



**COVID-19**



Province of the  
**EASTERN CAPE**  
SAFETY & LIAISON

# **POLICY** SPEECH **2020/21** ADDENDUM



Province of the  
**EASTERN CAPE**  
SAFETY & LIAISON

Department of Safety and Liaison  
Policy Speech 2020/21 Address  
Honourable MEC Weziwe Tikana-Gxothiwe  
Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature  
Bhisho

**Honourable Speaker**

Deputy Speaker

Honourable Premier

Members of the Executive Council

Chairpersons of Portfolio Committees

Honourable Members

Traditional Leaders

South African Police Service (SAPS) Provincial Commissioner –

***Wishing her a speedy recovery***

Regional Commissioner – Correctional Services

Chief of the Nelson Mandela Bay Metro Police

Chairperson of the Community Police Board

Chairpersons of the Community Police Fora (CPF)

Safety Patrollers, Street and Village Committees

Officials from the Department of Safety and Liaison

Special guests

Government Officials

Distinguished guests and members of the media

Ladies and gentlemen

Peace Loving Citizens of the Eastern Cape Province

**Good day to you all!**

**Honourable Speaker**, the financial year 2020/21 will be a year of uncharted waters that are laden with unexpected battles for the entire country. Our collective response to Coronavirus, demands that the entire nation seize control of the virus. The division and independence of our provinces will be the practical test of our resolute response to beating the pandemic. The Eastern Cape is no different in this regard, our leadership and support of citizens must pave a shining example for the success in implementing safety measures of social distancing, hygiene and a new way of engagement. The Safety and security sector will not be spared from challenges that many other departments face such as health, finance, education and others.

I am quite certain the occasion of the State of the Province Address (SOPA), is still vivid in our minds, upon which, the Honourable Premier affirmed that ***“community safety is our responsibility and all of us must work together with the police to ensure safety of the people in the community, particularly the vulnerable groups”***.

The strategic directive of the Premier has never been as relevant as it is now. As we augment the concerted efforts of our government, business, labour and civil society are large, to curb the spread of the Coronavirus, we ought to acclimatise our strategic path to the immediate, medium and long term challenges that have been brought forth by the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Honourable Speaker**, please allow me to hasten to get to the business of the day.

I am pleased to present to this august house and to the people of the Eastern Cape an amended plan that will contribute to the reduction of crime from our communities. This plan has taken into cognisance the emergence of COVID-19. The proposed Provincial Program of Action plan, invites multiple government sectors, age group populations, religious, business, traditional and other institutions to mobilise and create a ***“Safer Eastern Cape with reliable, accountable and effective policing”***.

As a matter of urgency, and in response to rock solid confidence displayed by the people of the Eastern Cape in the African National Congress (ANC) on 9 May 2019, we are certain that the strategic plan that we are tabling here today, will indeed take the province to a higher trajectory with regard to the fight against crime. We particularly pay long overdue attention to crime against women and children and the most vulnerable of society.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of February, the Premier launched the **GENDER BASED VIOLENCE & FEMICIDE RAPID RESPONSE INITIATIVE in OR Tambo**. As a member of the Provincial Interim Steering Committee, I wasted no time in advancing one of the pillars of “**safer schools and families**”. Thirty-eight (38) schools in Lusikisiki and Flagstaff were brought together to empower learners on how to blow the whistle on sexual offenders and how to deal with perpetrators that are meant to safe guard them. This session was also sought to bridge the gap between parents, children and communities at large.

**Honourable Speaker**, the last five years of the democratic government has witnessed interesting policy development and experimentation. The White Paper on Safety and Security, 2016, and the Provincial Safety Strategy as some of the good development that took place during the 5<sup>th</sup> administration.

Despite these policy interventions and strategies, our province is still confronted by high levels of violent crimes. At the same time, we continue to see a scary rise in Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Femicide and murder, especially in rural parts of the province. The women, elderly and children are on the receiving end of this inhumanity. Our institutions of higher learning are also increasingly becoming a hive of GBV and Femicide.

