

**CHAIRPERSON OF PUBLIC WORKS PORTFOLIO
COMMITTEE'S REPORT TO THE HOUSE –
MR JS VILANE
03 MAY 2006**

INTRODUCTION

Honourable

Chairperson, Members of this House and Distinguished guest. I am pleased that today, I, the new Chairperson of the Public Works Portfolio Committee am tabling the Committee report in this House. This report provides activities of the Public Works Portfolio Committee during the financial year 2005/2006.

Before I became the Chairperson of this Committee, the working relationship with the Department of Public Works was good and I can foresee that it is still going to be good and if I can say, much better.

The Department tried to keep the Committee posted on matters that the Committee needed information and reports on.

1. THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE MEETING

Since our last budget debate the Public Works Portfolio Committee held 2 Portfolio meetings, 2 Special meetings and one Sub-Committee meeting.

2. ISSUES DEALT WITH

2.1 THE HIGHWAY HOUSE

I am pleased to report that the matter of the Highway House was finalized and the building is now in the hands of the Government of KwaZulu-Natal.

2.2 USE OF APPELSBOSCH COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

The Portfolio Committee in its meeting dealt with this issue on a number of times, which at the end was dealt with by the Cabinet and it has taken too long. The Committee is still waiting the final report from the MEC.

2.3 SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT WITH CLIENT DEPARTMENTS

Chairperson, I am pleased to report that the Department has finally done with the issue of the Service Level Agreement and that all departments have now signed a Service Level Agreement with the Department of Public Works.

2.4 FORENSIC INVESTIGATION AGAINST CERTAIN OFFICIALS

The Department is dealing with the matter and an investigating officer who was dealing with this matter on the Internal Disciplinary case was appointed. The Department of Public Works will forward the Committee with the full report after the investigation has been finalized.

2.5 ASSETS REGISTER

As the Chairperson, I am pleased to report that the issue of the assets register as reported by the department has been finalized. The Department will present the Committee with a full report regarding this matter at a planned workshop.

2.6 BUILDINGS

Chairperson, and the House at large, I am pleased to report that the Committee in its last meeting resolved to invite the National Public Works Committee. The aim of this meeting would be to discuss the unutilized buildings that belong to National Department of Public Works and together come up with the way forward.

2.7 EXPENDITURE CONTROL

The Committee monitored the budget and was informed on monthly expenditure. The Committee expressed satisfaction with the Budget process.

2.8 2006/2007 BUDGET

The Committee held a meeting on the 29 of March 2006, where the Department presented their Budget plan for 2006/2007. After the discussion the Committee supported the Budget

3. VISITS UNDERTAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee during the financial year 2005/06 had one visit to Emathulini Tribal Court on the issue of Appelsbosch College of Education, that was in May 24 2005.

4. WORKSHOP

The Committee held a workshop with the Department on the 28th of June 2005. In this workshop the Committee was taken on board by the Department on matters regarding Supply Chain Management, KZN Land Act, Departmental Forensic report and Extended Public Works Projects.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Honourable Members, I would like to thank:

- the Honourable MEC, Mr Gwala for the co-operation he has given to the Portfolio Committee;**
- the HOD, Dr Madlopha, she is really showing that “ You strike a Woman, you Strike a Rock”**
- the Departmental officials and the Portfolio Committee Members for being co-operative and the contributions they made throughout the year.**
- and lastly not forgetting the Committee Secretary, Mrs Madondo, for the good work she is doing for this committee.**

I thank you

Mr JS Vilane(MPP)
Chairperson, Public Works Portfolio Committee

