

## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLYQUESTION 441

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 01 MARCH 2024  
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 6-2024)

**441. Ms Z Majozi (IFP) to ask the Minister of Police:**

With reference to the *Commission for Gender Equality Investigation Report into the state of shelters in South Africa*, that found that the progress reported by the SA Police Service (SAPS) regarding specialised training on gender-based violence (GBV) is unsatisfactory, what (a) are the relevant details of a breakdown of the SAPS offices that have received specialised training on handling cases of GBV and (b) does the content of the specified training entail?

NW513E

**REPLY:**

- (a) The information requested in respect of specialised training on handling cases of GBV, is reflected in the table below.

TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS AT SPECIAL OFFICES TRAINED ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE RELATED COURSES AS ON 2023-12-31		
SUBCOMPONENTS	TRAINED MEMBERS	COMPETENT MEMBERS
Detective Station	10 483	10 223
Internal Invest Unit	11	11
Serious Violent Crime	112	105
Family, violence, Child protection and Sexual Offences Unit (FCS)	9 426	9 343
Social Crime Prevention - VISPOL	18	18
Detective Service: PC	50	50
Detective Service: AC	18	18
Violence Invest Unit	1	1
FCS Invest Service	3	3
FCS Investigations	1	1
Forensic Social Work Service	1	1
Team General Crimes	14 297	14 206
Team Violent Crimes	5 777	5 743
Investigation Team (FCS)	585	583
Detective Service Centre	9 791	9 703
General Investigation	15	15
Invest All Crimes	15 560	15 447
Child Offenders & Risk	6	6
Sexual Offences & Human Trafficking	7	7
Victim Empowerment Programme	2	2
Youth Crime Prevention	5	5
Vulnerable Groups Victim	1	1
Priority Violence Crimes	3	3

TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS AT SPECIAL OFFICES TRAINED ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE RELATED COURSES AS ON 2023-12-31		
SUBCOMPONENTS	TRAINED MEMBERS	COMPETENT MEMBERS
Forensic Social Work	58	58
FCS Investigation Support	3	3
FSW Invest Complaints	1	1
FSW Invest Support	4	4
General Crime Investigation Support	1	1
FCS Units	10	10
Violent Crime	5	5
Detective Service	11	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>66 266</b>	<b>65 588</b>

(b) A number of courses are included in the annual South African Police Service (SAPS) Training Provisioning Plan (TPP), which aim to professionalise and train the members of the SAPS to:

- Prevent GBVF and Sexual Offences (pro-active).
- Mitigate the damage done by GBVF and Sexual Offences (re-active).
- Improve the quality of investigations into GBVF crimes and Sexual Offences to increase the conviction rate of offenders in court (re-active)

During the Basic Police Learning Programme and the Basic Reservist Learning Programme, all new SAPS recruits and reservists are trained to effectively deal with crime prevention as well as complaints and cases of GBVF and sexual offences.

After the basic police training, selected SAPS members are subjected to further and/or specialised in-service training courses in these, and related fields, to sharpen skills and improve service delivery, at selected priority points. The courses include the following:

- Domestic Violence Learning Programme.
- Human Rights in Policing Programme.
- Vulnerable Groups Learning Programme.

During the Detective Learning Programme and related basic detective training courses, all detectives are trained to investigate any type of crime, including GBV, and to utilise the available investigative support that is provided by Crime Intelligence, Specialised K9-Services and Forensic Science Services. Numerous

intelligence and forensic courses are presented to equip the members working in these support services, to provide effective support services to detectives.

The following are examples of intelligence, specialised K9 and forensic in-service training courses were included in the 2023/2024 training cycle which are aimed at ensuring that an effective support service is provided to the detectives:


- Biological Body Fluid Detection Dog Course.
- Forensic Biology: DNA Casework Overview.
- Forensic Biology: Evidence Recovery.
- Crime Information Analysis Learning Programme.
- Crime Intelligence Gathering Course.

The following specialised in-service training courses are planned for the 2024/2025 training cycle and are aimed at equipping the SAPS' detectives to effectively investigate complaints of violence against women and children:

- Family Violence Sexual Offences and Child Protection Course.
- Sexual Offences Course for Investigating Officers.

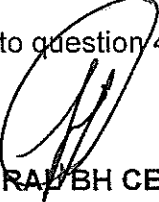
Please note that a breakdown of the content of each of the key specialised learning programmes/courses that are referred to above, is provided, as per "Annexure A".

Reply to question 441 recommended/~~not recommended~~

  
**ACTING NATIONAL COMMISSIONER: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE**  
**TC MOSIKILI (SOEG)**

Date: 2024/04/09

Reply to question 441 approved/~~not approved~~

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

Date: 16/04/2024

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**“Annexure A” – Breakdown of content of each specialised learning programme**

After the basic police, training, selected SAPS members are subjected to further and/or specialised In-Service training courses in these, and related fields, to sharpen skills and improve service delivery at selected priority points. The courses include the following:

**Domestic Violence Learning Programme.** This Learning Programme entails the relevant legislation governing domestic violence and related crimes, based on the Domestic Violence Amendment Act, 2021 (Act No. 14 of 2021). Furthermore, it includes the attending and providing of adequate assistance to victims of domestic violence and understanding the social context within which gender based violence and crimes take place (e.g. placement of victims in suitable and safe shelters).

