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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

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1. Report of the Joint Standing Committee on the Financial Management of Parliament on the draft 2027/28 annual performance plan and budget of the Parliament of the RSA, dated 16 October 2026

The Joint Standing Committee on the Financial Management of Parliament, having considered the draft 2027/28 annual performance plan and budget of the Parliament of the RSA, reports as follows:

1. Introduction

1.1 Section 4 of the Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act, No. 10 of 2009 (the FMPPLA) provides for the establishment of an oversight mechanism to maintain oversight of the financial management of Parliament. The Joint Standing Committee on the Financial Management of Parliament (the JSCFMP) was established in terms of the Joint Rules of Parliament. The JSCFMP has the powers afforded to parliamentary committees under sections 56 and 69 of the Constitution.

1.2 Parliament derives its mandate from:

- Chapter 4 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa No 108 of 1996 (the Constitution), which sets out its composition, powers and functions;
- the FMPPLA which regulates the institution's financial management;
- the Powers, Privileges and Immunities of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act No 4 of 2004 which defines and declares the national and provincial legislatures' powers, privileges and immunities;
- the Money Bills Amendment Procedure and Related Matters Act No 9 of 2009 (Money Bills Act) which provides procedures to amend money bills;
- the National Council of Provinces (Permanent Delegates Vacancies) Act No 17 of 1997 which provides for the processing of vacancies among the permanent delegates in the National Council of Provinces (NCOP);

- the Determination of Delegates (National Council of Provinces) Act No 69 of 1998 which provides for processes around the determination of delegates to the NCOP;
- the Mandating Procedures of Provinces Act No 52 of 2008 which provides for a uniform procedure in terms of which provincial legislatures confer authority on their delegations to cast votes on their behalf, as required by section 65(2) of the Constitution; and
- the Remuneration of Public Office Bearers Act No 20 of 1998 which provides for a framework for determining the salaries and allowances of public office bearers.

1.3 Section 17(2)(b) of the FMPPLA requires that the Executive Authority must table the draft annual performance plan (APP) and draft budget at least one month before the it must be submitted to the National Treasury. Accordingly, the draft 2027/28 APP was tabled, and referred to the JSCFMP 12 June 2026.

1.4 The JSCFMP met with the institution's executive authority and the administration of Parliament on 28 August 2026 to interrogate the draft APP for the purpose of reporting its findings and recommendations to Parliament. The executive authority i.e. the Speaker of the National Assembly (NA), Ms Thoko Didiza MP and the Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces, Ms Refilwe Mtshweni-Tsipane MP led the delegation which comprised, amongst others, Mr Xolile George, Secretary to Parliament, Ms Brenda Mashika, Division Manager: Strategy and Governance Management, and Mr Nceba Mqoqi, Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

1.5 This report comprises three parts:

- Part A, a brief overview of the 7th Parliament mission, vision and priorities;
- Part B, a summary of programme performance and related budgets; and
- Part C, observations and recommendations.

PART A

2. 7th Parliament vision, mission and priorities

2.1 Vision and Mission

2.1.1 The 7th Parliament has as its vision to be a transformative and activist Parliament that improves the quality of life of South Africans and ensures enduring equality in society; and its mission, to represent the people and to ensure government by the people in fulfilling its constitutional functions of passing laws and overseeing executive action.

2.1.2 Parliament has adopted the following values to adhere to as it executes the strategy: openness, responsiveness, accountability, integrity, professionalism, teamwork, and mutual respect.

2.2 Priorities

2.2.1 The medium-term development plan (MTDP) 2024-2029 is built on three strategic priorities:

- inclusive growth and job creation;
- reducing poverty and addressing the high cost of living; and
- building a capable, ethical and developmental state.

2.2.2 The MTDP provides targets and measures for each strategic priority. These indicators will equip Parliament and provincial legislatures to monitor the service delivery and the overall impact of the MTDP on society. To assist in this regard, Parliament must:

- strengthen its oversight of the executive to ensure government accountability;
- facilitate meaningful public participation and involvement in legislative processes and collaboration with civil society to ensure that government actions reflected citizens' needs and concerns;
- improve processes for appointments to public institutions; and
- ensure that the state maximises the value of its international participation.

2.2.3 In pursuit of the above, the 7th Parliament has identified the following strategic priorities:

- strengthening oversight mechanisms;
- enhancing the legislative process and public involvement;
- improving public office appointments; and

- improving international engagement.

PART B

3. Programme information

The programme structure supports the outcomes and intent of the 7th Parliament strategic plan. The budget programme and organisational structures are subject to regular review to improve the implementation of the plan.

3.1 Programme 1 (Administration): performance information

3.1.1 Programme 1 provides strategic leadership, governance, management, and corporate, and support services to Parliament. In the main, the programme reflects inputs for operations with the related performance information recorded in operational plans.

Outcome 1 (Improved performance and effectiveness)

3.1.2 The 7th Parliament intends to automate and develop systems for core parliamentary processes, and to develop a transformative human capital strategy in order to improve institutional performance and effectiveness through information and culture optimisation.

3.1.3 Table 1 below, contains the output indicators under Outcome 1.

Output indicators	Annual Target	Quarterly targets			
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Number of systems designed and developed to automate core parliamentary processes	Design and develop two systems to automate core parliamentary processes: • Hansard recording and transcription • Legislative sector dashboard	Complete analysis and initial design for all systems	System designs and proof of concept completed	Initial Systems development	Final system development and User acceptance testing completed.
My e-Parliament App developed and piloted	Develop and pilot a 'My e-Parliament' App	Complete analysis and initial design for all systems	System designs and proof of concept completed	Initial systems development	Final systems development, user acceptance testing ad

					piloting of app completed
Percentage implementation of human capital strategy initiatives	100% implementation of annual human capital strategy initiatives: Baseline employee engagement survey	30% implementation of annual human capital initiatives	60% implementation of annual human capital initiatives	90% implementation of annual human capital initiatives	100% implementation of human capital initiatives
Percentage implementation of integrated security strategy and implementation plan	100% implementation of annual integrated security strategy initiatives	30% implementation of annual integrated security strategy initiatives	60% implementation of annual integrated security strategy initiatives	90% implementation of annual integrated security strategy initiatives	100% implementation of annual integrated security strategy initiatives
Percentage annual implementation of facilities management strategy	100% annual implementation of facilities management strategy initiatives	30% annual implementation of facilities management strategy initiatives	60% annual implementation of facilities management strategy initiatives	90% annual implementation of facilities management strategy initiatives	100% annual implementation of facilities management strategy initiatives
Percentage prioritised annual principal risk mitigation actions implemented	100% of prioritised annual principal risk mitigation actions implemented	30% implementation of annual principal risk mitigation actions implemented	60% implementation of prioritised annual principal risk mitigation actions	90% implementation of prioritised annual principal risk mitigation actions	100% implementation of prioritised annual principal risk mitigation actions

Table 1: Outcome 1 – Output indicators (Source: Parliament of the RSA draft 2027/28 Annual Performance Plan)

Digital transformation

3.1.4 The institution's effectiveness and performance will be improved through the re-engineering of its business processes and information flows. Data is a strategic asset for effective oversight. Freely available information about government performance contributes to openness and transparency in a democratic society.

3.1.5 To facilitate meaningful participation in parliamentary processes, Parliament must grant access to information to citizens. An integrated digital approach will allow the institution to organise information to ensure that it is available to all stakeholders. The planned digital transformation strategy therefore prioritises core business and support processes which will introduce monitoring and evaluation capabilities, analytical tools and predictive capabilities to facilitate oversight activities.

3.1.6 In 2027/28 priority will be given to automating core parliamentary processes. The '*My e-Parliament'* application will consolidate all core applications into a single, secure, and user-friendly digital interface.

Human Capital Strategy

3.1.7 The institution's effective functioning depends on the efficiency of its business processes and the knowledge and information services provided to parliamentarians. The quality of knowledge and information services, in turn, depends on the availability of skilled, motivated, engaged and empowered employees. To this end, Parliament will continue to invest in the skills and wellbeing of employees through the implementation of appropriate people management practices.

3.1.8 In 2027/28 the institution will develop and begin implementing a human capital strategy aimed realising a culture of high performance. Other human capital strategy initiatives will also be implemented i.e. an employee engagement survey, action plans strengthening governance, standard operating procedures, accountability mechanisms, continued leadership development coaching, and succession planning initiatives.

Integrated Security Strategy

3.1.9 Parliament operates in a complex and high-risk environment. The security of parliamentarians, employees, visitors, and assets must be maintained at all times thereby contributing to a conducive environment for uninterrupted legislative and oversight activities.

3.1.10 During the 7th Parliament the institution will strengthen integrated oversight, ethical governance, anti-corruption reform, institutional modernisation, and enhanced precinct security. In so doing it will ensure uninterrupted legislative and oversight operations, and, ultimately, the delivery of Parliament's constitutional mandate.

