

REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION; CULTURE, SPORT AND RECREATION ON THE OVERSIGHT VISIT AND A PUBLIC HEARING UNDERTAKEN AT WAKKESTROOM LIBRARY IN DR PIXLEY KA ISAKA SEME MUNICIPALITY ON 06 MARCH 2013 ON 07 MARCH 2013, DURING TAKING THE LEGISLATURE TO THE PEOPLE (TLP) – DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, SPORT AND RECREATION (DCSR)

1. INTRODUCTION

The Portfolio Committee on Education; Culture, Sport and Recreation (the Committee) derives its mandate from section 114, 116 and 133 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act 108 of 1996 (the Constitution), read together with Rule 124 of the Rules and Orders of the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature (the Rules), to conduct oversight over the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation by holding it accountable for the activities and programs they carry, including the exercising of the powers and the performance of their functions, pursuant to service delivery.

2. PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING AND OVERSIGHT VISIT

a. The purpose of the site visits were:

- To solicit views or input hindering the well-functioning of the Wakkerstroom library at Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Municipality area;
- To determine whether Wakkerstroom Library has enough personnel;
- The status of infrastructure and resourcing of the library;

b. Purpose of the public hearing

The purpose of the public hearing held on 07 March 2013, which was a joint hearing of the Economic and Social Transformation Clusters, was to allow the MEC's a platform to report back to the community and the Committee on the range of service delivery concerns which had been raised in the pre-TLP public hearing on 14 November 2012. The public hearing also provided Members of the Legislature an opportunity to engage with members of the public on service delivery issues.

3. METHOD OF WORK

In preparation for the TLP, the research section conducted pre-oversight visits to the Municipality late October 2012 to early November 2012. Comprehensive research reports were compiled that informed the Committee's programme for the TLP. In February 2013, researchers re-visited Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Municipality to assess the progress made by the department. The Social Cluster was briefed on the findings by the Researcher Unit.

In ensuring that public participation and involvement takes place, the Committee invited the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation and the Local Municipality of Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme, SALGA, Traditional Leaders, Gert Sibande District Municipality, relevant stake holders and the general public to attend the public hearing.

On 06 March 2013, the Committee visited Wakkerstroom Library and met for interaction with library management and district officials from the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation. The Executive Mayor of Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality, and Councillors were part of the oversight visit.

The public hearing was held on 07 March 2013, at Vukuzakhe community hall.

4. PROGRESS REPORT MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, SPORT AND RECREATION ON THE CONCERNS RAISED ON 14 NOVEMBER 2012 AT THE PUBLIC HEARING, DURING THE PRE-TLP

Ward 8

- A concern was raised that the sport field is old and it needs to be upgraded and be made accessible to the community.

In responding, the MEC acknowledged the state of the sport facility in Ward 8, and the nonexistence of the pitch, that the ablution block has been vandalized, and the stop nonsense serving as a fence no longer provides the necessary security.

- It was further reported that, the Department can play a supportive role to the Municipality in terms of the utilization of Municipal Infrastructure Grant to upgrading and renovation the sport facility of Ward 8.
- The Department through MUNIMEC meetings is continuously encouraging Municipalities to utilize the Municipal Infrastructure Grant to upgrade and renovate sport facilities.

Ward 10

- It was indicated that there are no sport programmes for the youth and that local sport clubs are not funded by the department; thus most of the youth is involved in criminal activities. The youth is not motivated to participate in sport due to lack of resources and sporting facilities including libraries in rural areas.

The MEC reported that there are programmes that are being rolled out to Ward 10 under Siyadlala Mass participation, Club Development and School

Sport. Those programmes are funded through the Conditional Grant from Sport and Recreation South Africa [SRSA].

Under Siyadlala [Hubs] the following programmes were implemented:

PROGRAM	DATE	PARTICIPANTS FROM WARD 10
Learn to swim	July 2012	S Mbokane N Mlangane
Big Walk	October 2012	S Phakathi S Mathebula A Mhlonbo L Mathebula Z Nkosi J Mkhwanazi N Nkosi S Hlatshwayo S Mnguni T Mavimbela D Mnisi T Ngwenya D Mzima H Mlongo D Manana T Mloi D Phakathi M Zondi S Hadebe S Ngwenya
Youth Camp	October 2012	M Hlatshwayo

		S Shabalala S Makhubu B Ndlovu
--	--	--------------------------------------

Regarding the School Sport Program, Vukuzenzele Primary School participated in the South African Schools National Championship that was held in Pretoria on 16 December 2012, and the school obtained a Bronze Medal in Football Girls under 13.

