

REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, LAND AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

2014/15 FOURTH QUARTER REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, LAND AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS (VOTE 5)

1. INTRODUCTION

The Portfolio Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (the Committee) has a Constitutional mandate, in terms of Section 114(2) (b) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996) read with Rule 131 of the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature to oversee the performance of the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (the department) and hold it accountable through various measures.

The consideration and scrutiny of the Fourth Quarter Report for the 2014/2015 financial year is a tool the Committee uses to determine whether the department has proper plans and programmes to realise its strategic objectives and ultimately to deliver basic services to the citizens of Mpumalanga.

The Committee tables this report, in accordance with the provisions of the Rules and Orders of the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature, as an account of its oversight work done for consideration and adoption in order to monitor the performance of the department for the 2014/2015 financial year.

2. METHOD OF WORK

The Honourable Speaker of the Legislature referred the 2014/15 Fourth Quarter Report to the Committee for deliberations and report back to the House, in accordance with Rule 131 and Rule 218 of the Rules and Orders of the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature.

The Research Section, after analysing the 2014/15 Fourth Quarter Report briefed the Committee on the progress made by the department in implementing the fourth quarter targets as set out in the 2014/15 Annual Performance Plan. The Committee met with the department on 11 August 2015 to deliberate on the department's fourth quarter report. Subsequently, the Committee considered its draft Committee Report on 18 August 2015.

3. MEC'S OVERVIEW OF THE 2014/15 THIRD QUARTER REPORT

The HOD tendered an apology on behalf of the MEC and indicated that the MEC was attending to other activities of the department. However, the Committee raised a concern that the apology of the MEC was not submitted in writing. This has been raised as a concern during previous engagements.

4. ANALYSIS OF THE FOURTH QUARTER REPORT

4.1. BUDGET ANALYSIS

4.1.1. Spending per Programme

The department has been allocated **R1 071 404 000** for the 2014/15 financial year in terms of the 2014/15 Appropriation. The department has spent **96.9%** during the 2014/15 fourth quarter and this shows a significant improvement as it was at 55% spending during the third quarter. The expenditure pattern shows that the department spent 41, 9% in one quarter. This suggests that most of the expenditure in the department contributed to the March spikes, thus compromising the quality of the service rendered to various beneficiaries. The Committee noted that the quarterly report is reporting on non-achieved targets which will be completed in the first quarter of 2015/16 financial year, but are not included in the actual 2015/16 Annual Performance Plan.

4.1.2. Roll-Over

The department reported that an application for rollover of unspent funds during the 2014/15 financial year amounting to **R26, 9 million** was submitted to the Provincial Treasury. In addition, the department reported that approval for the rollover has not yet been granted.

4.1.3. Spending per Economic Classification

Table 1 below indicates the spending of the department per Economic Classification:

Table 1: Spending per Economic Classification

Economic classifications	Main budget	Adjusted budget	Actual expenditure As at 31 March 2015	% expenditure
Compensation of employees	487 148	512 619	498 116	97.2%
Goods and services	233 277	2018 124	195 796	94.1%
Transfers and subsidies	299 139	247 005	231 122	93.6%

Payments for capital assets	51 840	67 670	78 419	115.9%
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The department reported the following in terms of the expenditure per Economic Classification:

- a) The underspending on Compensation of Employees was caused by late filling of funded vacant posts, transferring of officials to other departments and terminations that occurred during the financial year.
- b) Underspending on goods and services resulted mainly on travel & subsistence for March 2015 as well as delays in the submission of invoices for contractual obligations.
- c) The underspending on Transfers and Subsidies was due to delay in the implementation of projects caused by the reprioritisation of plans as well as delays in the processing of long outstanding leave gratuities.
- d) The department clarified that, as per the audited figures, there was no overspending on Payments for capital assets (as indicated in the table above). However, the underspending of 4% of the total allocated budget was caused by the delay in the delivery of furniture purchased. The Committee enquired if the delay in the delivery of furniture was not a result of poor planning by the department. The department confirmed that the delay in the delivery of furniture was a result of poor planning. Furthermore, the department reported that the re-planning process by the department delayed the targets in the fourth quarter.