3.1.11 To this end, Parliament will implement an integrated security strategy structured around governance and risk-based threats, and aimed at delivering physical security, information security, and preparedness across the parliamentary precinct and its operations. Key initiatives include ensuring compliance with the National Key Point Act No 102 of 1980 (NKPA), governance frameworks and internal security policies. The institution will also implement key security mitigation measures to address identified risks to heighten institutional resilience and emergency preparedness.

Facilities Management Strategy

3.1.12 The facilities management strategy strategy centres on planning for the management of facilities as per the Government Immovable Asset Management Act No 19 of 2007

(GIAMA), and the institutional strategy for integrating the experience of those using the facilities.

3.1.13 In 2027/28 the institution will commence with the implementation of the facilities management strategy which will coincide with the completion of the rebuilding and reconstruction project. Key initiatives will include:

- conserving heritage resources;
- compliance with the NKPA;
- compliance with national building regulations; and
- improving specialist input in respect of improving spaces to support ICT modernisation, member training facilities, and sustainable accommodation for Members.

Risk Management Strategy

3.1.14 Per the draft APP Parliament's operations are characterised by "volatility, uncertainty, complexity, ambiguity, brittleness, anxiety, non-linearity, and incomprehensibility". This unpredictable operating environment demands proactive and transformative risk management approaches including an enterprise risk management (ERM) strategy which unlike traditional risk management strategies will provide a comprehensive approach to risk management.

3.1.15 In 2027/28 the institution will implementation mitigation plans to address priority risks identified in business continuity plans. These plans aim to enhance the institution's resilience through the development of associated disaster recovery plans.

3.2 Programme 1 (Administration): budget

3.2.1 Table 2 below reflects the proposed budget for this programme.

Sub-programme	Medium-term expenditure estimates		
R thousands	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Executive Authority	148 096	156 431	165 779
Office of the Secretary	198 946	207 589	209 763
Corporate Services	829 700	880 456	915 439
Total	1 176 742	1 244 476	1 290 981
Economic classification			
Current payments	1 115 987	1 191 589	1 257 362
Compensation of employees	825 172	881 127	940 816
Goods and services	290 815	310 462	316 546
Transfers and subsidies	-	-	-
Payments for capital assets	60 755	52 887	33 619
Total	1 176 742	1 244 476	1 290 981

Table 2: Programme 1 proposed budget (Source: Parliament of the RSA presentation to the JSCFMP)

3.3 Programme 1 (Administration): Risk and mitigation strategies

The institution identified the following risks and associated mitigation strategies to ensure the achievement of the targets under this programme.

Unsustainable funding

3.3.1 The institution has identified the National Treasury's unsustainable funding of Parliament's constitutional mandate and key institutional strategies as a potential risk, and proposes the following mitigating interventions:

- implementation of cost-containment measures to ensure resource optimisation;
- the development of the budget management policy; and
- the development of a funding model to secure financial sustainability.

Inadequate physical infrastructure

3.3.2 Inadequate physical infrastructure may hamper the execution of Parliament's constitutional mandate and the institution hopes to address this risk through the monitoring of the "post-rebuild project milestones", and the implementation of the facilities management strategy.

Human capital constraints

3.3.3 Human capital constraints may result in institutional non-performance and therefore the institution will implement the following to address this risk:

- various human capital strategy initiatives;
- expediting the filling of mission-critical and funded positions;
- a talent acquisition improvement plan;
- ORP initiatives;
- reviewed human capital policies; and
- culture management measures to shift the workforce towards the desired culture.

Security risks

3.3.4 The institution will implement an integrated security strategy to mitigate potential harm to buildings, assets and people as a result of malicious activities.

Information insecurity

3.3.5 The institution proposes the following interventions to protect Parliament from information insecurity due to malicious activities:

- the implementation of an ICT security awareness programme to create a cybersecurity aware culture;
- the implementation of security information and event management for real-time alerts and enhancement of response preparedness;
- the strengthening of governance and assurance by aligning controls with cybersecurity standards; and
- the strengthening of preventative controls.

Outdated technological infrastructure

3.3.6 Outdated technological infrastructure may impede Parliament's ability to fulfil its constitutional mandate therefore the institution will upgrade and modernise its ICT infrastructure as part of the rebuilding and restoration project, and implement a digital transformation strategy.

Under-utilisation of data

3.3.7 The under-utilisation of data may hamper real-time monitoring and optimal support to the core business of Parliament. The institution will thus expand access to data through the implementation of the big data analytics maturity plan.

3.4. Programme 2 (Legislation and Oversight): Performance information

3.4.1 Programme 2: Legislation and Oversight provides support services for the effective functioning of the NA and the NCOP including procedural, legal and content advice; research and information services and record keeping; and secretarial and support services for the houses and their committees.

Outcome 2 (Increased government responsiveness and accountability by strengthening oversight over the Executive)

3.4.2 The Constitution requires that, to ensure a government that is open, responsive and accountable, Parliament must maintain oversight of the executive. To strengthen accountability and ensure an increase in the pace of service delivery, Parliament will improve aspects within its oversight mechanisms and processes, including the tracking and monitoring of responses to resolutions, setting accountability standards, implementing oversight priorities for parliamentary committees, and improving processes for the appointment and removal of public office bearers.

3.4.3 Table 3 below contains the output indicators under Outcome 2.

Output indicators	Annual Target 2027–2028	Quarterly targets			
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Percentage increase in Executive responsiveness rate from baseline in FY2025/26	10% increase in executive responsiveness rate from baseline in FY 2025/26	2% increase in executive responsiveness to house resolutions	6% increase in executive responsiveness to house resolutions	8% increase in executive responsiveness to house resolutions	10% increase in executive responsiveness rate from baseline in FY 2025/26
Accountability standards enforcement outcomes report produced	Produce Outcomes Report on enforcement of Accountability Standards	Quarterly outcomes report on enforcement of accountability standards	Quarterly outcomes report on enforcement of accountability standards	Quarterly outcomes report on enforcement of accountability standards	Outcomes Report on enforcement of Accountability Standards
Percentage annual implementation of Oversight Priority Plan for identified Committees	95% annual implementation of Oversight Priority Plan for identified Committees	30% annual implementation of oversight priority plan for identified committees	75% annual implementation of oversight priority plan for identified committees	85% annual implementation of oversight priority plan for identified committees	95% annual implementation of oversight priority plan for identified committees
Percentage committee planning, budgeting framework implemented	100% Implementation of the Committee Planning, Budgeting Framework	Framework reviewed, updated and implementation plan developed	40% implementation of the committee planning, budgeting framework	40% implementation of the committee planning, budgeting framework	100% implementation of the committee planning, budgeting framework
Percentage implementation of Guidelines on ISO-related statutory appointments and removal procedures	100% implementation of guidelines on ISD-related statutory appointments and removal procedures	30% implementation of guidelines on ISD-related statutory appointments	60% implementation of guidelines on ISD-related statutory appointments	90% implementation of guidelines on ISD-related statutory appointments	100% implementation of guidelines on ISD-related statutory appointments

Table 3: Outcome 2 - output indicators (Source: Parliament of the RSA presentation to the JSCFMP)

Responsiveness to Parliament resolutions

3.4.4 The 7th Parliament aims to improve existing mechanisms for effective oversight and accountability by tracking and reporting on the responsiveness of the executive to its resolutions.

3.4.5 In 2027/28 Parliament aims to ensure that all accountability mechanisms in place and enforced to improve executive responsiveness. From the baseline established during 2025/26, a 10 per cent increase will be applied to ensure that improvements are realised.

Accountability Standards

3.4.6 In 2026/27 Parliament focused on developing the *Accountability Standards Recommendations Report* for the consideration by political governance structures, and eventually its submission to the relevant structures for implementation.

3.4.7 In 2027/28 the accountability standards will further focus on addressing the non-responsiveness of the executive. It is envisaged that proposals to strengthen executive accountability to Parliament would be considered by the rules committees in the NA and NCOP. The effectiveness of the interventions will be reported on.

Oversight Priority Plan for 7th Parliament

3.4.8 The oversight work of parliamentary committees requires monitoring processes. To support such monitoring oversight priority areas must be identified. The Oversight Priority Plan (OPP) was implemented successfully by the identified committees during 2025/26 and 2026/27. Implementation will be expanded to include more committees, further allowing Parliament to align with the MTDP priorities and the pursuit of the National Development Plan (NDP) goals. The scope of the implementation will also be extended to cover thematic areas beyond the infrastructure development theme selected for the first two years.

Committee Planning and Budgeting Framework

3.4.9 Parliamentary committees are central to the institution's constitutional mandate of oversight, law-making, and accountability. Committees are required to develop strategic plans, APPs, and quarterly programmes to ensure that their work is guided by the institution's objectives. Committee planning must be optimised to ensure alignment between plans, budgets and reporting. Parliament has developed an integrated committee planning and budgeting framework to guide committees in this aspect.

3.4.10 In 2027/28 initiatives to strengthen the implementation of the committee planning and budgeting framework will continue. The aim is for all committees to plan and budget in accordance with the guideline thus ensuring integrated and transparent budget allocations, and quarterly reporting on each committee's performance.

