

Speech by Deidré Baartman

Minister of Finance

Western Cape Appropriations Bill

Western Cape Provincial Parliament

Cape Town

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“The doors of the Western Cape Government have, and will continue to, remain open.”

Honourable Speaker and Deputy Speaker

Honourable Premier and Cabinet Colleagues

Honourable Leader of the Opposition

Members of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament

People of the Western Cape

1 WITHDRAWAL OF NATIONAL BUDGET

We are here today due to the withdrawal of the national budget by Minister Godongwana, including the national Division of Revenue Bill upon which all provincial budgets are legally based. Therefore, in line with Section 27 of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA), and to ensure legal compliance of all provincial processes, we are required to re-table the Western Cape Appropriations Bill in this house for consideration.

2 POLICY PRIORITIES AND SPENDING PLANS

I would like to give this House the assurance that **nothing in substance in the Western Cape Appropriations Bill has changed.**

The Western Cape Budget will still appropriate **R89.316 Billion** for **2025/26**, with the budget amounting to a total of **R269.524 Billion** over the **next 3 financial years.**

Of the **almost R270 Billion** spend over 3 years, we will **spend more than 80% (R215.8 Billion)** on **Social Services** – made up of,

- Education: **R101 Billion**,
- Health: **R100 Billion**,
- Housing: **R6.4 Billion**, and
- Social Protection: **R8.4 Billion**.

In line with our Apex Priority, **to help businesses grow and create jobs and equip you to get those jobs**, we have allocated to policy portfolio areas –

- **R43.789 Billion** to Growth for Jobs;
- **R3.955 Billion** to Safety;
- **R194.928 Billion** to Educated, Healthy and Caring Society; and
- **R23.439 Billion** to Innovation, Culture, and Governance.

Further, **over the MTEF**, we will **spend R32.898 Billion** on **Infrastructure** across our province.

It should be noted that Minister Godongwana **announced additional funding for Education and Health in provinces**. This funding will flow to provinces later in the year and does not form part of this budget. Once received, we will allocate the funding to the respective departments accordingly.

3 CONCLUSION

Speaker, 2025 has really seen us exercise our legal and procedural muscles within the uncertain fiscal space nationally, and I would like to thank the Provincial Treasury team as well as the Legal team in the Department of the Premier for their assistance and guidance throughout this process.

Ngokuqinisekileyo, uzinzo kunye nokuthembeka kwezemali, lithemba lam elingazenzisiyo lokuba inkqubo yohlahlo lwabiwo-mali lukazwelonke luka-2026 luyakuhamba

ngaphandle kwamagingxigixi, ngenxa yempembelelo ethe ngqo enayo kumaphondo. (For certainty, fiscal stability and trust, it is my sincere hope that the national budget process for 2026 will flow more effortlessly, given the direct impact it has on provinces.)

Ten spyte van die onsekerheid in die fiskale omgewing, kan die Wes-Kaapse Regering hierdie Huis verseker dat ons streng prosedures in die provinsie vir die beheer van kontantvloei in plek gestel het om te verseker dat dienslewering sonder onderbreking kon voortduur. (Despite the uncertain fiscal environment, the Western Cape Government can assure this house that we have kept strict protocols in place on cash flow management in the province to ensure service delivery continues uninterrupted.)

In light of this, **the doors of the Western Cape Government have, and will continue to, remain open.**

I hereby re-table the Western Cape Appropriations Bill and the 2025 Budget Speech, which includes the electronic tabling of:

- The 2025 Overview of the Provincial Revenue and Expenditure;
- The 2025 Estimates of Provincial Revenue and Expenditure;
- The 2025 Overview of Provincial and Municipal Infrastructure Investment; and
- The Provincial Gazette Extraordinary: Allocations to Municipalities.

I thank you.