Friday, 24 July 2020]

**No 21 - 2020] SECOND SESSION, SIXTH 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.

1. \*Indicates a question for oral reply.

**QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

FRIDAY, 24 JULY 2020

**480. Mr J P J Botha to ask the Premier:**

1. What are the current total Telkom accounts for the province over the (i) 2016/17, (ii) 2017/18, (iii) 2018/19 and (iv) 2019/20 financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;
2. what was the Telkom account, per department, for the financial years specified above as at the latest specified date for which information is available:
3. how many Telkom lines (a) does the province currently pay for and (b) per department, are currently in use;
4. what is the category of each of the Telkom lines noted in (3) above, i.e. whether the line is for a landline, mobile, Wi-Fi, fibre, broadband, etc.?

**481. Mr J P J Botha to ask the Premier:**

1. How many, if any, contracts has his Office (a) cancelled and/or (b) put on hold for the (i) 2018/19, (ii) 2019/20 and (iii) 2020/21 financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;
2. why has his Office cancelled and/or put these projects on hold;
3. what was the purpose/jobs specification of each of the abovementioned contracts;
4. who were the contractors and/ or suppliers which his Office has awarded the abovementioned contracts;
5. what was the stage of completion for each of the abovementioned projects;
6. how much has his Office (a) spent, to date, on each project and (b) retrieved for the cancelled contracts;
7. (a) which of the abovementioned contracts has his Office re-awarded and (b) can he kindly outline to whom has his Office awarded these projects?

**482. Mr J P J Botha to ask the Premier:**

*Noting the decision allegedly made by the Premier to set up a Project Management Unit in the Department of Health to bolster the province’s response to the COVID-19 outbreak which will report directly to the Premier:*

1. What is the (a) official mandate of the committee and (b) intended purpose of the committee;
2. (a) who his Office anticipates the committee will consist of and (b) whether he can kindly provide an organogram in this regard outlining the reporting lines of the committee;
3. whether an assessment or report has formed the basis of the decision to form the committee; if so, can he kindly provide the report in this regard;
4. what is the (a) total budget and (b) budget spent to date for the functioning of the committee;
5. what are the achievements of the committee to date?

**483. Mr R S Stevenson to ask the MEC responsible for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:**

*With reference to the water infrastructure in the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality (BCMM) and Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality (NMBMM):*

1. What is the (a) percentage rate of water loss in each of the above specified municipalities in the (i) 2017/18, (ii) 2018/19, (iii) 2019/20, (iv) 2020/21 financial years as the latest specified date for which information is available and (b) current maintenance backlog cost for water infrastructure in each of the municipalities specified above;
2. what is the planned (a) expenditure, in rands, for each of the above specified municipalities for repairs and maintenance on water infrastructure and (b) capital for the abovementioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;
3. whether his Department anticipates the plans in (2) above will address the future water demand forecast for each municipality in the province; if so, can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;
4. what measures is each of the abovementioned municipalities taking with a view to addressing water demand and consumption?

**484. Mr S Magaqa to ask the MEC responsible for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:**

*With reference to contracts awarded to Independent Group t/a Mamlambo Construction by the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality (BCMM):*

1. How many contracts has the aforementioned municipality awarded to Independent Group t/a Mamlambo Construction in the (i) 2017/18, (ii) 2018/19 and (iii) 2019/20 financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;
2. (a) in each of the contracts, what was (aa) the nature of the project (bb) name of the project and (b) where in the Buffalo City were the projects for each of the financial years mentioned in (1) above;
3. whether all these contracts were an open tender and/or closed tender in each of the financial years mentioned above; if so, (a) which contracts were (aa) open tenders and (bb) closed tenders and (b) why were other contracts closed tenders;
4. whether there are any deviations caused by either extension of (a) contract and (b) the scope of work in each of the contracts awarded in the three financial years mentioned above; if so, can he kindly provide the (i) reasons for deviations and (ii) cost of deviations;
5. whether the independent group has sub-contracted work to Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMMEs) in each of the contracts awarded by the BCMM in each of the financial years mentioned above; if so, (a) in which contracts and (b) can he kindly provide (aa) name of the sub-contractor and (bb) scope of work carried by the sub-contractors; if not, why;
6. what is the total value of each of the contracts awarded to the independent group to the aforementioned municipality for each of the financial years mentioned above?

