# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY QUESTION NUMBER: 2518

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**2518. Ms A L A Abrahams (DA) to ask the Minister of Social Development**:

In light of the fact that the Social Relief of Distress (SRD) grant is approved for various reasons, one being that when an individual and/or community is affected by a crisis and/or disaster such as a fire or flood, and in view of the fact that there are individuals and whole communities who have been approved to receive a SRD grant in respect of the October 2019 fire in Vygieskraal Informal Settlement in Athlone, Cape Town, but who have not yet been paid by the SA Social Security Agency, (a) what total number of persons are still to receive their SRD grant in each provinces, (b) how far does the non-payment date back, (c) what was the nature of the disaster(s) in each case, (d) what are the reasons for the delay in the payment of the SRD grant and (e) by what date is it envisaged these individuals and communities will receive their SRD grant?

NW2941E

# REPLY:

(a)(b) and (c) The Social Relief of Distress (SRD) may be provided as a response to a disaster. This may take the form of immediate humanitarian support when community members are relocated to temporary shelters as a result of the disaster, or a cash payment once the community members return to their homes, if the disaster was such that they lost all their possessions.

All social relief provided is done in response to a completed, approved application. The only province which experienced challenges in paying social relief in cash to previously approved beneficiaries was Western Cape.

The attached table below indicates the support provided in the Western Cape for disasters.

(d)A disaster caused by a fire in Vygieskraal occurred in October 2019. SASSA responded immediately and took applications which were processed and approved. However, the ability to pay cash, as SASSA had contracted the Post Office for all social grant payments, including cash social relief payments, as from 2018 and the processes had not yet been finalised for these.

(d) The last payments for the Vygieskraal residents were made in November 2021. The ability to pay SRD in cash as a response to disasters is now fully functional.

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| **DISTRICT** | **LOCAL OFFICE** | **DISASTER INCIDENCE** | **Incident**  **number** | **DATE OF AN**  **INCIDENT** | **TOTAL NUMBER**  **AFFECTED** | **APPROVED**  **APPLICATIONS** | **TOTAL PAID**  **OUT** | **DID NOT**  **COLLECT/REJECTED** |
| Metro 1 | Athlone | Fire - Vygieskraal |  | 21/10/2019 | 143 | 117 | 117 |  |
| Bellville | Fire - Delft | 15885 | 11/10/2020 | 28 | 28 | 28 |  |
| Khayelitsha | Fire - Taiwan | 16977 | 01/01/2021 | 310 | 200 | 200 |  |
| Wynberg | Fire – Masiphumelele Hout Bay Tokai | 16818  15409  15378 | 17/12/2020  06/09/2020  03/09/2020 | 2200  115  37 | 682  115  37 | 682 (bank)  115  9 | 148 rejected  0  28 did not collect |
| Metro 2 | Cape Town | Fire – Du Noon | 16376 | 14/11/2020 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 0 |
| Eerste River | Fire - Lwandle | 16775 | 10/12/2020 | 31 | 31 | 31 | 0 |
| Gugulethu | Fire- Europe | 13648 | 18/03/2020 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 0 |
| Mitchell’s Plain | Fire – Various incidents |  | Various dates | 58 | 58 | 58 | 0 |
| Boland Overberg | Caledon | none |  |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Paarl | Fire - Mbekweni | None | 28/02/2020 | 32 | 32 | 32 | 0 |
| Worcester | Fire - Worcester | None | Various dates | 69 | 69 | 69 | 0 |
| West Coast | Vredenburg | Fire – Atlantis and  Piketberg | None | 20/12/2020  08/01/2021 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 0 |
| Vredendal | Small fire incidents in Lutzville,  Clanwilliam & Citrusdal | None | Various dates | 22 | 22 | 22 | 0 |
| Eden Karoo | Beaufort West | Small fire incidents in Laingsburg, Prince Albert & Beaufort West | None | 24/06/2020  04/07/2020  04/07/2020 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 0 |
| Oudtshoorn | Fire - Oudtshoorn | None | 11/09/2020 | 14 | 14 | 10 | 4 rejected |