314. Mr Y Cassim to ask the MEC responsible for Community Safety:

With reference to drug dens in the province:

(1) Whether he can kindly confirm if his Department has collected statistics on the number of drug dens in the province; if not, why; if so, can he kindly provide the number of drug dens identified in the province, per municipality;

Reply:

Sarah Baartman: 311Nelson Mandela Bay: 47

- Chris Hani: 137 - OR Tambo: 19: - BCM: Nil

Amathole : Nil:Alfred Ndzo: Nil:Joe Gqabi: Nil

(2) whether he can kindly confirm how many drug dens have been (a) reported, (b) raided, (c) investigated and (d) closed, per municipality during the (i) 2020/21, (ii) 2021/22, (iii) 2022/23, (iv) 2023/24 and (v) 2024/25 financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

OR Tambo

- (i) 2020/21
- (a) reported nil
- (b) raided
- (c) investigated
- (d) closed
- (ii) 2021/22
- (a) reported nil
- (b) raided
- (c) investigated
- (d) closed
- (iii) 2022/23
- (a) reported nil
- (b) raided
- (c) investigated
- (d) closed
- (iv) 2023/24
- (a) reported nil
- (b) raided
- (c) investigated
- (d) closed
- (v) 2024/25
- (a) reported 23
- (b) raided -23
- (c) investigated -0
- (d) closed -0

(2)(a)(b)(c)(d)

Sarah Baartman

- (i) 2020/21: 2141
- (ii) 2021/22: 2333
- (iii) 2022/23: 2555
- (iv) 2023/24: 2262
- (v) 2024/25: 2115

Chris Hani

(2)(a)(b)(c)(d)

(i) 2020/2021: 300

(ii) 2021/2022: 260

(iii) 2022/2023: 240

(iv) 2023/2024: 210

(v) 2024/2025:

Nelson Mandela Bay

		2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
a	10	8	9	10	12
Ъ	11	7	19	11	14
С	0	0	0	0	3
d	3	1	2	2	4

(3) with reference to (3) above, of the drug dens that have been reported, can he kindly confirm the average time between reporting a drug den and the execution of the raid and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

Reply:

- Some instances require immediate Police response depending on circumstances e.g. if Drugs could be done away with and in other circumstances where further investigation is required and the information has to be operationalised by role-players and resources have to be activated and search warrants for premises needs to be applied for. The average time of execution of the raid could take up to 4 days.
- (4) whether he can kindly confirm (a) the types of drugs that were confiscated during (aa) investigations and (bb) raids, (b) how many kilograms were confiscated and (c) the rand value of the confiscated drugs, per municipality for the above-mentioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

(a) 2020/2021 to 2024/2025

Dagga, Cocaine, Tik, Ecstasy, Khat, Mandrax, CAT, Nyaope, Heroine, LSD, Methamphetamine, Chemical

(b) 2020/2021

Dagga = 588 581,068g; Cocaine = 288,452g; Tik = 88 301, 000g; Mandrax = 810,245g; CAT = 270g; Nyaope = 19,311g; Heroine 31,98g; LSD=7g

2021/2022

Dagga = 3 410 299,496g; Cocaine = 364,534g; Tik = 45 756,148g; Mandrax = 198 692,971g; CAT = 23.09g; Nyaope = 48,984g; Heroine 49.26g

2022/2023

Dagga = 3 410 299,496g; Cocaine = 364,534g; Tik = 45 756,148g; Mandrax = 198 692,971g; CAT = 23.09g; Nyaope = 48,984g; Heroine 49.26g

2023/2024

Dagga = 3 494 252,859g; Cocaine = 60 075,37g; Tik = 15 455.702; Mandrax = 198 692,971g; CAT = 23.09g; Nyaope = 48,984g; Heroine 1816.63g

2024/2025

Dagga = 170 557,248g; Cocaine = 212 304 685g; Tik = 22 880.05; Mandrax = 6804.102g; CAT = 738.89g; Nyaope = 50 137.77g; Heroine 3584,003g

(5) whether he can kindly confirm the number of arrests made during (a) investigations, (b) raids and (c) closure of drug dens, per municipality during the financial years mentioned above as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply : Nelson Mandela Bay

Fin Year	a	b	c
2020/21		11	3
2021/22		7	1
2022/23		19	2
2023/24		11	2
2024/25		11	2

Sarah Baartman

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Fin Year	a	b	c
2020/21	2285	267	267
2021/22	2449	385	385
2022/23	2678	362	362
2023/24	2377	324	324
2024/25	2213	349	349

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(6) what measures has his Department put in place towards ensuring that once a drug den has been closed, it is not reopened and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

Reply:

- Known Drug Houses are monitored and addressed on a continuous basis and through utilization of Informers
- Regular monitoring and patrolling
- Relentless stop and searches, execution of search warrants, crime intelligence driven operations, closing down of known drug dens and also monitoring of closed drugs dens to prevent reopening.
- Random observation duties at previously identified drug houses to identify, observe premises that leads were received from the public and operationalise if necessary.
- (7) whether he can kindly confirm if the South African Police Service (SAPS) is adequately resourced to effectively tackle the issue of drug dens in the province; if not, why; if so, can he kindly provide a detailed breakdown of all resources allocated to SAPS in the province, per municipality;

Reply:

- Crime Intelligence has an intelligence footprint in each municipality in the Eastern Cape Province.
- From an intelligence perspective, the province is in a position to effectively deal with the issue of drug dens.
- (8) whether he can kindly confirm (a) the role that the community plays in identifying drug dens, (b) how the community can anonymously report suspected drug dens and (c) how SAPS typically responds to these reports and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

Reply:

- Community members often serve as informers, handled by Crime Intelligence operatives.
- Details of informers and information provided are dealt with in a secret manner.
- (9) with reference to (7) above, what measures has (a) his Department and (b) the SAPS put in place towards ensuring the safety of individuals who report suspected drug dens and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

Reply:

 Details of informers and information provided are dealt with in a secret manner. (Need to know basis) (10) (a) what role does Community Policing Forums (CPFs) play in (aa) identifying and (bb) and addressing drug dens and (b) what support does the SAPS offer to the CPF in this regard and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

Reply:

- (a)(aa)(bb)CPFs play a vital role in identifying and addressing drugrelated issues by identifying crime hotspot and work with the South African Police to develop possible solutions to combat drug abuse and related crimes.
- CPFs encourage community members to report any information on illegal firearms and drug-related activities to the police. They also collaborate with SAPS to run education and awareness campaigns addressing issue of drugs.
- (b)SAPS supports CPFs in various ways in dealing with drugs. For example SAPS conducts disruptive Operations with internal and external role players to address areas with high drug prevalence. SAPS and CPFs collaborate to develop community safety plans enhancing community and security
- (11) what long-term plans has (a) his Department and (b) the SAPS put in place with a view to addressing drug activity in the province and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard?

Reply:

- SAPS is conducting Community Outreach by engaging with communities through outreach programs, workshops and campaigns to raise awareness about drug abuse and its consequences
- SAPS collaborate with other government agencies, such as the Department of Social Development and the Department of Health to address drug –related issues
- Collaborate with NGOs –Partner with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) eg FAMSA &NICRO that specialise in drug rehabilitation and prevention
- Conducting school programs by implementing drug awareness and prevention programs in schools to educate learners about the dangers of drug abuse.
- Community –based initiatives: Support community –based initiatives that promote drug –free lifestyles and provide alternative activities for youth