

## **2. REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SECURITY AND JUSTICE ON THE 2022/23 BUDGET AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN: VOTE 21 THE CIVILIAN SECRETARIAT FOR POLICE SERVICE (CSPS), VOTE 24 INDEPENDENT POLICE INVESTIGATIVE DIRECTORATE (IPID) AND VOTE 28 THE DEPARTMENT OF POLICE, DATED 25 MAY 2022.**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The National Council of Provinces (NCOP), in terms of section 42(4) of the Constitution, represents the provinces to ensure that the provincial interests are taken into account in the national sphere of government. One of these functions is to hold the government to account in respect of how the taxpayers' money is used. It detects waste within the machinery of government and public agencies. Thus it can improve the efficiency, economy and effectiveness of government operations.

This report contains the discussions and recommendations of the Select Committee on Security and Justice in respect of Vote 21 (Civilian Secretariat for Police Services), Vote 24 (Independent Police Investigative Directorate) and Vote 28 (The Department of Police).

### **2. VOTE 21: CIVILIAN SECRETARIAT FOR POLICE SERVICES**

The CSPS mandate is to conduct civilian oversight of the police service and provide policy and strategic support to the Minister, including administrative support in relation to his international obligations. The Secretariat is also mandated to monitor the implementation of the Domestic Violence Act (1998) by the South African Police Service (SAPS).

The CSPS also has Provincial Secretariats who are given the mandate to perform the functions of the Civilian Secretariat for Police Service within the provincial sphere of government. Provincial secretariats do not report directly to the Department, but report to their respective heads of department (HoDs) and the Members of the Executive Council (MECs). However, the Provincial Secretariats must undertake the following tasks in order to support the objects of the CSPS:

- Align their plans and operations at the provincial sphere of government with the plans, policies and operations of the Department; and
- Integrate their strategies and systems at the provincial sphere of government with the strategies and systems of the Department.

The Select Committee on Security and Justice, on 4 May 2022, held a briefing with the CSPS on their 2022/23 budget and APP. The discussions and recommendations are reported hereunder.

### **3. DISCUSSIONS / RESPONSES BY THE MINISTER AND THE DEPARTMENT**

#### **3.1 Budget Cuts**

Members wanted to know how the budget cuts would practically impact on the programmes of the Department. The Minister responded that the budget is never sufficient and the budget issue is across the board as all Departments are facing budget cuts. From 2016 the police budget has been cut by R34 billion. Provinces do have a say in their budgets and there have been working relationships established through MINMEC.

### **3.2 SAPS compliance with Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID) recommendations**

Members wanted to know why SAPS is not fully compliant with IPID recommendations. The Minister responded that he knows that there has not been serious monitoring and consequences and they are working together to resolve these matters. The CSPS responded that there is a minimum level of compliance and stations must comply at 100% even where they cannot meet this they must have between 70 and 99% compliance. The CSPS is working through the compliance forum at national level, meeting with SAPS, SAPS Visible Policing (Vispol) and with provincial forums to obtain maximum compliance. CSPS has recommended that there is a need for alignment of the SAPS regulations and IPID Act. Disciplinary measures require SAPS to investigate every case which is a duplication of what IPID does and there is agreement that this needs to be reviewed. SAPS will go through a process of reviewing regulations which will help in terms of sanctions.

### **3.3 Backlog in Forensics**

Members wanted to know what processes are implemented to address the challenges related to poor contract management in the forensic backlogs? The Minister responded that contract management was literally undermined. 16 contracts had expired and none were renewed. Now all are signed and they have put a 6-month renewal plan in place prior to expiry thereof. Contracts that were undermined was for maintenance of machines in the top laboratory in Cape Town, however this has now been corrected. Purchasing of chemicals also caused delays because the chemicals are purchased outside South Africa and Covid-19 supply chain disruptions impacted this. There were also no personnel in the Cape Town laboratory and they recalled interns to the laboratory. Overtime was a critical issue and the 16 hour shifts have now been budgeted for. A laboratory in Port Elizabeth is still being constructed and when this is complete, it will take some pressure off the Cape Town laboratory. The KZN laboratory has flooded 4 times and the flooding affected the machines and chemicals. They are currently working on the new building. Public works is causing some delays, however, once these things are improved it would improve forensic matters. SAPS is still working with National Prosecuting Authority on prioritized cases.