**485. Ms V Knoetze to ask the MEC responsible for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:**

*With regard to the appointment of Section 56 Senior Manager in Dr Beyers Naude Municipality:*

1. Whether the aforementioned municipality has sought a waiver/condonation from the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs in terms of Section 56 (6) of the Municipal Systems Act (Act 32 of 2003) for the appointment of an individual *(name furnished for the purpose of the reply)* given that individual allegedly does not meet the minimum requirements for appointment as a Senior Manager on the basis of having no BA degree; if not, why;
2. whether the Municipal Finance Management Competency still forms part of the legislated requirements for the appointment of Senior Managers; if not, why; if so,
3. whether there is still leeway for appointees to acquire the Certificate post-appointment; if so, (a) what are the time-frame stipulations in this regard and (b) whether failure to acquire such certificate would nullify/void the appointment;
4. whether a referee of a candidate is entitled to sit on the shortlisting panel and the interview panel; if not, what impact would this have on any appointment done under such conditions?

**486. Ms V Knoetze to ask the MEC responsible for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:**

*Noting that on Tuesday, 14 July 2020 the Council of the Walter Sisulu Local Municipality allegedly appointed the General Manager: Infrastructure Services:*

1. On what basis did the Council appoint a candidate that scored “basic” over a candidate who scored “competent”;
2. based on the qualifications of both, can he kindly supply a justification for the manner in which the appointed candidate scored 90% against the 83% of the candidate that ranked second;
3. what are the (a) qualifications and (b) work experience of the (aa) appointed candidate and (bb) the candidate ranked second;
4. (a) who his Department anticipates will conduct training for the candidate that was appointed on a “basic” competency, (b) when his Department envisages the training will be conducted and (c) at what cost to the municipality does his Department anticipate the training will be;
5. how does the Council justify appointing someone that must still be trained with a “basic” competency over someone that needs no training with a “competent” competency?

**487. Mr R Odendaal to ask the MEC responsible for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:**

*Noting the recent appointment of an individual (name furnished for the purpose of the reply) as Acting City Manager in Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality (NMBMM):*

1. Whether his Department is satisfied that the individual possess over the necessary minimum competencies to act in the position; if so, can he kindly specify how the individual qualifies to act in said position; if not, (a) why and (b) whether his Department envisages it will still liaise with NMBMM in this regard;
2. whether the individual has been charged and/or faced any disciplinary processes over the course of his employment at NMBMM; if so, (a) can he kindly provide the details as to the charges that he faced in the aforesaid instances and (b) what was the outcome of these disciplinary processes/hearings;
3. whether his Department is of the view that the individual is a suitably experienced individual to head up the administration in NMBMM; if so, why; if not, (a) why and (b) what measures has his Department put in place with regard to said appointment?

**488. Mr Y Cassim to ask the MEC responsible for Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism:**

1. Whether he has been informed of the reported inadequate boundary fencing of Oviston Nature Game Reserve, Venterstad, in the Albert District; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, who is the owner of the Oviston Nature Game Reserve;
2. (a) how long has the fence been deemed inadequate and (b) what consequences have been experienced by the lack of proper fencing to Oviston Nature Game Reserve and the neighbouring farm, Mieliepap;
3. whether his Department has ever received any communication notifying of the inadequate fencing; if so, (a) when was the initial communication received and (b) what action has his Department taken since then to rectify the situation;
4. (a) when his Department envisages the rectification of the fencing will be completed and (b) what is the total cost of the rectification?

**489. Mr Y Cassim to ask the MEC responsible for Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism:**

1. Whether he has been informed that the Sundays River was reportedly closed to the public during the National Lockdown period that was implemented on Friday, 27 March 2020; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, when was the river (a) closed and (b) re-opened;
2. who authorised the closure of the aforementioned river;
3. (a) on what basis was the abovementioned river closed and (b) what are the reasons for the time-frames of when the aforementioned river was closed from 06:00 to 18:00;
4. who is responsible for the river mentioned above?

**490. Mr Y Cassim to ask the MEC responsible for Education:**

1. Whether there are any schools in the province that have received the incorrect  Personal Protective Equipment **(**PPE); if so, how many schools received incorrect PPE;
2. when was the PPE eventually delivered to the school;
3. whether the incorrect PPE has since been collected and distributed to the correct department; if not, why;
4. what incorrect PPE was delivered to schools;
5. whether the initial delivery of the incorrect PPE has delayed any schools in opening; if so, how many schools were affected in this regard?

