

South African Police Service  Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie

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The Head of Department  
Department of Community Safety  
Private Bag X0057  
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Dear Mr P Mbambo

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY IN PARLIAMENT: QUESTION 1-2026**  
**(3, 4, 5)**

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

Friday, 27 February 2026]  
No. 1 - 2026] THIRD SESSION, SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

## LEGISLATURE OF THE PROVINCE OF THE EASTERN CAPE

### INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER

Note:

- Questions for oral reply will be printed in full in the Question Paper for the day for which they have been set down for reply.
- \*Indicates a question for oral reply.

### QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN REPLY

FRIDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2026

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

*With reference to the Cambridge Police Station:*

- Whether there has been an upsurge in crime in the Cambridge policing area compared with the (i) 2022/23, (ii) 2023/24, (iii) 2024/25 and (iv) 2025/26 financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available; if so, (a) what are those crimes and (b) how many cases relating to those crimes have been (aa) opened and (bb) successfully prosecuted and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

CRIME CATEGORY	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	Count Diff	(%) Change
<b>CONTACT CRIME (CRIMES AGAINST THE PERSON)</b>					
Murder	19	17	19	2	2 counts higher
Sexual offences	66	65	87	22	33,8%
Attempted murder	21	20	14	-6	6 counts lower
Assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm	201	177	162	-15	-8,5%
Common assault	325	343	325	-18	-5,2%
Common robbery	96	84	76	-8	-9,5%
Robbery with aggravating circumstances	245	202	173	-29	-14,4%
<b>Contact crime (Crimes against the person)</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>-52</b>	<b>-5,7%</b>
<b>Sexual Offences - Breakdown</b>					
Rape	51	52	61	9	17,3%
Sexual assault	13	11	20	9	9 counts higher
Attempted sexual offences	0	2	4	2	2 counts higher
Contact sexual offences	2	0	2	2	2 counts higher
<b>Some subcategories of aggravated robbery</b>					
Carjacking	18	13	18	5	5 counts higher
Robbery at residential premises	33	22	31	9	9 counts higher
Robbery at non-residential premises	46	59	30	-29	29 counts lower
<b>TRIO Crime</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>-15</b>	<b>-16,0%</b>
Robbery of cash in transit	1	1	0	-1	1 count lower
Bank robbery	0	0	0	0	0 count diff
Truck hijacking	1	1	0	-1	1 count lower

CRIME CATEGORY	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	Count Diff	(%) Change
<b>CONTACT-RELATED CRIME</b>					
Arson	2	4	2	-2	2 counts lower
Malicious damage to property	257	275	254	-21	-7,6%
<b>Contact-related crime</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>-23</b>	<b>-8,2%</b>
<b>PROPERTY-RELATED CRIME</b>					
Burglary at non-residential premises	172	172	163	-9	-5,2%
Burglary at residential premises	715	781	493	-288	-36,9%
Theft of motor vehicle and motorcycle	51	42	37	-5	5 counts lower
Theft out of or from motor vehicle	560	485	438	-47	-9,7%
Stock-theft	7	3	1	-2	2 counts lower
<b>Property-related crime</b>	<b>1 505</b>	<b>1 483</b>	<b>1 132</b>	<b>-351</b>	<b>-23,7%</b>
<b>OTHER SERIOUS CRIME</b>					
All theft not mentioned elsewhere	956	837	728	-109	-13,0%
Commercial crime	537	495	571	76	15,4%
Shoplifting	193	193	143	-50	-25,9%
<b>Other serious crime</b>	<b>1 686</b>	<b>1 525</b>	<b>1 442</b>	<b>-83</b>	<b>-5,4%</b>
<b>17 Community reported serious crime</b>	<b>4 423</b>	<b>4 195</b>	<b>3 686</b>	<b>-509</b>	<b>-12,1%</b>
<b>CRIME DETECTED AS A RESULT OF POLICE ACTION</b>					
Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition	9	9	21	12	12 counts higher
Drug-related crime	112	149	158	9	6,0%
Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs	48	107	89	-18	-16,8%
Sexual offences detected as a result of police action	0	0	0	0	0 count diff
<b>Crime detected as a result of police action</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1,1%</b>
Kidnapping	8	11	10	-1	1 count lower