### **3.4 Vacancies**

Members wanted to know what programmes and timeframes had been put in place to fill vacancies. The CSPS responded that there is a Human Resources committee at national level which ensures that there is proper planning for vacancies to be filled within 3 months. In some instances, vacancies have been filled with promotions but then they still have a vacancy. CSPS is trying its best to fill all vacancies within the 3-month period.

### **3.5 Victim Friendly Rooms**

Members wanted to understand the challenges related to establishing victim friendly rooms at every police station and the measures that were put in place to address this. The CSPA made recommendations for these rooms in every police station. SAPS is trying to use available rooms but this is not enough and they still need specific rooms with all the facilities. SAPS mentioned that although certain stations do not have adequate facilities in those instances stations would utilise partnerships' facilities that were suitable to perform the function. CSPA is following up on this matter with SAPS on a continuous basis.

### **3.6 Assessment of complaints management of SAPS**

Members wanted to understand how the CSPA conducts these assessments. Does the Department struggle with the accessibility to SAPS' database? How reliable is the SAPS' data on complaints? The CSPA responded that there are 2 processes: first; for them to deal with complaints from the public to the Secretariat, they gather all the necessary information until the matter is resolved. The second part, is to assess the capacity of police when police received the complaint directly from the public and check whether they are following guidelines and doing it within a reasonable time of 30 days. The CSPA does have access to the SAPS database and confirmed it is a true reflection of complaints received.

### **3.7 Cases reported in rural police stations**

Members queried what would be done in rural communities to ensure proper investigation of cases and that follow up is done correctly, particularly crime scene investigations. Members were of the view that the efficiency in investigations were lacking in the North West Province, in some cases no one is available for a year to do investigations. The CSPA responded that priority is always given to the top 30 police stations, but they also have samples of other police stations and target police stations far from the main centres. The CSPA plans to conduct a census of all police stations and compile a comprehensive report.

### **3.8 Alignment of Provincial Safety Strategies**

Members requested clarity on the current extent of alignment and how research would assist. The CSPA responded that Provincial Secretariats play a specific role in developing plans and monitoring and reporting thereon. The CSPA had not previously undertaken this assessment but are now focussing on this to ensure that implementation takes place.

### **3.9 Intergovernmental Participation**

Members wanted to know how the CSPA is increasing its participation in interdepartmental and intergovernmental fora to enhance the role of oversight and contribute to the functioning of the criminal justice system. The CSPA responded that there is increased participation in the JCPS cluster and they make a significant contribution to governance and administration clusters to ensure participation, synergy and alignment in clusters. From an intergovernmental perspective, they are involved in Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) with the District Development Model and are advocating for safety in plans for the district and municipalities.

### **3.10 Gender Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF)**

Members wanted to understand the implementation of GBVF brigades and the reasons for it working well in Gauteng Province. The Minister responded that since SAPS has become more physically operational, they physically visit provinces and use 2 days; firstly, they visit selected stations in provinces with CSPA and IPID to practically obtain information on stations. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day they come together to discuss and share good practices. One of these practices is the brigade in the Eastern Cape, called ‘operation clean-up’. There has been a lack of MECs who are willing to participate. Through these visits, they have established that often the victim doesn’t know that the perpetrator is already in prison. There is poor communication from SAPS to update victims, brigades help with this to give victims feedback. The work with SAPS, provinces and MEC offices, assists in this regard. Gauteng is doing the best in terms of brigades and has been instructed to lead with this. The CSPA responded that GBVF is a major issue and they are trying to work with communities and push hard on these cases. They conducting training for police gender based desk officials so that victims are treated better. The police management must be hard on those who do not take these cases seriously. Last quarter 11000 women were raped and most of them were raped in their homes. For this reason, there is a need to use education and mobilization in communities. Enforcement is important but social involvement through the mobilisation of communities and CPFs are equally important.

### **3.11 KZN specific input:**

The Provincial Secretariat representative from KZN made the following input, which members found very encouraging: The representative mentioned that they are using an integrated approach, receiving a lot of cooperation from senior management and extended cooperation from other meetings which provides the opportunity for follow up. The representative confirmed that they are receiving the necessary assistance for the Forensic Laboratory in the province. The representative further reported that they have signed an MOU and conducted training with traditional leaders.