5.2. PROGRAMMES AND SUB-PROGRAMMES

The Committee deliberated on the performance of the department for each programme as follows:

5.2.1. PROGRAMME 1: ADMINISTRATION

The purpose of this programme is to ensure that all nine-core function programmes of the department are adequately provided with political leadership; strategic leadership (planning, organising and monitoring), corporate support services; financial management support; and public communication support services.

The Committee made the following observations on Programme 1:

a) Spending Pattern

The programme had an adjusted budget allocation of **R 118 354 000** and spent **R 116 507 000** which is 98% spending. The programme failed to reach the benchmark of 100% by 2%. Table 2 below, outlines the spending of the programme.

Table 2: Spending outline of the programme

Administration	Adjusted budget R'000	Actual expenditure as at 31 March 2015	% spent
Compensation of employees	77 394	76 842	99%
Goods and services	33 183	31 820	96%
Transfers and subsidies	4 867	4 753	98%
Payments for Capital assets	2 910	3 092	106%
Total	118 354	116 507	98%

The department reported that the overspending on Payments for Capital Assets was due to payment of financial assets and Irrecoverable bad debts written off.

b) Programme Performance

The programme has achieved 81% (13 out of 16) targets that were planned for the 4th quarter.

The programme could not achieve three targets during the quarter, which are **assessment of employees, development of ICT systems and connecting remote offices to government network**. The development of 1 ICT systems has been carried over to the 2015/16 financial year's Annual Performance Plan.

Performance Assessment for Employees

The Committee noted that the programme failed to assess 84 employees on performance management during the fourth quarter. It is reported that 84 officials did not comply and 27 are SMS members that did not submit assessments in the third quarter. The department reported that Chief Directors will receive a notice with the names of the employees within their respective Programmes who failed to comply with the PMDS policy for further handling. Furthermore, the department reported that one-on-one quarterly meetings with Chief Directors will be held to further intervene in cases of non-compliance. The Committee raised a concern on the response by the department and indicated that the Accounting Officer has a responsibility to ensure that internal controls are in place for the target to be achieved.

Filling of vacant funded posts

The Committee noted that the department has filled 42 vacant funded posts instead of the 13 posts that were targeted in the 2014/15 Annual Performance Plan and enquired whether the 29 additional posts were budgeted for in the 2014/15 financial year. The department reported that the 20 posts were filled out of ERP funding. The 5 ERP contracts that were extended utilized the same funding that was allocated to fund the full financial year appointments and the 4 veterinary

services officials were funded from savings emanating from terminations of employment. In addition, the department reported that the 5 contracts that were extended were planned and budgeted for in the 2014/15 financial year.

5.2.2. PROGRAMME 2: SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The purpose of this programme is to ensure that communities are provided with agricultural infrastructure development services to ensure sustainable development and management of agricultural resources. The programme plays a key role in promoting the expanded Public Works programme (EPWP) in the rehabilitation of degraded land.

The Committee made the following observations on Programme 2:

a) Spending Pattern

The programme was allocated an adjusted budget of **R 72 333 000**. The expenditure for the fourth quarter was **R 71 634 000** or 99% of the allocated budget. The programme failed to reach the benchmark of 100% by 1%. Table 3 below outlines the spending per sub-programme:

Table 3: Spending per sub-programme

Sustainable Resource Management	Adjusted budget R'000	Actual expenditure as at 31 March 2015	% spent
Compensation of employees	41 526	41 526	100%
Goods and services	8 739	8 720	99.9%
Transfers and subsidies	22 068	21 388	97%
Payments for Capital assets	-	-	-
Total	72 333	71 634	99%

b) Programme Performance

The programme achieved 69, 5% (16 out of the 23) targets that were planned for the quarter.

The Committee noted that the Engineering services sub-programme did not achieve most of the infrastructure related targets in the 2014/15 financial year, and has reported that the remaining projects will be completed in the first quarter of the 2015/16 financial year. However, the Committee noted that these projects were not included in the 2015/16 Annual Performance Plan. The outstanding targets are as follows: **Completion of livestock infrastructure projects, Completion of agro-processing facilities, Completion of 12 irrigation projects, Completion of 2 broiler houses, Completion of borehole infrastructure projects, Provision of irrigation systems to sugar cane projects.**

The Committee requested the department to indicate the specific quarter where the four projects will be implemented and whether the budget for the four livestock infrastructure has been rolled over to the new financial year. The department reported that three livestock projects (Nokana Kgomo, Senotlelo and Lekgwarapa) were completed in July 2015. However, Senotlelo has not been commissioned due to social issues that are being resolved. In addition, the department reported that the livestock project in Bettysgoed in Chief Albert Luthuli has been completed but not commissioned due to water supply problems. Furthermore, the department reported that all the 12 irrigation projects have been completed during the First Quarter of the 2015/16 financial year.