Currently, the Wakkerstroom and Volksrust Circuits have participated in the Regional Athletics Championship which was scheduled on 23 February 2013, at Carolina Academy for Primary schools and at Secunda stadium for Secondary schools

Six (6) Educators from Wakkerstroom and Volksrust Circuits were identified to be capacitated in Volleyball introductory phase, the Workshop was held on 22– 24 February 2013 at Msukaligwa [Ermelo Inn].The six (6) participants came from Pixley ka Isaka Seme Municipality were:

- Mavuso Thulile Nalithuba Secondary
- Hlatshwayo Duduzile Wakkerstroom Primary
- Mthembu Ntombi Wakkerstroom Primary
- Khumalo Sipho Sinethemba Secondary
- Mfusi Thandazo Uthaka Secondary
- Makhubu Phumlani Uthaka Secondary

Another Volleyball workshop was held in 2011, Ermelo Inn and the following attended from Dr Pixley ka Isaka Seme Municipality:

- Khumalo Ntombenhle Uthaka Secondary
- Madonsela Sfiso Uthaka Secondary
- Sibiyi Vusi Local Volleyball Federation

The First Aid level 1 workshop was facilitated in 2012, held in Ermelo Inn with 12 people in attendance coming from Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Municipality.

- Khuhlase Busi Amersfoort Primary Ward 8
- Mashinini Phindile Amersfoort Primary Ward 8
- Khumalo Windy Uthaka Secondary
- Mabaso Mfanafuthi Local Football Association
- Sibiya Vusi Local Volleyball Federation
- Nyembe Victor Cluster Coordinator for schools
- Makoro Iris Elangwane Secondary
- Mavuso Thandiwe Injubuko Primary
- Thwala Tshepo Qubulwazi Combined
- Mbeje Thabisile Volkrust Primary
- Gwebu Makhosi Isu'elihle Primary
- Nhlapho Pindile Vukuzenzele Combined

Rugby Workshop was facilitated in 2011, for volunteers who were appointed in School sport programme coming from Dr Pixley ka Isaka Seme Municipality:

- Nhlapho Pindile Vukuzenzele Combined
- Thwala Tshepo Qubulwazi Combined
- Nkosi Promise Theu-Theu Primary
- Makoro Iris Elangwane Secondary
- Mbeje Thabisile V

14 Educators attended a Football workshop facilitated by the German Coaches from North Rhine Westphalia in 2008, held in Ermelo Inn, Msukaligwa Municipality coming from Dr Pixley ka Isaka Seme:

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| • Msibi Papi | Qubulwazi Combined | |
| • Shabangu Zakhele | Vukuzenzele Combined | |
| • Maseko Sam | Injubuko Primary | |
| • Molefe Sidney | Isu'elihle Primary | |
| • Zwane Muziwakhe | Vukuzanzela Combined | |
| • Ndlozi Mandla | Theu-Theu Primary | |
| • Mlulekei Sikotoyi | Elangwane Secondary | |
| • Radebe Zandile | Zizameleni Primary | |
| • Kwabe Goodman | Thembi Ndlela Primary | |
| • Ngwenya Thembile | Isu'elihle Primary | |
| • Fakude Nomvula | Thembi Ndlela Primary | |
| • Mtshali Khayelihle | Zizameleni Primary | |
| • Dladla Josi | Amersfoort Combined | Ward 8 |
| • Nchela Tsietsie | Amersfoort Combined | Ward 8 |

Sport equipment's and attire was distributed in 2009/2010 to the following Schools at Dr Pixley ka Isaka-Seme Municipality:

- Theu-Theu Primary School
- Elangwane Secondary School
- Iqubulwazi Combined School
- Isu'Elihle Primary School
- Volkrust Primary School
- Phembindlela Primary School
- Vukuzenzele Primary School
- Injubuko Primary School

- Amersfoort Combined School
- Zizameleni Primary School

Sport Equipment's and Attire will be delivered to the following schools which are in Ward 10 by the end of March 2013:

- Bethamoya Primary
- Daggakraal Primary
- Ethembeni Primary
- Hambani Primary
- Sizenzele Primary
- Nalithuba Secondary
- Seme Secondary

(b) Through Club Development programme, the Department has supported one club by providing transport to Junior Pirates which comes from Ward 10.

The support provided to clubs in the Municipality and Ward 10, is affected by the ability of the Local Football Association to identify clubs, and the department has requested the South African Football Association to intervene so that all the clubs can benefit and be provided with support.