Guidelines on ISD-related statutory appointments and removal procedures

3.4.11 The 2024 policy priorities and strategic plan of Parliament direct that the institution should address several matters relating to the institutions supporting democracy (ISDs).

Amongst these are the setting of standardised appointment and removal procedures, and the support of ISDs through ensuring their financial independence.

3.4.12 In 2026/27 the focus was on developing guidelines on ISD-related statutory appointments and removal processes, and submitting these to the NA Rules Committee for consideration. In 2027/28, the focus will shift to ensuring that the guidelines are implemented, and that there is active monitoring of progress in this regard.

Outcome 3 (Meaningful and adequate involvement and participation by citizens)

3.4.13 Parliament's constitutional mandate demands that it provides meaningful opportunities for public involvement in its legislative and other processes. The institution must thus create platforms for engagement with the public and targeted sectors of society, particularly vulnerable and marginalised people and communities.

3.4.14 Table 4 below contains the output indicators under Outcome 3.

Output indicators	**Annual Target 2026–2027**	**Quarterly targets**			
		Quarter 1	**Quarter 2**	**Quarter 3**	**Quarter 4**
Percentage implementation of identified annual public participation improvements	90% implementation of identified annual public participation improvements	Develop implementation plan for identified public participation improvements Implement 30% identified annual public participation improvements	60% implementation of identified annual public participation improvements	90% implementation of identified annual public participation improvements	100% implementation of identified annual public participation improvements
Number of sectoral parliament programmes implemented and submission of annual implementation report	Number of sectoral parliament programmes implemented and submission of annual implementation report	Implement 1 sectoral parliament	Implement 1 sectoral parliament	Develop draft sectoral parliament implementation report and submit to stakeholders for comments	Submit 1 annual implementation report on sectoral parliaments to the Executive Authority
Number of quarterly monitoring reports on the implementation of sectoral parliament resolutions produced	Produce 4 quarterly monitoring reports on the implementation of annual sectoral Parliament resolutions	Develop annual monitoring and tracking plan for sectoral parliament resolutions	Quarterly monitoring report on implementation of sectoral parliament resolutions submitted	Quarterly monitoring report on implementation of sectoral parliament resolutions submitted	Quarterly monitoring report on implementation of sectoral parliament resolutions submitted

Table 4: Output 3- outcome indicators (Source: Parliament of the RSA presentation to the JSCFMP)

3.4.15 Several laws adopted by Parliament have successfully been challenged in court and were found to be unconstitutional. In the main the institution has been found to have inadequately consulted the public in its law-making processes.

3.4.16 Public involvement in the legislative process will thus be enhanced through the following public participation initiatives:

- the development of standards, processes and procedures for meaningful and adequate public participation aligned to a human and financial resource plan to support the execution of the public participation model;
- the identification of all public participation-related resources, stakeholders and partners at all spheres of government in order to consolidate and advance initiatives, and ensuring their capacity to undertake effective public engagement and facilitation;
- the repurposing and repositioning of constituency offices to support public participation;
- the implementation of innovative public education programmes targeting the voter populace especially youth, people living with disabilities, and rural communities through various channels such as podcasts, social media and public hearings;
- the provision of a public participation model with multilingual resources;
- the review and adaptation of ICT infrastructure to keep pace with changing preferences, and to enhance engagement with quality, timely information thus facilitating collaboration, feedback and even decision-making on parliamentary processes;
- institutionalising a high-level steering committee to coordinate public involvement efforts;
- conducting a citizen participation survey to monitor whether all the reforms implemented have improved Parliament's reach; and
- the implementation of an integrated approach to monitoring, evaluation and reporting of valuable insights.

Sectoral Parliaments Programme

3.4.17 In order to deepen democracy, Parliament will implement a programme of sectoral parliaments aimed at empowering specific groups, and bridging the gap between

vulnerable groups and government. Key sessions include the Women's Parliament, Youth Parliament, Children's Parliament, and People with Disabilities' Parliament.

3.4.18 The programme offers opportunity to engage on sectoral issues, to review legislative mechanisms, and to assess the impact of government policies. Parliament's approach will shift from event-driven engagements towards a more inter-connected and programmatic approach that integrates sectoral parliaments into a broader, three-sphere oversight framework.

3.4.19 Sector Parliaments will always serve as platforms for feedback on progress made in the implementation of over-arching policy priorities of the 7th Parliament. They will also serve as platforms to provide report back sessions, improve coordination and advance an integrated approach in the implementation of priorities. A resolution tracking mechanism is in development, and will enable tracking of the house resolutions pertaining to women, youth and people with disabilities.

Outcome 4 (Enhanced capacity of members)

3.4.20 Members of Parliament are public representatives tasked with the execution of Parliament's mandate, powers and functions. Their capacity is critical in the performance of their constitutional role. Parliament's investment in the continued learning environment will build sufficient and appropriate skills and capabilities to address the complex challenges facing the country.

3.4.21 Table 5 below contains the output indicators under Outcome 4.

Output indicators	**Annual Target 2026–2027**	**Quarterly targets**			
		Quarter 1	**Quarter 2**	**Quarter 3**	**Quarter 4**
Percentage implementation of member capacity building programme	80% of annual member capacity building programme implemented	Develop annual member capacity-building programme	30% of annual member capacity-building programme implemented	50% of annual member capacity-building programme implemented	70% of annual member capacity-building programme implemented
Percentage implementation of annual integrated member capacity strategy initiatives	100% implementation of annual integrated member capacity strategy initiatives	40% implementation of annual integrated member capacity strategy initiatives	50% implementation of annual integrated member capacity strategy initiatives	70% implementation of annual integrated member capacity strategy initiatives	100% implementation of annual integrated member capacity strategy initiatives

Table 5: Output 4- outcome indicators (Source: Parliament of the RSA presentation to the JSCFMP)

3.4.22 Parliament will prioritise providing professional development for members. A comprehensive programme for member capacity-building should include a focus on equipping parliamentarians with digital literacy skills to fully embrace a digitally-transformed parliament. The institution's capacity-building offering will thus include:

- academic programmes with institutions of higher learning;
- short learning programmes on core, sector-specific and soft skills;
- bursaries;
- internal training programmes; and
- peer learning initiatives.

3.4.23 The institution will also implement integrated member capacity-building strategy initiatives focusing on securing sustainable financing to support member capacitation efforts.

Outcome 5 (Impactful law-making)

3.4.24 Parliament will improve its lawmaking by ensuring that the legislation it passed has the intended impact, and complies with the Constitution. The identified reforms will ultimately contribute to laws that improve the quality of life for all citizens.

3.4.25 Table 6 below contains the output indicators under outcome 5.

Output indicators	**Annual Target 2026–2027**	**Quarterly targets**			
		Quarter 1	**Quarter 2**	**Quarter 3**	**Quarter 4**
Number of legislative impact assessments conducted	20 legislative impact assessments conducted on identified bills/acts	Develop pre-post Legislation impact assessment implementation plan	10 legislative impact assessments conducted on identified Bills/Acts (Total 10)	5 legislative impact assessments conducted on identified Bills/Acts (Total 15)	5 legislative impact assessments conducted on identified Bills/Acts (Total 20)

Table 6: Outcome 5 – Output indicators (Source: Parliament of the RSA presentation to the JSCFMP)

3.4.26 The following interventions will be implemented to reform the legislative process:

- conducting legislative impact assessments;
- implementing measures to elevate the institution's legal drafting capacity;
- investing in technology to support more efficient legislative drafting and tracking;

- establishing mechanisms for proactive identification of legislative needs based on emerging societal issues; and
- enhancing coordination between the NA and the NCOP to reduce duplication and delays in the legislative process.

3.5 Programme 2 (Legislation and Oversight): Budget

3.5.1 Table 7 below reflects the proposed budget allocated for this programme.

Sub-programme	**Medium-term expenditure estimates**		
R thousands	**2027/28**	**2028/29**	**2029/30**
National Assembly	64 276	68 711	73 448
National Council of Provinces	89 122	95 054	102 363
Shared services	979 379	1 096 900	1 155 466
Sectorial Parliaments	36 539	38 927	41 470
Total	1 169 316	1 299 592	1 372 747
Economic classification			
Current payments	1 165 222	1 296 904	1 369 958
Compensation of employees	753 377	804 816	859 697
Goods and services	411 845	492 088	510 261
Transfers and subsidies	-	-	-
Payments for capital assets	4 094	2 688	2 789
Total	1 169 316	1 299 592	1 372 747

Table 7: Programme 2 proposed budget (Source: Parliament of the RSA presentation to the JSCFMP)

3.6 Programme 2 (Legislation and Oversight): Risk and mitigation strategies

The main risks and constraints that may impact the delivery in respect of the outcomes under this programme are summarised below.

