



Western Cape
Government

FOR YOU



MINISTERIAL BRIEFING TO NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PROVINCES ON SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE AND EQUIPMENT

Western Cape Education Department

11 March 2025

Western Cape Education Department : Our Journey to Impact



Vision

Quality Education
for every child
in every classroom
in every school
in the province.

Mission

Every child has quality learning opportunities,
in a functional and enabling environment, to
acquire knowledge, competencies, skills, and
values to succeed in a changing world

1



Strengthen
foundations
in learning

2



Improved
Learning
Outcomes

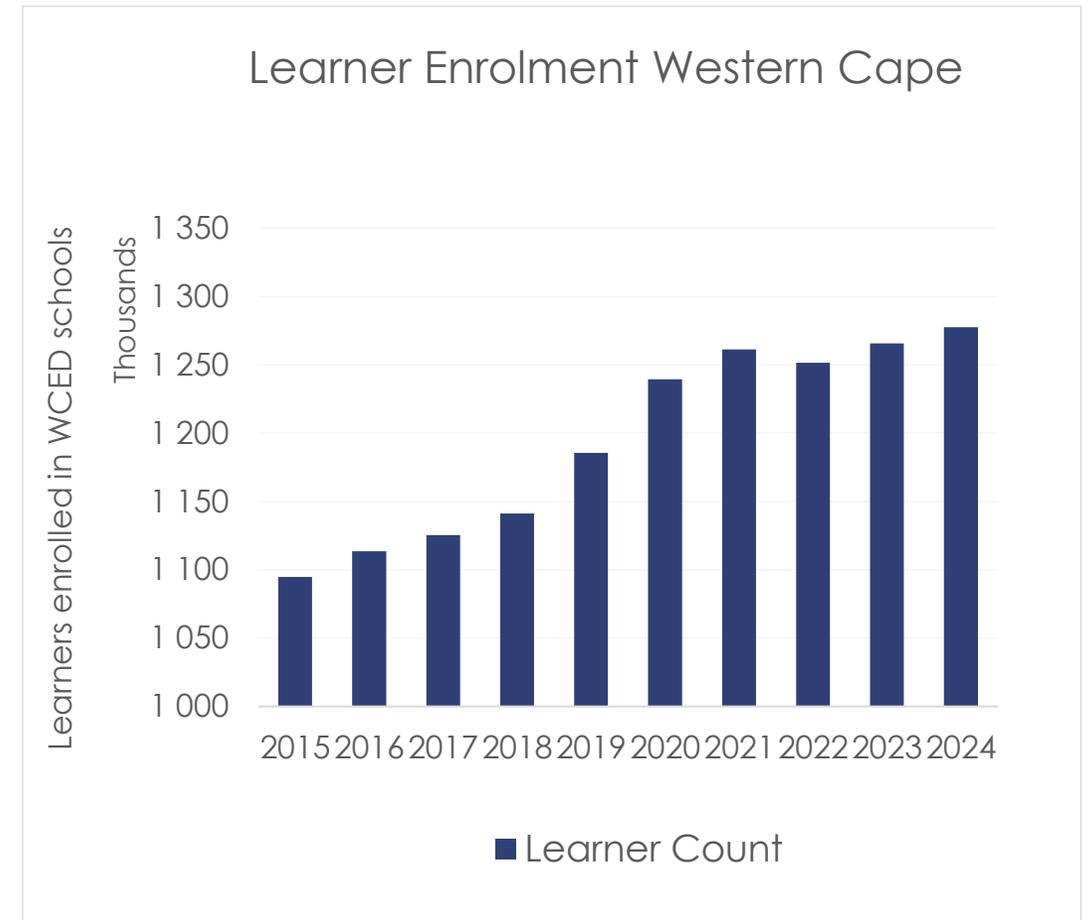
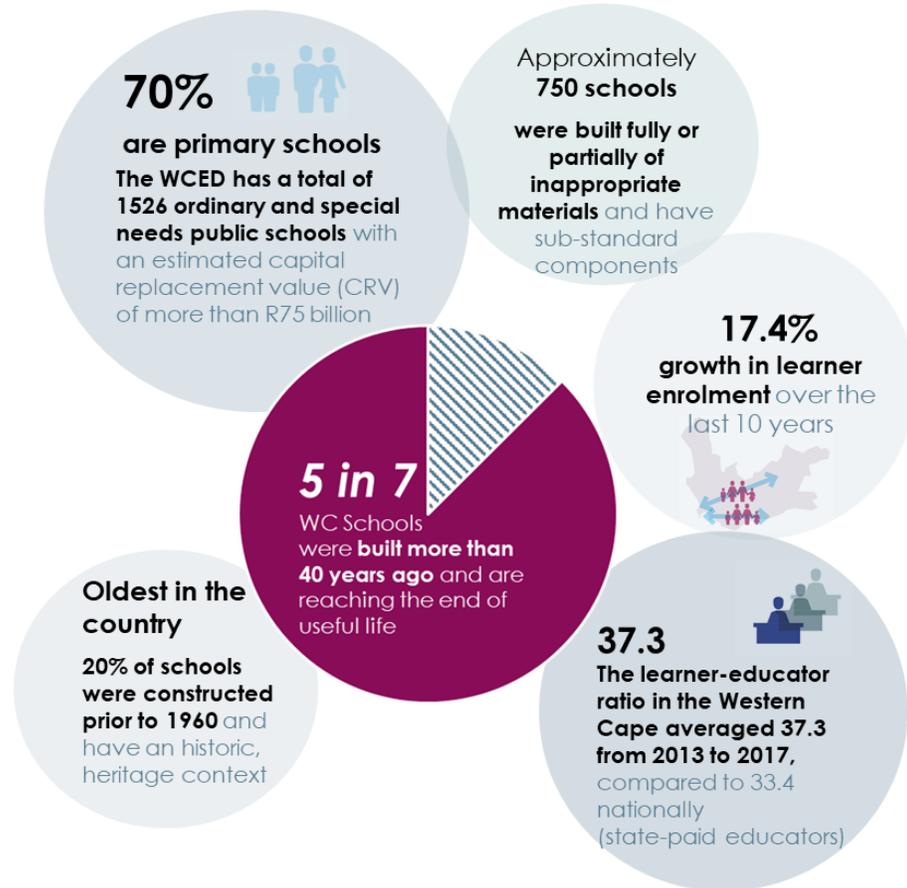
3



