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DCS budget

By Lukas Muntingh

Introduction

The Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) creates a multi-year budgetary framework for government departments to ensure that budgets are sufficiently planned and targeted at achieving outcomes defined in strategic plans. [1] The MTEF therefore creates the opportunity for multi-year coherence that would be difficult in the case of annual budgeting. Three year planning also enhances transparency as government's plans and estimated spending are developed well in advance. This enables a far better understanding of the budget and how it relates to policy objectives. [2]

Reviewing the MTEF is important for several reasons. Firstly, it gives insight into macro policy for the department concerned by relating planned expenditure to policy objectives. Secondly, it enables a review of trends in policy and budget development over time, for example, the reprioritisation of certain outputs. Thirdly, it affords civil society with a potentially effective tool to hold government accountable with regard to planning and delivery.

This article reviews the Department of Correctional Services (DCS) budget for the MTEF for 2006/7 to 2008/9 with regard to the following:

- The DCS budget in relation to the national budget
- Trends in the budget
- Key issues for comment

The description also makes a distinction between real and nominal growth in the budget. Real value refers to values adjusted by inflation, and in this newsletter 2005 is used as the baseline year. [3] It therefore adjusts future and past values to be expressed in terms of "what money was worth in 2005". Nominal value does not include an inflation adjustment, and is the budgetary figures as released by Treasury in the Estimates of National Expenditure (ENE). [4]

National Budget

The DCS budget should firstly be seen in relation to the national budget and secondly in relation to the functional budget category. The Justice and Protection Services (JPS) functional category consists of DCS, Department of Defence (DoD), Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD), Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ), and the Department of Safety and Security (DSS). For the purposes of this discussion to ensure a more accurate description of spending on the criminal justice system, the DoD budget is excluded from further comparisons. Of the national budget the JPS category (excluding DoD) comprises between approximately 10.5% over the MTEF. Within the JPS category, the DCS budget constitutes about 22% over the MTEF. As a percentage of the national budget, the DCS budget thus constitutes roughly 2.3% over the MTEF period. This is not an insignificant proportion of the total national budget for a daily average prison population of less than 180 000 persons.

Treasury defines four primary cost drivers for the DCS budget, namely: [5]

- the size of the prison population
- the number of probationers and parolees
- the number of employees of the department
- the strategic intentions of the department.

In his 2006 State of the Nation address, President Mbeki identified four priorities for the DCS, namely the completion of four new prisons providing accommodation for 12 000 prisoners, a reduction in the number of children in prison, the implementation of the Jali Commission recommendations, and the introduction of rehabilitation as the central approach of the department.

To achieve its objectives, as articulated in Section 2 of the Correctional Services Act (111 of 1998), the DCS has developed in its Strategic Plan the following seven programmes: [6]

- Administration - Provide the administrative, management, financial, ICT, research, policy co-ordination and good governance support functions necessary for all service delivery by the department and in support of the functions of the Ministry
- Security - Provide safe and healthy conditions for all persons incarcerated, consistent with human dignity, and thereby provide security for personnel and the public.
- Corrections - Provide needs-based correctional sentence plans and interventions, based on an assessment of the security risk and criminal profile of individuals, targeting all elements associated with offending behaviours, and focusing on the offence for which a person is sentenced to correctional supervision, remanded in a correctional centre or paroled.
- Care - Provide needs-based care programmes aimed at maintaining the well-being of incarcerated persons in the Department's care.
- Development - Provide needs-based personal development services to all offenders.
- Social Reintegration - Provide services focused on offenders' preparation for release, their effective supervision after release on parole, and on the facilitation of their social reintegration into their communities.
- Facilities - Ensure that physical infrastructure supports safe custody, humane conditions, and the provision of corrective services, care and development, and general administration.

Expenditure estimates as well as historical information for the DCS budget are presented in Table 1.