Outcome 2: Increased government responsiveness and accountability by strengthening oversight over the executive

3.6.1 Ineffective oversight by parliamentary committees and the houses over the executive and state organs could lead to lack of accountability. To mitigate against this risk the institution will:

- monitor executive responsiveness rate to resolutions;
- report on accountability standards outcomes by governance structures;
- implement the *Oversight Priority Plan for 7th Parliament* by identified committees; and
- consider the report on standardised ISD-related public office appointment and removal processes.

Outcome 3: Meaningful and adequate involvement and participation by citizens

3.6.2 Inadequate public participation and public involvement processes in parliamentary business may result in legislation that is not compliant with the Constitution, particularly, in respect of public involvement. To mitigate against this risk, the institution will implement certain public participation improvements.

Outcome 4: Enhanced capacity of members

3.6.3 Capacity constraints may prevent members of Parliament from fulfilling their constitutional role. To mitigate against this risk, the institution will:

- implement the member capacity-building programme;
- resuscitate the Parliamentary Institute; and
- partner with relevant sector education and training authorities (SETAs) and higher education institutions.

Outcome 6: Impactful law-making

3.6.4 Parliament must mitigate against the possibility of passing laws that are inconsistent with or unresponsive to the needs of the people of South Africa. The conducting of legislative impact assessments will assist the institution in determining its performance and shortcomings, if any, in this regard.

3.7 Programme 3 (Associated Services): Performance information

3.7.1 Programme 3 provides facilities and financial support for political parties, including leadership, administrative and constituency support. It comprises the following sub-programmes: Members' facilities; transfer: political party allowances; and transfer: Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO).

3.7.2 The are no outcomes and indicators under this programme, and the institution has not identified any risks associated with this programme.

3.8 Programme 3 (Associated Services): Budget

3.8.1 Table 8 below reflects the proposed budget for Programme 3.

Sub-programme	**Medium-term expenditure estimates**		
R thousands	**2027/28**	**2028/29**	**2029/30**
Members' Facilities	342 151	375 997	399 641
Transfer: Political Party Allowances	649 499	669 685	682 488
Transfer: Parliamentary Budget Office	18 262	19 643	21 015
Total	1 009 912	1 065 325	1 103 144
Economic classification			
Current payments	360 413	395 640	420 656
Compensation of employees	128 623	154 210	158 947
Goods and services	231 790	241 430	261 709
Transfers and subsidies	649 499	669 685	682 488
Payments for capital assets	-	-	-
Total	1 009 912	1 065 325	1 103 144

Table 8: Programme 3 proposed budget (Source: Parliament of the RSA presentation to the JSCFMP)

4. Overview of overall budget allocation

4.1 Proposed appropriated funds and proposed expenditure

4.1.1 Table 9 below contains the 2027/28 to 2029/30 proposed budget for Parliament (Vote 2).

	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Total Institutional Receipts	3 952 180	4 232 433	4 414 833
Appropriated Funds-proposed	3 335 970	3 589 393	3 746 872
Direct Charges	596 210	623 040	647 961
Donor Funds	-	-	-
Sales by market establishments	15 000	15 000	15 000
Interest Received	5 000	5 000	5 000
Total Receipts	**3 952 180**	**4 232 433**	**4 414 833**

Table 9: Proposed Appropriated Funds (Source: Parliament of the RSA presentation to the JSCFMP)

4.1.2 Table 10 below reflects the institution's proposed expenditure for 2027/28.

Programme	Medium-term expenditure estimates		
	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
Programme 1: Administration	1 176 742	1 244 476	1 290 981
Programme 2: Legislation and Oversight	1 169 316	1 299 592	1 372 747
Programme 3: Associated services	1 009 912	1 065 325	1 103 144
Subtotal	3 355 970	3 609 393	3 766 872
Direct charge against the National Revenue Fund	596 210	623 040	647 961
Total	3 952 180	4 232 433	4 414 833
Economic classification			
Current payments	3 237 832	3 507 173	3 695 937
Compensation of employees	2 303 382	2 463 193	2 607 421
Goods and services	934 450	1 043 980	1 088 516
Transfers and subsidies	649 499	669 685	682 488

Table 10: Proposed Expenditure (Source: Parliament of the RSA presentation to the JSCFMP)

4.1.3 Parliament's revenue proposals are based on the budgets requested by divisions to support the execution of the institution's strategic plan, and to deliver on its key mandate. The budget will comprise the funds appropriated by Parliament in 2027 and, although insignificant, Parliament's own revenue earned from catering sales and the interest expected to be earned.

4.1.4 National Treasury's indicative allocations for the 2027/28 and 2028/29 are R3,560,7 billion and R3,671,4 billion i.e. there will be a shortfall R391,4 million in 2027/28, and R560,6 million in 2028/29.

PART C

5. Observations and Recommendations

The Executive Authority should provide the JSCFMP with a response to the recommendations below within 30 days of the adoption of this report by the NA and the NCOP.

5.1 Budget Shortfall

5.1.1 The JSCFMP remains concerned about the budget allocated to Parliament which remains insufficient to support the execution of its constitutional mandate. The institution's proposed interventions to mitigate the impact of the shortfall are noted. These interventions will, however, not compensate for the reality that Parliament urgently requires a funding model and supporting budget process that recognises its constitutional mandate to hold the executive to account. The slow pace of progress in this regard is concerning. *The JSCFMP should be provided with a clear implementation plan for the development of a funding model and budget process for Parliament, as well as quarterly progress reports in this regard.*

5.1.2 The JSCFMP supports the establishment of a multi-party budget forum to advance Parliament's interventions to motivate for an appropriate budget, and allow for more transparency in the current budgeting arrangements. *The JSCFMP should receive quarterly progress reports on progress made in this regard.*

5.2 Committee budgets

5.2.1 When the 2025/26 budget was considered the JSCFMP had supported the uniform budgets allocated across all parliamentary committees because at that time there had been no baseline. The JSCFMP then recommended that committees be held accountable for the funds allocated to them on 2025/26, and that their expenditure and performance in 2025/26 should inform a more systematic performance-based approach to allocating committee budgets.

5.2.2 The JSCFMP notes that the institution intends to fully implement the committee planning and budgeting framework by the end of 2027/28. *The JSCFMP should be provided with a report on the detail of the framework, its implementation, and any challenges identified in this regard.*

5.3 Legislative Impact Assessments

5.3.1 The JSCFMP notes the expansion of the legislative impact assessments to more committees, and commends the institution's efforts to assess its law-making capacity. *Regular reports on the progress and outcome of the assessments should be published to ensure that that members, sector stakeholders and, importantly, the public are kept abreast of Parliament's efforts in this regard.*

5.4 Public Participation

5.4.1 The JSCFMP acknowledges progress made as far as improving Parliament's ability to involve the public in its activities, particularly to the extent that it would address concerns around adverse Constitutional Court findings. *The institution should brief the JSCFMP in detail on the initiatives mentioned in paragraph 3.4.16 above which are intended to improve public involvement.*

5.5 Members Capacity

5.5.1 The interventions to better capacitate members to perform their legislative and oversight responsibilities are welcomed. Of particular interest is the intention to revive the Parliamentary Institute. *The JSCFMP should receive a detailed briefing on what this process will entail, the applicable timeframes, and in particular the costs associated therewith.*

Report to be considered.

National Assembly

1. Budgetary Review and Recommendation Report of the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services, dated 16 October 2026.

The Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services, having considered the financial and non-financial performance of the Department of Correctional Services and the Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services for 2025/26, reports as follows:

PART I

1. Introduction

1.1 Section 5(2) of the Money Bills Amendment Procedure and Related Matters Act 9 of 2009 requires the National Assembly, through its committees, to submit budgetary review and recommendation reports (BRRR) on the performance of national departments accountable to Parliament. The BRRR is generally informed by a committee's interrogation of, amongst others, national departments' estimates of national expenditure, strategic priorities, measurable objectives and forward-funding needs; National Treasury-published expenditure reports; the relevant annual reports and financial statements; and the Auditor General of South Africa's (AGSA) audit findings; as well as observations made during all other oversight activities.

1.2. The Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services (the Committee) oversees the Department of Correctional Services (DCS) and the Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services (JICS). To this end, the Committee monitors the implementation of, and adherence to, policies such as the white papers on Corrections and Remand Detention; compliance with applicable legislation; adherence to principles of good governance and sound financial management; and service delivery in line with their mandates.

2. Process followed.

2.1 The Committee received a briefing from the Auditor-General of South Africa on the audit outcomes of the Department of Correctional Services and the Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services for 2025/26 on the 06th of October 2026.

2.2 On the same day, 06th October 2026, the Committee received a briefing from the Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services on its Annual Report for 2025/26 Financial Year.

2.3 The Committee also received a briefing from the Department of Correctional Services on its Annual Report for 2025/26 Financial Year on the 13th of October 2026.

2.4 Copies of all the presentations are available from the committee secretariat.

3. Department of Correctional Services' strategic goals for 2025/26

3.1. The Department identified the following three focus areas for 2025/26 in their Annual Performance Plan:

- Implementation of the Self-Sufficiency Strategy and Sustainability Framework
- Providing adequate security at correctional centres, and
- Facilitating Restorative Justice.

