

NORTH WEST PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE



**REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ON THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE
PLAN/BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2010/11(SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
BRANCH)**

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REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ON THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN/ BUDGET BRIEFING FOR THE YEAR 2010/11

1. INTRODUCTION

The Department of Health and Social Development (Social Development branch) briefed the committee on its strategic plan and also unveiled its allocated budget for 2010/11. The purpose of the strategic plan is to set out strategic policy priorities and plans that shall be applicable to the Social Development branch from 2010/11 and also highlight challenges that may threaten Department's effort towards identified priorities and remedial actions. The Social Development branch budget amounts to R749 875 000.00m.

2. PURPOSE

The objective of the meeting was to receive a briefing from the Social Development branch on the 2010/11 Annual Performance Plan. This was done in order for the Portfolio Committee to engage with the departmental Annual Performance Plan and budget for the 2010/11 financial year.

3. BUDGET PER PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME	BUDGET
1. Administration	R 70 911 000.00
2. Social Welfare Services	R567 175 000.00
3. Development and Research	R111 789 000.00
TOTAL	R749 875 000.00

4. Main services to be delivered by the Department:

- Rebuilding of the family, community and social relations
- Monitoring the implementation of the integrated poverty eradication strategy
- Reduction of violence against women and children, older persons and other vulnerable groups.
- Youth development

- Transformation of social welfare services
- Prevention, care and support for people infected and affected by HIV and AIDS.

5. CHALLENGES FACED BY THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT BRANCH

- Shortage of corporate support personnel
- Decrease of R12m on baseline budget for the core programmes.
- Transfer of R78 million to Human Settlements for corporate support.
- Transfer of R44 million from core programmes to fund corporate support, resulting in under allocations of R34million on corporate support and R44million on core programmes.
- Insufficient office accommodation.
- Inadequate social welfare infrastructure.
- Inadequate programme performance information systems.
- Allocated budget for funding of non-governmental organizations is not adequate to respond to the growing need to fight the impact of HIV and AIDS on the poor.
- Project and financial management capacity is still a challenge for many nongovernmental organizations.
- HIV and AIDS coordinators at service point level have multiple responsibilities e.g. coordinate many programmes and still perform routine Social Work functions.

▪ CONCERNS RAISED BY THE COMMITTEE

- South African Social Security Agency is still experiencing long queues at pay points during the payment of grants.
- There is inadequate budget to cater for Masupatsela that is already operating at Vryburg and Taung.
- There is no implementation of Skills Development Programme at the Social Development branch for staff development.
- The Committee raised the point that there is no clear information on whether the South African Social Security Agency account to National Department or to the MEC in Province.

- Social Development branch experience shortage of personnel at the service point e.g. Tlakgammeng village.
- Most of the vehicles at SASSA are un-roadworthy especially those transporting money to the pay points.
- There are no tents and toilets at the service points; people are receiving money on an open space at some of the pay points.
- SASSA is utilizing the government equipments even though they are on their own e.g. telephones, offices and vehicles.
- Social Development is experiencing poor management of contracts.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Committee should be provided with a report on how the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) is going to address long queues experienced at the pay points.
- Social Development should allocate adequate budget to enable them to pay Masupatsela.
- There should be an implementation programme for the skill development at the Social Development branch.
- South African Social Security Agency should operate within the parameter of the Department.
- Social Development should increase personnel at pay point to enable the delivery of services effectively and sufficiently to the community of North West Province.
- SASSA should be provided with roadworthy vehicles to transport money to the pay points.
 - Poor management of contracts should be addressed as a matter of urgency.
 - The department should review pay points and eliminate those that are not viable.
 - Cash Pay Master Services (CPS) as a sub-contract should be reviewed given to the fact that it has been operating for quite a long time in the Province.

Social Development should submit the following reports to the Portfolio Committee:

- A report on how the department is going to address matters raised by the Auditor General.

- A specific report on the work done SASSA to date should be submitted to the Portfolio Committee and should a report should include the following:
 - A strategic plan to solve all the problems affecting the grand receipts
 - Total number of people receiving grants in the Province.
 - A copy of service level agreement
 - Name of the shareholders of SASSA
- A quarterly report of War on Poverty Eradication Strategy should be submitted to the Portfolio Committee similar to the one submitted to the Office of the President.
- A quarterly performance report that includes internal audit report should be submitted to the Portfolio Committee.
- The MEC should carry the mandate to the MINMEC that they should do away with the third party arrangement at SASSA pay points.

7. CONCLUSION

The Committee commended the Department on its detailed Annual Performance Plan and budget presentation. The Committee also requests the house to approve the budget for the 2010/11 financial year.



Hon M. Mokomele-Mothibi

Chairperson: Health and Social Development

19 | 05 | 2010

Date