Table 1 DCS MTEF allocations, Nominal Values

All figures in R 000	Audited outcome			Revised estimate	Medium expenditure estimates		
	2002/3	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9
Administration	2,229,083	2,309,227	2,837,099	2,504,463	2,761,033	3,095,911	3,312,756
Security	2,433,271	2,659,801	2,706,205	3,241,437	3,336,036	3,624,100	3,596,772
Corrections	412,278	437,253	481,083	642,906	853,538	1,112,767	1,316,524
Care	675,157	751,708	725,899	939,368	1,214,535	1,322,242	1,473,533
Development	252,147	269,022	266,008	360,045	395,366	429,415	454,012
Social reintegration	273,631	291,174	288,079	313,336	342,008	368,652	366,816
Facilities	1,229,886	1,131,529	1,524,419	1,767,332	1,728,196	1,814,402	1,930,773
Total	7,505,453	7,849,714	8,828,792	9,768,887	10,630,712	11,767,489	12,451,186

The proportional distribution of the 2006/7 DCS budget per programme is shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1

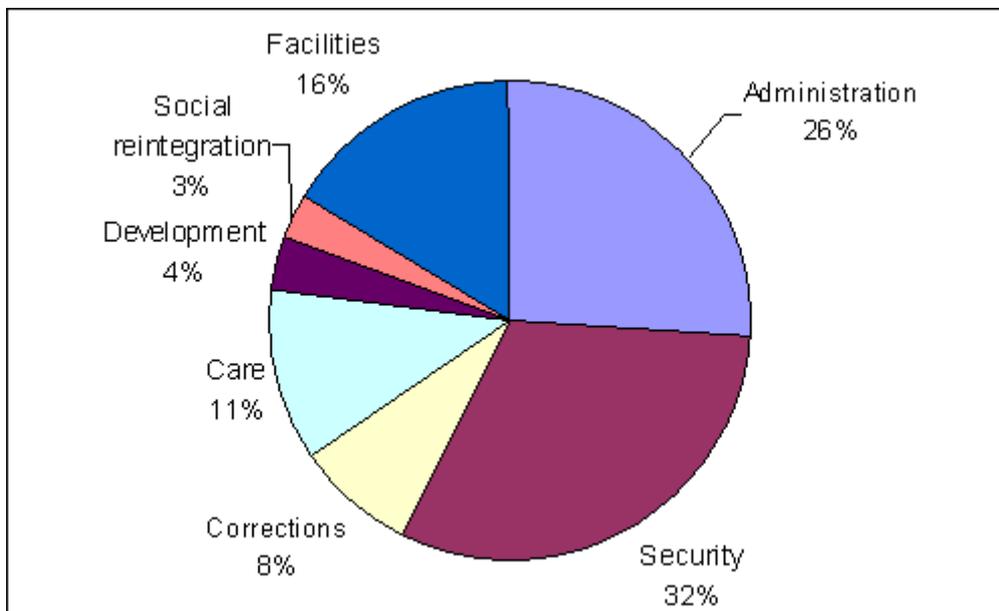


Table 2 Proportional distribution of the budget per programme, 2002/3 – 2008/9

Programme	2002/3	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9
Administration	29.7	29.4	32.1	25.6	26.0	26.3	26.6
Security	32.4	33.9	30.7	33.2	31.4	30.8	28.9
Corrections	5.5	5.6	5.4	6.6	8.0	9.5	10.6
Care	9.0	9.6	8.2	9.6	11.4	11.2	11.8
Development	3.4	3.4	3.0	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6
Social reintegration	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1	2.9
Facilities	16.4	14.4	17.3	18.1	16.3	15.4	15.5
Total	100						

In terms of proportional share between the different programmes, four programmes show a decline in share, namely Administration, Security, Social Reintegration and Facilities. Only one programme shows a significant proportional increase, namely Corrections. The other programmes (Care and Development) show marginal increases. The increase in the proportional share allocated to the Corrections Programme would be in line with the proposed implementation of the White Paper and reflects the allocations made for this purpose. The decreases in Development and Social Reintegration appear to be at odds with the emphasis of the White Paper on rehabilitation and reintegration, as significant increases in these programmes would have been expected to deliver on these objectives.

Trends in the total budget, real and nominal

Real growth in the budget from 2005/6 to 2008/9 will be approximately 11.5% or roughly R1.1 billion (see Figure 2). In real terms, then, the budget will increase by nearly 4.4% in Year 1 of the MTEF, 5.9% in Year 2 but only by 0.8% in Year 3. The initial growth in real terms can be related to a number of key cost drivers such as the employment of additional staff and the prison construction programme. Table 3 shows the nominal and real increases in the programme budgets from 2004/5 to 2008/9.