### **3.12 Co-operation with CPF structures:**

Members wanted to know what CSPA is doing to ensure that there is a good working relationship between SAPS and CPFs. The Minister responded that it is clear that CPFs have funding challenges and that SAPS is working around this to see how they can assist. SAPS is trying its level best and the top 30 stations have an extra R100 million available in their budgets to strengthen relationships with CPFs.

## **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**4.1** The Department should ensure that despite budget cuts, it finds innovative ways to fulfil its functions and mandate and work towards achieving the targets in its Annual Performance Plan.

**4.2** The Department should continue to strengthen its efforts to monitor the implementation of the IPID recommendations. The Committee should receive an update within 6 months of

adoption of this report on the legislative measures being undertaken to reviewing regulations which would help in terms of sanctions.

- 4.3** The Committee welcomed the Minister's suggestion that at a later stage, the relevant departments would conduct a joint presentation to the Committee on its efforts to minimise the expenditure on litigation. The Department should have a more proactive approach with MINMEC and provinces should take crime prevention initiatives seriously.
- 4.4** The Department should continue to monitor the working relationship between SAPS and CPFs to effectively fight crime within communities.
- 4.5** The Department is encouraged to continue with the implementation of the GBVF brigades programme in order to strengthen first response to victims. The CSPS should work towards rolling out this programme in all provinces.
- 4.6** The Department should continue monitoring the backlogs in Forensic Laboratories to ensure that investigations are completed timeously and efficiently.
- 4.7** The Department should ensure that every police station in every province has proper victim friendly rooms to ensure the safety and dignity of victims of GBV.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

The Committee welcomed the presentation by the CSPS and recognised the challenges the Department is encountering in various areas of work. The Committee encouraged the Department, despite the budget cuts and limited resources to ensure that it executes its mandate on a provincial basis and strengthens its working relationship with Provincial Government.

## **6. VOTE 24: THE INDEPENDENT POLICE INVESTIGATIVE DIRECTORATE**

The Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID) exercises its functions in accordance with the Independent Police Investigative Directorate Act 1 of 2011 (the Act). The Act gives effect to the provisions of section 206(6) of the Constitution, which provides for the establishment of an independent police complaints body that must investigate any alleged misconduct of, or offence committed by, a member of the police service. The thrust of the Directorate's work is to investigate serious and priority crimes allegedly committed by members of the South African Police Service (SAPS) and the Municipal Police Services (MPS).

The Select Committee on Security and Justice, on 4 May 2022, held a virtual briefing with IPID on their 2022/23 budgets and annual performance plans. The discussions and recommendations are reported hereunder.

## **7. DISCUSSIONS / RESPONSES BY DEPUTY MINISTER/ DEPARTMENT**

### **7.1 Police Misconduct**

Members were concerned by police misconduct and felt that there was a need to acknowledge that the type of misconduct; rape and torture is not done out of self-defence. If people are in police custody, those persons cannot pose a threat to police. There is a need to acknowledge that there is a serious problem and IPID is part of the solution, for this to work IPID needs to be capacitated properly. IPID is looking worse every year in terms of resources and capacity which needs to be addressed. The Minister responded that police work under difficult circumstances, however police who abuse people in custody, do need to be investigated by IPID and SAHRC and the anti-corruption unit and there has to be consequences for their actions.

### **7.2 Independence of IPID Work and Office Space**

Members were concerned about IPID not having a stand-alone office space in provinces and that IPID always has to rely on SAPS which hampers their independence. Members were of the view that IPID may perform better if they are independent. IPID responded that they do have stand-alone offices but that they do not have enough offices and are therefore working in collaboration with community safety departments to secure sufficient office space. They indicated that they do have their own provincial offices, but would like to have footprints in different districts.

### **7.3 Qualifications and Criteria for appointment at IPID**

Members wanted to know what type of qualifications and criteria IPID are using to target the right people for vacancies, to ensure that investigations are conducted properly. IPID responded that they employ people with legal backgrounds as they best meet the skill requirements of the positions.