4. Audit outcome

4.1. The Department of Correctional Services has received a disclaimer audit outcome for 2025/26.

Table 1: Audit outcomes between 2021/22-2025/26

Financial Year	Total number of findings	Audit Outcome	Areas(s) of Disclaimer
2021/22	148	Unqualified with findings	None

Financial Year	Total number of findings	Audit Outcome	Areas(s) of Disclaimer
2022/23	130	Unqualified with findings	None
2023/24	74	Unqualified with findings	None
2024/25	73	Unqualified with findings	None
2025/26	116	Disclaimer	Supply Chain Management

4.2. There has been a decrease in the number of findings from 148 in 2021/22 to 116 in 2025/26.

4.3. Compliance with applicable legislation and regulation. The AG's office reported that it was unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to evaluate whether the Department complied with the applicable legislation and regulatory requirements. This was due to certain documents provided by the department which were found to be false, altered or otherwise not authentic. Consequently, the misrepresentation resulted in a material limitation on the scope of the compliance audit. As a result, the AGSA stated that it was unable to determine whether the department complied with the applicable legislation and regulatory requirements.

4.4. Internal control deficiencies. The report of the AG notes that management did not adequately prepare regular, accurate and complete financial and performance reports that are supported and evidenced by reliable and credible information.

4.5. Internal control deficiencies. The report further states that management did not adequately review and monitor compliance with applicable laws and regulations, which resulted in non-compliance with legislation.

4.6. Internal control deficiencies. In addition, the report states that management did not ensure that performance indicators were well defined and that explanations for variances between planned and actual performance were adequately supported by sufficient and appropriate audit evidence.

4.7. The Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services has achieved an unqualified audit opinion with findings for 2025/26 period.

4.8. Record keeping. The report of the AGSA highlighted that management did not implement and monitor adequate record-keeping controls to ensure that all information used in the calculation of performance achievement is retained and readily available for audit purposes.

4.9. Consequence management. The report states that accountability and consequence management processes were not concluded timeously. In addition, controls did not ensure that identified transgressions were consistently investigated, finalized and subjected to appropriate action.

4.10. Procurement controls. The report further states that procurement controls were not sufficiently effective to ensure consistent compliance with applicable SCM requirements.

5. Expenditure for the 2025/26 Financial Year.

5.1 For the 2025/26 financial year, the Department of Correctional Services had adjusted budget of R29, 223,204 billion. Of this amount, the Department spent R29, 860,178 billion (or 102.2%) resulting in R636, 974 million overspending.

5.2 The adjusted budget and spending per economic classification for 2025/26 was as follows:

Table 2: Expenditure per economic classification 2025/26

Economic classification	Adjusted budget (R'000)	Actual expenditure (R'000)	Percentage actual expenditure	Variance (R'000)
Compensation of employees	20 518 761	20 626 765	**100.5%**	(108 003)
Goods and services	7 527 125	7 809 204	**103.7**	(282 079)
Interest on rent and land	-	11 892	**-**	(11 892)
Transfers and subsidies	787 744	832 312	**105.7%**	(44 568)
Payment of capital assets	389 573	580 005	**148.9%**	(190 432)
Total	**29 223 204**	**29 860 178**	**102.2%**	**(636 974)**

6. Economic classification

6.1 In terms of economic classification:

- The Department recorded overall overspending of R636.974 million for 2025/26 period**.**
- With regard to Transfers and Subsidies, there was overspending of R44.568 million.
- With regard to Payments for Capital Assets, there was overspending of R190.432 million.
- With regard to Goods and Services, there was overspending of R282 079 million.

7. Performance in 2025/26

7.1. Overall, the Department achieved 39 of the 46 planned targets and 7 targets were not achieved.

7.2. Some of the targets not achieved during the financial year included:

- Percentage compliance to the EE plan for SMS (females).
- Percentage of overcrowding in correctional centers in excess of approved bed space.

- Number of infrastructure projects completed.
- Percentage of sites rolled out with IIMS.
- Percentage of offenders' profile approved for placement by Correctional Supervision and Parole Boards.

8. Programme performance for 2025/26

8.1. Programme 1: Administration

8.1.1. The purpose of this programme is to provide strategic leadership, management and support services to the Department.

8.1.2. The Administration programme achieved 9 (or 69%) out of 13 planned targets for 2025/26.

Table 3: Administration -Selected performance 2025/26

Performance Indicator	Planned Target 2025/26	Actual Achievement 2025/26
Number of sites installed with smart technologies	25	ACHIEVED 43
Percentage of youth employed within the Department	30%	ACHIEVED 35%
Percentage of sites rolled out with IIMS.	10.80%	NOT ACHIEVED 0%
Percentage of officials charged and found guilty of corrupt activities.	95%	ACHIEVED 100%

8.1.3 The Department did not achieve its target for IIMS in the year under review and this was ascribed to the implementation being on hold pending endorsement from SITA for a new agreement.

8.1.4 The target for number of sites installed with smart technologies was achieved when performance was recorded at 43 against a target of 25. This achievement was ascribed to allocation and prioritization of funds to DCS by IJS.

8.1.5 The Department managed to achieve its target for youth employment when performance was recorded at 35% against target of 30%.

8.2. **Programme 2: Incarceration**

8.2.1. The purpose of the programme is to provide safe and secure conditions of detention consistent with maintaining the human dignity of inmates. It is also responsible for the administration, profiling and consideration of offenders for releases or placement into community corrections.

8.2.2. There are three sub-programmes for Incarceration: Security operations; Remand detention; and Offender management.

8.2.3. Overall, the Incarceration programme achieved 6 out of 9 (or 67%) planned targets for 2025/26.

Table 4: Incarceration - Selected performance 2025/26

Performance Indicator	Planned Target 2025/26	Actual Performance 2025/26
Reduction in unnatural deaths in correctional centres and remand detention facilities per year	0.032% or less	ACHIEVED 0.29%
Reduction in escapes	0.012% or less	ACHIEVED 0.002%
Number of infrastructure projects completed	5	NOT ACHIEVED 3
Reduction of overcrowding	50% or less	NOT ACHIEVED 53%

Performance Indicator	Planned Target 2025/26	Actual Performance 2025/26
Percentage of profiles approved for placement by the Correctional Supervision and Parole Boards	69%	NOT ACHIEVED 66%

8.2.4. The Department could not achieve its target for overcrowding because there were more inmates incarcerated than those released. In addition, overcrowding was further exacerbated by 2 564 sentenced offenders who were unable to pay fines and 3 611 remand detainees who were unable to pay bail.

8.2.5. The Department achieved its target for assaults and escapes due to the implementation of the National Escape Prevention Strategy as well as the implementation of the Gang Combatting Strategy and Assault Prevention Strategy.

8.2.6. The Department managed to achieve its target for percentage of confirmed unnatural deaths in correctional centres. The target was 0.032% while the achievement was recorded at 0.029%. This was ascribed to the implementation of the Gang Combating Strategy and the Death Prevention Strategy Plan.

8.3. **Programme 3: Rehabilitation**

8.3.1. Programme 3 is responsible for providing needs-based programmes and interventions to facilitate the rehabilitation of inmates and to enable their social reintegration into communities. The programme has the following sub-programmes: Correctional programmes; Offender development; and Psychological, social and spiritual services.

8.3.2. Overall, the programme achieved all 12 planned targets for the year under review.

Table 5: Rehabilitation - Selected performance in 2025/26

Performance Indicator	Planned Target 2025/26	Actual Performance 2025/26
Percentage of offenders participating in Long Occupational Skills programmes	90%	ACHIEVED 98%
Percentage of offenders participating in Short Occupational Skills	90%	ACHIEVED 100%
Percentage of sentenced offenders with Correctional Sentence Plans who have completed correctional programmes.	98%	ACHIEVED 102%
Percentage of inmates who received spiritual care services.	30%	ACHIEVED 38%

8.3.3. Selected achievements include:

- Offenders participating in long skills programmes were 10 765 (99.98%), while those participating in short skills were 7 359 (100%). A further 1 215 (99.9%) offenders participated in TVET College programmes.
- A total of 62 471 offenders participated in Spiritual care services.

8.4. **Programme 4: Care**

8.4.1. The purpose of this programme is to provide needs-based healthcare programmes and services aimed at maintaining the wellbeing of inmates. There are two sup-programmes under the Care programme, namely Health and Hygiene Services and Nutritional Services.

8.4.2. Overall, the programme achieved all five targets planned for 2025/26.

Table 6: Care - Selected performance 2025/26

Performance Indicator	Planned Target 2025/26	Actual Performance 2025/26
Percentage of therapeutic diets prescribed for inmates	100%	ACHIEVED 100%
Offender viral load suppression rate	96%	ACHIEVED 99%
Percentage of inmates 18 years and older newly diagnosed and initiated on treatment for hypertension	100%	ACHIEVED 100%
Percentage of inmates 18 years and older newly diagnosed and initiated on treatment for diabetes	100%	ACHIEVED 100%
TB Cure rate	96%	ACHIEVED 98%

8.4.3 The Department ascribed the achievement of offender viral load suppression rate to adherence to ART guidelines and DOT strategy.

