Programme 4: Crime Intelligence

			2005/06 (R'000)	2006/07 (R'000)
Programme Intelligence	4:	Crime	1 006 627	1 119 440
Nominal percentage increase				11%

This programme only makes up 3.4% of the total policing budget.

The increase in this programme is due to intensified funding levels for capacity at crime intelligence offices.

Key targets:

 The number of crime intelligence products decreased in 2004/05 in comparison to 2003/04 and, therefore, the target of maintaining or increasing the number of reports was not reached.

Programme 5: Protection and Security Services

	2005/06 (R'000)	2006/07 (R'000)
Programme 5: Protection and Security Services	1 013 978	1 210 176
Nominal percentage increase		19%

The 6 subprogrammes include:

- · VIP Protection Services.
- Static and Mobile Security.
- · Ports of Entry Security.
- · Rail Police.
- Government Security Regulator: A total of 10 SANDF personnel were transferred to the SAPS and security appraisals were completed for 12 high courts and 4 border posts.
- · Operational Support.

Three projects were implemented in 2005/06 to improve security at ports of entry. These were:

- Johannesburg International Airport: Phase 1 of the Johannesburg International Airport was finalised, 600 new recruits were enlisted and 24 dog handlers trained.
- Beit Bridge border posts: A total of 240 new recruits were deployed at the Beit Bridge border post.
- Durban Harbour.

Security at railways was implemented at Cape Town Metro Rail in 2005/06. Metro Rail Western Cape was established and 400 new recruits enlisted. Other projects will include Tshwane Metro, Wits Metro and Durban Metro.

An additional 2 920 personnel will be recruited to join this programme in 2006/07 and another 4 050 in the following two years in order to work on various projects falling under the subprogrammes: Rail Police, Government Security Regulator and Ports of Entry.

3. Stakeholder Concerns:

3.1. National Treasury

The Portfolio Committee received a briefing from the Safety and Security Directorate of the Public Finance Division within National Treasury on the SAPS budget 2006/07. The National Treasury noted that they are in the process of implementing a new form of monitoring whereby they will be able to ascertain expenditure patterns at national, provincial, area and individual station level. The Committee should be able to access this information from 2007/08. This Directorate also analyses the Annual Reports of the Department by comparing programme performance in relation to the ENE, identifying issues raised in the Accounting Officer's report, comparing SCOPA resolutions with the Auditor General report and following up with the Department on these issues. In addition, they look at the quarterly expenditure and programme analysis reports of the Department in order to pick up irregularities or problems.

National Treasury did not highlight problems with the SAPS budget for 2006/07 but instead provided a summary of some of the key components of the budget. These included broad expenditure trends over time, a breakdown of the 2006/07 economic classification items in the budget and a breakdown of the budget into programmes.

3.2. Safety and Security Secretariat

The Secretariat is in the process of restructuring and some vacant positions have been filled including that of the Secretary, which has been filled by Mr Mathe in an acting capacity.

Key projects prioritised by the Secretariat which are aligned to the State of the Nation Address include:

 Evaluation of the National Crime Prevention Centre, SAPS integration and coordination with other agencies.

- Providing periodical statistics on confiscated firearms, arrests for unlawful possession of firearms and ammunition and adherence of the SAPS to their operational plan.
- Providing legal opinion and advice to the Minister of Safety and Security with regard to the processing of applications for firearm licenses.
- Providing periodical statistics of the Social Crime Prevention programmes and other SAPS interventions to reduce drug trafficking and substance abuse.
- Identifying and implementing Social Crime Prevention programmes in conjunction with the office of the Deputy Minister and evaluating the impact of these initiatives. These include for example, the Safer Schools Project and the Missing Children Project.
- Monitoring implementation of the SAPS Rural Safety Plan and development of Rural Safety and Security Policy.

