

TO : HANSARD AND HOUSE BUSINESS
FROM : MEC FOR COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS
SUBJECT : RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS 484 OF IQP 18 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

484. Mr L Kruger to ask the MEC responsible for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs:

With regard to the four public toilets reportedly erected by the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality (BCMM) near Silverton Crescent in Ward 10, Egoli, to provide basic sanitation and dignity and noting that one of the public toilets has allegedly been destroyed:

QUESTION(S)	RESPONSE(S)
1. Whether the municipality can kindly provide clarity on (a) when the process to erect the public toilets began, (b) how many public toilets were planned to be erected and (c) how many public toilets were completed;	The process began during the 2015/16 financial year. 10 public toilets were planned to be erected in 2016/17 and 10 toilets were completed in 2016/17 financial year in Muvhango 1 (ward 10) behind Silverton Crescent.
2. (a) how much was budgeted for the construction of the public toilet, (b) how much was spent on the construction of the public toilets and (c) whether the municipality specified within its job card, the erection of a fence;	The allocated budget for the provision of ablution facilities was R3 000 000 for all BCMM wards. The total of amount spent was R229 316.20 inclusive of vat for Ward 10 in Muvhango squatter camp. There were no plans to erect fencing due to financial constraints.
3. if the erection of a fence around the public toilets was agreed by both parties, can the municipality kindly provide the tender specification;	There were no plans for the municipality to put fencing into these ablutions due to financial constraints.
4. noting that at the site, there is allegedly no fencing or protective barrier to minimize vandalism and poor hygiene care, what action will his Department take towards resolving this issue;	The municipal experience shows that provision of fencing to the ablution facilities in informal settlement is not a deterrent to vandalism of the infrastructure. There are several ablution facilities with no fencing that are not vandalized. Similarly, there are several fenced ablution facilities that are vandalized. The extent of vandalism varies from community to community. In addition,

	fencing is provided where there is sufficient space. In this instance, provision of fencing would block not only access to the ablution facilities, but also access to some of the informal settlements in the areas, hence it cannot be provided even when there is available budget.
5. whether the municipality employed a caretaker of the public toilets; if so, when;	The Municipality together with the ward councillor have arranged and agreed that the recruitment of caretakers will only take place once repairs and maintenance currently underway are completed by June 2025
6. how much does the caretaker allocate to the maintenance of the site, per month;	The municipality allocates approximately R5 million each year for repairs and maintenance of approximately 400 municipal ablution facility sites. The municipality pays a stipend of R 2400 for each contracted caretaker selected from local communities around the vicinity of the ablution facilities.
7. whether the municipality has put any plans in place towards upgrading the public toilets;	Yes, the municipality has planned to do refurbishment on the one collapsed toilet structure in 2025/26 financial year. The Municipality is now undertaking repairs and maintenance of ablutions in different wards of the metro including ward 10, expected to be completed by end June 2025.
8. Whether the municipality has a long-term solution to improve the public toilets; if so, can he kindly share the relevant details in this regard?	To keep the toilets working and hygienic the municipality have been conducting Community awareness campaigns when the new toilets are introduced and when the construction has been completed. Provision of Caretakers with each set of ablution facilities was initiated in 2009 through recruitment from the communities with the aim of improving hygiene and maintenance of the public toilets.