### **7.4 Backlog of Cases**

Members wanted to understand the reasons for the high number of backlog cases and which provinces account for most of these cases. IPID responded that KZN has the highest active cases which dates back, followed by Gauteng, Western Cape and Eastern Cape which accounts for 75% of active cases at any given point in time. IPID develops strategies to deal with priority matters such as rape and death cases and establishes task teams to intervene in reducing backlogs. Some of the challenges they experience is for example when police respond to unrest which prompts the police to use rubber bullets to stabilise the situation. Police then report this to IPID to have it properly recorded and then investigations need to occur. Therefore, the backlog is year on year with a high number of cases.

### **7.5 National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) Decision: Decline to Prosecute**

Members wanted to know what the NPA's main reasons are for declining to prosecute cases and what IPID is doing to remedy this in terms of ensuring prosecutions. IPID responded that some of the things are beyond IPID's control. There is a team going out to provinces to check cases declined by the NPA and to look at what the reasons are. IPID is using quality assurers to improve evidence submitted to prosecutors. IPID has already engaged the NPA on this matter and are continuously trying to remedy the situation.

### **7.6 Gender Based Violence Targets**

Members wanted to understand within the context of the high number of Sexual Offences cases in our country and the Committee's particular concern and focus on GBVF cases in particular, the significant reduction in the target for the number of investigations of rape by a police officer that are decision ready from 70 in 2021/22 to 30 in 2022/23. IPID responded that the Executive Director identified a need for a GBVF strategy to be developed and implemented and since this decision was taken, IPID has seen an improvement as the investigations were expedited and taken to court sooner. In addition, there has been a reduction of rape cases as currently they do not have one case of rape in police custody. IPID has also conducted cell visits to check the conditions of cells and SAPS is doing its part to see that rape does not occur in police cells.

### **7.7 Non-Compliance in Provinces**

Members wanted to know the reasons and what is being done in respect of the non-compliance reported in Mpumalanga Province. In respect of non-compliance, IPID opens a case and generates the information to SAPS for management to attend to.

### **7.8 Post Decision Ready Cases**

Members were concerned by the high number of Post Decision Monitoring (PDMs) cases recorded at 24 372. Members wanted to know why the number is so high and what is being done to finalise these cases in terms of receiving the necessary feedback from the stakeholders? IPID responded that the harder they work, the more they see an increase in PDMs. IPID agreed to review the statistics for PDMs through concluding bilateral agreements with the NPA to improve this situation.

### **7.9 Appointment of Contract Workers**

Members wanted to know how many contract workers would be appointed and for how long. IPID responded that the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA) has put a constraint on them in terms of employing permanent staff. Currently, only 2 deal with litigation and with the increasing number of cases, it is clear that this number is insufficient. Litigation takes up a lot of time and therefore it became necessary to consider the appointment of contract workers to reduce contingent liability.

### **7.10 Case Management System**

Members wanted to understand the need that IPID had for the implementation of a new case management system. IPID responded that the current system that is used by investigators was procured in 2011 and since then the contract has not been reviewed. National Treasury (NT) indicated they could not have an indefinite contract and therefore procured a new system to assist investigators and comply with NT regulations. Investigators were unable to complete cases on time and had other concerns which informed the decision to procure a new case management system. It was a risk to have a privately owned system and IPID came to a decision to have their own case management system which requires reprioritization of resources. A phased-in approach will be used.

### **7.11 ICT Infrastructure**

Members wanted to understand what the underlying causes or threats were that prompted this initiative and what is the nature of the plan to ensure that security of information is improved. IPID responded that they had only had 193 laptops which were insufficient for their workload. They had to upgrade the VPN system because the line was congested and the system became slow which affected their case management system. Scanning of dockets also utilised a lot of space on the network. In addition, the email space was too small as well as the case management system. The other reason was that they did not own IPs and had to pay licence fees.

### **7.12 Impact of KZN unrest on investigations**

Members wanted to understand the result the unrest in KZN and Gauteng had on the Department's investigations. IPID responded that accessing crime scenes during that period was difficult, but SAPS provided assistance. Further, that most scenes were tampered with, and IPID was unable to obtain the necessary evidence for their investigations.

### **7.13 Integrity of SAPS**

Members were concerned about the integrity of police in the country which was generally not good and asked IPID what they were doing to remedy this. IPID responded that it is doing its level best in terms of education with SAPS officials and sharing information with newly recruited officers. SAPS officers have to discharge their duties effectively without violating other people's rights. The high number of assault cases are sometimes as a result of carelessness and IPID is working hard to correct this.

