FOLLOW-UP MEETING WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE, THE WESTERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CLUSTER CHAIRPERSONS OF THE COMMUNITY POLICING FORUMS

31 AUGUST 2021





PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Background
- Current status
 - Annual General Meeting planning meetings
 - Status of Annual General Meetings
 - Challenges
 - Compliance inspections conducted and findings
- Update on the Rural Safety Plan

BACKGROUND

- The Portfolio Committee on Police convened a meeting, on 20 November 2019, between the South African Police Service (SAPS), the Western Cape Department of Community Safety, Community Police Forums (CPFs) and Neighbourhood Watches.
- The CPF chairpersons were afforded an opportunity to present the successes and challenges, within their clusters.
- It was agreed that a further engagement would be scheduled, to afford the various role-players an opportunity to provide updates where necessary.

CURRENT STATUS

AGM PLANNING MEETINGS

Planning meetings were conducted between the SAPS in the Western Cape and the Western Cape

Department of Community Safety, with the following points for discussion:

- CPF Annual General Meetings (AGM's) progress
- CPF AGM's planned AGM's
- CPF certification and TPA's
- CPF disputes

STATUS OF AGM'S

- The Western Cape has 151 police stations, of which 147 police stations successfully conducted their CPF AGM's.
- All 147 elections were officiated by the respective station commanders and a representative from the Department of Community Safety.
- The Guiding Document for the elections was the Uniform Constitution for CPFs and Boards in the Western Cape, of 2010.
- The following police stations CPF AGM's are still outstanding:
 - Beaufort West Date to be confirmed
 - Strand

 It was scheduled for 22 July 2021, however, it could not take place, due to the
 Disaster Management Act (DMA) Regulations.
 - Philippi Date to be confirmed
 - Elsies River
 Date to be confirmed

CHALLENGES

- The National State of Disaster was announced and therefore, all the CPF AGM's could not be concluded, before 31 March 2020. However, 147 police stations out of a total of 151, have concluded their elections.
- Disputes, with regard to the integrity of elections have been resolved, however, re-elections were placed on hold, due to the lockdown restrictions.
- Due to the DMA Regulations, Level 3 and 4 lockdown, gatherings were not permitted and therefore no campaigns or community engagements could be activated by the CPF's.
- The re-elections at four outstanding police stations will be overseen by one Provincial SAPS officer and one representative from the Department of Community Safety, to ensure that all organisations participate and elections are fair.
- The police station CPF's communicated with communities, through various media platforms, as community engagements were not possible, due to lockdown restrictions.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS CONDUCTED

- Compliance inspections, by the Provincial Office, were conducted at police stations, to ensure the functionality of CPF's and to have a Portfolio of Evidence.
- The following documents were verified:
 - The approved minutes of meetings where CPF members were elected.
 - The appointment letter of the SAPS member, appointed as the Community Policing Official (CPO) and a copy of his/her Job Description, reflecting the duties of the CPO.
 - An approved CPF Constitution.
 - An approved Community Safety Plan and a feedback report of all projects conducted by the CPF.
 - Approved minutes and attendance register of the CPF meeting/s conducted.
- The Community Safety Plans were outstanding, as a result of the restriction of movement, due to the DMA Regulations.

RURAL SAFETY PLAN

- The Rural Safety Plan has been rolled out, to 99 rural police stations, in the Western Cape.
- It was presented and approved at the stakeholders' meeting, which was held in Wellington, on 23 October 2020.
- The eight pillars of the strategy are aimed at building effective capacity and capability, improving policing in rural areas, through back-to-basics, improving policing infrastructure in rural police stations, strengthening the governance system for rural areas, improving communication and marketing for rural areas, enhancing community involvement and stakeholder collaboration, implementing the Organised crime Threat Assessment (OCTA) and ensuring the monitoring and implementation of the Plan.
- Rural Safety Priority Committees have been established and are chaired by the Provincial Head: Visible Policing.
- Action plans have subsequently been developed and implemented at the identified rural safety police stations.

THANK YOU