DA notes on recommendations for Committee Report on Appropriation Bill

1. Money being shifted from supplying government services to funding of shortfalls calls through State Capture to prop up SoEs.
2. Underspending by key departments was specifically highlighted. We need to make sure that departments who are given money actually spend it and do so with value for money and good effect.
3. Treasury spoke about shifting the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME) under their control in one of the presentations. This needs to be discussed.
4. Land reform needs to be underpinned by empowerment in terms of training, equipment and support.
5. NHI was flagged by Treasury as being concerning in terms of affordability
6. Underfunding of Local Government. Partly due to incompetence but also due to underfunding and the inability to deliver due to financial limitations. This needs to be considered going forward.
7. Focus on infrastructure to bring about catalytic developmental events to bring growth to the economy.
8. Contracting economy is bringing pressure on the income side of the balance sheet. SARS needs to recover and focus on their core business without further political interference to ensure that the appropriations as budgeted are covered by good revenue.
9. Appropriation Bill needs to address the promises of SONA.
10. Social Development budget needs to be more geared towards dealing with social ills such as funding for drug rehabilitation facilities, etc. COSATU raised this in their submission and the Department seems to be reducing the funding of Social Workers rather than increasing it.
11. Standard Charter of Accounting (SCOA) needs to be funded to ensure that Municipalities, departments, provinces and entities can report appropriately.