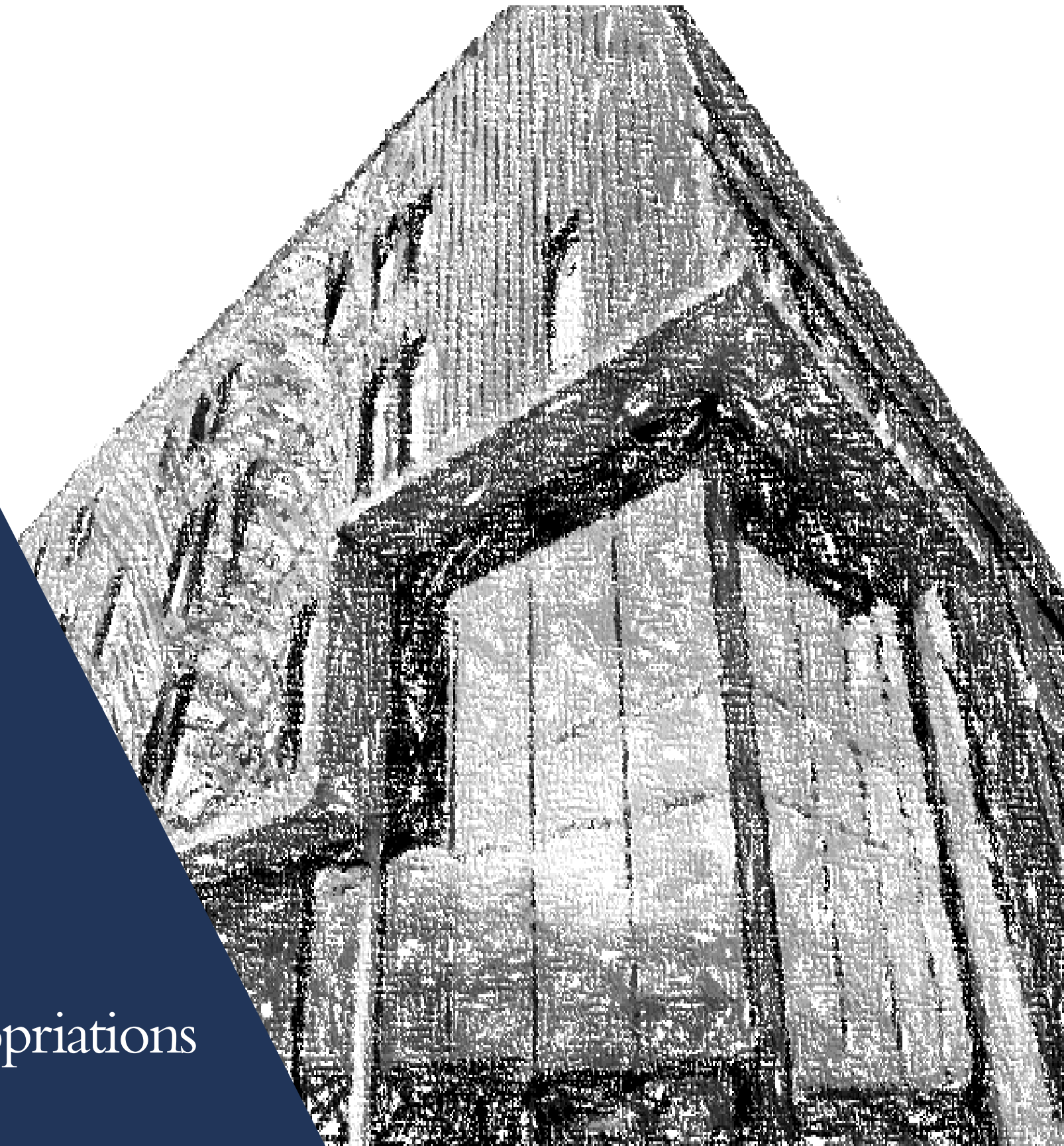


Division of Revenue Bill 2024/25 B4-2024

*A joint submission by Equal Education & Equal
Education Law Centre*

Submission to the Select & Standing Committees on Appropriations



BUDGETING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

- Education is an 'immediately realisable' right.
- Budget cuts and other retrogressive measures **must** be subject to a **greater level of scrutiny**/justification.
- Children's budget should be **ringfenced**

