

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER 1590

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Mr M Swart (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:

Whether each province has its own funding allocation model in order to determine what level of funding their respective health departments receive; if not, (a) why not and (b) how are funding allocations determined; if so, what model is used in each province?

NW1852E

REPLY:

Health services in provinces are funded through the provincial equitable share and health conditional grants. Conditional grants have to be spent according to specified conditions. The conditions and allocation criteria used to allocate conditional grants to provinces are determined by the national Department of Health.

Each province has its own approach in allocating its provincial equitable share, including the funding allocation to health. Most provinces attempt to take into account previous spending levels and new national priorities. However, provinces tend to differ in the way that they approach provincial specific priorities and pressures.

This matter is currently under discussion with the provinces with a view to creating greater certainty for provincial health budgets, and ensuring that national objectives in respect to health are achieved.