The Department will be rolling out the Big Walks, Youth Camps, and participation of schools in sport and supporting local clubs in Ward 10 in order to make sure that young people in the Ward and the Municipality in general participate in sport, and in the process stay away from using drugs.

Partnerships with the local sport structures and the municipality are critical in rolling out the programme.

5. PROGRESS REPORT ON HOUSE RESOLUTIONS REGARDING THE AMERSFOORT LIBRARY

The Committee visited Amersfort Library on 16 November 2012 and resolved on issues to be attended by the department. The progress reported by the department is as follows:

- 5.1 The Department should assist the library with the provision of the Photocopy machine. In responding, the department reported that the provision of photocopies to all Public Libraries is in the plan of the Department for 2014/15 financial year.
- 5.2 Regarding the control measures in relation to the returning of books in time by library users, the department indicated that the control of the returning books in time lies with Librarian within the municipality. Public libraries are having a guidelines and procedure to be followed.
- 5.3 In relation to the possibility of building a new library that will have enough space or investigate the possibility of extending the library to the offices that are being utilized by the traffic department, the department did not provide a progress report on that issue. The Committee resolved that, the department should comment on this matter.

6. OVERSIGHT VISIT TO WAKKERSTROOM LIBRARY

6.1 Wakkerstroom library background

Wakkerstroom public library is under Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Municipality at Gert Sibande District. The library is serving one (1) primary school and one

(1) high school, with a provincial collection of 13,039 library stock. The breakdown of the population is as follows:

- Black African = 44, 6%
- Coloured = 0.8%
- Indian/Asian = 6.2%
- Whites = 48.8%

6.2 Presentation by the Librarian

The librarian briefed the committee on the state of the library; she indicated that, the library is functioning well and the municipality does not give enough support. The library has 606 members, children are also frequenting the library, and a TV set for kids is in place.

The librarian indicated that, she is working alone with no assistant and there is no general worker attached to the library. The department has installed ICT programmes and provided four (4) computers.

6.3 Comments by the Committee on the presentation

The Committee registered its dissatisfaction on the presentation made by the librarian and the department, Members also felt it was unfair for the librarian not to have an assistant librarian and a general worker. The Committee further raised a concern regarding the poor support provided by the municipality and the Department. The Committee observed that there is a leakage in the library and that was confirmed by the librarian. She indicated that the matter was reported to the municipality. The Committee further noted that the library had been built on a wetland.

- **Provision of books**

The Committee wanted to know, whether the Department has ensured that enough and relevant books are provided to libraries. The librarian indicated that

the library does not have enough books and most of them are out-dated, she further indicated that more shelves are required because some books are not properly placed and they are lying on the floor.

6.4 Written responses provided by the DCSR

The Committee raised clarity seeking questions on the following matters, and requested the DCSR to provide written responses. The questions were based on the following:

- **The functioning of the library**

The Department indicated that the library is functional, as it was installed with head count system, according to the headcount statistics, 1221 people has used the library in February 2013 only.

- **Maintenance of the library**

The Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation can provide assistance with maintenance, if funds are available. However, based on the affiliation agreement maintenance of the library, it is the responsibility of Dr Pixley ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality.

- **Support provided by the department to the library**

The Department provides the following services to the municipality

- ❖ The supplying of library material (all library materials remain the property of the department),
- ❖ Provision of professional guidance,
- ❖ Monitoring of provision of public library service to the community,
- ❖ Provision of training to library staff

- ❖ Provision of bursaries for a Library Science degree/diploma to Library Assistants;
- ❖ Assisting with the promotion of library service
- ❖ Assist with renovation and maintenance (based on the availability of funds).
- ❖ Construction and upgrading of libraries (based on the availability of funds)
- ❖ The department acquire and supply to libraries all necessary ICT equipment such as, headcounts, security system, internet access, computers, ICT connectivity network and their maintenance and at no cost to the municipality, which will be provided at no cost to the communities. (ICT equipment remains the property of the department of Culture, Sport and Recreation)

- **The relationship between the library and Dr. Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality**

It was indicated that all public libraries within Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality belongs to the municipality

- **The extent to which the library is being utilised**

The department indicated that, statistics of library usage is available and provided through the headcount system installed in the library.

- **The working relationship between the library and other stakeholders e.g. schools and other government departments around the Dr. Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality**

In response, it was reported that libraries are encouraged to have working relationships with other stakeholders, and schools are their primary target.