It is in this context that the sixth administration has vowed that we cannot continue with this same insanity. In the words of Albert Einstein – “**Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results**”. As the Coronavirus dictates, we

need a radical review and overhaul of our current approaches towards the creation of safe communities.

During the MTSF period, we shall firm-up and strengthen our cooperation, collaboration and integration of efforts with all our stakeholders in an endeavour to mobilise our communities behind the banner of a safe and crime free province.

This Department shall enter into binding agreements with our sister departments at Local, Provincial and National levels. We shall also work with non-governmental organisations and other institutions on specific areas of service delivery.

We will continue with our robust engagement with the Local sphere of Government in order to ensure that each municipality adopts and resource a Community Safety Plan that will be driven and located at a ward level - through Community Safety Forums (CSF). All relevant stakeholders shall be consulted and encouraged to join hands and adequately respond to the clarion call made by citizens of the province when they said, **WE WANT TO BE, AND FEEL SAFE WHERE WE LIVE.**

We are going to strengthen and consolidate our collaborative efforts with Community Police Forums (CPF) in the province. We shall ensure that we contribute significantly in all outstanding and future discussions about the positioning and resourcing of this function with a clear view, that community participation will be maximised in order to succeed in defeating crime and its causal factors and effects.

**Honourable Speaker**, the Premier has given us a directive to resuscitate the Justice Crime and Prevention Security Cluster as a standalone structure for more effective integrated approach to service delivery. I confirm that this is at the top of the list of our priorities and is receiving requisite attention.

**Honourable members**, we have seen a disturbing situation where some of the criminal cases of Gender-Based and Domestic

Violence cases are struck out of the court roll for one reason or the other. In this term, we shall rollout the Court Watching Brief programme prioritising Gender-Based cases.

This intervention seeks to provide information on and reasons for the withdrawal, dismissal and striking off the court roll of these cases. This requires strategic and programmatic partnerships with institutions of Higher learning with Law Faculties.

This initiative will allow for effective oversight over the police's role in ensuring court-ready case dockets are handled properly, but most importantly, this will result in the identification of systemic problems to be addressed by the Provincial SAPS management, the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) and others within the justice system, thus enabling an improved turnaround time in these cases .

**Honourable Speaker**, we shall oversee the establishment and functionality of the Provincial DNA testing laboratory. Work in this regard is at an advanced stage. This infrastructure will ensure speedy finalisation of criminal cases without relying on other provinces for this critical service.

The sixth administration, will bring the re-positioning of the department to be the centre of anti-crime activism. Consistent with the public pronouncements by the Honourable Premier, we have already engaged with the DPSA with a view to rename the department into the Department of Community Safety with relevant capacity building.

All of these strategic interventions are aimed, amongst others, at placing the citizens of the province as development champions and agents of change for a crime free province. Our strategy serves as a roadmap towards the implementation of the political mandate of the governing party, the ANC.

**Honourable Speaker**, the Coronavirus pandemic has forced us to go back to the drawing board and revisit our strategies in the fight against crime, as well as crime preventions.

It is against this background that I present to you an addendum to the originally submitted policy speech as per the rules of the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature, and on behalf of the Department of Safety and Liaison.



## DEPARTMENTAL PRIORITIES FOR 2020/2021

**Honourable Speaker,** let me first welcome and appreciate the wisdom of the Legislature, that in recognition of the impact of the Covid-19 on the work of government, advised departments to consider revising their Annual Performance Plans.