### **7.14 IPID Budget and Cost Containment Measures**

Members wanted to know what cost containment measures are being implemented and with the reduced budget, if IPID was confident it would meet its adjusted targets, particularly in Programme 2. IPID responded that they have challenges in respect of capacity as there are positions that have been frozen to accommodate investigators. Senior management positions have been frozen because there are insufficient investigators. IPID has regrouped functions to



ensure optimal utilization of capacity to redirect resources where it is needed the most. Programme 2 requires support services and IPID has procured its own investigative vehicles which are more cost effective. IPID has a budget control committee which meets regularly to address any concerns related to possible over expenditure. IPID has prioritised compensation of employees and non-core activities has been discontinued, the primary focus is on core activities only.

### **7.15 Compliance – IPID Recommendations**

Members expressed concern that SAPS compliance with recommendations stands at 50% and wanted to know the reasons for this and what is being done to improve the implementation of recommendations by SAPS? IPID responded that it is addressing this through the consultative forum. IPID indicated that there has to be a process whereby IPID forms part of the disciplinary processes of SAPS.

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1** Members acknowledged the financial challenges faced by IPID however, members recommended that, despite these challenges, IPID should find pro-active mechanisms to ensure that all cases are investigated effectively and all targets are met.
- 8.2** The Department should find the necessary solutions with the NPA to reduce the number of cases that the NPA declines to prosecute. IPID should furnish the Committee with a detailed report on progress made within 6 months of adoption of the report by the Committee.
- 8.3** The Department should continue with regular provincial engagements with SAPS to ensure compliance with its recommendations and that disciplinary measures are being implemented.
- 8.4** The Department should continue making the necessary policy recommendations to SAPS to improve and instill a culture of adherence to human rights principles by police officials. This will serve to improve the public perception of SAPS officials.
- 8.5** IPID should review the statistics for Post Decision Monitoring by concluding bilateral agreements with the NPA to improve the backlog of cases.
- 8.6** IPID should work towards ensuring a continual decrease in police misconduct and conduct its investigations extensively with clear recommendations to deter such conduct.
- 8.7** IPID should continue to find office space that fosters their independence from SAPS and which allows IPID to have a footprint in all Provinces, including rural areas.

## **9. CONCLUSION**

The Committee welcomed the presentations made by IPID and encouraged IPID to continue fulfilling its mandate in conducting oversight over SAPS and MPS and to make appropriate

recommendations, as well as to ensure compliance thereof. The Committee encouraged IPID to improve its footprint in all Provinces, particularly in rural areas.

## **10. VOTE 28: THE DEPARTMENT OF POLICE**

The South African Police Service (SAPS) derives its powers and functions from section 205 of the Constitution and from the South African Police Service Act (1995). This legislation regulates the police service in terms of its core functions, which are to prevent, investigate and combat crime; maintain public order; protect and secure the inhabitants of South Africa and their property; and uphold and enforce the law.

The Select Committee on Security and Justice, on 11 May 2022, held a briefing on the 2022/23 Budget and APPs of the Department of Police. The discussions and recommendations of the committee are reported hereunder.

## **11. DISCUSSIONS / RESPONSES BY DEPUTY MINISTER/ DEPARTMENT**

### **11.1 Vehicle repair delays and maintenance turnaround times**

Members wanted to understand the challenges related to vehicle repairs in the provinces and that it took more than 130 days to replace a battery. The SAPS responded that they would need to investigate the circumstances surrounding the claim that it took more than 130 days to replace police vehicle batteries. The SAPS informed the Committee that they have set up task teams, deployed to particular provinces with National Treasury officials, to assist with renewing contracts for parts supply. The SAPS has requested garages to procure additional parts, such as batteries, to shorten the turnaround times. The National Treasury requires garages to procure the parts they need to fix vehicles. The garages have been decentralised and budgeted for per province.

### **11.2 Police officials driving with no driver's licence or an invalid licence**

Members were concerned that a number of police officials are not in possession of their driver's licences. The SAPS indicated they accommodate 10% of those that do not have a drivers licence. The learners receive driver's licence training at their Benoni academy and are issued with driver's licences in terms of the National Instructions.