**Human Rights in Policing Learning Programme.** This Learning Programme entails the impact of human rights on policing in relation to the Constitution of RSA, 1996 (Act No. 108 of 1996). It addresses the historical perspective of human rights (local and international) and the obligations of the police official in terms of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 (Act No. 51 of 1977) and the rights of offenders and victims.

**Vulnerable Groups Learning Programme.** This Learning Programme entails the relevant legislation such as Child Care Act, 2005 (Act No. 38 of 2005), Child Justice Act, 2005 (Act No. 75 of 2005) and Older Peoples Act, 2006 (Act No. 13 of 2006). It deals with the empowering of victims such as children, older persons and persons living with disability in need of care and protection. It further address dealing with children in conflict with the law inclusive of Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI+1) persons.

During the Detective Learning Programme and related basic detective training courses, all detectives are trained to investigate any type of crime, including GBV, and to utilise the available investigative support provided by Crime Intelligence, Specialised K9-Services and Forensic Science Services. A whole array of Intelligence

and Forensic courses are presented to equip the members working in these support services to provide effective support services to detectives.

The following are examples of Intelligence, Specialised K9 and Forensic In-service development courses planned for the 2019/2020 training cycle which are aimed at ensuring that an effective support service is provided to the detectives:

**Biological Body Fluid Detection Dog Course:** This course entails obedience techniques for the handler to control a biological body fluid detection dog and the ability to utilize a biological body fluid detection dog when detecting for human blood and semen substances. The course also entails the training of the dog to display conditional behaviour and the ability to search and indicate Human Blood and Semen Substances as specified in the Scoring Manual for Body Fluid Detection dogs.

**Forensic Biology: DNA and Evidence Recovery Learning Programmes:** Various learning programmes are offered in the SAPS for Forensic Services that include GBV training content material to the following areas of responsibility. Criminal Record and Crime Scene Management provides specialised training provided to Crime Scene Examiners includes DNA Evidence Recovery and Forensic course. The Forensic Science Laboratory provides to the forensic analysts the Forensic analysis course (e.g. DNA and Ballistics examinations). The National Forensic DNA Database provides comparative searching on the National Forensic DNA Database and reporting of forensic DNA investigative leads.

**Crime scene examination course:** is a comprehensive course on forensic techniques to approach and process crime scenes, including the use of specialised equipment and chemistry to identify exhibit material for collection, the collecting, packaging and transport of the exhibits to forensic services for further processing and analysis

**DNA Analysis training:** is a specialised forensic techniques to identify trace and body fluids, forensic examinations, interpretation and reporting of the findings to the courts.

**Ballistics specialised training:** is a comparative science which entails the analysis, microscopic examination of fired exhibits and the examination and test firing of firearms with the purpose of establishing the facts in shooting incidences, which includes GBV related cases. Administration of the National Forensic DNA database, performing comparison searches and the reporting of verified of forensic DNA investigative leads linking suspects

**Crime Information Analysis Learning Programme:** This Learning Programme entails the analysing of definitions of crimes and counting rules and docket analysis. It further addresses the evaluation of the fundamentals of data integrity. Basic mathematical principles are also included. Analysis of generators of crime and applying of Crime Threat Analysis process. The application of crime prevention through environmental design principles in practice. Compiling of basic profiles of suspects. Report writing and presenting information according to the prescribed criteria's. Over and above the basic detective training, specialised investigation courses are presented to selected detectives to sharpen the skills of specialist investigators to deal with cases of GBV and crimes against vulnerable groups. The following specialised In-service training courses planned for the 2024/2025 training cycle are aimed at equipping the SAPS detectives to effectively investigate complaints of violence against women and children.

**Family Violence Sexual Offences and Child Protection Course:** This Course entails the importance of the Constitution to SAPS, rights in the Bill of Rights as are most important to the functions of the FCS Detectives, all relevant regulatory framework Family Violence Sexual Offences and Child Protection and the offences created by violation of these relevant regulatory framework, common law crimes, attending to complaints to bring an action for the return of their abducted children using the Hague Convention in appropriate cases, the National Crime Prevention Strategy and prioritisation of FCS crimes, protection and respect of the rights of victims in the victims Charter and treatment of the victims in accordance with the Victim Empowerment Programme, and the new legislation impact on the role of FCS detective.

**Sexual Offences Course for Investigating Officers:** This course entails the following important aspects (learning area). Relevant Statutory and Common Law related to all Sexual Offences against adults and children. The social context in which sexual offences are committed like special care when dealing with rape victims, interviewing of a raped victim and investigating interviewing techniques of suspects for the purpose of obtaining appropriate statements, and adherence to the Victim Charter from then Geneva Convention (victims' rights inclusive of medical examination). The management and handling of sexual offences crime scenes with regard to collection and preserving of exhibits, evidence and utilisation of forensic

science experts. Preparation of victims for court with specific reference to giving of evidence and cross-examination as well as special court arrangements for children as victims. Compliance to all prescripts with regard to bail procedures.