- **Department's plan to address the challenge of staff shortages**

Regarding plans to address the challenge of staff shortages, the department indicated that through the Community Libraries Conditional Grant, the Department does second staff to libraries. In 2013/14 financial year, the Department will appoint Librarians in Wakkerstroom and Perdekop and will replace the Librarian at Volksrust library.

- **Norms and standard of running the library**

It was reported that each and every public library in the province, including Wakkerstroom, has been provided with a file of norms and standards for public libraries, called public library manual, which includes when, and how to do weeding, circulation of library material, shelving, marketing of a library etc.

- **Ordering of library books**

Responding to the issue of ordering of library books, the department indicated that once a year during June/July, all public librarians are invited to a book exhibition in Nelspruit, public librarian select books according to the needs of the users. Throughout the year, communities submit to the library list of items they did not find in their library collection which are submitted to the Department as special request. If funds are available, these items are ordered or Librarians select them during exhibition. All libraries are also guided by a selection guideline provided by the department. Once they have selected their books, the department will order those books as per the procurement policy of the department.

Some municipalities also provide budget for books which becomes their assets.

- **Why there are in adequate shelves for books**

The department indicated that, the Librarian was advised to submit through the municipality a furniture request letter to the Department. This will assist the Department to budget for their furniture. The librarian is also advised to do weeding of their collection as guided by the library manual. Most of the books without space are donations by members of the community. Only 10% can be shelved because of their physical condition and the relevancy of the subject and most are out-dated, they need to be weeded.

- **The availability of separate IT system within the library**

In response, the department indicated that it has a separate IT system, not necessarily to guard against the virus but to ensure proper control and maintenance of the IT in libraries as it is managed by the Department.

- **Provision of more computers and a photocopy to the library**

The department reported that it provides computers and other IT related equipment's in libraries. Provision of photocopiers will be provided within the next two years.

- **Any engagements by the Department with the Department of Labour, with regard to other basket of services it can offer in the library**

The department indicated that, it works with Government Departments in promoting the library service during the celebration of National Days and during the Exco-Outreach Programmes. The Department also have a formal Memorandum of Agreement with the department of Education which assists in combining forces where necessary to provide the service. The department is also open to all other government departments who are willing to partner with it.

- **Any relationship between the Department and Municipalities**

It was reported that there is relationship between the Department and Municipalities, and there is a signed affiliation agreement which indicates how the responsibilities are shared.

- **Plans in place to ensure sufficient space and thorough refurbishment of the library**

The department indicated that, the municipality was advised to submit a formal request for the upgrading of the library or for a new library building to the department. The building and upgrading of libraries depends on the conditional grant assistance, in this regard it will depend on the availability of funds.

7. FINDINGS:

The Committee found that:

- 7.1 The library is not properly maintained by the department;
- 7.2 There is shortage of personnel in the library;
- 7.3 The library does not have relevant books that will be of assistance to the Community;
- 7.4 There are not enough shelves, thus books are not properly placed in the shelves;
- 7.5 The Library does not have enough space for studying;
- 7.6 There is a leakage in the library;

- 7.7 There is no photocopier machine;
- 7.8 There is no Internet;
- 7.9 There is no strategy to encourage people to use the library optimally;
- 7.10 Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Municipality did not submit a performance report regarding the Wakkerstroom Library.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommended that the Department should:

- 8.1 Ensure that the library is properly maintained and provide necessary support timeously;
- 8.2 Ensure that the library is properly staffed;
- 8.3 Ensure that relevant books and resources that will be of assistance to the community are made available in the library;
- 8.4 Ensure that the library is provided with enough shelves and that references are placed correctly;
- 8.5 Consider extending the library so that people can have enough space for reading and studying;
- 8.6 Ensure that leakages in the library are fixed;
- 8.7 Ensure that the library is provided with a photocopier machine and that internet programs are installed;
- 8.8 The department must have a strategy in place to encourage people to utilise the library,

8.9 Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Municipality must submit a performance report regarding the Wakkerstroom Library

A progress report should be submitted to the Committee before 30 September 2013.

9. CONCLUSION

The Chairperson would like to thank Members of the Portfolio Committee on Education, Culture, Sport and Recreation, Councilors from Dr Pixley Isaka Seme Municipality, officials from the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation for participating during the site visits. The Chairperson further thanked the Legislature support staff for their professional support provided to the Committee in order to achieve its objectives.

Lastly, on behalf of the Committee, the Chairperson requests the House to adopt the Report with its findings and recommendations.



HON NC MAMABOLO

CHAIRPERSON: PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE

ON EDUCATION; CULTURE, SPORT AND RECREATION

21/06/2013

DATE