### **11.3 Delays in building police stations**

Members wanted to understand the challenges related to the delays in building police stations. The SAPS indicated there were delays with regard to the building and completion of police stations since 2014. Court action against the department resulted in the delays but that legal matters have since been resolved. The Moeshi Police Station and the Dwarsberg Police Station building project started in 2014. At Moeshi, the contractor had abandoned the site. Legal proceedings were instituted and concluded in 2021. The project is set for completion in the 2022/23 financial year with only the connection of electricity and water outstanding. At Dwarsberg the contractor was unable to complete the work due to Covid-19 and work was further stalled by disgruntled community members. The SAPS confirmed that there is not much work left to be undertaken before completion of the project.

#### **11.4 Methodology to apportion budget to provinces**

Members wanted to understand how the provincial budgets are apportioned. The SAPS indicated that there are a number of variables it takes into account when considering a province's budget. The budget allocation received from National Treasury as per the Estimates of National Expenditure and the restrictions imposed by National Treasury are taken into account. The SAPS looks at accommodating specific earmarked amounts, and exclusively allocated amounts; the priorities in the Annual Plan and base line cost centres; amongst other matters, when apportioning the budget. The Provinces are encouraged to provide motivated proposals in terms of aspects that cannot be accommodated within the baseline. The equitable share in terms of personnel numbers also play a role in determining the budget of a province as well as geographical size and population density. Unplanned operations such as the unrest in 2021 are supported by an allocation of additional resources.

#### **11.5 Fruitless and wasteful expenditure**

Members requested an explanation from the SAPS on fruitless and wasteful expenditure. The Department responded that the amounts relate to penalties imposed for the late registration of vehicle licences. The SAPS will investigate and recover the fruitless amount if the officer is found negligent. When the Auditor-General highlights certain discrepancies from past transactions, those are investigated and moneys recovered. The CFO noted that in prior audit assessments, the SAPS may have understated the irregular expenditure and received a qualified report as a result. The CFO indicated they had cleaned up their processes and tightened up the database to account for the discrepancies. The investigations are still ongoing to determine the extent of the irregular expenditure that was understated over a period of 4 years. The SAPS further reported that it has instituted the Certification of Procurement Regularity, a process with checks and balances to verify that procurement steps were completed correctly before proceeding to the next stage of the approval process. Roadshows have been conducted in provinces to advise on irregular expenditure with a pocket guide provided to advise financial practitioners.

#### **11.6 Plans to reduce loss of firearms**

Members wanted clarity on the plans the SAPS has in place to reduce the loss of firearms. The SAPS responded that parade inspections play a role in checking and verifying firearms issued to members. The firearms are provisioned with retention cords to prevent loss or theft. Holsters with locking mechanisms were supplied. Members who take home firearms are issued with safes and these are checked on an annual basis. There is a biannual firearm certification to verify serial numbers as well as ad-hoc inspections by national armorers throughout the year. As soon as the firearm is reported lost, a liability investigation is conducted to determine negligence on behalf of a member. Disciplinary measures are instituted or if illegal activity is discovered then this is followed to its conclusion.

#### **11.7 Visible policing**

Members wanted clarity on whether the SAPS had a counter terrorism strategy in place. Members also wanted clarity on how gangsterism and illegal mining was being addressed in the North West Province. The SAPS has finalised a counter terrorism activity that has been presented to the JCPS security cluster as well as provincial joint structures and municipal joint structures. The gang activity in the Matlosana area is undergoing stabilisation investigations in

all districts in the North West. The Department indicated multidisciplinary stabilisation units were established in all districts of the North West which was conducted by specialised units. Illicit mining hotspots have been identified not only in the North West Province but also in other provinces. The Department reported it has made progress with arrests and confiscation of specialised mining equipment.

### **11.8 Reduction of contact crime**

Members wanted clarity on the strategies being employed to reduce contact crime and progress on the Safer Cities Programme. The SAPS explained that it has planned intelligence led operations to combat contact crime and stabilise the identified hotspots in provinces. With regard to safer cities the SAPS reported it has identified 6 cities. The Safer Cities Strategy must have the buy in of mayoral committees. The SAPS has arranged meetings with mayoral committees to plan accordingly.