Figure 2

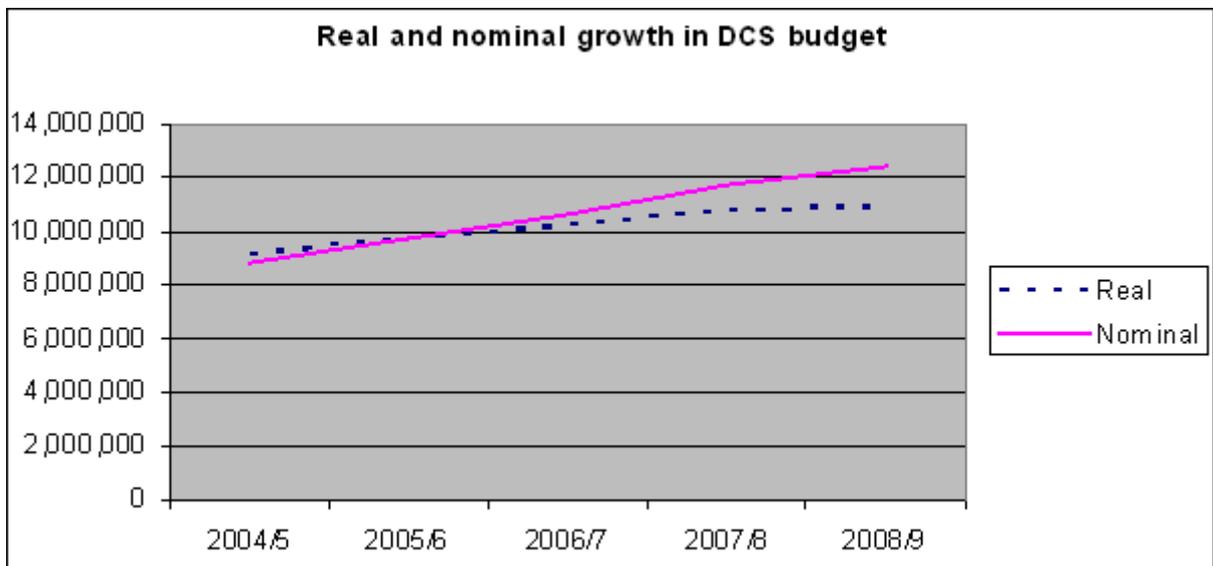


Table 3 Nominal and real increases in the programme budgets from 2005/6 to 2008/9.

Programme	Nominal growth from 2005/6 to 2008/9	Real growth from 2005/6 to 2008/9	Real growth from 2004/5 to 2008/9
Administration	32.3	15.7	-2.0
Security	11.0	-2.9	11.6
Corrections	104.8	79.1	129.7
Care	56.9	37.2	70.4
Development	26.1	10.3	43.3
Social reintegration	17.1	2.4	6.9
Facilities	9.2	-4.4	6.3
Total	27.5	11.5	18.4

A real increase in the allocation of 11.5% over the period 2005/6 to 2008/9 is significant and should, if utilised effectively, deliver a markedly improved prison system by 2008/9. The increased allocation should be interpreted as government's commitment to address current concerns with the prison system - if budget allocation may be considered as an indicator of political will. It has also been reported that the DCS has incurred significant savings as a result of the restructuring of its medical aid fund contributions, the phasing out of overtime payments, long standing vacancies in personnel, and inflation projections for the two privately operated prisons that were estimated at 8% but are in fact now 4.5%. [7] The availability of these funds should, according to Treasury, enable the DCS to address a number of priority issues. The availability of these funds should, according to Treasury, enable the DCS to address a number of priority issues.

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Trends in the programmes

Since 2004/5 only two programmes have shown very little real increase compare to the other programmes, namely Development and Social Reintegration. All other programmes, as can be seen from Figure 4, have shown very substantial real increases in allocations. It is further notable that the programmes constituting the largest share of the budget, increased most rapidly, being Administration, Security and Facilities. The Security Programme appears to level out by 2008/9. In line with the White Paper, the Corrections and Care programmes show substantial increases from 2005/6 throughout the MTEF period. The increase in the Facilities programme in 2005/6 is a result of the planned construction of four new prisons with a capacity of 12 000. The prison construction programme will discussed further below.

