

## **Community Safety and Liaison Portfolio Committee Report for the 2006/2007 Financial Year**

I am highly honoured to table the report of the Portfolio Committee on a range of activities. At the outset I would like to commend the Honorable MEC, Mr B H Cele for his outstanding leadership in both areas of his jurisdiction that is the South African Police Services (SAPS) and the Department of Community Safety and Liaison.

The Portfolio Committee attended the following activities:

- 6 Ordinary meetings;
- 5 Special meetings;
- A study tour to the United Kingdom;
- Visits to police stations and courts around Durban, together with the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) Committee on Security and Constitutional Affairs; and
- 1 Pre-budget hearing.

The oversight role of the Committee is critical in order to accelerate service delivery to the inhabitants of the province with emphasis on the spirit of co-operative governance.

### **Issues of importance in the 2006-2007 Financial Year**

- Area structures of the Police Service were dismantled throughout the province which impacted on the administration and operation of Area Offices as well as Community Policing Forums (CPFs).
- The active engagement of the Committee with the following Organs of State: Correctional Services, the South African National Defense Force (SANDF), Regional Courts, the Directorate of Public Prosecutions, the Independent Complaints Directorate, National SAPS and security companies, so as to curb crime.
- The Committee recently agreed that the KZN Peace Act Repeal Bill be submitted for debate in the House during the sitting in August 2007.
- The Committee undertook an International Study Tour to Belfast in Northern Ireland and London in November 2006. The full report will be presented to the House after the budget session.

- The NCOP Committee on Security and Constitutional Affairs visited police stations, a prison, Magistrates Courts and Regional Courts in and around eThekweni. The Portfolio Committee visited all the above sites with the NCOP.
- The number of CPFs has increased due to incorporation of uMzimkhulu into our province.
- The Committee endorsed an innovative allocation of R20m to provide for 1000 volunteers to be identified, trained and distributed to six districts in 2007/2008 financial year.
- The Committee also participated in three activities arranged by the office of the Honourable MEC, Mr B H Cele. The Seminar for Widows and Women's Day in August 2006, the Stakeholders Meeting and Crime Awareness Imbizo in December 2006 and the launch of Victim Friendly Facilities, resourcing of CPFs and Social Awareness Campaign in January 2007.

### **Conclusion**

I wish to sincerely thank the Honourable Members of the Portfolio Committee for their outstanding commitment to the work of the committee. I would also like to thank the Honourable MEC, Mr B H Cele, the Head of Department and her colleagues; and Provincial Commissioner, Mr Ngidi and his colleagues. This mammoth task would not have been realised without your collective efforts. I also need to single out the constructive role played by Dr LPHM Mtshali in his tenure as Chairperson of the Committee, thanks baba Mantshinga.

Crime can only be curbed through our undivided focus and attention which will shape a caring and developmental society that we aspire to build. Following a pre-budget hearing, the Committee agreed to support this budget which seeks to enable the people of the province to clampdown on crime.

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**Mr ME Sithebe**

**Chairperson: Community Safety and Liaison Portfolio Committee**

26 April 2007