

FOREWORD

In tabling the 2002 Budget Minister Rasool undertook to "put our money where our mouth is". Stated differently, the Province has to keep to the promises made, providing quality delivery and ultimately improving the bottom line: rising *per capita* income levels (or a reduction in poverty and unemployment), closing disparity in income levels and achieving social equity.

Our Fiscal Policy 2003 - 2006 (WCFP) and the associated Expenditure Review further set the scene on what has to be achieved. The latter analyses the service delivery frameworks and achievements of departments, and projects forwards all the work still to be done to achieve our targets as a proficient and responsive government.

Apart from incorporating the main themes from this Expenditure Review, the Western Cape Fiscal Policy 2003 - 2006 also introduces a new concept, that of *iKapa elihlumayo* as the main driving force behind Budget 2003 and also the synopsis of what the budget and indeed budget over the next decade have to accomplish.

iKapa elihlumayo "a growing Cape" or in Afrikaans "die Kaap wat groei" has already been introduced by the Premier in his opening address to the Provincial Parliament on 21 February 2003, so it will not be further expanded on. Suffice to say that roughly translated, "hluma" means that the whole of the Province's efforts should be larger than the sum of its individual parts. The challenge that it introduces is to consistently broaden the economic base of the province through synergy and quality in service delivery, reducing economic and social inequalities and creating employment via stimulatory incentives and the redirection of resources and opportunities to that part of the population that needs it most.

A great deal of hard work has thus gone into preparing the latest budget documentation and that together with the proposed allocations should be representative of this new approach. It is hoped that the rising quality and completeness of both budget documentation and departmental strategic plans will in the mind of the reader indeed reflect this strategy. To the extent that it still does not do so, I trust that you will not hesitate to engage us as a Province on this subject, as we jointly have no choice but to ensure ever sharper application of limited resources toward improving the "bottomline", that of economic empowerment.

My thanks go to everyone who contributed in realising this extensive documentation, both in Treasury as well as in departments. Without their dedication and willingness to burn the candle late at night, it would not have been possible.

Sincerely



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