- (i) 2022/23 - As specified on the above table,
  - (ii) 2023/24 - As specified on the above table,
  - (iii) 2024/25 - As specified on the above table,
  - (iv) 2025/26 - Not yet released
- (a) As specified on the above table
  - (b) how many cases relating to those crimes have been
    - (aa) As specified on the above table
    - (bb) N/A

- (2) (a) whether he can kindly provide details of the main crimes that took place in the Cambridge policing area over the last 6 months as at the latest specified date for which information is available and (b) which crimes have (aa) increased and (bb) decreased;

### Cambridge Police Station: 6 Months Statistics:

CRIME CATEGORY	July 2022 to December 2022	July 2023 to December 2023	July 2024 to December 2024	July 2025 to December 2025	Count Diff	(%) Change
<b>CONTACT CRIMES (CRIMES AGAINST THE PERSON)</b>						
Murder	6	8	8	13	5	5 counts higher
Sexual offences	43	37	42	37	-5	5 counts lower
Attempted murder	11	11	6	8	2	2 counts higher
Assault with the intent to inflict grievous bodily harm	112	98	98	89	-9	9 counts lower
Common assault	172	159	162	181	19	11.7%
Common robbery	51	43	45	36	-9	9 counts lower
Robbery with aggravating circumstances	112	107	72	99	27	27 counts higher
<b>Contact crime (Crimes against the person)</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>6.9%</b>
<b>SEXUAL OFFENCES - BREAKDOWN</b>						
Rape	31	30	25	26	1	1 count higher
Sexual assault	11	6	13	7	-6	6 counts lower
Attempted sexual offences	0	1	3	2	-1	1 count lower
Contact sexual offences	1	0	1	2	1	1 count higher
<b>SOME SUBCATEGORIES OF AGGRAVATED ROBBERY</b>						
Carjacking	14	12	8	5	-3	3 counts lower
Robbery at residential premises	14	11	14	14	0	0 count diff
Robbery at non-residential premises	21	28	15	14	-1	1 count lower
<b>TRIO Crime</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>4 counts lower</b>
Robbery of cash in transit	0	1	0	0	0	0 count diff
Bank robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0 count diff
Truck hijacking	0	0	0	1	1	1 count higher
<b>CONTACT-RELATED CRIMES</b>						
Arson	0	3	1	3	2	2 counts higher
Malicious damage to property	139	134	119	138	19	16.0%
<b>Contact-related crime</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>17.5%</b>
<b>PROPERTY-RELATED CRIMES</b>						
Burglary at non-residential premises	77	91	72	55	-17	17 counts lower
Burglary at residential premises	394	410	249	250	1	0.4%
Theft of motor vehicle and motorcycle	29	16	20	14	-6	6 counts lower
Theft out of or from motor vehicle	275	247	225	217	-8	-3.6%
Stock-theft	5	1	1	1	0	0 count diff
<b>Property-related crime</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>-30</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>
<b>OTHER SERIOUS CRIMES</b>						
All theft not mentioned elsewhere	499	416	363	482	119	32.8%
Commercial crime	281	270	310	317	7	2.3%
Shoplifting	103	90	63	78	15	15 counts higher
<b>Other serious crime</b>	<b>883</b>	<b>776</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>19.2%</b>
<b>17 Community reported serious crime</b>	<b>2 309</b>	<b>2 141</b>	<b>1 856</b>	<b>2 018</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>8.7%</b>
<b>CRIMES DETECTED AS A RESULT OF POLICE ACTION</b>						
Illegal possession of firearms and ammunition	3	7	8	3	-5	5 counts lower
Drug-related crime	41	55	75	97	22	22 counts higher
Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs	23	87	50	82	32	32 counts higher
Sexual offences detected as a result of police action	0	0	0	1	1	1 count higher
<b>Crime detected as a result of police action</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>37.6%</b>
Kidnapping	3	6	6	1	-5	5 counts lower