The Secretariat's budget is contained within the budget of the SAPS. The budget of the Secretariat has been reduced from R17,9 million in 2005/06 to R12,9 million for 2006/07. An amount of R5,9 million is allocated for Projects and R6,95 million is allocated for Personnel Expenditure. The R5,9 million for projects is divided as follows:

Programme	2006/07	Key Projects	
Office of the Secretary	767 000	Review and redesign of Secretariat. Dealing with complaints	
Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting	2,150 000	Impact of CPFs on crime prevention. Monitoring equity and transformation in SAPS. Impact of the Employee Assistance Programme on stress reduction.	
Legal Services	2,460 000	Amendments to the SAPS Act and the finalisation of other amendment acts including PSIRA, Firearms Control and Second Hand Goods.	
Policy and Research	530 000	Review of community policing policy. Review and critique of sector policing strategy. Development of policy directives or amended acts.	
Communications	67 000	Develop communications strategy.	
Total	R5,9 million		

3.3. South African Police Union (SAPU)

SAPU highlighted the following concerns to the Committee:

- Salaries: SAPU welcomed the implementation of an improved salary dispensation for functional members but raised the issue of discrepancies (a large wage gap) between the salaries of Senior Superintendents and Directors. SAPU applauded the initiation of a second level for Inspector, which means that qualified employees at the production level no longer need to opt for promotion to Captain as they can progress through the salary level and be financially rewarded. In addition, SAPU recommended that the civilian employees who currently fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA) are moved to fall under the ambit of the Police Act, and are therefore afforded the same conditions of service as functional SAPS members.
- Restructuring: SAPU supports the restructuring process but states that there was insufficient consultation with organised labour in this regard.
- Attitude and morale: SAPU noted that some Provincial Commissioners and Commanders refuse to talk to organised labour and merely hand out instructions, which reduces the morale of staff.
- Role of organised labour: The current strategic plan and objectives of SAPS and the budget were compiled without input by organised labour. SAPU called on the Committee to intervene to ensure improved joint decision-making processes within the SAPS.
- Metro Police and Scorpions: SAPU supports the incorporation of these structures into the Police Service.
- Detective Services: The SAPS needs to boost the capacity of detectives in terms of both human and material resources.
- Incentives: Implementation of the reward system has been haphazard and steps must be taken to ensure fair implementation.
- Suicides and stress: Employee assistance programmes are not working and may need to be outsourced.

3.4. State Information Technology Agency (SITA)

The SITA outlined the key projects undertaken for 2005/06 and the planned projects for the 2006/07 financial year. The 2005/06 projects included:

- The End User Equipment Project which provided about 12 000 additional desktop computers to SAPS members.
- The Forensic Science Laboratory Information Systems (LIMS), which is a system to manage exhibits from the time they enter the laboratory until they reach court, to ensure that they are not tampered with.
- The National Photo and Image System which manages offenders from time of arrest until they reach prison.
- Short Tandem Repeat Laboratory System which manages DNA exhibits.

All of these projects are ongoing and will be continuously upgraded. Planned projects for the 2006/07 financial year include:

· Converting the LIMS to a more integrated system.

- National correlation of the Integrated Ballistic Information System to ensure that the police can check firearm usage across provinces.
- Upgrading the network infrastructure which has taken strain due to the increase in computers.

The SITA reported that the relationship with its customer (the SAPS) has improved since last year. Key challenges which strain this relationship include:

- Perception by SAPS of poor service delivery levels from the SITA. The SITA has implemented a dedicated team to liase with the SAPS incorporating people who are both technically knowledgeable and knowledgeable about the SAPS's internal dynamics and needs.
- · The Service Level Agreement with SITA has still not been signed.

According to a Customer Satisfaction Survey of SAPS members, 64% of the police stated that they were satisfied with the services offered by the SITA in contrast to the 45% satisfaction rate last year.

The revenue received from SAPS in 2005/06 was R667 million which is an increase of 5.76% from the previous year. The envisaged cost to SAPS will increase by 9.85% in 2006/07 to R733 million.

