**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**(For written reply)**

**QUESTION NO. 443 {NW1415E}**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 10 of 2019**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 23 August 2019**

**Ms CV King (DA) to ask the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries:**

(1) Which beaches lost their blue flag status in (a) 2016, (b) 2017 and (c) 2018; And

(2) whether any measures are in place to restore the blue flag status of the specified beaches; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

**443. THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES**

**REPLIES**:

(1) The following beaches lost their Blue Flag status:
(a) 2016: Struisbaai Beach (Agulhas Municipality).

(b) 2017: Gouritsmond Beach (Hessequa Municipality); Santos Beach (Mossel Bay Municipality); Wilderness Beach (Garden Route District Municipality); Kleinemonde Beach (Ndlambe Municipality).

(c) 2018: No Blue Flag beaches lost their status in 2018.

(2) (a) 2016: Struisbaai Beach - The municipality opted not to apply in 2016 in order to carry out infrastructure upgrades at the site. Struisbaai became a Blue Flag beach again in 2017.

(b) 2017:
• Gouritsmond Beach - The municipality lost the Blue Flag status due to failed water quality. Gouritsmond became a Blue Flag beach again in 2018.

• Santos Beach - The municipality lost the Blue Flag status due to failed water quality. Santos Beach became a Blue Flag beach again in 2018.
• Wilderness Beach - The municipality did not apply to the programme in 2017 for unknown reasons. Wilderness Beach have submitted an application for Blue Flag status in 2019/20.
• Kleinemonde Beach - The municipality did not apply to the programme in 2017 due to budgetary constraints. Kleinemonde Beach has, since then, not returned to the programme.

Regards

**MS BD CREECY, MP**

**MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES**

**DATE**: 01/09/2019