(a) As specified on the above table

(b) (aa) As specified on the above table (increased) are highlighted in RED

(bb) As specified on the above table (decreased) are highlighted in GREEN

- (3) how many police officers (a) are actually stationed and (b) should ideally be stationed at the Cambridge Police Station;

**Reply:**

- (a) 92%
- (b) 94%

- (4) how many (a) Detectives are actually stationed and (b) should ideally be stationed at the Cambridge Police Station;

**Reply:**

- (a) 98%
- (b) 102%

- (5) what is (a) the average case load and (b) ideal case load for Detectives at the Cambridge Police Station and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- (a) 68
- (b) 60

- (6) how many South African Police Service (SAPS) vehicles are (a) stationed and (b) should ideally be stationed at the Cambridge Police Station and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- (a) 73%
- (b) 100%

- (7) with regard to the existing vehicles, how many vehicles are (a) operational, (b) non-operational and (c) in the process of being boarded and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- (a) 70%
- (b) 30%
- (c) None

- (8) whether any of the vehicles stationed at the Cambridge Police Station are (a) undergoing repairs or (b) require repairs; if so, (i) how many are undergoing repairs, (ii) how long have the vehicles been in for repairs and (iii) how many still require repairs and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- (a) Yes  
(b) Yes  
(i) 30 %  
(ii) 180  
(iii) 30%

- (9) (a) how many vehicles (aa) are available and (bb) should be available on average each day for scheduled patrols and (b) whether the SAPS experiences any vehicle shortages at the Cambridge Police Station; if so, can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- (aa) 92 %  
(bb) 100%  
(c) The station is experiencing shortages of vehicle, and the shortage will be addressed in next financial year.

- (10) how many vehicles (a) are currently available for Detectives, (b) should be available for Detectives and (c) of the available vehicles are operational and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- (a) 58 %  
(b) 100 %  
(c) 71 %

- (11) what shortage of resources is the Cambridge Police Station currently experiencing in terms of (a) office equipment, (b) working telephones, (c) cell phones, (d) Wi-Fi, (e) staff uniform, (f) working bathrooms, (g) stationery, (h) generator and (i) other (kindly specify) and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- (a) Office equipment is sufficient
- (b) Telephone systems all operational
- (c) Sufficient Cell phones
- (d) No Wi-fi
- (e) Staff uniform sufficient
- (f) Public and Disabled Bathrooms clean and in working order as well as bathrooms for official quarters
- (g) Stationary is sufficient for the Station
- (h) Generator is in good working condition
- (i) Shortage of Storage space for archives

- (12) whether he can kindly confirm if the communication systems, (a) telephone lines and (b) email systems are currently operational; if so, can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard; if not, (aa) what factors contributed to the disruption of the communication systems, (bb) what measures has his Department and the SAPS put in place towards resolve this issue, (cc) how can the public reach the Cambridge Police Station in case of an emergency and (dd) what is the emergency contact number;

**Reply:**

- (a) Working Condition - yes
- (b) Working Condition - yes
  - (aa) site has 15 FLLA Junction routers, only 7 were connected at the time, 8 are still in the box unopened. The PABX will need an additional card.
  - (bb) Request has been escalated to TMS
  - (cc) CSC has an alternative Cell phone
  - (dd) Cell 082 5648603

- (13) (a) whether he can kindly provide a breakdown of the challenges that the Cambridge Police Station commonly experiences that hinder their capabilities of fully serving the community and (b) how his Department plans to overcome these challenges;

**Reply:**

- (a) Network problems
- (b) Report faults on a daily basis to SITA and TMS as they occur

- (14) whether the Cambridge Police Station (a) has a functional Community Police Forum (CPF); if not, why; if so, can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard and (b) works closely with any neighbourhood watch patrols within the policing area; if not, why; if so, can he kindly confirm what forms of support does the police station provide to the neighbourhood watch patrols?

