

Inquiries: Wiseman Simelane 083 778 0189

Mr. L Mwale Gauteng Provincial Legislature Private Bag X52 Johannesburg 2000

Dear Secretary,

5. e-GOV009. With regard to the Gauteng Broadband Network, could the MEC please indicate:

(i) How many schools are not connected through the Gauteng Broadband Network (GBN) and through a temporary measure;

Response: Currently, 276 schools are connected via the Access Point Network (APN) as a temporary measure. These schools will eventually be connected to a permanent solution.

(ii) By when will these school be connected to the GBN;

Response: The timeline for connecting these schools to the GBN depends on the Gauteng Department of Education's (GDE) request for the specific sites to be connected and the provision of the necessary budget. As of now, these sites are not on the GDE's priority list.

(iii) During the financial years of 2023/24 and 2024/25, how many sites did the Department identify for connectivity to the GBN.

Response: For the identified connectivity, the Department of e-Government has earmarked 150 Local Area Network (LAN) sites and 33 Wide Area Network (WAN) sites for the GBN.

(iv) How many of these sites were actually connected in each case.

Response: For the 2023/24 financial year, 5 WAN sites and 16 LAN sites were successfully connected.

For the 2024/25 financial year, 24 WAN sites and 12 LAN sites are expected to be connected.

(v) By when it is envisaged that all classrooms in all schools will be connected to the GBN.

Response: It is anticipated that 122 out of the 150 identified LAN sites will be constructed as part of the Gauteng Provincial Network (GPN) contract, subject to the GDE's budget allocation and priority list. Additionally, 4 out of the 33 WAN sites are projected to be connected during the 2025/26 financial year.

vi) Has the Department made any requests for the mandate to connect all unconnected classrooms.

Response: The Department has formally requested connectivity for 150 LAN sites and 33 WAN sites, but no mandate has been sought for additional classrooms beyond these.

(vii) If so, was their request accepted. Response: Yes, the request for the 150 LAN sites and 33 WAN sites was accepted.

(viii) If no, why not?

Response: N/A – The request for the identified sites has been accepted, so this question does not apply.

Regards

MR. BONGINKOSI DHLAMINI MEC – GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF E-GOVERNMENT

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