**491. Mr R Odendaal to ask the MEC responsible for Finance:**

*Noting the state of municipal finances amidst the COVID-19 pandemic:*

1. What total amount has each provincial municipality spent in relation to the procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic within the 2019/20 financial year as at the latest specified date for which information is available;
2. which municipalities have tabled adjustments budgets to regularize any COVID-19 related spending for the aforementioned financial year as at the latest specified date for which information is available;
3. which municipalities have failed to table an adjustments budget to regularize COVID-19 related spending for the financial year specified above as at the latest specified date for which information is available;
4. what consequence management has his Department put in place in case of the failure by these municipalities to table an adjustments budget;
5. whether the failure by these municipalities to table an adjustments budget would lead to any unauthorized and or irregular expenditure being incurred for said COVID-19 related spending; if so, what total amount his Department envisages will such expenditure incurred be in each specific case;
6. in evaluating the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on provincial municipalities, can he kindly provide the (a) Cost Coverage Ratio, (b) Collection Rate, (c) Liquidity Ratio, (d) total debtors and (e) total creditors for the (i) 2019/20 and (ii) 2018/19 financial years for each of the respective municipalities as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

**492. Mr R Odendaal to ask the MEC responsible for Finance:**

1. Whether the National Treasury has withheld any grant funding from Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality (NMBMM); if so, which grant funding;
2. what total amount was withheld in each instance;
3. what were the reasons for the National Treasury withholding the grant funding;
4. since when has the grant funding been withheld;
5. whether the National Treasury has provided NMBMM with any compliance matters that the city must attend to; if so, what are those compliance matters;
6. what effect his Department envisages such withholding of grant funding will have on the NMBMM;
7. whether the Provincial Treasury has intervened in any way in order to assist the NMBMM; if so, how; if not, why?

**493. Ms J Cowley to ask the MEC responsible for Health:**

*Noting that the Sulenkama Hospital is alleged to be in a state of dilapidation and further noting that repairs to the buildings have allegedly been effected to the value of R300 million:*

1. (a) What was the full budget allocated to the repairs or reconstruction of the Sulenkama Hospital and (b) when was the money allocated;
2. (a) in which financial year was the construction or maintenance work due to start and (b) what were the time-frames for the completion of the work, from the beginning to the end of the contract;
3. (a) what was the complete Scope of Works on-site and (b) who has her Department awarded the contract for the work;
4. what is the current status of the work done at the aforementioned hospital;
5. if the work is yet to be completed, what are the time-frames allocated for the completion of the work at the hospital mentioned above?

**494. Ms J Cowley to ask the MEC responsible for Health:**

*Noting that at the Frontier Hospital in eKomani, the shortage of staff is reportedly so severe that COVID-19 and other patients can wait between 24 and 48 hours before being attended to by nurses or doctors, as a very high percentage of frontline staff are allegedly currently in quarantine and/or isolation, further noting that it is reportedly impossible for a hospital to function effectively or even partially without sufficient qualified professional clinical staff and lastly noting that the tent which was supplied for triaging incoming patients in the parking lot of Frontier Hospital is alleged to be completely inappropriate as the temperatures are too extreme for such outside activities:*

1. What immediate steps her Department anticipates will be taken with a view to ensuring that sufficient clinicians and medical officers are seconded to the Frontier Hospital so that patients in the facility can be attended to on a regular basis according to national norms and standards;
2. what immediate steps her Department envisages will be taken with a view to ensuring that all vacant funded posts are filled as a matter of urgency;
3. what immediate steps her Department anticipates will be taken with a view to ensuring that an alternative space is provided for the triaging of incoming patients, as the tent is allegedly not suitable in the winter climate?

**495. Ms J Cowley to ask the MEC responsible for Health:**

*Noting that according to the Eastern Cape Department of Health’s updates, the number of mortalities due to the COVID-19 virus in Nelson Mandela Bay has not changed from Tuesday, 30 June until Monday, 20 July 2020 and further noting that there is clear evidence from hospitals, forensic pathology laboratories and funeral parlours that this is totally false:*

1. Who is responsible for updating the number of mortalities in the Nelson Mandela Bay District on a daily basis;
2. what reasons are given for this very serious lapse in accuracy regarding statistics as this impacts directly and negatively on the crafting of an effective response to the pandemic in the metro;
3. whether her Department has approached an independent body to practise quality assurance in monitoring daily statistics, as false information released by her Department could be construed as intentionally misleading the public; if not, why;
4. why has the number of mortalities in the aforementioned district not been updated on the Eastern Cape Socio-Economic Consultative Council (ECSECC) dashboard, which all provincial leadership structures have access to, but nobody has questioned?