### **11.9 Public Order Policing**

Members wanted an update on the steps being undertaken to improve Public Order Policing. The SAPS responded that it has approved the recruitment of 4000 additional POP members that will receive specialised training and be on stand by for deployment should the need arise. The SAPS has implemented a nationwide resource strategy to deploy members to unrest areas to assist with stabilisation and protection.

### **11.10 Restoration of stolen vehicles**

Members enquired as to the processes being undertaken to restore vehicles that were stolen across borders to their rightful owners. The SAPS responded in Emangozi, they have instituted integrated, multidisciplinary operations to prevent the crossing of stolen vehicles across the border. The SAPS noted the length of time taken to restore stolen property to their rightful owners and committed to improving the situation.

### **11.11 Random Roadblocks**

Members wanted to understand the SAPS's approach to random roadblocks. The SAPS confirmed that random roadblock operations and vehicle check points is monitored by the crime combatting forums.

### **11.12 Community Police Forum**

Members wanted to understand whether all CPFs are functional in all provinces. The SAPS indicated that CPFs were functional except in those areas where elections were to take place due to resignations. The CPFs are instructed to keep minutes of meetings, have approved programmes to mobilise the community and develop partnerships with police and civil society to address the root causes of crime.

### **11.13 Safety of police stations**

Members were concerned about the safety of police stations and enquired as to what measures the SAPS has in place to address this matter. The SAPS replied that the police safety strategy

is in place. There is a steering committee in place that identified hotspots as well as conducted assessments of stations that were attacked to improve safety of police stations across the country. Compliance inspections are done to assess the safety of stations.

#### **11.14 Gender Based Violence**

Members wanted to know whether all police stations have GBV desks and if not, what the challenges were currently. The SAPS responded that GBV desks have been established in police stations. The SAPS is capacitating the desks over and above the Victim Friendly Rooms. Compliance inspections are conducted with the CSPS.

#### **11.15 Border Management Agency (BMA)**

Members wanted to understand the SAPS's role in the BMA and whether it was experiencing any challenges. The SAPS responded that the implementation protocol is developed but must still be signed off by the two departments. Operations have jointly been undertaken by all relevant departments to ensure border safety.

#### **11.16 IPID recommendations**

Members wanted to understand the level of compliance by the SAPS with IPID recommendations. The SAPS indicated that the IPID recommendations are dealt with in terms of the seriousness it deserves. The SAPS has an APP performance indicator to deal with IPID recommendations with a target of 90% finalised within 60 calendar days. The SAPS have complied to date with 92.2% of IPID recommendations.

#### **11.17 Staff morale**

Members wanted to know what the SAPS is doing to ensure that staff morale is good. The SAPS acknowledged the importance of staff morale. Normally promotions, grade progression and recognition is associated with morale. The SAPS is finalising the HR priorities establishing the interventions set for 2022/23 financial year. Grade progression of members is prioritised for this year. Excellence awards and award systems are also on the agenda to improve members' morale.

#### **11.18 Budget and resourcing of new recruits**

Members requested an update on the budget and resources related to new recruits. Members also queried the incident related to recruits in Kimberley. The SAPS has received a budget for compensation but they are using the baseline or the current resources to capacitate the new recruits. The SAPS acknowledged the challenges with regard to the Kimberley training of new recruits. The South African National Defence Force was supplying the food and accommodation. The problems were identified and addressed. The amount of 10000 recruits is the biggest intake in the SAPS history and there were logistical problems accommodating the intake with recruits spread over different training institutions. The SANDF could not properly accommodate the amount of recruits and SAPS intervened to rectify the situation.

### **11.19 Interventions to address GBVF training**

Members wanted to understand the interventions in place to ensure that members receive adequate training on GBVF. The SAPS indicated that they have clustered the training programme to be preventative and in response to crimes committed with regard to GBVF. Courses on crimes against women and children are scheduled for training. The detective training for GBVF involves investigation and family related matters as these are linked to GBVF cases. Forensic training will focus on collection of evidence and safeguarding of crime scenes. Many of the cases have a beginning stage where a victim is first abducted for example. Collection of information along the value chain is essential. Cybercrime training on GBVF is also scheduled where the cyber space is used to groom children or perpetrate crime against women and children.