The department of Safety and Liaison has confirmed and committed to, during the financial year 2020/21:

- Establishment of the Provincial Secretariat for Police Service and
- Rename the department to Community Safety
- Re-establishment of the Justice Crime Prevention Security (JCPS) Cluster
- Establishment of Provincial Oversight Committee
- Re-branding and raising public awareness of the department
- Monitor all 5 established Frontline Service Delivery (FSD) in the Kingdoms
- Develop a tool to monitor and assess the effectiveness of Metro Police and
- Customisation of the Monitoring Tools to meet the objectives of the Civilian Secretariat for Police Service (CSPS) as well as to make them responsive to provincial imperatives including COVID 19
- Digitalization of the monitoring tools to meet the demands of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR);
- Oversee the establishment of the DNA testing laboratory in the province,
- Piloting the Court Watching Brief (CWB) focusing on Gender-Based Violence (GBV)
- Docket analysis and oversight of priority cases;
- Input into the review of the Sector Indicators through the CSPS;
- Review of the Organizational Structure and Service Delivery Model (SDM)
- Develop and adopt a communication strategy and plan in line with the 4IR

- Formalization of Strategic Partnerships through memoranda of understanding
- Implementation plan of the research findings
- Coordinate and oversee the roll-out of institution based Campus Safety Framework Implementation Plans
- Intensification of the School Safety Programme
- Oversee the Community Police Fora (CPF) elections; and
- Finalise the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality (BCMM) application for the Metro Police;

**Honourable Speaker and members**, the first and primary response to the spread of the Coronavirus is social distancing. Consequently, public meetings of whatever purpose and / or nature, either than funerals, are prohibited in terms of the Disaster Management Act regulations. Accordingly, the department has amended its targets as follows:

- The planned target of 14 mainstreaming and transformation programmes implemented will be reduced to 10. Creative methods of delivery will include virtual meetings and development of policy guidelines on the three main sectors.
- Social crime prevention programs to be done through alternative media streams.
- Policing accountability engagements will be done virtually.

The department will monitor all police stations focusing on SAPS compliance with the Disaster Manager Act and Regulations.

Research on policing needs and priorities will have to be discontinued and be substituted with a research project on the impact of COVID-19 in the Eastern Cape in particular as it relates to matters of safety.

The department will be discontinuing all the accountability engagements that required physical mass meetings but seek alternative platforms to engage thereon.

Essentially, the work of the department involves direct inter-personal contact between the departmental officials and the SAPS personnel. During which process, travelling between district offices and police stations with papers exchanging hands is a fundamental characteristic of our work. In such an environment, social distances maybe difficult to uphold.

Nevertheless, and notwithstanding the demands of Covid-19, the department will continue to forge ahead rock solid partnership and discharge its mandate taking advantage of technology and the virtual mode of transmitting services to the people. In this regard, we have identified Community Radio Stations as an important communication platform and conduit between the department and the citizens.

**Honourable Speaker and members**, The Coronavirus pandemic demands creative and innovative approaches from what has historically been implemented. This disease has forced society to retract from every day activities involving social interaction in shared common spaces. At the centre of these approaches there should be the strategic and pivotal role played by the ordinary citizens. The youth in particular, hold a key to a sound and a safe community-based safety strategy.

Over the last two months, during the lockdown period, we have witnessed long and over populated queues in business centres and numerous social grant pay points across the province. This poses a direct threat to any efforts of curbing the spread of the Coronavirus as the lack of social distancing has the ability to amplify the transmission rate.

Even though this phenomenon cuts across urban and rural spaces, the rural hinterland is most affected as it is the hardest hit. We can already observe that, in some of the high-frequency populated areas such as supermarkets, alarming infections rates are on the rise. This creates uncertainty and fear amongst citizens who need to ensure their basic needs are met whilst at the same time protecting themselves from the virus.

In order to ensure that the virus spread has been reduced, we have relied on our first respondents to enforce social distancing and adherence to national lockdown regulations under the Disaster Management act. This places additional burdens on some of the institutions such as the South African Police Service (SAPS), who before the Coronavirus required their additional intervention, were already overextended. The current intervention by first respondents such as the SAPS is not only insufficient but also unsustainable.

