

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY****FOR WRITTEN REPLY****QUESTION 14****DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 10 FEBRUARY 2022**  
**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 1-2022)****14. Ms Z Majazi (IFP) to ask the Minister of Police:**

- (1) Given that the SA Police Service has adopted community policing as an approach to reduce crime levels and restore community confidence as mandated in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1994, and the South African Police Service Act, Act 68 of 1995, what has he found was the success rate of Community Police Forums that were set up by his department, particularly in ensuring that communities are actively involved in community safety and policing;
- (2) whether there have been improvements, specifically in rural areas, in (a) service delivery, (b) addressing rural safety needs and, especially, (c) enhancing community involvement; if not, why not, in each case; if so, what are the relevant details in each case?

NW18E

**REPLY:**

- (1) The South African Police Service (SAPS) established Community Police Forums (CPFs), at police stations in all the provinces, with the exception of three police stations, namely: Kubusiedrift, in the Eastern Cape, Boetsap, in the Northern Cape and Mokopong, in the North West. The three abovementioned police stations are exempted, due to the fact that the communities that they serve, are largely transitory in nature. These police stations do, however, have programmes in place, which are aimed at crime prevention.

The following initiatives have been facilitated by the CPFs, in consultation with the SAPS, including the relevant police station, to enhance cooperation between the SAPS and the community, thereby contributing to the fight against crime:

- Conducted community education workshops, izimbizo and crime awareness campaigns.
- Developed and implemented the Moral Fibre Investment Strategy.
- Conducted community road shows through outreach programmes.
- Conducted dialogues with traditional leaders and councils.
- Engaged with religious leaders on moral regeneration programmes.

- Intensified establishment of Community Police sub-forums at sector level.
- The establishment of Foreign Nationals and Second-Hand Goods Forums, at station level.
- Consultation sessions with traditional leaders and healers to prevent illegal initiations.
- Recruited and coordinated the deployment of 8 243 community-in-blue-patrollers, across the nine provinces.

**(2)(a) Improvement in service delivery**

The development of the Community Policing Strategy (CPS), as a strategic framework, is aimed at stimulating an active citizenry, to participate in addressing various dimensions of community policing. The CPS was developed to, *inter alia*, address the following challenges that are related to the involvement of the community in the fight against crime:

- The limited visibility of CPF structures.
- Unstructured resourcing of community policing.
- Poor participation by citizens in crime prevention initiatives.

The following six pillars of the CPS are currently being implemented in the provinces:

- Community outreach, public education and awareness.
- Building community resilience to crime.
- Multidisciplinary collaboration.
- Community policing and public order.
- Effective communication and robust marketing.
- Capacity, capability and resourcing of CPFs.

The provincial implementation plans have been aligned with the national plan and progress on implementation is reported quarterly to the Division: Visible Policing and Operations.

The CPS will be reviewed within a five-year period of initiation, which will ensure that the strategy and the operational plan are aligned with current developments and needs and that adequate resources are allocated for implementation.

The Community-in-Blue Concept was introduced during the launch of the CPS

and aims to standardise the functioning of community patrollers, which is being monitored by the CPFs, at police stations.

**(2)(b) Improvement in addressing rural safety needs**

In order to address the safety and security needs and improve safety and security of rural areas, the National Rural Safety Strategy (NRSS), which was implemented, in 2011, was reviewed, in 2018 and 2019, after consultation with stake holders in the rural safety and relevant civil organisations. The Minister of Police launched the reviewed NRSS, on 11 October 2019 and the rural safety stakeholders signed a statement of commitment for the implementation thereof. The implementation of the NRSS commenced, on 1 April 2020 and will end, on 31 March 2025. It aims to address rural safety as an integrated day-to-day policing approach, by creating a safe and secure rural environment.

The reviewed NRSS is being implemented, at all identified rural and rural/urban police stations, in all nine provinces. Implementation is taking place by means of an integrated and multidisciplinary approach, including the mobilisation of rural communities in creating a safe and secure, crime-free environment, which is conducive to food security, the reduction of serious and violent crime and the prevention of stock theft, as well as social and economic stability. The success of the implementation of the NRSS depends largely on the effective participation and accountability of all governmental and non-governmental stakeholders, as well as the active participation of communities in local crime prevention initiatives and interventions.

The aims of the NRSS are to:

- Respond to the safety and security needs of rural communities.
- Provide a safe and secure rural environment to support food security, social and economic development.
- Strengthen the building of relationships in rural communities.
- Encourage all stakeholders in rural safety to cooperate in a coordinated and integrated manner.
- Engage in joint planning, implementation, development and evaluation of the execution of the plan to combat crime in rural areas, as determined by the National Crime Combating Strategy (NCCS).

The reviewed NRSS provides for Rural Safety Priority committees functioning at national, provincial, cluster (district) and police station levels. All role players in the rural and farming communities, departmental and civil society, are involved in these committees. This includes the South African National Defence Force, Organised Agriculture, the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Reform, the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs and the SAPS. The national, provincial and district committees meet on a quarterly basis, whilst the station committees meet monthly, to monitor incidents of violent crime in the rural community and to establish trends, new developments and plan integrated interventions. These meetings present an opportunity for organised agriculture and farmers' unions to keep their members briefed on security-related matters.

At the end of the third quarter of 2021/2022, a total of 809 out of the 905 identified urban/rural and rural police stations, had fully implemented the reviewed NRSS.

**(2)(c) Enhancing community involvement**

The Community-in-Blue Concept was introduced during the launch of the CPS to standardise the functioning of community patrollers, which includes street committees and neighbourhood watches. Patrollers are deployed in policing precincts to participate in crime prevention initiatives and report any suspicious behaviour or activities, in crime-related matters.

The objectives of the Community-in-Blue Patrollers, are as follows:

- Promote the reporting of criminal activities and any suspicious behaviour, in communities.
- Increased visibility, in order to deter criminal activities.
- Active community participation in crime prevention initiatives.

Community-in-Blue Patrollers have been initiated in all the provinces and progress is reported quarterly, in terms of the SAPS' Annual Performance Plan.

Reply to question 14 recommended/~~not recommended~~



**GENERAL  
NATIONAL COMMISSIONER: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE  
SF MASEMOLA**

Date: 2022-04-06

Reply to question 14 approved/~~not approved~~



**MINISTER OF POLICE  
GENERAL BH CELE, MP**

Date: 11/04/2022