4. Committee Findings and Concerns:

The following are the key findings and concerns of the Portfolio Committee on Safety and Security in relation to the budget of the Department of Safety and Security and the responses of the Department, the Secretariat and the Union to these concerns:

Communication with Parliament: The Portfolio Committee noted that they had raised a number of concerns during the 2005/06 budget process which required written responses from the Department of Safety and Security, but the Committee had received no information.

The SAPS stated that they had sent a number of responses to the Chairperson's constituency office and had not realised that this constituency office address was no longer valid. The Commissioner stated that he was adamant that the SAPS had responded to all the issues raised by the Committee. However, the Chairperson stated that that she had now received the information that had been sent to the incorrect office address and not all issues raised by the Committee had been addressed by SAPS.

Training: Committee members requested information on the number of members who would receive training in 2006/07 and the languages used for training.

The SAPS stated that the training budget was informed by the Workplace Skills Plan, which identified the training needs for all members. The number of members who would benefit from training is expressed as a percentage of the total service. All training is provided in English as English is a prerequisite for entry into the service.

Reservists: The Committee requested clarity on how the SAPS had determined the budget for the new reservist system if specific arrangements had not yet been finalised.

The SAPS stated that they had based the budget both on the number of reservists required and the number of hours that will be worked by these reservists even though the number of working hours had not been finalised. They had identified the number of reservists that would be employed and by 2009 hoped to have employed 100 000 reservists in total. The SAPS already have 21 000 reservists offering their services. Reservists would be divided into a number of categories including functional support, urban and rural sector support and specialised functions. The current payment system of R230 per day would change and would be dependent on the rank of the reservist. Decisions around the number of days per month that a reservist will work is still under discussion.

Bulletproof vests: The Committee requested information on progress in ordering the bulletproof vests and the provision of vests for woman.

The SAPS stated that 11 000 vests had been purchased in 2005/06 for members and that 87 892 SAPS members now have vests of which 70% use them as part of their allotted equipment. Additional vests are on order at an amount of R38 million. Tenders have been put out for suppliers of bulletproof vests for females. In addition, the SAPS stated that the supply of vests is much faster now that they have divided the total tender among a number of suppliers.

Concerns raised in the Auditor Generals (AG's) report: The Committee requested information on actions that have been taken to address a number of concerns raised in the AG's report. These included:

- · Vacancies amongst detectives, especially in Gauteng.
- R39 million spent on sending detainees to private hospitals.
- Loss of firearms by SAPS members, failure to hand in weapons when they leave the service and progress in procuring safes to improve the safekeeping of firearms.
- Problems with the Inventory Control System.
- Progress with the Vehicle Control Management System.
- Assignation of dockets to members who had left the service.

The SAPS stated that, in order to address the shortage of detectives, a decision has been made that 30% of new recruits would be allocated to the detective services and crime intelligence division. Each province would receive additional detectives as follows:

400 Gauteng: Western Cape: 357 352 Eastern Cape: Mpumalanga: 236 236 Kwazulu-Natal: Northern Cape: 138 135 Limpopo: 132 Free State: North West: 114

The SAPS assured the Committee that they would address these vacancies as a matter of urgency as they have the strategies in place to deal with the problem. This includes unbundling the specialised units and placing these detectives at station level where they are most needed.

The SAPS stated that that the expenditure on private hospitals had been eradicated, as it was an isolated case in one province and the contract with that hospital had been terminated.

In terms of the loss of firearms by SAPS members, SAPS reported that 67 000 safes had been procured to safeguard firearms and distributed to the provinces with an instruction that the mounting must be done by SMMEs. A new directive had been issued by the National Commissioner requiring all SAPS members who had left the service to certify that they had handed in their weapons and other equipment.

The SAPS reported that problems with the inventory control system would be resolved, as new control measures have been designed. A key problem faced in this regard, is that the SAPS receives orders in bulk in the last three days of the financial year making it impossible to process all items on time. The SAPS is trying to recruit more members to address this problem.

In terms of vehicle control management, the SAPS had published a tender for automatic vehicle location through SITA and the tender process should be completed by May 2006. The implementation of the vehicle control management software would then commence, enabling tracking of vehicles, vehicle speeds and other control measures. Vehicle distribution will be improved by the development of differentiated norms for various categories of police based on their needs. At present the norm is 1 vehicle to every 4 members.

