

ITEM C 66/05/16

ANNEXURE A

QUESTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR IN TERMS OF RULE 22 OF THE RULES OF ORDER: COUNCIL MEETING - 26 MAY 2016

Nothing That:

Over the last 3 years Sports Facilities and Community Halls in SC,s 21 and 22 has been vandalized quite a number of times. For exam: Happy Valley Community Hall, Macassar Sports Field, Eersteriver MPC and Mfuleni Community Hall to mention but a few. Reports have it that soon after the securities deployed to the facilities were removed due to financial constraints vandalism started.

Can you Madam Mayor please inform the house:

1. How many facilities in the COCT do not have security deployed to it and why
2. What does it cost the COCT to repair those facilities yearly
3. What is the difference / cost value between employing security and repairing these facilities every time it gets vandalised.

CLLR R SIMONS (ANC)

ITEM C 66/05/16**ANNEXURE B****REPLY FROM THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR TO QUESTION FROM CLLR SIMONS
FOR COUNCIL MEETING ON 26 MAY 2016**

1. The City's Sport, Recreation and Amenities Department has had to rationalise the use of security personnel at some of its facilities to remain within the allocated budget for security services.

Sport, Recreation and Amenities Department have 80 facilities across the four districts that do not have security services deployed.

2. During the 2015/16 financial year the department spent R 2,795,456.09 on repairing various Sport & Recreational facilities within the COCT which have been vandalised.
3. These two factors are not directly comparable as employing security is just one of the strategies which the City employs to combat theft and vandalism. Other strategies include (a) the appointment of EPWP workers to assist with access control (b) forming partnerships with local users and communities to report suspicious behaviour (c) forming partnerships with local law enforcement and Neighbourhood Watches to patrol facilities (d) hardening our facilities (e) designing safety into new or upgraded facilities.

The monthly cost of one security guard per shift is approximately R15 000. One could extrapolate that if you have say three security guards per shift working two shifts amounts to approximately R90 000 per month for a single facility. This amounts to more than R1m per annum. The City has over 100 libraries, 180 halls and 155 sports complexes to operate at this expenditure per annum.

At the moment, the Sport, Recreation and Amenities department is spending a large proportion of their operating funding on security at facilities where there has been a high incidence of theft and vandalism. Developing working relationships with local communities and regular users has been found to be the only truly sustainable way we can safeguard our recreational facilities. Initiatives like neighbourhood watch walkabouts and local community user groups can help the City protect our facilities.