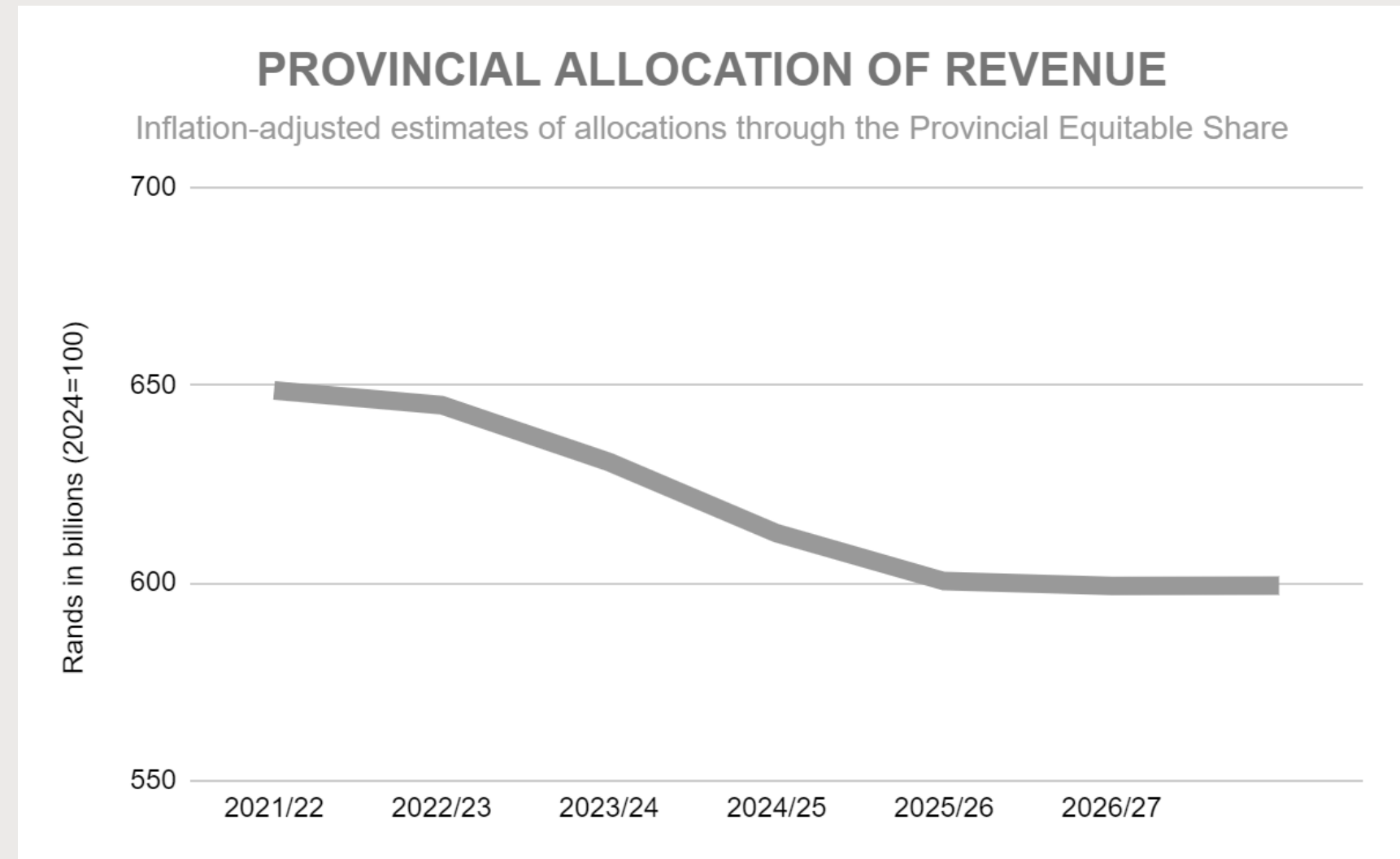


Recommendation: The Committees ensure the 2024/25 budget withstands **Constitutional scrutiny** by reversing cuts and **ring-fencing the children's budget.**