Figure 3

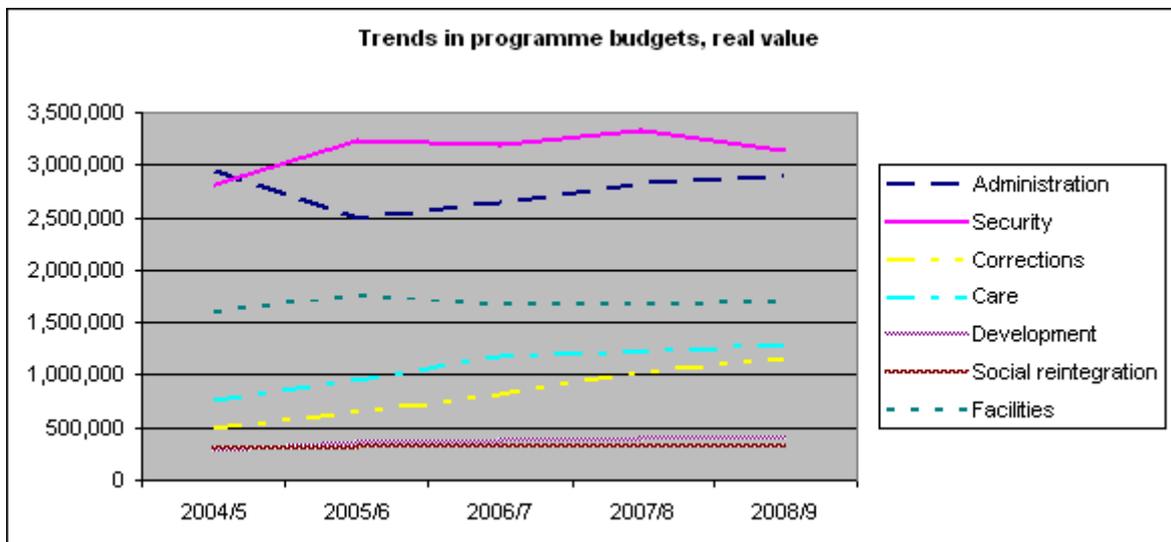
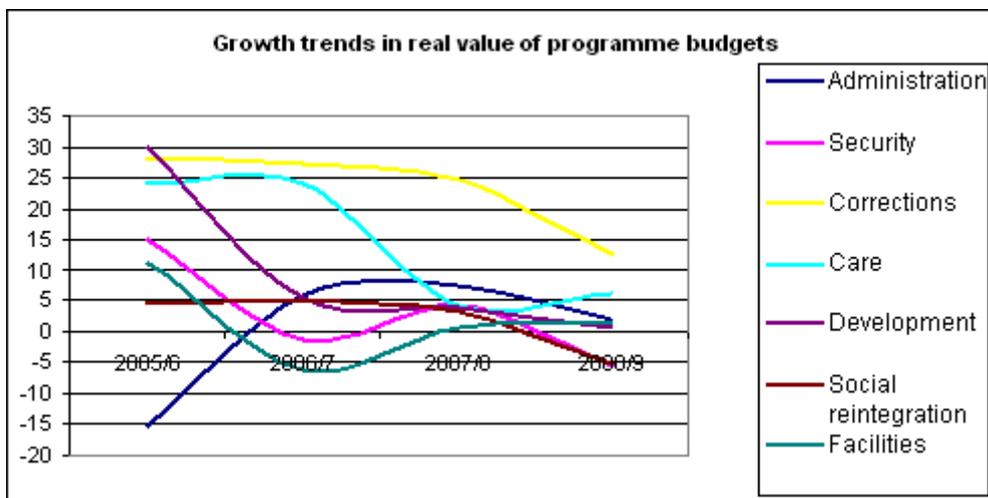