Infrastructure &
Partnerships

Western Cape Education Department Operating Environment

Planning for the optimal allocation of resources in an **expanding system** within the context of a constrained fiscal environment remains incredibly challenging



Infrastructure Achievements – 2020/21 – 2024/25

						Total Achieved
Programme	2020/21 (actual)	2021/22 (actual)	2022/23 (actual)	2023/24 (actual)	2024/25 (projected)	2020/21-2024/25
Number of New Schools*	6	4	8	7	6	31
Replacement Schools	5	3	3	2	3	16
Provision / Replacement of Sanitation						
Provision / Upgrade of Water						
Provision / Upgrade of Electricity						
Maintenance Projects	83	54	54	101	55	347
Additional Classrooms	182	254	739	515	530	2 220
Grade R Classrooms	19	14	12	8	12	65
Provision / Upgrade of Fence	29	52	32	30	37	180
Hostel Maintenance						
ECD (New)					8	8
ECD (Renovation)			38	261		299

*New schools in this table includes temporary accommodation

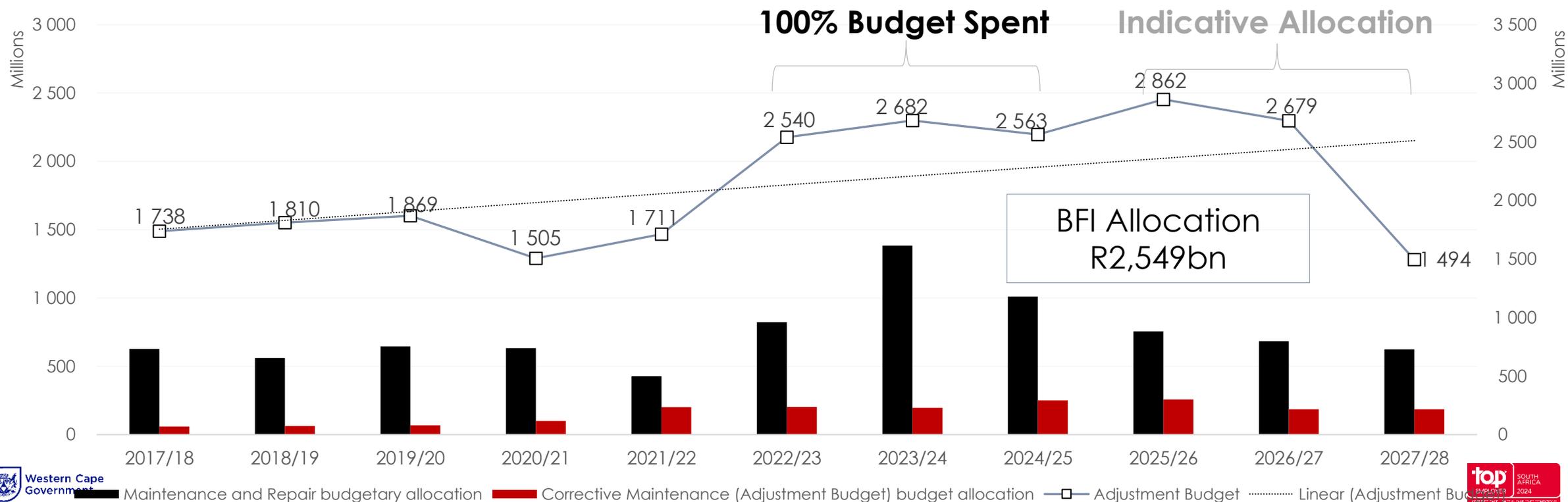
Critical Priorities for Education Infrastructure

- **Growth in enrolment puts pressure on the system to expand rapidly** - The demand for education is high, evidenced by a growing population influenced by semi-gration, government policy and social attitudes.
- **Overcrowding and congestion of no and low-fee schools** in critically underserved, vulnerable communities severely limits capacity of the WCED to accommodate learners applying for admission to schools in the Western Cape.
- **Schools not meeting Minimum Uniform Norms and Standards for Public School Infrastructure:** Schools built from inappropriate materials or that do not have the full functionality are rapidly deteriorating in condition and need to be replaced.
- **Infrastructure as an enabler:** A new school build programme is needed to enable improvements in the delivery of skills - and competency-based learning pathways.



Vote 5: Programme 6 Budget Allocation 2017/18 – 2027/28

TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE BUDGET (2020/21 TO 2024/25) R'000	TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE EXPENDITURE (2020/21 TO 2024/25) R'000	% SPENT	2025 MTEF ALLOCATION			
			R'000			
			2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	TOTAL
