whether he has been informed of an alleged irregularity that reportedly took place prior to the interviews of the Deputy Principal position in the last quarter of 2017 in Missionvale Primary School in the Nelson Mandela District; if not, can he kindly provide details in this regard; if so,
2. whether he has received any representations with regard to a teacher (*name furnished for the purpose of the reply)* who is alleged to be a candidate for the abovementioned post, also alleged to be a member of the shortlisting committee and also reported to have assisted in preparing questions for the interview panel and it is further alleged that the teachers at the school, who also applied for the post, reported this irregularity to the Education Development Officer (EDO) attached to the school but it is alleged that no action was taken about the matter and no feedback has been given; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,
3. (a) can his Department kindly investigate the matter and clarify teachers’ questions regarding the alleged irregularities and (b) what steps his Department envisages to take or has taken with a view to resolving this matter?
4. **Mr P E van Vuuren to ask the MEC responsible for Education:**
5. Whether he has been informed of a substitute teacher (*name and details furnished for the purpose of the reply)* at KwaNoxolo Primary School in Bethelsdorp in the 2016 academic year; if not, can he kindly provide details in this regard; if so,

1. can he kindly provide the (a) contract or agreement that states the intended timeframe as a substitute teacher and (b) the proof of payment for the months that she was a substitute teacher;
2. whether (a) the teaching posts for the abovementioned school have been advertised in November 2017; if so, (d) these posts have been filled?

**357. Ms J Cowley to ask the MEC responsible for Finance, Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism:**

*Noting that a moratorium was allegedly placed on mining in the Xolobeni area by the Minister of Mineral Resources in September 2016, which is reportedly due to expire in March 2018, and further noting that thousands of tons of sand are alleged to be illegally mined along most stretches of the Wild Coast every day:*

1. Whether he can kindly specify what this sand is being used for;
2. whether he has been informed of any activities around the alleged illegal mining of the sand which include extraction of Titanium; if so, who is benefitting, directly or indirectly, from the alleged activities; if not, what is the position in this regard;
3. whether his Department has taken any steps with a view to enforcing National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act No. 107 of 1998, contraventions in the province, particularly along the Wild Coast, considering that the Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT) has allegedly tried unsuccessfully to engage with the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) in this regard and may not act in their absence;
4. whether the fact that DEDEAT is allegedly unable to act against the DMR thus effectively give the DMR free rein to engage in mining related activities without fear of consequence in the province?

1. **Mr J P J Botha to ask the MEC responsible for Social Development:**

Whether she can kindly provide details on the progress of the registration process of obtaining a birth certificate for an individual *(name furnished for the purpose of the reply)* from Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality (NMBMM), an application reportedly lodged in 2017 financial year and a response of acknowledgement was allegedly sent from her Department on 12 September 2017 however it is alleged that the individual has yet to receive the birth certificate?

1. **Mr J P J Botha to ask the MEC responsible for Social Development:**

*In pursuance to a reply from the MEC on IQP 28 Question 159 (4) dated Friday, 18 August 2017 with regard to the number of adoption applications received in the specified financial years which were as follows: 2013/14: 89; 2014/15: 117; and 2015/16: 208:*

Whether she can kindly provide the number of the abovementioned adoption applications that were successful in the above specified financial years as at the latest date for which information is available; if not successful, can she kindly provide reasons for the adoption applications to be denied?

**360. Mr Y Tetyana to ask the MEC responsible for Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture:**

*With reference to the alleged appointment of the Chairperson (name furnished for the purpose of the reply) of Eastern Cape Provincial Heritage Resources Authority (ECPHRA), following the resignation of the previous Chairperson, it has been reported that after the appointment, the Council discussed and resolved the appointment of the organization’s Manager.*

 *Subsequent to the above, an advert for the post of Manager is reported to have been placed on EP Herald and Daily Dispatch on the 30 October 2017 where enquiries were to be directed to the Chairperson. It is further alleged that the Chairperson selected the shortlisting and interview panels, then recused herself and informed the Council that she has also applied for the position of Manager.*

 *It has been reported that the candidate was later appointed in a full Council Meeting reportedly called last minute despite the Acting Manager’s advice on postponement of the said meeting which is reported to have been overlooked and ignored. Subsequently it is alleged that an announcement ensued where the candidate was appointed as the new Manager at the ECPHRA with effect from 1 February 2018:*

1. Whether she can kindly provide details as to how was the abovementioned Chairperson appointed as the Manager yet it is alleged that she was responsible for shortlisting the candidates, therefore implying that she shortlisted herself;
2. whether she has been informed that despite the alleged unethical appointment, it is further alleged that there were only four out of eight members of the panel present and how did the process continue without the meeting having quorum to carry on with the interview process;
3. whether her Department (a) has put any plans in place with a view to addressing the alleged invalid appointment which is reported to have disregarded the mandatory ethical steps and (b) envisages to continue with the alleged unethical appointment or (c) envisages to nullify the appointment and undertake to re-advertise the post; if so, what are the relevant details?

**361. Mr R S Stevenson to ask the MEC responsible for Transport, Safety and Liaison:**

(1) Whether she can kindly provide the total number of (a) deaths caused by taxi violence and (b) taxi violence incidents that occurred in the province for each district municipality in (i) 2015/16 and (ii) 2016/17 financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

(2) can she kindly provide details of specific areas that are most likely to be the victim of taxi violence and provide reasons in this regard;

(3) whether her Department has taken any steps with a view to stopping the violent acts; if not, why and can she kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

(4) (a) what are the major causes of taxi violence in the province and (b) which particular causes are most prevalent and (c) in what areas;

(5) (a) whether the South African Police Services (SAPS) have the sufficient crime intelligence capacity to deal with the abovementioned issues; if not, why, and (b) what steps has her Department taken with a view to improving the crime intelligence in the province and can she kindly provide the relevant details in this regard?

**362.** **Mr R S Stevenson to ask the MEC responsible for Transport, Safety and Liaison:**

1. Whether she can kindly provide the prerequisites, with regard to education levels, needed to apply to become a member of the South African Police Services (SAPS);
2. (a) how many people have applied to become law enforcement officers in (i) 2014/15, (ii) 2015/16 and (iii) 2016/17 financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available; (b) of the abovementioned people how many were (i) rejected or (ii) accepted and (c) can she kindly provide, with relevant details, the grounds on which the abovementioned applications were rejected;
3. how many SAPS officers are known to be illiterate that fall under the following age groups (i) 18 – 25, (ii) 26 – 35, (iii) 36 – 45, (iv) 46 – 55 and (v) 55+ respectively;
4. (a) what provisions has her Department made with a view to assisting the illiterate police officers in completing their daily administrative duties and (b) what are her Department’s expectations from them on a day to day basis with reference to their job description and can she kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;
5. whether her Department has put any plans in place with a view to assisting those who are illiterate in the SAPS; if not, why;
6. can she kindly provide reasons as to why there are a number of illiterate SAPS officers;
7. whether the SAPS has invested in adult education for its members and can she kindly provide the relevant details in this regard?