Figure 4 shows the growth trends in the programme budgets based on real value. The first observation to be made is that there is almost no trend to be discerned across the seven programmes. The programme budgets are increasing and decreasing (in real value) almost independently of each other. For example, whilst the Corrections programme will be growing in real value by roughly 25% per annum from 2004/5 to 2007/8, the Social Reintegration programme budget is estimated to increase by less than 5% over the same period and is in fact expected to decrease in real value by 5.1% in 2008/9. The Development Programme shows a similarly perplexing pattern of high real growth in 2005/6 and thereafter increasing by less than 4% per annum and ending the MTEF period with real growth rate of less than 1%. It is evident that there are significant fluctuations from one year to the next in the programme budgets and those functionally-related programmes (for example Corrections, Development and Social Reintegration) are not increasing or decreasing in a synchronised manner. Therefore it seems that policy decisions (White Paper) are not manifestly evident in these budget fluctuations. These significant fluctuations raise questions about the sustainability of some initiatives, especially with regard to programmes that have had smaller allocations.



Over the MTEF period, the Administration Programme budget will increase in real terms from R2.5 billion to R2.9 billion in order to afford improved information technology, vehicles and human resource development. In real terms this programme budget shows a decrease of -2% from 2004/5 to 2008/9.

The Security Programme allocation will increase from R2.8 billion to R3.3 billion from 2005/6 to 2007/8 and ending the MTEF at an estimated allocation of R3.1 billion. This moderate increase was however preceded by a significant increase from 2002/3 to date. Despite employing an additional 8000 staff over the MTEF to implement the seven day work week, this programme budget is stable as noted. According to the DCS this is possible through the savings incurred as a result of phasing out overtime payments, and from 2008/9 only an additional half day will be paid for as overtime for work performed on a Sunday.

The Corrections Programme, as noted above, is expected to grow substantially from 2004/5 to 2008/9 from a real value of R505 million to R1.1 billion. This increase is partly the result of a total nominal amount of R390 million received for implementing the White Paper. A further reason is the placement of managerial personnel who were formally under the Security Programme under the Corrections Programme. The transfer of personnel from one programme to another should be

regarded as neutral and not as a true increase in the departmental allocation. In real terms this programme allocation is estimated to increase by 129.7% from 2004/5 to 2008/9.

From 2004/5 to 2008/9 the Care Programme is expected to increase in real terms by 37%. However, the rapid real growth, as indicated in Figure 4, comes to an end in 2007/8 and from there the programme will increase by roughly 5% per annum in real terms. The rapid growth alluded to is reportedly the result of the decision to provide three meals per day to prisoners. The employment of scarce professional skills will further increase the programme budget. This programme is responsible for the health care of prisoners. At the moment prisoners' access to anti-retroviral therapy is an issue of major concern amongst Aids activists as prisoners who qualify for such treatment are effectively denied it due to the fact that the DCS does not have the capacity to provide the necessary service. This issue will be discussed further below.

The Development Programme shows an estimated 10% real growth from 2005/6 to 2008/9. The per annum real growth rate is at 30% in 2005/6 but in the years thereafter the allocation increases in real terms at 5.4%, 3.9% and 0.7%. Given the fact that this programme is the central programme to equip offenders to be able to lead productive lives upon release, the very limited growth in the programme budget is thus cause for concern.

The Social Reintegration budget shows a real increase of 2.4% from 2005/6 to 2008/9. According to the DCS Strategic Plan this programme will see an "overhauling of the Social Reintegration programme". It is evident that this is not expected at this stage to have any major budgetary implications.

In overview, the trend appears to be that significant real growth has occurred during 2004/5 to 2006/7, after which real growth in the DCS budget will be limited with the exception of the Corrections Programme. The possible risk in this situation is that the allocation is concentrated in Year 1 of the MTEF instead of being spread out over Years 2 and 3, and thus creating a bubble if there is not the capacity to spend the additional allocation in Year 1. [8]

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Key issues in the budget

Overcrowding and the budget

As a result of the Special Remissions Programme that was implemented in the second half of 2005, the sentenced prison population has been reduced by some 30 000. [9] There has also been a sustained decrease in the awaiting trial population which is now hovering at around 45 000, significantly down from previous levels of around 65 000. It should further be noted that the size of the prison population is not only driven by the number of prisoners admitted but also the length of their stay in the prison. Several commentators have alluded to the increasing prison lengths since 1998 and it is increasingly evident that even if fewer prisoners are being admitted to serve prison sentences, there will still be growth in the prison population. [10] There has also been a sustained decrease in the awaiting trial population which is now hovering at around 45 000, significantly down from previous levels of around 65 000. It should further be noted that the size of the prison population is not only driven by the number of prisoners admitted but also the length of their stay in the prison. Several commentators have alluded to the increasing prison lengths since 1998 and it is increasingly evident that even if fewer prisoners are being admitted to serve prison sentences, there will still be growth in the prison population.