Broiler houses

The Committee noted that the department was reporting on six broiler houses while the 2014/15 APP was reporting on five broiler houses. The department reported that for the current financial year, they have planned to complete six broiler houses, which consisted with 2 x 40 000 environmentally controlled broiler houses in Nkangala District (Letolo Farm) and 4 x 25 000 conventional broiler houses in Gert Sibande District.

The Committee requested the department to indicate how these projects will be reported in the 2015/16 financial year. The department reported that the four (4) broiler houses (4 x 25 000) conventional broiler houses are reported in the 2014/15 Annual Performance Plan as Gert Sibande Poultry Development with a budget of **R8 million**.

5.2.3. PROGRAMME 3: FARMER SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT

This is the central service delivery programme in the department, which is responsible for delivering district level services in support of the agrarian reform and rural development.

The Committee made the following observations on Programme 3:

a) Spending Pattern

The programme had an adjusted budget of **R 531 005 000**. The expenditure for the quarter was **R 513 016 000** or **97%** of the adjusted budget. The programme failed to reach the benchmark of 100% by 3%. Table 4 below outlines the spending per sub-programme:

Table 4: Budget per sub-programme

Farmer Support and development services	Adjusted budget R'000	Actual expenditure as at 31 March 2015	% spent
Compensation of employees	154 958	150 216	97%
Goods and services	98 793	98 605	100%

Transfers and subsidies	217 716	204 658	94%
Payments for Capital assets	59 538	59 537	100%
Total	531 005	513 016	97%

The Committee noted that the **Food security sub-programme** indicates an over-expenditure of 8% or (R12 765 000) during the fourth quarter and requested the department to indicate the reason for the over expenditure. The department reported that initially they had planned to offer Masibuyele Emasimini support to farmers within the CRDP municipalities only, however farmers from the non-CRDP municipalities launched complains and protested for their exclusion in receiving the Masibuyele Emasimini services. The department resolved to provide farmers who have ploughed for themselves with production inputs. In addition to the added number of beneficiaries, prices for the production inputs increased in the fourth quarter.

b) Programme Performance

The programme achieved 70, 5% (12 targets out of the 17) targets that were planned for the quarter.

The programme could not achieve 5 of the planned targets and most of the non-achieved targets are on food security (Masibuyele Esibayeni sub-programme). The reason for non-achievement is that the department did not find suitable service providers to supply the animals.

Masibuyele Esibayeni sub-programme

The Committee enquired on how the department will ensure that suitable service providers are found in the 2015/16 financial year as the same target still appears in the 2015/16 financial year. The department reported that in the 2014/15 financial year it had planned the sourcing of the service provider and delivery of the livestock in the same quarter (fourth quarter). The department has since revised the targets, with the sourcing of the service in the first quarter and delivery in the subsequent quarters. This is to ensure that in case suitable service providers are not found, the department will still have sufficient time to re-advertise the tenders and deliver within the financial year.

Food Gardens

The Committee noted that 490 food gardens have been established in the fourth quarter instead of the targeted 217 food gardens. The department reported that the cost incurred in the establishing of more food gardens during the fourth quarter amounted to R6 552 000, which is equivalent to R24 000 per food garden purchasing fertilizers, seeds, fencing material, gate, and

chemicals. The food gardens established in the quarter under review were to cover the shortfalls during the previous quarters.

5.2.4. PROGRAMME 4: VETERINARY SERVICES

The purpose of this programme is to promote animal health, welfare and production in the province. Through veterinary public health programmes the health and welfare of both humans and animals are also promoted.