Given that the current projection of the virus' duration amongst the people of South Africa, we cannot afford to abandon, the primary need to social distance and adopt it into the lifestyle of living.

The primary tasks for the SAPS are needed to attend to crimes such as theft, murder, gender based violence and others. The additional responsibility of enforcing lockdown regulation ought to be transferred to the citizens to intensify their fight against the spread of Covid-19 pandemic. As the country moves towards a gradual relaxation of restrictions in terms of risk levels, the relaxation of the lockdown will entice criminals to return to their old ways. The police will be soon over-stretched and whatever little they were contributing risks collapse.

Whilst the country is in search for a safer, modern and friendly methods of delivering the whole range of social security interventions to the poorest of the poor, the reality is that, there is an immediate need to ensure that the current systems are free from virus infections.

The department shall, within the current financial year 2020/21, conceptualise, launch and roll out a provincial wide campaign to combat the spread of the Coronavirus. This approach must be targeted and well-coordinated in densely populated public spaces. Civic education, practical management of people movements shall be the key activities of the programme. The department shall partner with the whole range of social partners including municipalities and community based structures in rolling out this programme.

**The programme shall include, but not limited, to:**

Creation of a provincial wide Youth and Community based Brigade against the spread of Corona Virus in public spaces. Working with relevant youth institutions like the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), recruit more young people such as unemployed graduates as Youth Brigades against the spread of the virus and in support of community safety.

- The youth can be deployed at all public transportation hubs, economic zones such as supermarkets and communities to ensure sanitisation of all people moving through these areas.
- Youth can be capacitated with authorised sanitisation infrastructure needed to sanitise public transportation vehicles such as taxi's, buses and trains.
- The youth must be equipped with authorised information to disseminate amongst all people in order to combat fake news and educate the population regarding the nature of the virus.
- The youth must also be trained in basic hygiene and medical training. This is especially important as we work towards the realisation of the National Health Insurance (NHI) model for South Africa. In this regard, we should prepare a sound and secure base of young citizens who are knowledgeable about health matters in order to mitigate an over burdening of the current health system. We must from now place additional capacity in the health sector

The campaign should d deliberately and purposefully infuse community safety as part of community life thus reviving and strengthening Community Safety Forums (CSFs) across the province.

**Honourable Speaker**, notwithstanding the good work that continues to be done by this department and the South African Police Service (SAPS), the 2018/19 Provincial Crime Statistics tell us how stubborn crime can be.

During the period under review, contact crimes increased by 4.6%, sexual crimes increased by 7.9%, some subcategory of aggravated robbery increased by 5.9%, property related crimes increased by 0.7% and other serious crimes increased by 3.7% with crimes detected as a result of police action declined by 16.5%. This is a sufficient proof that we need to do more and do it together.

These statistics confirm our immediate priorities for the financial year, 2020/21. We shall sharpen our oversight role over the SAPS and other law enforcement agencies. Working with the Minister of Police and through the MinMEC resolutions, we shall begin with formalisation and capacitation of the Provincial Secretariat for Police Service. A strengthened oversight function over the Police Service, will ensure that police perform their duties in a helpful, professional and loyal manner as servants of the people and in particular the vulnerable groups.

As we roll-out our community-based programmes, in particular those focusing on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide, we shall pay the requisite attention to women, elderly, youth and persons with disabilities. Our oversight and monitoring tools will be revised to ensure that vulnerable groups are occupying the centre stage of our work.

**Honourable Speaker**, during this financial year, we aim to enter into concrete memoranda of understanding (MOU) with a variety of community safety structures. We hope that the relaxation of the lockdown, would create necessary space for these to actualise.

As part of consolidating and deepening community participation on matters of community safety, the department will continue to oversee the election of Community Police Forums across all police stations. A comprehensive report on the analysis on the oversight of CPF election shall be produced.

The department will ensure that all complaints received from communities are referred and followed up with the SAPS for full implementation and reporting.

