



GAUTENG
LEGISLATURE

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30
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DEMOCRACY

**OCPOL QUESTIONS TO THE GPL
EMANATING FROM THE RESEARCH
ANALYSIS OF THE 3rd QUARTER
PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE
GPL 25/26FY**

Questions that emanated from the Budget Adjustment of the GPL (2025/26 FY)

Kindly provide the committee with responses on the following issues:

1. Please explain the reasons for the budget decreases under:

1.1. Compensation of Employees

Response:

Compensation of employees is adjusted downwards due to unfilled vacancies and to correct the classification of the budget from compensation of employees to goods and service. Unspent funds from unfilled vacancies have been reallocated to spending pressures under goods and services.

1.2. Payments for Capital Assets

Response:

The budget for capital assets is adjusted downwards and reallocated to spending pressures under goods and services, for example, funds for the Project on building refurbishment had to be reallocated to other pressures. Funds shifts were also implemented within capital assets from the new building allocation, as a new approach to source the building will be developed and implemented in the 2026/27 financial year, to fund ICT equipment, GPL fleet, roofing projects, emergency evacuation system, business tools, office equipment and furniture.

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2. What measures has the GPL implemented to ensure that budget reductions do not negatively affect key performance indicators?

Response:

The Financial of Management of Parliament and Legislature Act allows for Funds virements, wherein, institutional savings are reallocated to more Pressure areas.

Funds virements emanating from institutional savings and activities that are no longer required in the current financial year, have been reallocated to spending pressures under goods and services to supplement the budget for sector engagements and study tour, training, legal fees, space assessment, voter education campaign, the opening of the Legislature as well as the audit and risk management activities. Funds shifts were also implemented to realign the budget for Political Parties that have utilised the research work function.

Budget reductions did not effect or have any adverse impact on the implementation of the APP (Annual Performance Plans) and realisation of the APP targets.

Questions that emanated from the 3rd QR of the GPL (2025/26 FY)

Kindly provide the committee with responses on the following issues:

- 1. The Committee notes that *Programme Five: CFO* underspent on goods and services. One of the cost drivers cited is Forensic investigations (R220 thousand), with investigation still in progress and will be invoiced once completed. Please clarify:**

The nature of the forensic investigations underway.



Response:

GPL received A whistleblowing report via the GPL independent website URL link. Included on the report were two cases which directly implicated an employee of Provincial Legislature within the SCM Directorate.

The two internal allegations are as follows:

- a. Allegation 1: An employee in the procurement section has been receiving kickbacks from suppliers.
- b. Allegation 2: An employee in the procurement section of SCM has been receiving kickbacks from suppliers since 2019 to present.

Both matters appeared to be similar in nature or relating to one person. All these matters were brought to the attention of the Accounting Officer, the Audit & Risk Committee (ARC) and the Executive Authority. Subsequently, in consultation with the ARC, the Internal Auditors (Nexia SAB&T) were appointed to conduct a preliminary investigation into the alleged cases to assess the veracity and substance of the allegations.

Internal Auditors proceeded to conduct the investigation which was concluded and presented to the ARC on 27th January 2026. In the main, the report concluded that there was no evidence to corroborate or support the allegations. The report further proposed that GPL consider the development a policy to conduct lifestyle audits for senior management and critical functions such as SCM, Finance, Assets Management, Building Management, etc. Management is in the process of developing such a policy framework.

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- 2. The Committee further notes that expenditure on goods and services amounted to R96.3 million, representing 74.7% of projected expenditure for the quarter. Key cost drivers include travel expenses of R38.5 million (air travel, accommodation, car hire, conference registration, international travel services, and subsistence and travel). Within this, a sector engagement with Venezuela accounted for R5.9 million (second leg). Please provide:**

- 2.1. The date of the trip, and whether it occurred before or after the closure of Venezuelan airspace following the arrest of the Venezuelan President by the US.**

Response:

The Departure of the delegation to Venezuela was 27 November 2025 with scheduled return on 03 December 2025 and the arrest of Venezuelan President by the US took place on 03 January 2026. The trip occurred before the closure of the Venezuela airspace.

- 2.2. Confirmation of whether DIRCO's advisory against travel to Venezuela was adhered to.**

Response:

DIRCO did not issue advisory against travel to Venezuela. On the contrary DIRCO approved and facilitated the travel of the Gauteng Legislature delegation to Venezuela. See attached.

2.3. A detailed breakdown of expenditure on this trip.

Response:

R5.9 million is the total cost of the Venezuela trip.

GPL	
Air travel	3,274,819
Accommodation	931,870
Transport	251,717
Travel services	33,840
Per diem	1,505,651
Total	5,997,895

2.4. The outcomes achieved from this engagement.

Response:

- through coordination with GPL, South Africa was recognised as the Guest of Honor country at the International Fair of Tourism FITVEN.
- despite significant logistical setbacks, GPL exhibited on the main stall alongside BrandSA, showcasing GPL educational and promotional material thus elevating GPL and its profile.
- deepened diplomatic relations and soft-power international relations between Gauteng and its counterparts.
- cemented the expressions of solidarity and mutual respect, with participation serving to enhance the dialogue and exchange that the FITVEN was designed to foster.

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Recommended



Adv. Mpho Maloka
Secretary to the Legislature

Approved

Hon. Morakane Mosupyoe
Speaker