8.4.4 The Department also achieved its target in terms of TB cure rate. This was ascribed to adherence to National TB guidelines and DOT strategy.

8.5. **Programme 5: Social Reintegration**

8.5.1. The Social Reintegration programme provides services focused on offenders' preparation for release, effective supervision of offenders placed under community corrections and the facilitation of their social reintegration into their communities. The programme has the following sub-programmes: Supervision; Community reintegration and Office Accommodation: Community corrections.

8.5.2. The programme achieved all six planned targets for 2025/26.

Table 7: Social Reintegration - Selected performance 2025/26

Performance Indicator	Planned Target 2025/26	Actual Performance 2025/26
Percentage of parolees who have not been revoked	97%	ACHIEVED 99%
Percentage of probationers who have not been revoked	97%	ACHIEVED 99%
Number of victims participating in Restorative Justice programmes	14 238	ACHIEVED 18 411
Number of offenders/parolees and probationers participating in Restorative Justice programmes	5 900	ACHIEVED 6 094
Number of economic opportunities facilitated for offenders, parolees and probationers	652	ACHIEVED 1 058

8.5.3 The Department managed to achieve its target on the percentage of parolees who have not been revoked as well as the target on probationers who have not been revoked. This was ascribed to special monitoring and mass tracing conduced in accordance with the Supervision Procedure Manual (Vol 5).

8.5.4 The Department also managed to facilitate 1 058 economic opportunities for offenders, parolees and probationers in 2025/26 period. This was ascribed to engagements the department had with stakeholders that created access to economic opportunities.

9. Expenditure and performance for First Quarter of 2026/27

9.1. The Department of Correctional Services was allocated R30.939 billion for 2026/27. At the end of June 2026, total expenditure was R8.4 billion or 27% of the total appropriation. In terms of performance, of the 38 planned targets for the first quarter, 29 were achieved and only 9 were not achieved.

9.2. At the end of the first quarter of 2026/27, programme spending and performance was as follows:

- The Administration programme was allocated R6.085 billion and managed to spent only R1.630 billion against projected spending of R1.8 billion at the end of the first quarter. This translate to underspending by 11% in the first quarter. In terms of performance, Administration achieved only 5 targets for the quarter out of 6 planned targets.

- The Incarceration programme spent R4.9 billion of the projected budget for the quarter of R4.6 billion, which represents 109% spending for the quarter. In terms of performance, Incarceration achieved 71% of its target for the first quarter of 2026/27.

- The Rehabilitation programme spent R624 million of the projected spending plan of R571 million. This translated to overspending by 9%. In terms of performance, Rehabilitation achieved 89% of the targets for the first quarter of 2026/27 financial year.

- The Care programme spent R747 million against a projected expenditure of R682.43 million. This translates to overspending by 9.7% in the first quarter. In terms of performance, this programme achieved all 5 targets for the first quarter.

- The Social Reintegration programme spent R354 million from the planned expenditure of R316 million. This translates to underspending by 12%. In terms of performance, this programme achieved 100% targets for the first quarter.

PART II

10. JUDICIAL INSPECTORATE FOR CORRECTIONAL SERVICES (JICS)

10.1. JICS' Statutory mandate and mission

10.1.1. JICS is established under section 85 of the Correctional Services Act 111 of 1998 as an independent office under the control of the Inspecting Judge. Its object is to facilitate the inspection of correctional centers and to report on the treatment of inmates and conditions of incarceration.

10.1.2. Its mission includes the prevention of human rights violations through the monitoring of mandatory reporting systems on deaths, mechanical restraints and segregations (solitary confinement) in correctional centers. It also maintains the independent complaints system for inmates.

10.2. Financial Performance at the end of 2025/26

10.2.1. For 2025/26, the Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services was allocated a budget of R114.607 million. At the end of March 2026, the total expenditure for JICS was R102.226 million.

10.3. Inspections, Investigations, Complaints and Mandatory Reporting for 2025/26 financial year

10.3.1. The Inspectorate scheduled a total of 150 inspections in correctional centres across the country for 2025/26 financial year and conducted all 150 planned inspections. In addition to 150 inspections, another 21 unannounced inspections were conducted, bringing total inspections to 171. JICS has rated 19 centres unsatisfactory, 110 satisfactory and 21 good.

10.3.2. JICS' report also highlighted that in 2025/26 the South African Bail Fund had paid bail for 137 remand detainees from Goodwood and Pollsmoor Correctional Centres who had been granted bail of less than R1000.

10.3.3. JICS reported that the number of complaints from internal and external sources increased from 913 (in 2024/25) to 942 (in 2025/26). The highest number (209) of complaints related to assaults (inmate on inmate), followed by assaults of inmates by officials (152), transfers (78) and parole (70).

10.3.4. Mandatory reporting is regulated by the Correctional Services Act 111 of 1998. Mandatory reporting includes, Death of an inmate (Section 15); Segregation (Section 30); Mechanical restraints (Section 31); and Use of force (Section 32). For the year under review, there were 128 unnatural deaths reported by DCS to JICS. In addition to unnatural deaths, JICS received 524 reports of natural deaths in correctional facilities.

10.3.5. Section 30(7) of the Correctional Services Act, 1998 provides that inmates who have been segregated may refer the matter to the Inspecting Judge, who must decide thereon within 72 hours. The number of segregations that were reported to JICS by DCS for the year under review was 5 783 which is a decrease from 6 413 cases reported in 2024/25 period.

10.3.6. JICS also recorded only 57 Mechanical restraints cases in the 2025/26 financial. This is an increase from 44 reports received in 2024/25.

10.3.7. JICS recorded a total of 554 cases of use of force in the year under review. This is an increase from 541 reported in 2024/25.

10.4. **First Quarter 2026/27 Expenditure and Performance of JICS**

10.4.1. For 2026/27, the Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services was allocated a total of R129 749 million. At the end of June 2026, the total expenditure was R28 207 million. This spending amounts to 21.78%, against a quarterly target of 24.99%. The 3.21% deviation was mainly due to underspending on Goods and Services.

10.4.2. Compensation of employees has been allocated R85, 986 million, which translates to 66.2% of the total budget. By the end of June 2026, the JICS spent R20 771 625 of the budget on CoE. In this regard, the JICS reported underspending by 0.84%. This has been attributed to vacant positions which were not yet filled.

10.4.3. Transfer and Subsidies spent only 6.44% resulting in a deviation of 18.55% and this was due to leave gratuities not been processed.

10.4.4. In the first quarter of 2026/27, JICS had 310 of the 330 approved and funded positions filled. In addition, all 211 ICCV positions were successfully filled. The vacancy rate at the end of June 2026 was 6.06%.

10.5. **Inspections, Investigations, Complaints and Mandatory Reporting in the First Quarter of 2026/27**

10.5.1. In the first quarter of 2026/27 financial year JICS scheduled 43 inspections and all 43 were conducted. In addition, there were 5 unannounced inspections reports produced in the first quarter.

10.5.2. The Inspectorate reported that, for the first quarter of 2026/27, there were no finalized investigations recorded.

10.5.3. In the first quarter of 2026/27, the ICCVs recorded 12 383 complaints and majority (1 946 related to health care, followed by communication (1 394) and requests for social worker (1 303).

10.5.4. In terms of mandatory reporting, a total of 44 unnatural deaths were recorded for the first quarter as well as 157 natural deaths.

10.5.5. Segregation recorded a total of 1 431 reports in the first quarter of 2026/27. The Free State/Northern Cape recorded the highest number of segregations (420) followed by Western Cape (323).

PART III

11. Department of Correctional Services: Committee observations and Recommendations

11.1 The Committee received a political overview from the Minister of Correctional Services who briefly touched on the issue of the audit outcomes of the Department. The Minister indicated that, he had a huge respect for the office of the Auditor-General of South Africa which is a Chapter 9 Institution. He further stated that he sees the AGSA as the eyes and the ears of the Department of Correctional Services.

11.2 The Minister also highlighted that corruption should be exposed and rooted out while working with public funds.

11.3 The Minister acknowledged that the AG's office is entitled to its opinion and the Department of Correctional Services is also entitled to its own opinion. He further highlighted the process that unfolded between the Department and the AG's office including issuing the management report to the Department to respond to it.

11.4 The Minister also outlined the meetings that he had with the AG's office starting from November 2025. The Minister indicated that the National Commissioner has indicated that he differed with the opinion of the AG and he supported the NC in that. The Minister also indicated that on the 21st of July 2026 they received a management report from the AG's office and in that report, the opinion given was that the Department received an unqualified opinion with findings and a week later the head of audit decided that the opinion was now a disclaimer.

