

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORAL REPLY

QUESTION 259

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 12/11/2019

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 26/2019

★259. Mrs D van der Walt (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

(a) Which infrastructure projects in her department will be affected by spending cuts announced by the Minister of Finance on 30 October 2019 and (b) what steps will she take to ensure the affected projects continue on schedule? NO2790E

Response

With regard to the provincial infrastructure programme funded through the Education Infrastructure Grant, the reduction will have a negative impact in terms of meeting the Minimum Uniform Norms and Standards for Public School Infrastructure. There has always been a deficit in terms of total budget required to eradicate backlogs and the current reduction will exacerbate the challenge. Provinces will also be left with a small window to introduce new projects into the pipeline. It will also mean that provinces will have to revise their plans and delay planned projects that cannot be funded as a result of the cut. On the Accelerated Schools Infrastructure Delivery Initiative (ASIDI) projects, no current projects will be affected as savings derived from the programme will be used to ensure that projects continue on schedule.