Our monitoring tools shall be reviewed to meet the objectives of the Civilian Secretariat for Police Service and align the sector indicators. Since this is a national competence, as a province we shall be customising and automating our tools for a more efficient and effective oversight function. As a related matter, this coming financial year we will develop relevant tools to monitor and assess the effectiveness of the Metro Police service. Our tools of trade must meet the demands of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR).

Arising from our internal research findings and recommendations, an annual implementation plan shall be developed to guide the practical implementation of these recommendations.

Our departmental decisions must be based on empirical evidence if we are to be relevant in our interventions. We will conduct research on the impact of Covid-19 as it relates to crime. In this regard, each of these activities shall be reported on during the current financial year.

The department shall participate in the review of the Provincial Safety Strategy (PSS) whilst overseeing the review of the SAPS Rural Safety Strategy (RSS). On the PSS, we shall work to ensure that a PSS action plan is approved.

As part of re-positioning the department to be responsive to the strategic thrust of our five-year plan, the current Service Delivery Model (SDM) is being reviewed.

Centrally to the work of the department is the coordination and strengthening of its stakeholder engagements. Accordingly, communication with internal and external stakeholders shall receive attention as the department reviews its communication strategy, policy and plan. The departmental communication plan will seek to drastically improve the public profile of the department through radical marketing and re-branding.

**Honourable Speaker and members,** we remain steadfast committed to the transformation and mainstreaming of the

designated groups. During this financial season, we plan to ensure that at least ten **(10)** programmes are designed and implemented in order to achieve this important task. Our people, regardless of their gender, age and abilities must enjoy the same fruits of a free and safe society.

On the economic front, the department is in full support of the Local Economic Development Strategy, and will sustain its commitment to buy goods and products produced locally and pay all service providers within 30 days. In fact, the department take an average of twelve (12) day to pay its service providers.

**Honourable Speaker**, I present this budget policy speech at the backdrop of the global devastating Corona attack on humankind. This contagious virus, if it spread uncontrollable, will undermine all the efforts we are presenting here today.

The department will start internally and equip all the employees with the necessary knowledge and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) so that we keep our strong employment force focused and working in support of a healthy citizenry. We shall take all the necessary step as advised by the relevant bodies to ensure that this virus is always suppressed.

We wish recovery for those already infected and strength and resilience for those affected.



The Department of Safety and Liaison will start the new financial year with a total allocation of **R 116'152 million**.

The allocation is broken down as follows:

CoE:	<b>R 83. 1 million</b>
Goods and services:	<b>R 29. 3 million</b>
Transfers	<b>R 320 thousand</b>
Capital:	<b>R 3. 3 million</b>

However, this budget has since been cut by R 7.9 million to R 108. 2 million in order to fund pressures of Covid-19. Further cuts are also anticipated as we continue to monitor and intervene on the adverse implications of the COVID 19. The department is already revising the plans.

Honourable Speaker, as per the rules of the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature, and on behalf of the Department of Safety and Liaison, I table the 2020/2021 Budget Policy Speech, the 2020/25 Strategic Plan, the 2020/21 Annual Performance Plan, the 2020/21 Annual Operational Plan and the 2020/21 Service Delivery Improvement Plan for vote 15.

**I THANK YOU**



**Physical Address | Arche's Building • 7 Taylor Street • King Williams Town  
Postal Address | Private Bag X0057• Bhisho •5605**

**Telephone Number | 043 605 6241 | Fax Number 043 605 605 6230  
Email | [Nomalungelo.Mjuza@safetynec.gov.za](mailto:Nomalungelo.Mjuza@safetynec.gov.za) • [archibald.ralo@safetynec.gov.za](mailto:archibald.ralo@safetynec.gov.za)  
Website | [www.ecprov.gov.za](http://www.ecprov.gov.za) • [www.safetynec.gov.za](http://www.safetynec.gov.za)**