The Committee made the following observations on Programme 4:

a) Spending Pattern

The programme has an adjusted budget of **R 104 673 000** and spent **R 103 850 000** which is 99% of the allocated budget. The programme failed to reach the benchmark of 100% by 1%. Table 5 below outlines the spending of the programme:

Table 5: Spending of the programme

Veterinary Services	Adjusted budget R'000	Actual expenditure as at 31 March 2015	% spent
Compensation of employees	86 947	86 330	99%
Goods and services	11 425	11 385	99%
Transfers and subsidies	-	-	-
Payments for Capital assets	6 274	6 135	98%
Total	104 673	103 850	99%

b) Programme Performance

The programme has achieved 56,5% (13 targets out of 23) targets that were planned for the quarter.

The programme cited animal health technician vacancies as the reasons for non-achievement of most targets in the Animal Health technician sub-programme. The department reported that officials have been re-assigned additional duties with possible overtime remuneration.

Vacancies within the Programme

During previous engagements, the Committee resolved that the department must request approval from Provincial Treasury and fill the Animal Health Technician posts. However, the Committee noted that the department was reporting that it awaits the upliftment of the moratorium on the filling of critical vacant and funded posts; once the moratorium is uplifted the department will prioritise the veterinary services posts. The Committee was disappointed on the report by the department and indicated that veterinary services remain a critical responsibility of the department

and should be prioritized. In response, department reported that during the first moratorium, the department was given permission to appoint the Animal Health Technicians. During the second moratorium, the department was instructed to withdraw the processes of filling the vacant Animal Health Technician posts. Subsequently, during the one-on-one meeting, the department was requested to submit a motivation on the filling of the vacant posts. In addition, the department reported that the posts had already been advertised and once approval has been granted, the process on the filling of the vacant posts will be minimized. However, the Committee noted that the department had not yet submitted the motivation to Cabinet for approval.

Vaccinating of animals

The Committee requested the department to indicate how the non-availability of vaccines in SA affected service delivery in the 2014/15 financial year and also indicate if there are plans in place to address the reported challenge in the 2015/16 financial year. The department reported that service delivery was affected in the 2014/15 financial year as the department could not reach the set targets of vaccination. Since the vaccine is not available in South Africa, the department has been liaising with DAFF to procure the vaccine from Botswana. There are incidents where the vaccines are delivered to the provinces a bit late which also affects the performance of the province, however, the department will continuously liaise and put pressure on DAFF to fast track the requests submitted to ensure that the set targets are attained.

5.2.5. PROGRAMME 5: TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The programme has a responsibility to provide agricultural research services and to develop and transfer appropriate agricultural technologies to improve agricultural productivity, both in crop and animal production. It also establishes and strengthens partnerships with other agricultural research institutions.

The Committee made the following observations on Programme 5:

a) Spending Pattern

The programme was allocated **R44 131 000** and managed to spend **R 41 957 000** or **97%** of the allocated budget. The programme failed to reach the benchmark of 100% by 3%. Table 7 below outlines the spending of the programme:

Table 7: Spending per sub-programme

Technology, Research and development	Adjusted budget R'000	Actual expenditure as at 31 March 2015	% spent
Compensation of employees	34 250	33 544	98%
Goods and services	8 426	8 115	96%
Transfers and subsidies	-	-	-
Payments for Capital assets	576	298	52%
Total	44 131	41 957	97%

The department reported that the Programme's under-expenditure was on compensation of employees, which was as a result of the late appointment of the Scientific Manager: Animal Research. The appointment has been made and it is expected that the expenditure will normalize.

b) Program Performance

The programme has achieved 10 out of the 16 targets that were planned for the quarter. The Research sub-programme could not achieve six targets, and three of the targets include supplying livestock at research stations.

5.2.6. PROGRAMME 6: AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The programme is responsible for providing timely and relevant support to internal and external clients with regard to agricultural marketing, statistical information, agricultural feasibility and viability studies in order to ensure sustainable agriculture and rural development.

The Committee made the following observations on Programme 6:

a) Spending Pattern

The programme had an adjusted budget of **R15 817 000** and spent **R15 458 000** which is 98% spending on the budget allocation for this programme. Table 8 below outlines the spending of the programme:

Table 8: Spending of the programme

Agricultural Economics	Adjusted budget R'000	Actual expenditure as at 31 March 2015	% spent
Compensation of employees	5 816	5 636	97%
Goods and services	8 476	8 326	98%
Transfers and subsidies	-	-	-
Payments for Capital assets	1 525	1 496	98%
Total	15 817	15 458	98%

b) Programme Performance

The programme has achieved all the targets planned for the quarter. The programme reported that 34 cooperatives have been established during the fourth quarter. A list of the 34 cooperatives was submitted for the Committees consideration.

