

REF: 14/1/3

Dear Mayors and Municipal Managers

CENSUS 2022 – CALL TO ACTION

#Getcounted so that you can get your fair share

As you are aware, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) has been conducting the census around the country. Face to face collection took place between 14 February and 20 March 2022, with a mop-up phase from 22 March to 14 April 2022. However, the Western Cape is **substantially behind** schedule in data collection. The country's data collection is at 83,8%, while the Western Cape stands at 49%. As a result, Stats SA has granted an **extension in the Western Cape until 30 April 2022**.

The Census is a benchmark count of the entire population of South Africa. Information is collected from households on each person, including fertility and mortality, education, occupation, housing, access to services and assets. Census data provides the basis of most social and population data produced by Stats SA and other organisations. It provides granular data into inform policy, planning, evaluation and fiscal allocations.

Fiscal allocations based on the Census include the **equitable share** of the Province and Municipalities. If Census under reports the population of the Western Cape, our Western Cape budgets will not be able to meet our needs in terms of Education, Health, Basic Services etc. Budgets are already very tight. It is therefore critical that we make every effort to ensure that **as many of the people of the Western Cape as possible are counted**, as the results will inform the programmes and priorities of all spheres of government.

Stats SA has dispatched 2000 additional field workers from other provinces to the Western Cape from 14 April. Collection has been extended until 30 April, online data collection has been re-opened, technical staff have been increased and additional management support provided. Stats SA has requested WCG Cabinet members to make press statements and conduct media interviews to promote awareness. The **HOD of DLG met with Heads of Communications from municipalities on Friday 22 April 2022** to ensure that our efforts are coordinated.

I am encouraging all of you to be counted and to encourage your citizens to be counted as the count will directly impact our budgets. Click on this link:

<https://getcounted.statssa.gov.za/#!/home>

In addition, please share this link with other networks you may be part of. It is **critical that the Western Cape be accurately and comprehensively counted**. There is little time available to make the difference that we need to make. Please ensure that you #GETCOUNTED.

Get vaccinated, Stay safe and God bless.
Gonya, Hlala ukhuselekile kwaye uThixo Akusikelele.
Laat you inent. Wees veilig. Mag God jou seen.

Yours sincerely

**DR HC MALILA
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
WESTERN CAPE GOVERNMENT**