**Reply:**

(a) Cambridge Police Station currently has a functional CPF.

(b) Yes,

- neighbourhood watch patrols are conducted in terms of the Community in Blue Concept but is not limited to the initiative, other structures such as street committees, private security companies, business forums form part of the partnerships that is established in conjunction with the CPF;

- Councillors play an active role in assisting to mobilize communities to be actively involved in community policing activities. When activities are conducted, support is given to community in terms of crime patterns, hot spots, possible suspects, modus operandi, CCTV technology and relevant legislation

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

*With reference to East London K9 Search and Rescue Unit:*

- (1) How many vehicles (a) should the unit mentioned above have and (b) does the unit mentioned above actually have for the (i) 2022/23, (ii) 2023/24, (iii) 2024/25 and (iv) 2025/26 financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

**Reply:**

(a)	(b)(i) 2022/23	(b)(ii) 2023/24	(b)(iii) 2024/25	(b)(iv) 2025/26
100%	100%	100%	100%	50%

- (2) of the vehicles referred to in (1) above, how many have done more than (a) 150 000km, (b) 200 000km, (c) 250 000km and (d) 300 000km and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

(a) 150 000km	(b) 200 000 km	(c) 250 000 km	(d) 300 000 km
01	0	0	0

- (3) with regard to the existing vehicles, (a) how many vehicles are currently non-operational and (b) in the process of being boarded and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

<b>Reply:</b>	
(a) Non- Operational 01	(b) In process of being boarded None

- (4) of the vehicles mentioned above, how many are (a) fully, (b) partially, (c) not equipped with the necessary tools and equipment needed to execute their services efficiently and (d) either partially or not equipped at all and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

<b>Reply:</b>			
(a) fully equipped	(b) partially equipped	(c) Not equipped	(d) either partially or not equipped
0	01	0	0

- (5) how many of the vehicles mentioned above have a fully installed kennel for their dogs as per the aforementioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

<b>Reply:</b> - 1 vehicle is fitted with a dog kennel.
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- (6) whether the unit above is currently experiencing a shortage of (a) vehicles and (b) canopies for said vehicles; if not, why; if so, can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

<b>Reply:</b>	
(a) shortage of vehicles	(b) Canopies
The Search & Rescue Section is short of one vehicle.	00

- (7) how many dogs (a) does the unit mentioned above actually have and (b) should the unit have for the above-mentioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

<b>Reply:</b>					
How many dogs	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	
(a)	100%	100%	100%	50%	
(b)	100%	100%	100%	100%	

- (8) whether the current number of dogs is sufficient for the unit; if not, (a) how so and (b) what plans has his Department and/or the South African Police Service (SAPS) put in place towards acquiring and training additional dogs;

**Reply:**

- There are currently enough dogs for this section at East London K9.
- The criteria is one dog per handler.

- (9) whether there is a current shortage of equipment needed for the dogs in terms of (a) kennels, (b) dog food, (c) leashes, (d) body vests and (e) any other necessary items; if so, can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- No

- (10) (a) from where and (b) for how much are these dogs obtained/bought for the financial years mentioned above as at the latest specified date for which information is available and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

(a)	(b)
The Search & Rescue dog at East London K9 was purchased by Roodeplaat K9 Academy and this Section functions under the National Head Office.	R51 750

- (11) how many members (a) does the unit mentioned above actually have and (b) should the unit have for the above-mentioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

**Reply:**

How many members	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
(a)	100%	100%	100%	50%
(b)	100%	100%	100%	100%

- (12) how many of the members mentioned above are fully trained dog handlers and can he kindly provide the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- The one (1) Search & Rescue member is a fully trained dog handler.