### **11.20 Policing through the Traditional Leaders**

Members wanted to understand what measures were being implemented to ensure that police services are accessible to rural areas. The SAPS has introduced a pilot project in certain provinces for traditional policing where GBVF criminal matters may be reported to traditional leaders and then SAPS. Where communities have challenges reporting matters to the police, the caravan, consisting of various aspects of police service, CPF, etc, will be deployed on days where people congregate, such as pension collection dates. This strategy encourages communication with the police. The rape cases that were high in Tonga for example has decreased since implementing this strategy.

### **11.21 DPCI**

Members queried the targets, personnel and office challenges of the DPCI as well as their capacity to deal with State Capture cases. The DPCI noted the Committee's concern that the 95 cases relating to municipal crime and corruption has not progressed and committed to following up the matter. The DPCI responded to a query on the capacity of the police, DPCI and Justice cluster to deal with the Zondo Commission report. The National Prosecuting Authority Investigative Directorate (ID) has been tasked with leading the investigations into state capture. The SAPS in cooperation with the ID are doing the investigations alongside dedicated prosecutors. The 102 recommendations are currently under investigation with 9 prioritised for urgent attention. The investigations are at an advanced stage. The serious commercial crime unit has a high success rate. 93% is the average that the unit works on to achieve success. The DPCI fixed establishment is currently at 5332. They have a 50% vacancy rate. The DPCI intends filling 1200 posts this financial year. The tools of trade are still a challenge in terms of laptops and cellular telephones to members that they hope to correct this financial year. The limited DPCI personnel has to deal with 22000 cases and 13000 accused persons. The DPCI office space remains a challenge specifically with regard to the Head Office.

## **12 RECOMMENDATIONS**

**12.1** The SAPS should, within a month of adoption of the report, furnish the Committee with a detailed breakdown and progress report, on a provincial basis, of all vehicles in need of repair.

**12.2** The SAPS should ensure that all police stations are built and completed within strict timeframes to ensure that police services are accessible to all citizens. The SAPS should speedily remedy any delays in the completion of building police stations.

**12.3** The SAPS must ensure that all measures are put in place to limit the loss of firearms and ensure that investigations are conducted and finalised timeously in the event of any illegal activity related to the loss of firearms.

**12.4** The SAPS must deal decisively with all illegal mining activity in all provinces and ensure that the necessary arrests and confiscation of specialised equipment is undertaken.

**12.5** The SAPS must ensure that it puts all the necessary strategies in place and works tirelessly towards the reduction of contact crimes in all provinces. These targeted crime prevention strategies, will serve to contribute to the reduction of sexual offences in the country.

**12.6** The SAPS must ensure that Public Order Policing is sufficiently capacitated by conducting specialised training to members. These measures will ensure that any incidents of public unrest are dealt with efficiently and effectively by the Public Order Policing unit.

**12.7** The SAPS should ensure that they act swiftly and efficiently to reduce the length of time to restore vehicles which had been stolen across the borders to their rightful owners.

**12.8** The SAPS must monitor and ensure that CPF structures are resourced and operational in all provinces and work with these structures to fight crime. It is only through joint efforts by the police and CPF structures that crime prevention will prove successful in all provinces.

**12.9** The SAPS should prioritise the safety of police stations and police officials in all provinces by implementing the necessary safety strategies and mechanisms at all police stations in all provinces.

**12.10** The SAPS should ensure that all police stations have the appropriate space and facilities to have well-resourced Victim Friendly Rooms to privately interview victims of Gender Based violence.

**12.11** The SAPS should ensure compliance with IPID recommendations and implement the necessary disciplinary measures against police officials, where required. The SAPS and IPID should ensure that they find a way forward to improve their working relationship to effectively address the implementation of recommendations.

**12.12** The SAPS should prioritise the rollout of GBVF training to all provinces, to ensure that all police officials are well equipped to fight the scourge of Gender Based Violence and Femicide.

**12.13** The DPCI should work tirelessly to fill vacancies to ensure that they have sufficient personnel to conduct efficient and effective investigations into State Capture.

### **13 CONCLUSION**

The Committee welcomed the presentations made by the SAPS and the DPCI and encouraged the Departments to continue with their work despite budget cuts. The Committee resolved to ensure that it will continue with its oversight over the adequate resourcing of police stations, including vehicles and monitor all crime prevention strategies on a provincial basis.

**Report to be considered.**