Food Production

The Committee enquired from the department whether the country was ready to provide agricultural products to BRICS countries. The department reported that the country was well placed to be able to provide food to BRICS countries. Furthermore, the department reported that some of the visits that were undertaken by the Honourable Premier to Italy, China and Omani were opening a chain for exports to the countries visited. In addition, the department reported that the initiative to establish the Fortune-40 farmers programme, the construction of Agri-hubs and the International Mpumalanga Fresh Produce Market is aimed at ensuring that the province is able to export its produce.

5.2.7. PROGRAMME 7: STRUCTURED AGRICULTURAL TRAINING

This programme is responsible for the provision of agricultural training services at the Higher Education and Training (HET) and Further Education and Training (FET) levels.

The Committee made the following observations on Programme 7:

a) Spending Pattern

This programme had an adjusted budget of **R54 757 000** and managed to spend **R51 536 000** in the third quarter. The department therefore spent 94% of the allocated budget for this programme.

Table 8 below outlines the spending of the-programme:

Table 8: Spending of the programme

Structured Agricultural	Adjusted budget R'000	Actual expenditure as at 31 March 2015	% spent
Training			
Compensation of employees	39 259	36 445	93%
Goods and services	7 631	7 576	99%
Transfers and subsidies	-	-	-
Payments for Capital assets	7 867	7 515	96%
Total	54 757	51 536	94%

The Committee requested the department to indicate the reasons for the under spending in the Programme. The department reported that the under-spending was mainly caused by the

incorporation of the Lowveld College of Agriculture into the University of Mpumalanga. This affected the expenditure on the compensation of employees and the related Goods and Services.

b) Programme Performance

The programme has achieved 70, 5% (12 out of 17) targets that were planned for the quarter.

Learners Dropping Out

The Committee noted that the programme did not achieve the target of 1 631 learners completing non-accredited short courses. It is reported that some of the learners dropped out of the programme. The Committee requested the department indicate measures that will be put in place to reduce the learner drop out on non-accredited courses in the 2015/16 financial year. The department reported that it will keep close contacts with the learners to ensure that they are fully supported through their learning phase.

5.2.8. PROGRAMME 8: RURAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION

The objectives of the programme are to coordinate CRDP in the Province, to support agrarian reform by facilitating land acquisition applications in the Province, to solicit baseline information from rural communities and to mobilize poor households in the seven most deprived municipalities targeted for CRDP. The function of this programme is coordination, facilitation and convening stakeholder meetings in rural communities.

The Committee made the following observations on Programme 8:

a) Spending Pattern

The programme had an adjusted budget of **R21 517 000**. The expenditure for the quarter was **R 21 049 000**, which translate to 98% spending. Table 9 below outlines the spending per sub-programme:

Table 9: Spending per sub-programme

Rural development	Adjusted budget R'000	Actual expenditure as at 31 March 2015	% spent
Compensation of employees	14 772	14 405	98%
Goods and services	6 745	6 644	99%
Transfers and subsidies	-	-	-
Payments for Capital assets	-	-	-
Total	21 517	21 049	98%

b) Programme Performance

The programme has achieved 78, 5% (11 targets of the 14) targets that were planned for the quarter. The programme did not achieve the target of ploughing and planting for land and agrarian reform beneficiaries due to fewer rains that were experienced in the province. The programme did not achieve the target of **implementing and maintaining mentorship initiatives**, and has reported that the bids will be re-advertised for the outstanding commodities.

5.2.9. PROGRAMME 9: ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

The programme is responsible for facilitating sustainable development through environmental planning and coordination, greener governance, environmental awareness and capacity building, integrated pollution and waste management as well as promote biodiversity management.

The Committee made the following observations on Programme 9:

a) Spending Pattern

The programme was at 94% spending as at the end of the fourth quarter, which indicates, and under expenditure of 6% in the 2014/15 financial year. The programme has also underspent by 7% on compensation of employees.

