

# ACCESSING INFORMATION FROM PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURES: A NATIONAL OVERVIEW



Access to information is a fundamental right entrenched in our Constitution. At its core, access to information empowers and educates to allow for civil society, and the wider public, to monitor, intervene and participate in parliamentary processes and scrutinize decision making by legislatures. It also enables them to hold both the Executive and Parliament accountable

However, the right of access to information is only as good as the *quality* and *availability* of information

\*\*our experience/perspective might differ (in some respect) from other organisations.

# Western Cape Provincial Parliament

- 11 committees monitored
- Detailed reports: audio, documents, attendance



# GENERAL INFO ON PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURES

Programmes

Committees

List of MPLs

Basic contact details

People's Assembly

# PMG website: Provincial Legislatures

🔒 Premium content from before 2020 is now available for everyone!

➤ Visit SA Government Coronavirus (COVID-19) website: <https://sacoronavirus.co.za>

## Provincial Legislatures

[Western Cape](#)

[North West](#)

[Northern Cape](#)

[Mpumalanga](#)

[Limpopo](#)

[KwaZulu-Natal](#)

[Gauteng](#)

[Free State](#)

[Eastern Cape](#)

This is content of **provincial legislatures** we've recently added.

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# PMG website: Provincial Legislatures' programmes

[Committees and Meetings](#) [MPs](#) [Bills](#) [Questions and Replies](#) [Calls for Comments](#) [Attendance](#) [Blog](#) [Provincial Legislatures](#)

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[Daily Schedules](#)

## Provincial Legislature for 2021-11-22

LIMPOPO PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATURE ACTIVITIES WEEKLY PROGRAMME: 22 - 26 NOVEMBER 2021

N0. 51 (2021) SIXTH LEGISLATURE

DATE	TIME	NAME OF COMMITTEE	VENUE	BUSINESS
MONDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2021		<b>Constituency Work Day</b>		
	10H00		Lebowakgomo Legislature Chamber	<b>Orders of the day:</b> Consideration and Adoption of the following Reports of the Portfolio Committee on: <b>Office of the Premier:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2020/2021 4th Quarter Report: Office of the Premier</li><li>• 2021/2022 1st Quarter Report: Office of the Premier.</li><li>• Report on the Quantitative Evaluation of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development</li></ul>

# PMG website: WCPP info

[Committees and Meetings](#) [MPs](#) [Bills](#) [Questions and Replies](#) [Calls for Comments](#) [Attendance](#) [Blog](#) [Provincial Legislatures](#)

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[Provincial Legislatures](#)

## Western Cape Parliament

### Programme

[WCPP Committee & House Sitings](#)

### Committees

Adhoc Committee on Covid-19 (WCPP)

Budget (WCPP)

Community Safety, Cultural Affairs and Sport (WCPP)


Education (WCPP)

Finance, Economic Opportunities and Tourism (WCPP)


Health (WCPP)


[All Western Cape Committees](#)


### Members


 Allen, Mr R  
DA

 America, Mr D  
DA

 Baartman, Ms DM  
DA

 Bakubaku-Vos, Ms NG  
ANC

 Bans, Ms AP  
ANC

 Bosman, Mr G  
DA

[All Western Cape Members](#)

### Constituency Offices

You can find constituency offices for this legislature on [People's Assembly](#).

### Open calls for comment

There are currently no open calls for comment



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Mnqasela, Mr M  
Speaker

#### Legislature contact details

##### Speaker

Mr Masizole Mnqasela  
Email: [mmnqasela@wcpp.gov.za](mailto:mmnqasela@wcpp.gov.za)  
Phone: 021 487 1601

##### Secretary to Legislature

Mr Romeo Adams  
Email: [radams@wcpp.gov.za](mailto:radams@wcpp.gov.za); [sfisher@wcpp.gov.za](mailto:sfisher@wcpp.gov.za)  
Phone: 021 487 1701

##### Deputy Speaker

Beverley Schäfer  
Email: [beverley.schafer@wcpp.gov.za](mailto:beverley.schafer@wcpp.gov.za)

##### Legislature

7 Wale Street, Cape Town  
Email: [info@wcpp.gov.za](mailto:info@wcpp.gov.za)  
Phone: 021 487 1600

[Legislature Rules](#)

[YouTube](#)



# PMG website: MPL profiles

Home » Politicians » Masizole Mnqasela

## Mr Masizole Mnqasela

Member of the Western Cape Provincial Legislature

Formerly: National Assembly



### About Masizole Mnqasela

Mr Mnqasela is the Speaker of the Western Cape Provincial Legislature.

He previously served as a Member of the Finance, Budget and Local Government Committees in the Western Cape Provincial Legislature

Mr Mnqasela was born in Umtata and completed his high school education in Cape Town. He completed his N5 in Electrical Engineering and is currently studying towards a BA Degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics at the UNISA. Before serving as Shadow Deputy Minister of Home Affairs, he was elected as General Secretary of ward 096 Development Forum in Makhaza and a member of the Khaylitsha Development Forum from 2004 to 2007. He was in addition appointed as a Constituency Chairperson and as Councilor in the City of Cape Town.

#### Political party:

Democratic Alliance (DA) →

#### Current positions:

Speaker at Western Cape Provincial Legislature (Provincial-Legislature) →  
since 22nd May 2019

#### Former positions:

11th Candidate at Democratic Alliance Provincial Western Cape Election List 2019 (Election List) →



# Websites



- Websites are the rudimentary points of entry when trying to access information on the legislatures
- Main objectives? Basic information?
- Doing a check a few days ago, 2 of the 9 provincial legislature websites were down.
- Inconsistencies



# Accessing information

- Programmes and schedule of meetings
- List of MPLs / memberships / constituencies
- Calls for comment
- State of the Provinces / Budgets
- WCPP Annual Reports
- **Inconsistencies**





## SOCIAL MEDIA

- Differentiated use
- Twitter: 6 of 9
- Active?
- Missed opportunities?





## ESTABLISHING RELATIONSHIPS

The “who” in  
establishing  
relationships with  
the provincial  
legislatures is a key  
point

**Overall our experience in gaining access to the  
PLs has been a mixed bag – there are areas where  
PLs do relatively well in providing access and  
others where much work is required. Without a  
doubt, there are large inconsistencies in and  
between the legislatures.**