PROVINCIAL EQUITABLE SHARE

Recommendations:

- The review of the Equitable Share formula includes a period of **public consultation** on proposed models;
- Treasury makes a solid commitment to revising the Equitable Share formula to:
 - Take into account costs of education provisioning in **rural** areas when calculating the education component
 - **Increase the poverty component** of the formula
 - Take into account **school quintiles**
- **Increase** provincial equitable share **allocations** in line with inflation, growing levels of poverty, and the number of public service users



- Education component needs to be revised
- Poverty component (3%) is too low
- Rurality component is necessary
- Public consultation over formula revisions

UBongumenzi Secondary School

We as bongmenzi secondary are writing the letter to ask assistance from the government

Our school is very overcrowded, we are more than fifty in one class. Our infrastructure is bad. Our chalkboards, doors and windows are broken, this makes it very hard for us to teach in class especially in winter because it is cold.

We also have a problem with water and sanitation. Our toilets do not have privacy because our doors are broken. Our school also needs more buses because there are a lot of learners at school and the buses we have are not enough.

We would really appreciate it if you would help

#SIFUNA UKUFUNDA

KwaZulu Natal Province will only provide a per-learner subsidy of R955 to no-fee schools.

The National Norms and Standards for School Funding stipulates a minimum subsidy threshold of R1672 per learner at no-fee schools.

SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE

Order of magnitude backlog value

		Estimated project cost (Incl VAT)	Eradication period	Annual investment	Strategy	
Priority 1	Schools made entirely of inappropriate materials	R12 224 033 569	7	R1 746 290 510	100%	R1 746 290 510
Priority 2 (a)	Schools with no toilets	R235 448 747	7	R33 635 535	100%	R33 635 535
Priority 2 (b)	Schools with no sustainable source of water	R10 176 117 056	7	R1 453 731 008	50%	R726 865 504
Priority 3 (a)	Schools with some buildings made of inappropriate materials	R4 483 958 600	7	R640 565 514	50%	R320 282 757
Priority 3 (b)	Schools that require upgrading of sanitation	R17 953 386 864	7	R2 564 769 552	50%	R1 282 384 776
Priority 3 (c)	Schools that require upgrading of water supply	R6 674 438 950	7	R953 491 279	50%	R476 745 639
Priority 3 (d)	Schools that require additional classrooms	R44 498 765 853	7	R6 356 966 550	50%	R3 178 483 275
Priority 4 (a)	Schools that require libraries	R8 646 000 000	7	R1 235 142 857	0%	R0
Priority 4 (b)	Schools that require computer centres	R8 118 500 000	7	R1 159 785 714	0%	R0
Priority 4 (c)	Schools that require nutrition centres	R6 107 500 000	7	R872 500 000	0%	R0
Priority 4 (d)	Schools that require laboratories	R9 848 500 000	7	R1 406 928 571	0%	R0
Priority 4 (e)	Schools that require upgrading of perimeter fence	R64 398 000	7	R9 199 714	100%	R9 199 714
Totals		R129 031 047 639	7	R18 433 006 806	42%	R7 773 887 711

**Capital investment
R 8 billion**

Maintenance requirements		Estimated project cost (Incl VAT)	Eradication period	Annual investment	Strategy	
Priority 1 (a)	Preventative maintenance			R9 849 787 681	50%	R4 924 893 841
Priority 1 (b)	Reactive maintenance	R98 497 876 814	7	R14 071 125 259	50%	R7 035 562 630
Totals		R98 497 876 814	7	R23 920 912 940	50%	R11 960 456 470

**Maintenance
R 12 billion**

SUMMARY : Required Investment		Estimated project cost (Incl VAT)	Eradication period	Annual investment	Annual investment	
	Capital	R129 031 047 639		R18 433 006 806	42%	R7 773 887 711
	Maintenance	R98 497 876 814		R23 920 912 940	50%	R11 960 456 470

**Total investment
R 20 billion**

UBongumenzi Secondary School

We as bongmenzi secondary are writing the letter to ask assistance from the government

Our school is very overcrowded, we are more than fifty in one class. Our infrastructure is bad. Our chalkboards, doors and windows are broken, this makes it very hard for us to attend class especially in winter because it is cold.

