

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER 1626

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 21 OCTOBER 2005

MR I O DAVIDSON (DA) TO ASK THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

What was the actual (a) capital and (b) operational expenditure against the budget for the (i) 2005-06 and (ii) 2004-05 financial years for each vote of the (aa) national and (bb) each provincial government as at the end of September 2005?

N2152E

REPLY:

(i) Section 32 of the Public Finance Management Act (Act no 1 of 1999) stipulates that expenditure and budgets by provinces should be published on a quarterly basis. The numbers in respect of the 2nd Quarter, which ended 30 September 2005, were published on Friday 28 October 2005. Thus the information requested by the honourable member is already in the public domain and can be readily accessed from the National Treasury's website. The information requested in (a) and (b) can be found in these publications.

(ii) In respect to the 2004/05 financial year, each department published its own annual report which includes the annual financial statements containing the information the honourable member is requesting. The information requested in (a) and (b) can be found in these publications.

(aa) and (bb) The answer to these questions has been dealt with in (i) and (ii).

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY
QUESTION NUMBER 1616
DATE OF PUBLICATION: 21 OCTOBER 2005

MR I O DAVIDSON (DA) TO ASK THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

What steps does he intend taking in light of the findings by the Auditor-General that a total amount of R5,8 billion, spent by provincial governments in 2004, have been irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure? **N2142E**

REPLY:

None. Provinces have their legislative authorities to exercise the oversight role and hold each provincial department accountable for financial management practice in provinces. Also, the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) spells out clearly accountability arrangements for irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure, and defines financial misconduct by officials in departments and constitutional institutions. In addition, the Office of the Accountant-General in the National Treasury issues the annual report guidelines, which inform the Audit process. Therefore, it is improper for me to answer your question, rather I would propose it should be directed to the relevant provinces.