11.5 The Minister indicated that it was incorrect to give an impression in the media that the Department was trying to influence the AG's office not to issue a disclaimer against the Department. He further indicated that the National Treasury agreed with the Department in its opinion

11.6 **Chronic Fiscal Ill-Discipline**: The Department has consistently informed the Committee how the budget cuts have affected its performance and provision of services.

However, the AGSA has highlighted, amongst others, chronic fascial ill-discipline as well as fruitless and wasteful expenditure. The Committee believes that the Department is failing because of lack of fiscal discipline and lack of timely application of consequence management on those responsible for wrong-doing. The Committee urges the Department to ensure that public funds are utilized responsibly and those who intentionally misuse public funds are held personally responsible and consequence management applied accordingly.

11.7 **Unauthorized expenditure without delivery**: The AG has reported that DCS incurred unauthorized expenditure amounting to R637 million in 2025/26 period. The Committee is deeply concerned that the Department exceeded its appropriation while failing to achieve all its targets. The Committee believes that this state of affairs cannot be normalized because Parliament and the Committee approves a budget for defined purposes. Spending more than authorized while delivering less than promised shows a failure of planning, control and accountability. The Committee calls upon the Department to demonstrate what the additional expenditure achieved, not simply provide explanations for why it occurred. The Committee will monitor actions taken by the Department to optimize value for money and reduce unauthorized expenditure.

11.8 **Increase in expenditure vs lack of recovery and consequence management**: Again, the Committee is deeply concerned that expenditure figures appear to increase while recovery and consequence management remain difficult to demonstrate. The Committee requests the Department to provide case-by-case information on the following:

- Who authorized the transaction and who supervised it
- Who is being investigated
- What amount is recoverable, what has actually been recovered, and what is legally irrecoverable
- Names should be supplied to the Committee through appropriate confidential procedures where investigations or privacy laws require it.

11.9 **Disclaimer audit outcome**: The Committee has observed with disappointment that the Department has received a disclaimer in the audit outcomes for 2025/26 period. What

makes this disclaimer more disturbing are the AG's concerns about the authenticity of documentation submitted in support of procurement transactions The Committee believes that, if documents were deliberately altered or falsified, that is not merely poor administration, it may constitute fraud and must be investigated as such. The Committee will not pre-empt the findings of the investigators, but neither hide behind vague explanations. The Committee requests precise records identified, the people who prepared, handled and approved them and the actions taken to preserve the evidence. The Department is further required to submit a report to the Committee on how this disclaimer will be prevented in future. The report should include, amongst others, control measures to identify and detect issues that might contribute to disclaimer, and corrective measures to address the AG's findings.

11.10 **Dispute of the audit outcome**: The Committee also noted the department's disagreement, based on the reasons provided, with the audit outcome for 2025/26. The Committee will schedule a meeting and invite the office of the AG to get an understanding of how the dispute process is handled in such cases. The Committee will also invite the Department of Correctional Services to this meeting. The Committee will, in due course, consider whether this will be a joint meeting with Parliamentary Committees overseeing the AGSA.

11.11 **Timeline on the coal tender contract and the impact on the AG's opinion**: The Department is required to provide the Committee with a comprehensive report on the timeline of the coal tender contract and impact of this tender on the AG's opinion. The Department is further requested to outline measures it will put in place to mitigate a similar occurrence in future. The Department is also requested to provide the Committee with the name and rank of the official who submitted alleged falsified documents to the AGSA, whether the official was authorized to submit the documents, if so, provide the name and rank of the official who gave the authorization. In addition, the Department is requested to provide the Committee with the legal opinion received related to the coal tender contract that ultimately advised the Department on what appropriate steps to take. The above requested information should be submitted to the Committee within 7 working days after the adoption of this report by the National Assembly.

11.12 **Fruitless and Wasteful Expenditure**: The Committee is concerned about the significant increase on fruitless and wasteful expenditure from R947 000 (in 2024/25) to R12.6 million (in 2025/26). The Committee is particularly concerned about the main contributors to the fruitless and wasteful expenditure including late payment of accounts resulting in interest and penalties, non-attendance of court cases resulting in default judgements, as well as inadequate planning relating to official travel which resulted in cancellation of planned trips. The Committee believes that these contributors could easily be avoided if appropriate monitoring mechanisms were in place. The Department is required to submit a report to the Committee detailing control measures to be put in place that will detect and prevent contributors to fruitless and wasteful expenditure. The Department is further requested to reconcile the R12.587 million reported fruitless and wasteful expenditure against R947 000 in the prior year, and the unauthorized expenditure closing balance of R1, 928 544 billion against R1 281 570 billion previously. Distinguish current year additions from accumulated balances, give causes, responsible units, consequence management, recovery actions and a Treasury engagement record.

11.13 **Irregular expenditure**: The Committee noted irregular expenditure amounting to R138.6 million. The Committee is seriously concerned about the time it takes to initiate and finalize investigations into irregular expenditure. The Department is requested to submit quarterly reports on progress regarding investigations into irregular expenditure, not just assurances. In addition, the Department is required to ensure that it implements controls to proactively detect and prevent irregular expenditure. The Department is further required to submit to the Committee a transaction level report on the R138.6 million irregular expenditure amount raised for security, explaining how it relates to larger unresolved irregular expenditure balance, with procurement rules breached, approving official, investigation status, potential loss, recovery prospects, referrals and finalization date. The Departments should also include a separate backlog schedule for older cases.

11.14 **Automated Supply Chain Management and Procurement Software**: The Committee urges the Department to look at the possibility of procuring the Automated Supply Chain Management and Procurement Software. The Department should look at the cost of the software and the value of the software for the Department.

11.15 **IIMS**: The Committee noted that, again, the Department did not achieve its target on IIMS for the period under review. The Department indicated that IIMS remains on hold pending endorsement from SITA for a new agreement. The Committee will continue to monitor progress on the implementation of IIMS, including progress related to pending endorsement from SITA on a new agreement.

11.16 **Forensic investigation**: The Committee welcomes the Department's initiative to speedily initiate the forensic investigation into the coal tender contract that has contributed to the disclaimer audit opinion. The Department is requested to provide the Committee with the scope of the investigation, including the time frame. The Department is required to comply with this request within 7 working days after adoption of this report in the National Assembly. The Committee will await the finalization of the investigation and its findings and requests the Department to submit a report once all processes have been concluded.

11.17 **DPCI investigations:** The Committee also welcomes steps taken by the National Commissioner to immediately report a case to the DPCI for criminal investigations on the allegations of fraud related to the coal tender contract. The Committee will engage with the Department continuously to get an update on the progress and outcomes of a criminal investigation.

11.18 **Alignment of performance and expenditure:** The Committee continues to be concerned about the misalignment of the performance and the expenditure of the Department of Correctional Services. The Committee noted that for the period under review, the Department achieved 85% of its targets while expenditure was at 102%. The Committee is particularly concerned that the two programmes that did not achieve all their targets are the very same programmes that take the biggest chunk of the budget, namely Administration and Incarceration. The Department is urged to ensure that the overall performance is directly aligned to expenditure.

11.19 **Overcrowding**: The Committee is concerned about the increase in the overcrowding rate from 53% (in 2024/25) to 55% (in 2025/26) with the Department reporting that the admission to correctional centres exceeded the outflow of cases from the system. The increase was both on the sentenced population (by 2 299) as well as remand population

(by 1 230). The Committee is also concerned about the delays in the finalization and implementation of the electronic monitoring system which could have an impact in the reduction of overcrowding in correctional centres. The Department is urged to find more ways of reducing the overcrowding in correctional centres including finalization of the procurement and implementation of the electronic monitoring system.

11.20 **Reduction in security incidents:** The Committee acknowledged and commends the Department for its efforts in reducing security incidents in the year under review including reduction in escapes, reduction in injuries and reduction in unnatural deaths. The Department is urged to work towards zero security incidences in correctional centres to ensure that rehabilitation takes place in a safe and secure environment.

11.21 **Vacancies:** The Committee has noted with concern the increase in the vacancy rate from 13.5 (in 2024/25) to 16.1% (in 2025/26). The Committee is particularly concerned about prolonged vacancies at senior management level. The Committee is also concerned that all these are funded vacancies which were not filled while the Department has exceeded spending on its budget. The Department is urged to ensure that proper HR planning systems are in place to ensure a seamless process of identifying officials who are about to retire well in advance and start the process of advertising those positions and filling them within a short period of time after being vacant.

11.22 **Offender participation in Long Occupational Skills**: The Committee noted that, although the Department achieved its target on offender participation in Long Occupational Skills programmes, the actual numbers have dropped from 17 587 (in 2024/25) to 10 768 (in 2025/26). The Department is encouraged to put more effort into their recruitment drive to encourage and motivate more offenders to participate in long occupational skills.

11.23 **Offender participation in Short Occupational Skills**: The Committee also noted that the number of offenders participating in Short Occupational Skills has significantly dropped from 16 431 (in 2024/25) to 7 359 (in 2025/26). The Committee is concerned particularly with the lowering of these targets. The Department is urged to double its efforts by encouraging more offenders to participate in Short Occupations Skills

programmes. The Committee will be strictly monitoring the Department's targets on the Annual Performance Plan going forward.