**496. Mr S Magaqa to ask the MEC responsible for Human Settlements:**

*With reference to the Consumer Education and Awareness Programme of the Department of Human Settlements:*

1. What areas of education are covered by the consumer education and awareness program of her Department as mentioned in the Policy Speech of her Department;
2. (a) in which districts and/or municipalities has the consumer education and awareness programme been implemented, (b) when were these awareness programmes undertaken, (c) which unit in her Department is undertaking this initiative and (d) who conducts these awareness programs;
3. what has been the (a) impact (b) lessons learnt and (c) challenges identified when implementing her Department’s consumer education and awareness programme;
4. what is the duration of conducting each of the consumer education and awareness programmes?

**497. Mr S Magaqa to ask the MEC responsible for Human Settlements:**

*With reference to the Finance Linked Individual Subsidy Program (FLISP) of the Department of Human Settlements:*

1. Whether her Department has put any plans in place with a view to ensuring that the FLISP is implemented in other municipalities besides the two metros in the province; if so, what plans;
2. what challenges has her Department identified in implementing the FLISP in other areas besides the two metros in the province?

**498. Ms V Knoetze to ask the MEC responsible for Public Works:**

*Noting that the Department of Public Works allegedly bought a school property (Erf 576) from the Moravian Church in Clarkson, Koukamma Municipality in 2015:*

1. What total amount has his Department paid for the aforementioned property;
2. whether the property mentioned above has been transferred to his Department yet; if so, whether the property is reflected on the asset register; if not, why;
3. what total amount has his Department spent on building a new school;
4. whether his Department is in possession of the title deed; if so, can he kindly produce a copy of the title deed; if not, why;
5. whether he can kindly supply a copy of the deed of sale for this property;
6. whether he can kindly supply a map of the location of the aforementioned property?

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

1. Noting that COVID-19 has reportedly seen a rapid increase in farm attacks that threatens food security in the province, what practical steps her Department envisages it will be recommending with a view to curb these farm attacks and to protect food security in the province;
2. whether her Department anticipates it will implement a dashboard system to monitor the attacks and develop an appropriate response to the data analytics in respect of farm attacks in the province; if so, can she kindly provide the relevant details in this regard; if not, why;
3. noting the many innovative solutions to respond to farm attacks, whether her Department envisages it would be willing to partner with farming communities to further roll out innovative solutions to deep rural areas in the province to protect provincial farmers and rural communities; if so, (a) what are the possible solutions and (b) when can it be anticipated for these solutions to be rolled out?

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

1. (a) How many stations are ranked as rural stations in the province and (b) what are their names;
2. how many of the stations in (1) above (a) fully comply with the Rural Safety Policy and (b) are actually patrolling and can she kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;
3. (a) how are these rural stations resourced and (b) what shortages are currently being experienced in terms of (a) manpower, (b) vehicles, (c) office equipment, (d) Wi-Fi, (f) office stationery, (g) reliable plumbing, (h) reliable electricity and (i) a generator and can she kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;
4. what additional resources are made specifically available for farm attacks i.e. (a) specialized forensic capability, (b) specialized crime scene analysts, (c) specialized trauma counselling, (d) other (can she kindly elaborate) and (e) what future plans has her Department put in place in this regard;
5. whether the rural stations have sufficient, adequate and functional vehicles to access the crime scene(s); if not, (a) why and (b) what measures has her Department put in place with a view to correct the situation;
6. what specialist training are the south African Police Service (SAPS) responders given to deal with (a) farm attacks in the province and (b) the follow-up work involved;
7. how many of these stations actually work with the private security companies in these rural communities;
8. whether the SAPS has made any arrests in the last 5 cases of farm attacks in the province; if not, why; if so, can she kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;
9. what is the average turnaround time on forensics for farm attacks in the province and can she kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;
10. whether her Department anticipates to request the Premier to implement an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Rural Safety to regularly report back on rural safety issues in the province; if not, why;
11. whether her Department receives any reports form the SAPS Rural Safety Priority Unit; if so, (a) what do these reports suggest and (b) what actions is her Department taking in this regard; if not, why;
12. what is the estimated cost of farm theft and crime on farms to the economy of the province;
13. whether her Department anticipates, with a view to consider a Rural Safety Summit, to invite experts in the field to assist the province in developing practical steps to curb farm murders in the province; if not, why;
14. whether her Department envisages it will support the call for farm murders to be declared as hate crimes given the brutality involved in many of these farm attacks; if not, why?

