

By **Soyiso Maliti**

The Eastern Cape department of social development is in the process of cancelling a contract with controversial company Bosasa, now known as African Global.

MECs were responding to questions based on reports compiled by portfolio committees in the budget vote session yesterday.

Reading the portfolio committee report on social development, committee chairperson and ANC MPL Bukiwe Fanta said the department would be cancelling its contract with Bosasa, which provided services to children deemed problematic by the law.

Fanta said the contract for the Burgersdorp Child and Youth Centre should be terminated by next year.

She said the portfolio committee had made a finding that this service be insourced to the department.

On other matters, the report

# E Cape to cancel Bosasa contract

## Legislature precinct slated for its filth

said the Eastern Cape legislature at Bhisho, as a national key point, was dirty and “embarrassing”.

“There is no proper monitoring on staff members who are responsible for cleanliness of the legislature precinct,” it said.

Moreover, security is lax, despite the institution being a national key point. The institution continues to have poor security and access control system.”

Other findings in the report include:

- unstable Wifi connection and slow internet connectivity;
- no plan to deal with maintenance of MPLs’ residences.

- the legislature still makes use of consultants in supply management chain; and

- the stringent budget hinders the department from committing its mandate.

Provincial legislature speaker Helen Sauls-Augus Sauls-August welcomed the report.

“The report correctly identifies the financial constraints and how these could affect the work of the institution in conducting vigorous oversight, intensifying public participation and raise awareness on law making processes.”

She said the limited budget with which the legislature had to make do, encouraged them to do things differently.

Sauls-August said the legislature was looking for a service provider to start the lifestyle audits on its supply chain management, speaker’s office, general staff and MPLs.

DA MPL Bobby

Stevenson said the legislature’s failure to upgrade a telecommunications system has robbed Eastern Cape residents of an opportunity to live stream portfolio committees and sittings in chamber.

Opposition MPLs complained that their residences were not well taken care of by public works.

DA MPL Edmund van Vuuren said his official residence in Bhisho had been broken into, and he would sleep in his car each time he was in Bhisho for legislature business.

The portfolio committee on economic development’s report criticised the department for a “slow implementation” of its organogram. Furthermore, the report said the work of the department had been disjointed due to the decision to vacate its “unsafe” Beacon Hill offices in February.



**ANC MPL Bukiwe Fanta.** /  
ALAN EASON.