

South African Police Service  Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie

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The Head of Department
Department of Community Safety
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Dear Mr P Mbambo

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY IN PARLIAMENT: QUESTION 2-2026
(37, 38, 39)

Enclosed herewith please find response to question in parliament from the South African Police Service.



MAJOR GENERAL
ACTING PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER: EASTERN CAPE
TM KUPISO

Date: 2026-03-18

- (9) whether the SAPS considers that the action taken was successful; if not, (a) why and (b) what further steps his Department anticipates putting in place with a view to preventing this crime from escalating further;

Reply:

- Yes
 - (a) N/A
 - (b) To ensure involvement of local Government in operations to ensure identification of commodities and provide impact statements.
- To facilitate the correct registration of charges.

- (10) whether any discussions have taken place between the SAPS and Makana Local Municipality in order to develop a strategy to combat this; if so, can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard?

Reply:

- There is a Non-Ferrous Meeting that takes place monthly to address these types of crimes, the meeting is between SAPS and other roleplayers inclusive of Makana Municipality, Eskom, Telkom, Scrap dealer owners and Security Companies.

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

With reference to drug activity in schools across the province:

- (1) How many school children have been arrested for (a) possession of drugs, (b) dealing in drugs, (c) transporting firearms, (d) muggings, (e) assault and (f) murders in the aforementioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
(a)	23	48	22	26	31
(b)	00	01	04	05	03
(c)	08	17	09	15	21
(d)	18	11	20	21	22
(e)	124	196	171	187	117
(f)	11	10	09	17	10

- (2) with regard to the arrests mentioned in (1) above, what is the breakdown of the children's age that were arrested and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

Reply:

- The ages range between 17 and 19 years

- (3) what is the top 10 breakdown, per police station cluster, of where the most arrests were made for the above-mentioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

District	Station
Alfred Ndzo	- KwaBhaca - Maxesibeni - Ntabankulu
Amathole	- Willowvale
Buffalo City	- Buffalo Flats - Chalumna - Qonce
Chris Hani	- Bridge Camp - Dordrecht - Nxuba
Nelson Mandela Bay	- Bethelsdorp - Chatty - Walmer
Sarah Baartman	- Humansdorp - Graaff Reinet

- (4) how many firearms have been recovered from school children in the (i) financial years mentioned above as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
06	14	02	12	12

- (5) (a) how many kilograms of drugs have been found in the various schools in the province and (b) what is the breakdown, per municipal area for the aforementioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

- (a) 291 grams
- (b) Buffalo City : 3grams
Chris Hani : 3½ tablets and
Nelson Mandela Bay : 288 grams

- (6) what is the breakdown of the drugs mentioned in (5) above for the above-mentioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

- Dagga
- Crystal meth
- Mandrax

- (7) how many school children are suspected to be affiliated with gangsterism in the financial years mentioned above as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

- Information cannot be determined as no evidence can be provided.

- (8) where are the school children that are likely to be affiliated with gangsterism based for the above-mentioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

- N/A

- (9) how often does the South African Police Service (SAPS) raid and search schools for drugs and illegal activities and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

Reply:

- Schools are searched monthly and on request of the school management.
- In some schools the School Governing Body does not allow raids or searches to be conducted.

- (10) what plans has his Department put in place with a view to curb these violent acts and to stop gangsterism from infiltrating schools?

Reply:

- Constant awareness campaigns and school visits conducted
- The schools' management are also encouraged to report any incident to the police.
- Community engagements through Imbizo

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

With reference to the article "Alarm bells as drug scourge hits primary school pupils" published in the Daily Despatch dated Thursday, 19 February 2026:

- (1) How many primary school learners across the province have been found to be (a) in possession of drugs and (b) using drugs in the (i) 2021/22, (ii) 2022/23, (iii) 2023/24, (iv) 2024/25 and (v) 2025/26 financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

(a)

2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
00	06	10	04	06

(b) N/A

- (2) how many primary schools across the province have reported incidents involving primary school learners using any form of substance at schools in the aforementioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
00	00	00	02	09

- (3) with regard to (2) above, whether he can kindly provide a detailed breakdown of the number of learners, per primary school in the province who have been identified as using any form of substance during the above-mentioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

- N/A

- (4) with regard to (2) above, whether he can kindly provide a detailed breakdown of the types of substances reportedly used by primary school learners during the financial years mentioned above as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

Reply:

- N/A

- (5) whether he can kindly confirm how primary school learners are gaining access to prescription-grade drugs and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

Reply:

- N/A

- (6) whether any arrests have been made in connection with prescription-grade drug dealing at or near primary schools across the province; if not, why; if so, can he kindly confirm the number of arrests and all the relevant details in this regard;

Reply:

- N/A

- (7) how often does the South African Police Service (SAPS) raid and search schools for drugs and illegal activities and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

Reply:

- On a monthly basis and upon request by the school management.

- (8) what plans has his Department and the SAPS put in place towards preventing supply networks from targeting scholars and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard?

Reply:

- School Safety programmes and employment of school safety patrollers
- School linkages with local Police Stations
- Constant awareness programmes
- High visibility around the schools
- Planned random searches in consultation with school management