

15. Hon. W Pretorius (DA) asks the Hon. MEC responsible for SACR: Ms. N Sifuba.

Regarding the Queen's Fort Military Museum, which has been without power since January 2023:

1. What is the reason for this extended power outage?
2. What action has been taken to mitigate and resolve this issue? If no action has been taken, why not?
3. By what date will the power be fully restored?
4. Does the public have access to the museum? If not, (a) why not and (b) when will public access be restored?
5. Is access to the Museum and grounds secured? If not, why not? If so, (a) how and (b) by whom?
6. How is the Museum protected against fire, theft and vandalism?

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7. When last was a full inventory done of the museum and when will the next full inventory be conducted? Please attach a copy of the last inventory.
8. Have any artifacts been stolen since the power was cut off in January 2023? If so:
 - a. What has been stolen and what is the value of the stolen goods?
 - b. Have the cases been reported to SAPS? If not, why not? If so, what are the relevant case numbers?
 - c. What are the outcomes of the respective cases?
9. How many employees were at the museum prior to its closure, specifying job titles?
10. How many employees are currently stationed at the museum, specifying job titles?
11. If employees were moved following the closure, (a) where are they currently stationed and (b) when will they return?

RESPONSE

12/07/2024

- Centlec was not paid by Department of Public Works and later the same Department reported that Centlec has been paid and instructed on a number of occasions to reconnect the electricity but to no avail.
 - The Department made attempt to pay from its own budget but Public Works halted the process indicating that it is not our mandate to pay electricity for government buildings. The Head of Department also wrote a letter to his counterpart in the Department of Public Works to request him to assist in addressing this matter and the letter is dated 28 May 2024.
 - The Department of Public Works is the one which can advise when the power will be reconnected in the Museum.
 - The public does not have access to the museum.
- The Museum is dark and by not allowing access we simply are securing safety of visitors and also there is nothing to see in the museum which is dark.
- Access will be restored once the electricity is restored or alternative plans are put in place by Department of Public Works.
1. Yes, the report I got the access to the museum is secured, but I still have to visit the museum myself.
 - a) The Department does have day and night physical security personnel guarding the Museum.
 - b) I am told that there is an appointed private security company.

- It is reported that the museum is protected against fire, theft and vandalism through the services of the procured private security company .
- The report I received is that the last inventory was done at the museum in November 2023 and the next one will be conducted in November 2024.
- Yes, there is
- The Brother Printer and Desktop Computer were stolen on 31 January 2022 to the value of R10 000.00 and R13 398.45 respectively
- Yes, the case was reported and opened. Provide Case Number? Brother Printer Case No: CAS 426/2/2222 for both
- The case is currently under SAPS investigations
- Three employees were working in the Museum with the following titles: Museum Officer, Collection Assistant and a Cleaner
- No employees are currently stationed at the Museum
- They are stationed at Old Presidency Museum
- They will return once the electricity is reconnected or once Department of Public Works come with an alternative measure to provide light in the museum.