We also have a problem with water and sanitation. Our toilets have no privacy because our doors are broken. Our school also needs more buses because there are a lot of learners at school and the buses we have are not enough.

We would really appreciate it if you would help

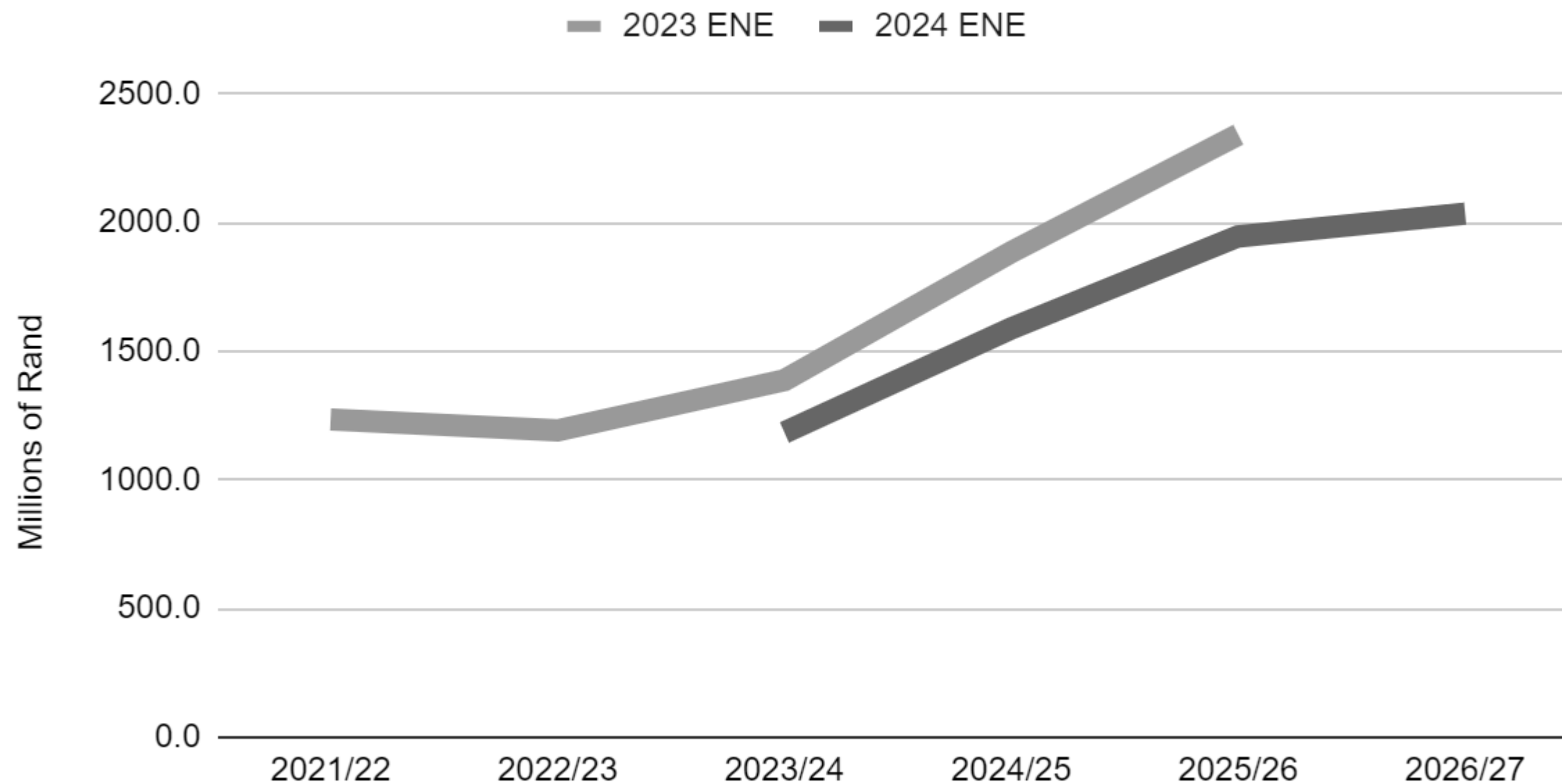
Recommendations

- Increase the value of the **Education Infrastructure Grant to at least R19.7 billion** to enable provinces to address some of the most pressing infrastructure backlogs.
- Increase the value of the **School Infrastructure Backlogs grant to R6 billion** so that school communities in need of urgent infrastructure provision are actively reached.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Early Childhood Development Grant