From a budgeting point of view it should be kept in mind that in 2005/6 the DCS received funds for a daily average of 202 000 prisoners, [11] significantly above the actual daily average up to the middle of 2005 and even more so for the latter half of 2005, when the prison population decreased from 186 000 to 155 000. significantly above the actual daily average up to the middle of 2005 and even more so for the latter half of 2005, when the prison population decreased from 186 000 to 155 000.

Hopes expressed in the White Paper on Correctional Services that another department (Justice or Safety and Security) may take on the responsibility of the awaiting trial population do not appear to have materialised and there are no indications in the budget of this. It can therefore be assumed that awaiting trial prisoners will remain the responsibility of the DCS for the foreseeable future.

It is increasingly clear that accurate planning and budgeting in the DCS will require mathematical modelling and projections to predict the future prison population. The fairly high staff vacancy rates in the DCS coupled with overcrowding and increasing prison sentence lengths contribute to placing human rights standards at an increased risk. It is imperative that the DCS has short, medium and long term strategies to ensure that the minimum requirements of humane detention are met. This would require the projection of the size of the prison population as accurately as

possible under different scenarios with the aim of developing the capacity to manage such a projected population. It is, however, not only the size of the prison population that is important but also the profile of the prison population that matters. Specific reference is being made to age, sentence length, gender, security risk, and offence categories. This would require the development of skills and capacities to address particular needs.

Spending on personnel

The phasing out of the overtime system and the implementation of the seven day work week are indeed major achievements for the DCS and should go a long way in improving the management of prisons and addressing safety issues at prison level.

Table 4 Allocations to personnel costs per programme, real value

Programme	2004/5	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9
Administration	1,388,829	1,269,483	1,232,260	1,299,927	1,304,493
Security	2,756,648	3,192,530	3,116,803	3,243,782	3,061,290
Corrections	452,641	574,722	748,840	796,635	923,226
Care	220,317	258,988	461,351	520,142	586,372
Development	165,332	200,241	218,520	222,465	224,589
Social reintegration	274,323	280,256	290,251	300,631	282,773
Facilities	93,609	86,355	69,466	70,684	71,354
Total	5,351,699	5,862,575	6,137,492	6,454,265	6,454,098

Two programmes show significant real increases from 2005/6 to 2008/9 in the Personnel allocation, namely the Corrections (60.6%) and Care (126%) programmes. Three programmes show very small or negative real changes, namely Administration (2.8%), Security (-4.1%) and Social Reintegration (0.9%). The Development Programme personnel allocation will increase in real terms by 12.2% and the Facilities Personnel allocation will decrease by 17.4%.

The other programmes functionally related to the implementation of the White Paper, namely Development and Social Reintegration will receive very little extra by means of personnel cost allocations, and the allocation to Social Reintegration will in fact be slightly reduced from 2007/8 to 2008/9. These trends are of particular concern as these programmes deal with the support of prisoners after their release but also with community corrections. The image of correctional supervision as a sentencing option has been severely tarnished in recent years and magistrates are often reluctant to use this sentencing option due to the administrative and logistical problems experienced with DCS. [12] It would be in the direct interest of the DCS to expand this sentencing option and ensure that more offenders are being sentenced to correctional supervision or released in terms of correctional supervision measures. Changes in the offender population profile and security classifications may have contributed to reduced numbers of prisoners being placed on community corrections and this issue requires further investigation. It would be in the direct interest of the DCS to expand this sentencing option and ensure that more offenders are being sentenced to correctional supervision or released in terms of correctional supervision measures. Changes in the offender population profile and security classifications may have contributed to reduced numbers of prisoners being placed on community corrections and this issue requires further investigation.

