

## “Budget to Handle the Chaos”

Yo, Speaker,  
Premier Winde, Cabinet crew,  
Opposition squad,  
Honoured guests, and the Western Cape fam

### 1. Real Talk: The Storms We Face

Alright, let's be straight: life's been throwing us curveballs, like we're stuck in a never-ending chaos loop. From wildfires to floods, to the whole pandemic mess—the Western Cape's been through it. We've taken a few Ls along the way, but here's the thing: we never stayed down. Resilient, adaptable, and ready to tackle what's next.

Now, we're in rebuild mode, making moves to secure our future and level up for everyone in the province. This budget? It's our guide to bossing through the turbulence ahead.

### 2. The Global Tea

Globally? Things are meh—3.2% growth forecast for 2024. SA's sitting at a weak 0.9%, still caught up in loadshedding drama, logistical messes, and old-school inefficiencies.

But let's talk Western Cape:

- Finance is carrying with 2.5% growth.
- Tourism is popping off—53% more international arrivals.
- Transport's finally bouncing back.

We're pushing for inclusive vibes—more jobs, lower costs, and a system that actually works for the people. Meanwhile, National's still pouring money into SOEs and leaving provinces to clean up the mess.

### 3. Western Cape: A Low-Key Flex

Despite the drama, the Western Cape's pulling through. We're looking at 1% growth in 2024 and aiming for 2.2% by 2025. Unemployment here? 19.6%—the lowest in the country. Tourists? They love us. But let's keep it real—youth unemployment is still too high, and climate shocks are dribbling key industries like agriculture.

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<sup>1</sup> Please note this Gen Z Summary was written by Artificial Intelligence.

This budget? It's not about vibes—it's about results. Everything we're planning is aimed at creating opportunities, boosting the economy, and keeping it all fair for everyone.

#### **4. Priorities: What's the Move**

##### **Jobs and Growth**

We're not just dreaming big—we're acting big:

- Backing small businesses with real cash, not just talk.
- Smoothing out red tape so businesses can actually thrive.
- Bringing in investments and hyping exports.
- Keeping the tourism comeback strong.

##### **Safety First**

Safety isn't optional—it's the baseline. From community policing to doubling down on GBV prevention, we're making sure people feel secure, wherever they are.

##### **Wellbeing and Dignity**

Whether it's housing, food security, or healthcare, we're here to make sure every person in this province has a real shot at living well.

##### **Innovation for the Win**

From using AI for smarter services to making schools energy-resilient, we're all about using tech to solve problems. Plus, youth programs are a big deal—because you're only as strong as your next generation.

#### **5. Keeping It Flexible**

The unexpected always hits hard, whether it's floods or fires. This budget keeps us ready for whatever's next while staying on track for our long-term goals.

#### **6. Wrapping Up**

Speaker, this budget isn't just a plan—it's our way of saying, "We got this." We've taken some Ls, sure, but we're flipping them into Ws. No matter what challenges come, the Western Cape will adapt, grow, and come out stronger.

Let's make it happen—for us, for the province, and for the future.

Thanks, fam.

**Done and dusted.**