



**environment, forestry  
& fisheries**

Department:  
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Ref: O2/1/5/2

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**(For written reply)**

**QUESTION NO. 2711 {NW3480E}**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 47 of 2020**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 13 November 2020**

**Ms H S Winkler (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:**

- (1) Whether, with reference to her reply to question 2140 on 25 September 2020, she has found that the Republic is facing a waste management crisis; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) at what point will her department step in to (a) assist (i) municipalities and (ii) provinces that are unable to fulfill their mandate in accordance with the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, Act 59 of 2008, and (b) address the urgent crisis?

**2711. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:**

(1) See response below.


(2)(a) (i) The root causes of non-compliance vary and hence the support strategy deployed by the Department is differentiated accordingly.

The Department has undertaken the following municipal support programmes with regards to waste management, together with the Local Government SETA as follows:

- From 2012/13 – 2020/21, the Department has been funding Municipalities to obtain authorisations for their landfill sites. To date, the department has enabled the obtaining of over 325 waste management licences (WMLS) across the country for Municipal landfill sites. The WML's have aided the Municipalities in accessing funding for infrastructure and equipment to ensure compliance at landfill sites. In partnership with the Department of Water & Sanitation we have developed technical practice notes to aid Municipalities to ensure construction and decommissioning of landfill sites takes place in an environmentally responsible manner.
  - Through the Working on Waste Programme we have supported Municipalities to develop functional weighbridges and access control.
  - The amended Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) policy framework provides the necessary financial assistance to allow Municipalities to purchase yellow fleet vehicles and equipment (for example, landfill compactors, bulldozers and so forth) for 27 Municipalities. Both the Provincial and National Departments are assisting and processing MIG applications from Municipalities for yellow fleet purchases. The National Department and Provincial Departments have, in this financial year, processed MIG applications for yellow fleet vehicles. It is expected that from 2021/22, the number of MIG applications for yellow fleet will increase.
- (ii) Performance monitoring of Provinces on waste management functions in terms of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) is ongoing. Action has been taken on areas of under-performance.

The MinMEC Inter-Governmental Relations structures, Working Groups 3, 4 and 9 of the National and Provincial Departments have been utilised to strengthen technical assistance and support to Provinces on waste management.

- (b) The Department is assisting both Municipalities and Provincial Government to improve landfill compliance as outlined in 2(a).



**MS B D CREECY, MP**  
**MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

DATE: 27/11/2020