Nominal allocations to ECD Grant



Recommendations:

- Increase the value of the **ECD** subsidy to at least **R46** by 2029.
- Provide adequate funding for pre-registration support and improvements to **infrastructure**.
- Phase in **nutrition support** for children at all ECD programmes, whether registered or unregistered.



LEARNER TEACHER SUPPORT MATERIALS (LTSM)

- R97 million has been cut from the budget used to provide learners with workbooks.
- Cost-containment measures will affect resource provisions and quality. These workbooks need to last the entire year.

Recommendation: Reverse cost-containment measures introduced to the LTSM budget so that learners have access to high-quality printed educational material.

NATIONAL SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMME (NSNP)

- Flagship poverty-alleviation programme.
- Revise estimates of food inflation figures so that they are more consistent with current figures.
- Benchmark the allocation to the National School Nutrition Programme against food inflation estimates.



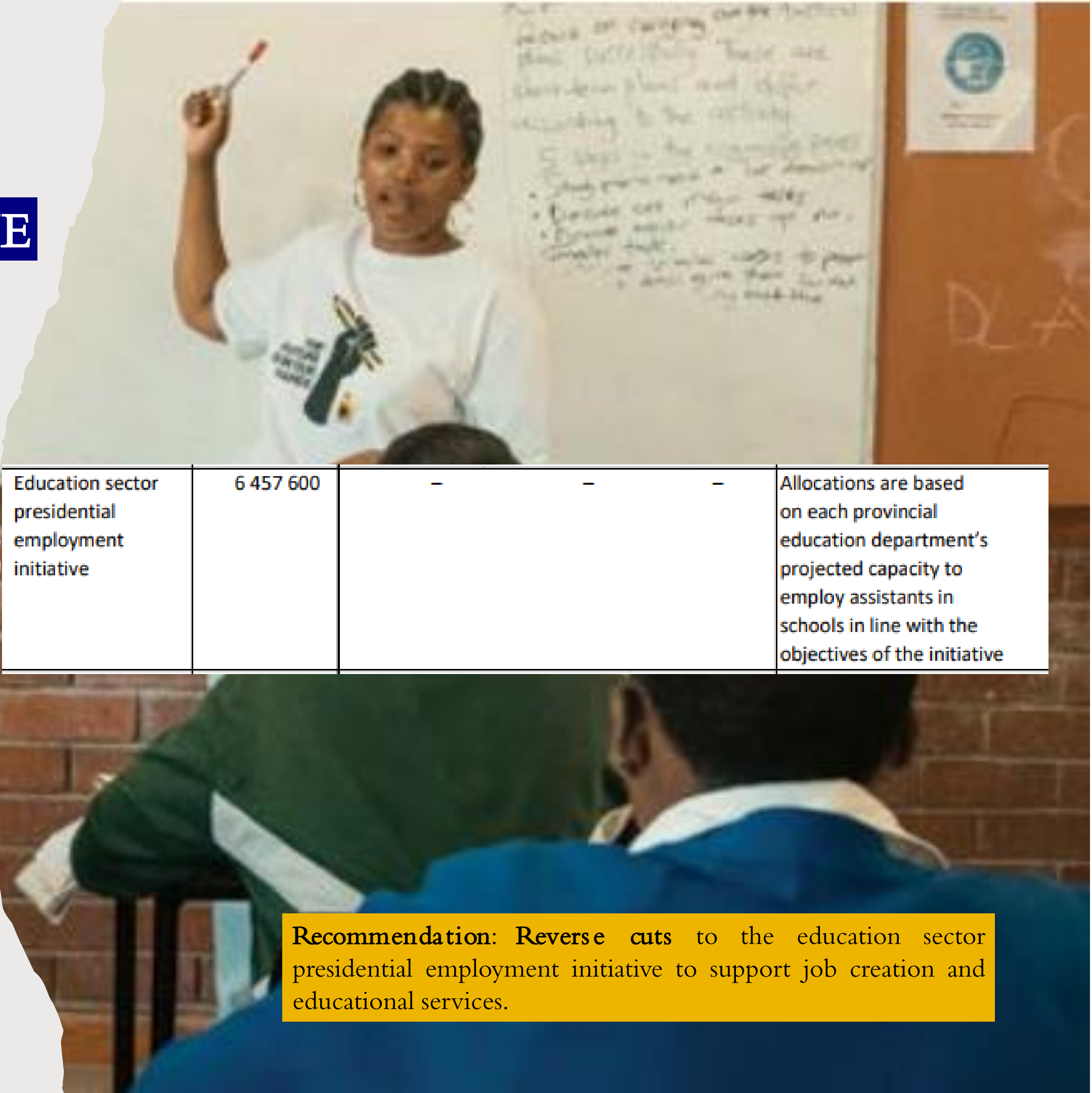
FUNZA LUSHAKA BURSARY SCHEME

- 48% of publicly paid teachers expected to retire and exit the teaching profession by 2030
- R397.9 million will be cut from the Funza Lushaka bursary allocation over the MTEF period
- Cost-containment measures are not consistent.

Recommendation: Prioritise teacher training through **sufficient funding** to the Funza Lushaka Bursary Scheme to **reverse bursary withdrawals** from 2024 PGCE candidates.

PRESIDENTIAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE

- The education sector presidential employment initiative has provided livelihood opportunities for over 1.1 million young people.
- No further allocation is apparent in the DoRB, but the Budget Review notes that "About R4 billion will be made available for hiring more teacher assistants through the basic education schools employment initiative." We lament this R2.46bn decrease.



Education sector presidential employment initiative	6 457 600	-	-	-	Allocations are based on each provincial education department's projected capacity to employ assistants in schools in line with the objectives of the initiative
---	-----------	---	---	---	--

Recommendation: Reverse cuts to the education sector presidential employment initiative to support job creation and educational services.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Compliance with Human Rights Obligations:

- The Committees ensure the 2024/25 budget withstands Constitutional scrutiny by reversing cuts and ring-fencing the children's budget.

Provincial Equitable Share

- The review of the Equitable Share formula includes a period of public consultation on proposed models;
- Treasury makes a solid commitment to revising the Equitable Share formula to:
 - Take into account costs of education provisioning in rural areas when calculating the education component
 - Increase the poverty component of the formula
 - Take into account school quintiles
- Increase provincial equitable share allocations in line with inflation, growing levels of poverty, and the number of public service users

School Infrastructure Funding

- Increase the value of the Education Infrastructure Grant to at least R19.7 billion to enable provinces to address some of the most pressing infrastructure backlogs.
- Increase the value of the School Infrastructure Backlogs grant to R6 billion so that school communities in need of urgent infrastructure provision are actively reached.

Early Childhood Development

- Increase the value of the ECD subsidy to at least R46 by 2029.
- Provide adequate funding for pre-registration support and improvements to infrastructure.
- Phase in nutrition support for children at all ECD programmes, whether registered or unregistered.

Learner Teacher Support Material (LTSM)

- Reverse cost-containment measures introduced to the LTSM budget so that learners have access to high-quality printed educational material.

National School Nutrition Programme

- Revise estimates of food inflation figures so that they are more consistent with current figures.
- Benchmark the allocation to the National School Nutrition Programme against food inflation estimates.

Funza Lushaka Bursary Scheme

- Prioritise teacher training through sufficient funding to the Funza Lushaka Bursary Scheme to reverse bursary withdrawals from 2024 PGCE candidates.

Education Sector Presidential Youth Employment Initiative

- Reverse cuts to the education sector presidential employment initiative to support job creation and educational services.



THANK YOU

Please contact:

Mahfouz@equaleducation.org.za

OFFICE



3rd Floor, Isivivana Centre, 8
Mzala street khayelitsha,
Western Cape



021 461 1421



www.eelawcentre.org.za

www.equaleducation.org.za