11.24 **Within 7 working days -Disputed and non-authentic records**: The Department of Correctional Services is required to submit to the Committee a schedule identifying each document or transaction queried by the Auditor-General, its programme, supplier, value, date, originating unit, officials who prepared and approved it, nature of the authenticity concern, current investigation status and measures taken to secure the original, clearly distinguish confirmed facts from allegations.

11.25 **Within 7 working days- Litigations**: The Department is required to provide the Committee with the current litigation register, all default judgments and amounts, responsible legal officials, court dates, appointed representatives, reasons for non-appearance or non-response, and immediate measures to prevent further default judgements. Where no adequate register exists, establish one within this period and submit and implementation plan.

11.26 **Within 14 working days- Default judgement:** The Department is also required to provide the Committee with a case-by-case report on approximately R6.4 million linked to default court judgements, including the legal basis for each judgement, responsibility for representation, payments made, recoverability assessment, contemplated write-offs and disciplinary or civil recovery steps. No recovery should be asserted before liability is lawfully established.

11.27 **Every 30 calendar days - Standard dashboard tracking**: The Department should provide the Committee with a standard dashboard tracking each material finding, official or responsible post, investigation stage, disciplinary outcome, criminal referral, civil recovery, amounts recovered, overdue milestones and supporting evidence. The Department is further urged to supply names confidentially where legally necessary rather than withholding accountability entirely.

11.28 **Within 60 calendar days- Internal Audit and Audit and Risk Committee** - The Committee request the Internal Audit and the Audit and Risk Committee to validate implementation evidence and invite the Auditor-General's office to brief them on the

corrective action trajectory. The Committee will then issue a public progress statement distinguishing findings, allegations, referrals and confirmed outcomes.

11.29 **Oversight of the Committee**: In exercising its oversight responsibility of Parliament in terms of Section 55 of the Constitution, the Correctional Services Act, and the PFMA, the Committee will move beyond noting the challenges identified in the Annual Report and require clear corrective actions, measurable timeframes and accountability. Where challenges require intervention by institutions outside the direct authority of the Department, the Committee will use its oversight powers to facilitate the necessary engagement with the relevant institutions, including the Auditor-General, National Treasury and other Departments.

12. Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services (JICS) – Committee's Observations and Recommendations.

12.1 **Underspending**: The Committee has noted with concern that JICS has again underspent on its allocation for 2025/26 by R9.2 million. The Committee views this as a sign of poor budgeting and spending if JICS cannot spent money that has been allocated to it based on their submission and request to treasury. The Committee urges JICS to ensure that their budgeting is aligned to their panned spending and performance. The Committee will be paying close attention to in-year spending of JICS to pick up issues before they escalate to under or over spending at the end of the year.

12.2 **Equity:** The Committee noted that women representation at senior management level has regressed from 50% (in 2024/25) to 25% (in 2025/26). JICS is encouraged to ensure that equity target of 50% women representation at senior management level is achieved and maintained.

12.3 **Target on Youth:** JICS is commended for achieving its target on youth employment. The Committee has noted that 33.5% of the total workforce of JICS is comprised by youth between the ages of 21-35 years.

12.4 **People with disabilities**: The Committee has noted with concern the regression of people with disabilities from 3 (in 2024/25) to only 1 (in 2025/26). JICS is encouraged to ensure that the national target of 2% of employees with disabilities is achieved and maintained.

12.5 **Target on payment of suppliers within 30 days**: The Committee has consistently raised concern regarding non-payment of suppliers within 30 days of submitting their invoices. In the current period, the Committee noted that the target on percentage of suppliers' payment processed within 30 days of receiving invoices was not achieved. JICS is requested to submit a detailed plan to the Committee on how this will be addressed moving forward to avoid similar occurrences. In addition, the Committee request JICS to provide a quarterly analysis of all outstanding invoices until the backlog is cleared, distinguishing between invoices that are ready for payment, invoices under dispute, invoices awaiting verification and invoices where documentation is incomplete. The Committee with therefore be able to determine whether the outstanding invoices are contributing to financial management weaknesses or whether the entity has sufficient systems and capacity to comply with the PFMA requirements relating to timely payment of valid invoices. The objective is to eliminate the backlog rather than simply report its movement from one quarter to the next.

12.6 **Irregular expenditure**: The Committee is concerned about the irregular expenditure of R6.3 million incurred in the year under review. JICS is encouraged to ensure that it complies with all applicable procurement requirements and legislation to avoid similar occurrences in future.

12.7 **Material Misstatements**: The Auditor-General has identified material misstatement in the documents submitted by JICS for auditing purposes. The Committee requires JICS to submit a corrective action plan addressing each misstatement identified by the AG. The Plan should identify the source of each error, the official responsible for verification, the control that failed and the corrective measures introduced to prevent recurrence. The Committee request an update on the implementation before the next annual reporting cycle to ensure that the same weaknesses do not recur in the next audit.

12.8 **Travel expenditure:** The Committee requires JICS to account for the significant overspending on travel and provide a breakdown of the main cost drivers, including the purpose and operational necessity of the travel. The entity should further submit a revised travel management plan setting out approval controls, expenditure threshold, monitoring arrangements and measures to ensure that travel expenditure is directly linked to the inspection and oversight mandate. Where overspending resulted from inadequate planning or internal controls, the Committee requires JICS to explain why the expenditure was not identified and corrected earlier in the financial year.

12.9 **Strengthening Procurement Controls**: The Committee requires JICS to develop a procurement corrective plan addressing the weaknesses identified in the Auditor General's findings, particularly in relation to quotations, evaluation criteria and supporting documentation. The plan should identify the official responsible, corrective measures and implementation dates. In addition, the Committee requests a progress report until the identified weaknesses have been addressed. The emphasis must shift from detecting irregular expenditure after the fact finding to preventing irregular expenditure from occurring in the first place. The plan should reach the Committee by **end of January 2027**.

12.10 **Director Inspection and Investigation**: The Committee regards the continued vacancy of the Director: Inspection and Investigation post as a matter requiring urgent given the centrality of inspections and investigations to the JICS mandate. JICS should provide the Committee with the full cost of funding for the post and a record of engagements with the National Treasury regarding the funding of the position. The Committee further requires JICS to explain whether any underspending within the current allocation can lawfully be reprioritized towards critical personnel capacity and if not, what specific legislative or budgetary constraints prevents this. The matter should not be allowed to remain at the level of an "unfunded post". The Committee must establish whether the post is genuinely unaffordable or whether the current allocation can be better aligned with the entity's core oversight mandate.

12.11 **Critical vacancies**: The Committee is particularly concerned regarding the available vacancies, unfunded posts, institutional capacity, underspending and the entity's ability to achieve its approved performance targets. The Committee is questioning whether

JICS can be expected to fulfil an increasingly important independent oversight mandate while critical posts remain vacant because they are classified as unfunded. The Committee requests JICS to submit a complete schedule of all funded and unfunded vacancies, identifying critical positions that have remained vacant for more than six months. This report should be submitted by **end of January 2027**. The Committee is also concerned that, given the country's persistent unemployment, a public institution responsible for independent oversight can carry a significant number of vacant posts while simultaneously reporting capacity constraints and underperformance. JICS cannot inform Parliament that capacity is constrained because posts are unfunded, while reporting underspending and then simply accept "unfunded" as an explanation. The Committee will interrogate whether resources can be reprioritized and whether the National Treasury must be brought into the process to address the funding gap.

12.12 **Recording and investigation of deaths:** The Committee treats weaknesses in the recording and processing of deaths as a substantive oversight concern rather than merely a performance information issue. JICS should provide the Committee with quarterly information on all outstanding death related cases, including the age of each outstanding case, the reason for the delay, outstanding documentation, responsible office and expected date of resolution. JICS is further requested to establish a mechanism for escalating cases that remain unresolved beyond a specified period. The objective must be that every death in a correctional facility is properly recorded, investigated and accounted for, rather than simply ensuring that a numerical performance target is achieved. This information should be processed from the **end of the 3rd quarter for 2026/27.**

12.13 **Electronic Case-Management System:** The Committee requires JICS to develop and submit, **by December 2026**, a costed implementation plan for an electronic case management system covering complaints, investigations, inspections and deaths in custody. The plan should include the required budget, procurement approach, implementation milestones, responsible officials, data security requirements and interim measures to safeguard records while the system is being developed. The Committee will then determine whether the implementation can be funded from existing allocation or whether additional funding must be sought through the appreciate budgetary process.

13. Appreciation

13.1 The Committee wishes to thank the Minister and Deputy Minister of Correctional Services, staff in the Ministry, National Commissioner and the staff of the Department of Correctional Services for their assistance in this process.

13.2 The Committee also wishes to thank the Inspecting Judge and the staff of the Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services for their co-operation in this process.

13.3 The Committee wishes to thank the Auditor General South Africa for the support provided to the Committee.

Report to be considered