

Number: 037
Date: 17. 09. 2019

GAUTENG PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

REPLY

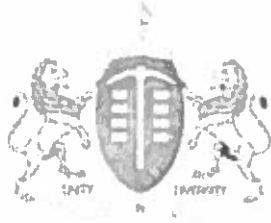
HEALTH

SUBJECT: REPLY TO A QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

From: THE MEC FOR HEALTH

To: ALL MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE (MPLS)


Reference: QUESTION 5. HL037



GAUTENG PROVINCE

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Mr V.R.P Skosana
Gauteng Legislature
Johannesburg
Private bag X52
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RECEIVED BY PROCEEDINGS DEPARTMENT
REPLY TO QUESTION NO. 037.
DATE: 16-9-19 REPLY NO: 037.
TIME: 16:00
SIGNATURE: 

RE: RESPONSE TO LEGISLATURE QUESTION 5.HL037 TABLED BY MEMBER MR J B BLOOM OF THE DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE (DA)

Regarding state mortuaries in Gauteng:

NB: Calculations below, are based on the 2018/19 and 2019/20 (up to August) Financial Years.

- (i) What was the total number of bodies stored in these mortuaries in 2018/19 Financial year?

ANSWER:

17940

- (ii) What was the total number of bodies stored in 2019/20 Financial year to August (April to July 2019)?

ANSWER:

5918

- (iii) What is the total number of unidentified and unclaimed bodies (2018/19 Financial year)?

ANSWER:

Unidentified: 1117

Unclaimed: 18

- (iv) What is the total number of unidentified and unclaimed (2019/20 Financial year.)?

Gauteng Department of Health

Office of MEC
5HL037

ANSWER:

Unidentified: 470

Unclaimed: 3

- (v) What were the numbers of unidentified and unclaimed bodies as broken down separately in each mortuary in 2018?

ANSWER: See Annexure "A"

- GERMISTON: 115
- JOHANNESBURG: 360
- DIEPKLOOF:106
- ROODEPOORT:107
- PRETORIA: 71
- GA RANKUWA: 73
- BRONKHORSTSPRUIT: 16
- SPRINGS: 105
- HEIDELBURG: 18
- CARLETONVILLE: 10.

- (vi) What trends can be observed in the above figures?

ANSWER:

- The numbers of unidentified bodies is on the rise.
- The number of unclaimed bodies is often higher than previous periods.

- (vii) What steps are being taken to identify bodies and notify family members ?

ANSWER:

- Tracing and notifying family members of the death of their family member(s) is the competency of SAPS, the Department has a stakeholder working relations with SAPS in tracing families of the deceased.
- Announcements are made in community Radio Stations and newspaper publications.

- (viii) What is the status of the internet site that was promised by the Department some years ago to help family members identify bodies?

ANSWER:

The functionality of the internet site will be possible once the mortuary information system is set, which is anticipated for the end of October 2019

(ix) When will this internet site be operational?

ANSWER:

It is contemplated to be operational at the beginning of 2020/21 financial year.

(x) If not, why not?

ANSWER:

It is expected to be in place as described above.



DR BANDILE MASUKU

MEC: HEALTH

DATE: 16/9/19