The DCS is also suffering from a severe skills shortage in relation to certain professions such as psychologists, educationists, and social workers. Attracting these skills to the DCS will require favourable conditions of service and the conditions on offer at the moment do not meet this requirement. [13] According to a briefing by National Treasury to the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services, government departments do have the scope and latitude to negotiate remuneration for scarce skills categories but that DCS is apparently not utilising this option effectively. [14] Ensuring the right and sufficient volume of these skills in the appropriate programmes will be fundamental to implementing the White Paper on Corrections. Ensuring the right and sufficient volume of these skills in the appropriate programmes will be fundamental to implementing the White Paper on Corrections.

Spending on facilities

The prison construction programme that was supposed to have been nearly completed by now and providing additional accommodation for 12 000 prisoners, has not commenced yet, save for some

earthworks having been completed. [15] The construction costs of the so-called New Generation Prisons increased from an initial R50 000 per bed in 2002 [16] to a current low estimate of R250 000 per bed [17]. More than R3.7 billion has been allocated to the construction of the new prisons but the construction is now at least two years behind schedule and some of the tenders awarded have lapsed. In short, the prison construction programme appears to have run into difficulties and political patience with the lack of progress on this programme is indeed wearing thin at Parliament. The DCS and the Department of Public Works explained to the Portfolio Committee in February 2006 that due to the booming building industry as well as increases in the cost of raw materials, the construction costs have escalated beyond the initial estimates. [18] Given this situation, it is unlikely that Parliament or National Treasury will be agreeable to any further proposals that involve prison construction or additional allocations. The point was in fact made by National Treasury that the savings made by the DCS (referred to above) as well as accurate planning should enable the DCS to continue with the construction programme within the current budget allocations. [19]

A new head office for the department is also being planned for, although exact costs could not be extracted from the ENE. This project had already appeared in the 2004/5 Strategic Plan and is thus at least one year behind schedule.

Addressing corruption and governance

In his 2006 State of the Nation address President Mbeki emphasised the implementation of the Jali Commission recommendations; the final report having been presented to the President on 15 December 2005. The fact that the report has as yet not been made public complicates matters, as it is unknown what the DCS must do in relation to these recommendations nor what it will cost. It is assumed that the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) will continue with its work and that the DCS internal Anti-Corruption Unit (ACU) will continue with the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy. It is therefore not evident from the ENE if special provision is being made for the implementation of the Jali Commission recommendations.

Health services

On 6 September 2005 the Department of Correctional Services (DCS) reported to the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services on its "HIV/Aids Policy for Offenders". [20] With regard to access to anti-retroviral therapy (ART) the DCS reported that it was not accredited to provide anti-retroviral treatment to prisoners. Two further challenges were noted, namely that the ART roll-out centres were located off-site at Department of Health facilities, and further that this created security concerns as a result of staff shortages and the logistical demands, for example transport. In essence, the DCS explained that whilst it would like to provide access to ART, it lacked the resources (staff and infrastructure) to do so. The problem is thus primarily a practical one, since the DCS is not accredited to provide ART in prisons, the solution must therefore be sought in how one brings prisoners to roll-out centres. Subsequent to the submission to the Portfolio Committee, one DCS facility (at Grootvlei prison) has been accredited to provide ART. With regard to access to anti-retroviral therapy (ART) the DCS reported that it was not accredited to provide anti-retroviral treatment to prisoners. Two further challenges were noted, namely that the ART roll-out centres were located off-site at Department of Health facilities, and further that this created security concerns as a result of staff shortages and the logistical demands, for example transport. In essence, the DCS explained that whilst it would like to provide access to ART, it lacked the resources (staff and infrastructure) to do so. The problem is thus primarily a practical one, since the DCS is not accredited to provide ART in prisons, the solution must therefore be sought in how one brings prisoners to roll-out centres. Subsequent to the submission to the Portfolio Committee, one DCS facility (at Grootvlei prison) has been accredited to provide ART.

The Care Programme budget shows a substantial increase in the allocation for personnel costs; from R211 million in 2004/5 to R670 million in 2008/9 or a 126% increase in real terms. This is to provide for securing scarce skills. Medical services within the programme do however not show a commensurate increase and will increase with 4.3% in real terms from 2004/5 to 2008/9. It is not clear from the ENE or the Strategic Plan how provision is being made for ensuring access to ART on wider scale, although it was reported that the Centres of Excellence will be targeted for accreditation. [21]

Conclusion

In real terms, the DCS budget is expected to grow by 11.5% from 2005/6 to 2008/9. This is regarded as significant and should make a noticeable contribution to improving South Africa's prison system.