The SAPS responded that dockets were not assigned to members who had left the service but that the names of members who had left the service remained on the system for some time, until removed by the Unit Commander. The person's name could not be removed from the system until the dockets had been reassigned to another member. There were no stipulated time periods for a Commander to reassign dockets or remove names of members from the system.

Sector policing: The Portfolio Committee raised concerns that the targets for sector policing for the 2005/06 financial year had not been met and requested information on what procedures had been put in place to ensure that these targets were met in the 2006/07 financial year.

The SAPS stated that a decision had been made that 95% of all new recruits NA would be allocated to sector policing. The SAPS had devised profiles of all sectors but had not yet determined the numbers required for each sector.

Borderline policing and the SANDF: The Committee requested information on the number of SANDF personnel who would be taken over by the SAPS for borderline duties.

The SAPS stated that all SANDF members needed to undergo various tests before being admitted to the SAPS. As this process is still ongoing, the SAPS cannot at this point state how many people will eventually be transferred. In addition, the SANDF will still retain various functions at the borderlines, including patrols by Corvettes and Oryx's, as it is financially not feasible for the SAPS to take over these operations requiring the purchase of expensive equipment.

Witness Protection Programme: The Committee requested clarity on the respective roles of the Department of Justice and the Department of Safety and Security in the witness protection programme.

The SAPS responded that the programme had migrated from the SAPS to the Department of Justice and is now managed by the Department of Justice, while the bodyguards are SAPS personnel paid by the SAPS. The National Commissioner stated that at the beginning of 2006, he had requested that 93 members performing this function, be returned to the SAPS. Discussions with the Department of Justice are currently underway and the Department of Justice has requested more time to deal with the loss of these personnel. The SAPS position is that if the Department of Justice wants to retain this function, then it must provide its own personnel and budget.

Vacancies in criminal record centre and forensic laboratories: The Portfolio Committee sought clarity on incentives to attract and retain skilled staff at these facilities.

The SAPS stated that the SAPS was currently implementing a scarce skills dispensation to attract and retain skilled staff in a number of areas including the criminal record centre and forensic laboratories. The strategy involved the provision of training to develop scarce skills within the SAPS. After completion of the training, these personnel would be locked into contracts with the police as money had been invested in them. They would be paid allowances depending on the nature of their skills.

Shortages in the number of active personnel: The Committee raised concerns that the number of active personnel within the SAPS fell short of the target of 152 000 mentioned by the President.

The SAPS responded that there are currently 121 000 active personnel within the SAPS and that attempts to increase this number are hampered by certain constraints such as the limited number of training facilities available. The SAPS does not want to spend money in increasing the number of facilities when this need will become redundant after a certain period. However, the police are confident that they will reach this target of active personnel in time.

Security of the SAPS radio frequency spectrum: The Committee raised concerns that the radio frequency spectrum could be infiltrated, including by members of organised crime syndicates.

The SAPS stated that the new system that is being put in place cannot be infiltrated. The securing of the radio frequency is a priority of the police and plans are underway to ensure complete security by the 2010 Soccer World Cup. The SAPS is speeding up the upgrade of the radio systems to ensure that it is deployed to all areas.

Capacity in terms of the DPW functions: The Committee asked whether the SAPS had the capacity to take over the functions from DPW.

The SAPS stated that they have a Memorandum of Understating with the Department of Public Works that DPW would continue to deal with matters such as the municipal services and property rates for at least 1 or 2 years and would get paid a management fee for these services. The SAPS has advertised posts for architects, engineers and quantity surveyors for example, but the problem is that there are only 3 500 qualified and registered architects in country and only 42 black architects who are already absorbed in the private sector. Acquiring skilled persons to fulfil these functions may be difficult.

Opening hours of stations: The Committee requested progress on the evaluation of stations that are not open on a 24-hour basis, as requested during the 2005/06 budget hearings.