- (13) (a) when last did these members go on training and (b) how many members attend the training as per the aforementioned financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

<b>Reply:</b>					
When last trained	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	
(a)	2022-12-23	2023-11-24	2024-08-06	2025-07-18	
(b)	(one) 1	(one) 1	(one) 1	(one) 1	

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

*With reference to the Cambridge Police Station barracks:*

- (1) Whether he can kindly confirm the number of the South African Police Service (SAPS) officers housed at the Cambridge Police Station barracks for the (i) 2022/23, (ii) 2023/24, (iii) 2024/25 and (iv) 2025/26 financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

**Reply:**

- (f) 70
- (ii) 70
- (iii) 71
- (iv) 50

- (2) whether he can kindly confirm (a) the capacity of the barracks and (b) if the barracks is operating over or under capacity and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- (a) 15 Married Quarters and 60 Single Quarters
- (b) Barracks is operating Under capacity (8 single quarters damaged by fire and 5 single quarters indirectly damaged by water leaks)

- (3) whether he can kindly confirm if the barracks is equipped with the necessary (a) bathroom, (b) kitchen, (c) laundry and (d) recreational facilities and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- (a) yes
- (b) yes
- (c) yes
- (d) yes

- (4) whether he has been informed of a fire that occurred in one of the flats at the barracks; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) when did the incident occur, (b) what is/ was the extent of the damage, (c) whether the flat has since been restored and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- (a) Incident occurred on 2024/05/31
- (b) 8 rooms were affected by fire and need repairs. 5 rooms on 1<sup>st</sup> floor have water leaks and need repairs
- (c) The flats have not yet been restored but has been reported

- (5) (a) what is the current state of the barracks, (b) when last was maintenance conducted and (c) when was last was renovation conducted;

**Reply:**

- (a) Condition of Single quarters is Fair.
- (b) Maintenance in terms of day to day (general, plumbing and electrical) is conducted by SCM timeously.
- (c) No renovation was conducted

- (6) with reference to (5) above, can he kindly provide detailed reports on (a) the maintenance conducted and (b) the renovations conducted and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- (a) Day-to-Day Maintenance (general, plumbing and electrical)
- (b) No renovation was conducted

- (7) whether he can kindly confirm (a) who is responsible for management/inspection of the barracks and (b) how often are inspections conducted and can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- (a) Accounting Station and SCM component
- (b) Quarterly inspections conducted (last inspection conducted on 2025-08-01 till 2025-09-18)

- (8) what total budget has been allocated for (a) maintenance and (b) renovations for the (i) 2022/23, (ii) 2023/24, (iii) 2024/25 and (iv) 2025/26 financial years as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

**Reply:**

- (ii) Day to day maintenance R100 000-00 per commodity per quarter per financial year
- (iii) Budget for renovations is allocated to Division Supply Chain Management
- (iv) Budget for renovations is allocated to Division Supply Chain Management
- (v) Budget for renovations is allocated to Division Supply Chain Management
- (vi) Budget for renovations is allocated to Division Supply Chain Management
- (vii) Budget for renovations is allocated to Division Supply Chain Management

- (9) whether there are currently any concerns regarding the state of the barracks; if not, how so; if so, can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard;

**Reply:**

- The burnt rooms at the barracks causes a health and safety hazard towards members

- (10) whether there have been any complaints from officers regarding the barracks; if not, how so; if so, can he kindly provide all the relevant details in this regard?

**Reply:**

- Complaint regarding the standard and maintenance of the building in terms of unavailable of hot water, leaking rooms on the ground floor, revamping of the entire building is needed. The matter was reported to the Provincial Office, but no renovations were done.
- The budget for renovations (Capital Works) is allocated to Division Supply Chain Management. The damage to the building was reported to Division Supply Chain Management on 2025-07-23, 2026-02-12 and 2026-03-03.