**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 617**

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**(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 25-2024)**

**617. Mr M Billy (KwaZulu-Natal: DA) to ask the Minister of Police:**

(a) When will the SA Police Service use body cameras as presented by the former Minister of Police and the National Police Commissioner to Members of Parliament in 2023 (details furnished), (b) how many body cameras are required and (c) what is the total budget for the body camera initiative? CW748E

**REPLY:**

The South African Police Service (SAPS) is committed to enhancing transparency and accountability within its operations through the deployment of body-worn cameras. In line with this commitment:

(a) SAPS intends to commence the deployment of body-worn cameras from the 2025/26 financial year. This timeline follows a comprehensive period of testing various solutions to update the specifications, ensuring the technology is fit for SAPS operations and addresses the specific needs of our officers in the field.

(b) The precise number of body-worn cameras required will be determined based on operational priorities and needs assessments. However, SAPS plans to initiate the procurement process with a target of acquiring 100 body-worn cameras annually. This phased approach will allow us to gradually integrate this technology across different units, ensuring a smooth transition and effective implementation.

(c) The estimated cost for each body-worn camera is approximately R28 818.00. It is important to note that while we are committed to this initiative, the overall budget for the procurement of body-worn cameras will be contingent upon the availability of funding. The SAPS budget is currently under significant pressure due to emerging priorities and other critical needs. We are actively seeking to balance these demands while striving to enhance our operational capabilities.