R 11 001 227 000	R 10 829 608 000	98.44%	R 2 861 837 000	R 2 679 306 000	R 1 494 594 000	R 7 035 737 000



Defining the Infrastructure Financing Challenge

- National fiscal emergency is severely impacting Western Cape Education Department operations and fiscal sustainability. Single largest cost pressure for the department is expanding access.
- Despite the sustained funding allocations, the unmet infrastructure demand in the province remains significant.
- Investment needed to meet medium-term demand for capital funding is estimated to be around R15 billion (R7,62bn over the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework), and this does not include disaster-related expenditure demand.



Rapid School Build Programme – Scope and Objectives

- **Fast track the delivery of the new schools**, using a broader set of delivery mechanisms.
- Develop **new school prototypes** that are fully equipped with the modern facilities such as industry-grade workshops, art centres, sports facilities, music halls and laboratories to drive higher levels of youth engagement and enable new learning modalities.
- Address the **unequal spatial distribution of schools** and expanding access to high-quality, immersive learning experiences.
- Upgrade and deliver **new ancillary facilities**, such as energy and water package plants.



Preliminary Infrastructure Targets

				Total Achieved
Programme	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2025/26-2027/28
Number of New Schools*	4	4	3	11
Replacement Schools	1	1	2	4
Provision / Replacement of Sanitation				
Provision / Upgrade of Water				
Provision / Upgrade of Electricity				
Maintenance Projects	40	40	40	120
Additional Classrooms	138	62	90	290
Grade R Classrooms	5	4	12	21
Provision / Upgrade of Fence	14	0	0	14
Hostel Maintenance				
ECD (New)	1	0	0	1
ECD (Renovation)				

*New schools in this table does not include temporary accommodation

Furniture and Equipment

- Significant replacement and **backlogs of furniture cleared** between 2022/23 and 2024/25.
- **Fast tracking the delivery of furniture for new schools.**

	Number of Furniture Units delivered							
Programme	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Furniture	90 329	53 655	109 687	121 090	89 075	67 070	71 765	76 788

Thank you