

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**FOR WRITTEN REPLY****QUESTION 61**

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(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 1-2022)

61. Ms D Kohler (DA) to ask the Minister of Police:

- (1) Given that since December (or earlier) 2021 the Cape Town Hard Livings gang (known as the Kaapies) allegedly set up a base in Sydenham, Durban and residents are now being killed there regularly in what looks to be a full-scale drug war between the Hard Livings gang and the Sydenham Heights Boys gang, what pro-active steps has the SA Police Service taken in this regard;
- (2) in view of reports that 20 persons had been killed in the specified area at that stage, (a) what is the total figure to date and (b) have any arrests been made in this regard;
- (3) whether it was found that the 28-year old man from Cape Town who survived the shooting, having taken a bullet to the chest, was part of the Hard Livings gang; if so, (a) was he arrested and (b) is he being charged?

NW65E

REPLY:

- (1) Ongoing operations, including weekly suspect raids, are conducted by the Sydenham Police Station, in the Sydenham Heights Policing Precinct, the Georgehill Informal Settlement and in the Butcher and Barns road vicinity. The operations have yielded the following results, in 2021/2022:

- A total of 121 drug-related arrests.
- A total of 14 arrests for the possession of a firearm without a licence.
- Recovery of 3 abandoned firearms.

The South African Police Service (SAPS) Organised Crime Unit, in KwaZulu-Natal has been investigating the drug war between the Hard Livings Gang, as well as the Sydenham Heights Boys, since 2020.

A project that focuses on the drug war between the Hard Livings Gang and the Sydenham Heights Boys was registered, in 2021, by the SAPS Crime Intelligence.

- (2)(a) Since January 2021, a total of 12 murder cases have been registered.

(2)(b) From January 2021, to date, the following cases have been registered:

Murder: 12 (Three arrests in two cases)

Attempted murder: Eight (Four arrests in three cases)


(3)(a)(b) The 28 year old man who was shot in the chest, on 2021-12-05, was a victim. It is alleged that the Sydenham Heights Boys shot the man. The man is a victim in this case and, therefore, he was not arrested.

Reply to question 61 recommended/~~not recommended~~


NATIONAL COMMISSIONER: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE
KJ SITOLE (SOEG)

Date: 2022 -02- 2 4

Reply to question 61 approved/~~not approved~~


MINISTER OF POLICE
GENERAL BH CELE, MP
 Date: 01/03/2022