**501. Mr P E van Vuuren to ask the MEC responsible for Social Development:**

1. Whether she has been informed of any organisation/Non-Profit Organisation (NPO) which receives a subsidy from her Department that did not receive any or the full complement of Personal Protective Equipment **(**PPE) needed to ensure the safety of staff and residents or those receiving services from the organisation; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,
2. whether her Department has conducted an initial needs assessment with organisations to determine what PPE is needed; if so, (a) when was the assessment conducted and (b) what PPE items were needed;
3. how many organisations/NPOs, per programme, (a) have received all the needed PPE, (b) did not receive all the needed PPE and (c) did not receive any PPE from her Department;
4. whether she can kindly specify (a) which organisations received PPE, (b) what PPE was received and the number of units received and (c) which organisations did not receive PPE;
5. whether she can kindly provide the reasons as to why PPE has not been distributed to organisations/NPOs;
6. what are the effects of the lack of PPE on the organisation and the patients or those who receive services from these organisations?

**502. Mr P E van Vuuren to ask the MEC responsible for Social Development:**

1. Whether she has been informed of the Social Development Office in Cleary Park in Nelson Mandela Bay that is utilised by the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA); if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,
2. (a) who makes use of the office, (b) for what purposes and (c) who is responsible for the payment of that office;
3. whether she has been informed that the office space is reportedly also utilised by the African National Congress (ANC); if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) why is the office space allegedly utilised by a political party and (b) who her Department anticipates will be held responsible for allowing such occupation to take place?

**503. Ms N Zibonda to ask the MEC responsible for Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture:**

*With reference to the Graaff-Reinet Museum:*

1. Whether she has been informed that the Museum has reportedly been closed since Wednesday, 18 March 2020; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what measures has her Department put in place with a view to assist in the museum’s current crisis;
2. what support has her Department and/provincial government provided for the aforementioned museum;
3. what total amount has her Department and/provincial government spent on the museum mentioned above in the (i) 2018/19, (ii) 2019/20 and (iii) 2020/21 financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;
4. how (a) does the abovementioned museum generate its source of income and (b) has the lockdown affected the museum in this regard;
5. when last has her Department undertaken an oversight visit to the aforementioned museum?

**504. Mr M von Buchenroder to ask the MEC responsible for Transport:**

*With reference to the Integrated Public Transport System (IPTS) in Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality:*

1. What has been the progress with IPTS since its inception;
2. how much has the system cost to implement to date;
3. what are the current operational challenges for the IPTS?

**505. Mr M von Buchenroder to ask the MEC responsible for Transport:**

*With reference to COVID-19 pandemic:*

1. (a) How many Driving Licence Testing Centres have been closed in the province since the easing of lockdown and (b) can she kindly provide a list of closures;
2. (a) when were these centres (aa) closed and (bb) re-opened and (b) for how long have the centres been closed, can she kindly provide a list per district in this regard;
3. from the centres that were closed due to COVID-19, how many centres were deep-cleaned and sanitized;
4. what (a) is the staff complement of each of the centres and (b) are the positions held by the staff and can she kindly provide a list per district;
5. how many employees, per centre and per district, are currently in quarantine?

**506. Mr M von Buchenroder to ask the MEC responsible for Transport:**

*With reference to vehicle GGF 448 EC:*

1. Whether she has been informed of the accident the government vehicle mentioned above was involved in; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, can she kindly provide the details of the accident;
2. what damages were caused to this vehicle;
3. what will be the cost to repair this vehicle;
4. whether she can kindly provide the reasons for this vehicle being used during the time of the accident;
5. whether this vehicle is used for official government business; if not, why is it being used;
6. how long her Department anticipates this vehicle will be off the road?