

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY**QUESTION 63**

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 10 FEBRUARY 2022
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 1-2022)

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

- (1) With reference to the Hard Livings gang that allegedly set up a base in Sydenham, Durban where residents are now being killed regularly in what looks to be a full-scale drug war between the Hard Livings gang and the Sydenham Heights Boys gang, what is the reason that these gangs were known to have shot at each other without being apprehended by police;
- (2) whether, in view of claims that the police in Sydenham are paid by the gangsters to turn a blind eye, the (a) specified claims have been investigated and (b) resident police members rotated to other stations as a precaution; if not, why not, in each case; if so, what are the relevant details in each case;
- (3) whether his department has any plans to set up a satellite police station in the affected area to prevent the shootings from occurring; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

NW67E

REPLY:

- (1) The information on hand indicates that the A-Block alleged Kingpin utilises persons from outside the Sydenham area, to commit these crimes. This information was verified in the most recent shooting that took place, on 2022-02-06, where two suspects were arrested immediately after the incident, by members of the Sydenham Police Station. Both the suspects are from KwaMashu.

In respect of the involvement of the Capetonians, very few, if any witnesses are willing to come forward, because they are afraid and the alleged Kingpin buys the community's silence, by paying their rent, buying groceries, etc. In summary, the suspects (from the rival gangs) are being apprehended by the South African Police Service (SAPS).


- (2) There has been no tangible evidence of any involvement by members of the Sydenham Police Station and this is just a speculation.
- (2)(a) The Station Commander of the Sydenham Police Station has, however, asked the SAPS Crime Intelligence to look into this speculation.
- (2)(b) The employment within the SAPS is governed by the Labour Law, therefore, rotation will only be addressed during the implementation of the Safety and Security Sectoral Bargaining Council (SSSBC), Agreement 1/2020.
- (3) No, there are no plans for a Satellite Police Station in the Sydenham area. The manpower allocation for Sydenham SAPS does not make provision for a Satellite Police Station.

Reply to question 63 recommended/~~not recommended~~


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

Date: 2022-02-24

Reply to question 63 approved/~~not approved~~


 MINISTER OF POLICE
 GENERAL BH CELE, MP

Date:

01/03/2022