Environmental Affairs	Adjusted budget R'000	Actual expenditure as at 31 March 2015	% spent
Compensation of employees	57 697	53 671	93%
Goods and services	14 513	14 412	99%
Transfers and subsidies	-	-	-
Payments for Capital assets	1 500	-	90%
Total	73 710	69 438	94%

b) Performance of the Programme

The programme has achieved 70, 9% (22 of the 31) targets planned for the fourth quarter.

The Committee requested the department to provide progress report on the upgrading of environmental centres during the 2014/15 financial year. The department reported that during 2014/15 financial year, Tonga and Graskop Environmental Centers were upgraded. In addition, the department reported that:

In Graskop Environmental center the following were done:

- Upgrading of Sewer pump and replacement of sewer pipes from environmental centre to municipal sewerage plant
- Construction of gabions to support sewer pipes across the stream

Tonga Centre, the following were done:

- Built ramp for disabled at hall entrance
- Partitioned store room to make 2 offices and store room
- Replaced ceiling in hall
- Fixed broken toilet in hall
- Fitted mirrors in bathrooms
- Installed shower doors

6. FINDINGS

After considering the 2014/15 Fourth Quarter Report of the department, the Committee made the following findings:

- 7.1. The department has spent 96.9% during the fourth quarter and this shows a significant improvement as it was at 55% spending during the third quarter.
- 7.2. Most of the non-achieved targets have been shifted to the 2015/16 financial year. However, there is no indication if the unspent budget has also been rolled over.
- 7.3. The department has not yet submitted a motivation to Cabinet on the filling of the outstanding Animal Health Technician posts.
- 7.4. The department could not reach the set targets of vaccination due to non-availability of FMD vaccines in S.A, hence affecting service delivery.
- 7.5. Although there is a House Resolution on compliance in terms of assessment of employees on performance management, the department is still failing to assess the 1 681 employees that were targeted in the Annual Performance Plan. This target was also not achieved in the previous financial years and in the three preceding quarters of 2014/15 financial year.
- 7.6. The department reported on six broiler houses to be constructed, while the 2014/15 APP of the department reported on five broiler houses.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends that:

8.1. The department must closely monitor the spending of all programmes throughout the quarters to avoid the march-spike on the budget in the fourth quarter, as this is compromising the quality of the service rendered to various beneficiaries.

8.2. With regards to the non-achieved targets and the budget thereof that:

a) The department must frequently follow up with the Provincial Treasury on the approval of the rollover for unspent funds amounting to **R26, 9 million**.

b) The department must ensure that all the targets that were shifted to the 2015/16 financial year are achieved.

8.3. The Accounting Officer must submit the motivation on the filling of the outstanding Animal Health Technician posts to Cabinet for approval before 31 August 2015. Furthermore, the department must ensure that the posts are filled immediately after the approval has been granted.

8.4. The department must continuously make follow ups with DAFF to fast track the requests submitted on vaccines and ensure that vaccines are received timeously. In addition, the department must ensure that farmers are properly assisted with vaccination of their animals and that the set targets are achieved.

8.5. With regards to the non-assessment of staff members that:

a) The Accounting Officer must develop and implement internal controls on the assessment of employees within the department.

b) The Accounting officer must take disciplinary actions against managers who are failing to submit quarterly assessments of their subordinates.

8.6. The department must ensure that the APP clearly indicates the plans of the department and that minor errors are eliminated.

9. CONCLUSION

The Chairperson takes this opportunity to thank the Members of the Portfolio Committee for their active participation and constructive contributions during the deliberations on the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs' Fourth Quarterly Performance Report for the 2014/2015 financial year.

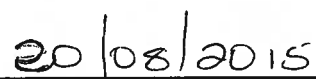
In addition, the Chairperson extends a word of thanks to the HOD and senior management officials for availing themselves to deliberate on matters pertaining to the department.

The Chairperson would also like to thank the support staff for contributing to the work of the Committee.

Unless otherwise stated a report detailing progress in the implementation of all recommendations in this report should be forwarded to the Committee by 30 September 2015 and thereafter on a quarterly basis.



HON. VV WINDVOEL (MPL)



DATE

**CHAIRPERSON: PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
LAND AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**