In relation to the primary cost drivers of the budget, the following points emerge from the discussion:

- The prison population has shown a significant downward trend since the middle of 2005 from 186 000 to 155 000 whilst funding was allocated for 202 000 as a daily average prison population. Seen together with the savings incurred, this has a stabilising effect on the allocation
- the number of probationers and parolees has been in decline although this may change when the Correctional Supervision and Parole Boards become fully operational. In the meantime this has a stabilising effect on the allocation. span>
- The number of employees will be increasing but due to the effect of the savings incurred as result of the phasing out of overtime, the effect on the allocation is less pronounced than anticipated. Whilst it does not appear that there is a problem in attracting entry level staff, the same cannot be said for professional skills.
- Some strategic intentions of the DCS, such as the prison construction programme, appear to be running into financial problems and others (implementation of the White Paper) will have to rely on existing allocations and savings incurred.

Real growth in the budget is highest in the Corrections Programme, although in monetary terms, it is a relatively small proportion of the total budget at approximately 10%. A significant proportion of this growth is the result of transferring staff from the Security Programme budget to the Corrections Programme budget.

The prison construction programme appears to have stalled and it is now at least two years behind schedule. It is increasingly likely that this may become a major source of embarrassment for the department.

Functionally related programmes, as can be inferred from the White Paper, appear to be costed separately and increases in one programme are not reflected in another and inverse trends visible. The substantial real growth in the Corrections Programme is not similarly echoed in the Social Reintegration and Development Programmes to create the effect of a continuum of service delivery starting in prison and continuing after release. Programmes that should deliver on the White Paper (Social Reintegration and Development), with the exception of the Corrections programme, appear to be receiving small and sometimes shrinking allocations.

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SA Prisons at a glance

Category	Feb-05	Dec-05	Increase/Decrease
Functioning prisons	233	237	1.7
Total prisoners	186823	157402	-15.7
Sentenced prisoners	135743	111075	-18.2
Unsentenced prisoners	51080	46327	-9.3
Male prisoners	182652	154183	-15.6
Female prisoners	4173	3219	-22.9
Children in prison	3035	2354	-22.4
Sentenced children	1423	1137	-20.1
Unsentenced children	1612	1217	-24.5
Total capacity of prisons	113825	114796	0.9
Overcrowding	164	137	-16.1
<i>Most overcrowded</i>			
Feb '05: Durban Med C	388%		
Dec '05: Middeldrift		387%	
<i>Least overcrowded</i>			
Apr '05: Emthonjeni	28%		
Dec '05: Emthonjeni		18%	
Awaiting trial longer than 3 months	23132	19277	-16.7
Infants in prison with mothers	228	68	-70.2

- [1] Multi-year projections are a requirement of S 28 the Public Finance Management Act (1 of 1999)
- [2] For a more detailed discussion on overall criminal justice spending see Altbeker, A (2005) *Paying for Crime: South African spending on criminal justice*, ISS Paper 115.
- [3] Budget deflators obtained from the Idasa Budget Information Service were used to calculate real growth estimates using 2005 as baseline.
- [4] Estimates of National Expenditure (2006) Vote 20 Correctional Services, pp 439 – 460.
- [5] PMG Minutes of the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services meeting, 7/3/2006
- [6] Estimates of National Expenditure (2006) Vote 20 Correctional Services, pp 439 – 460.
- [7] PMG Minutes of the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services meeting, 7/3/2006
- [8] On 7/3/2006 representatives from the National Treasury reported to the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services that DCS had R1.9 billion in balance to spend in the last month of the current financial year, whereas as the department spends on average R650 million per month. This will leave unspent funds in excess of R1.3 billion
- [9] See *SA Prisons at Glance* in this newsletter for comparative figures.
- [10] Figures made available by the Office of the Inspecting Judge indicate that from 2002 to 2005 the number of persons admitted annually to serve prison sentences have dropped from 193 901 in 2002 to 144 444 in 2005.
- [11] PMG Minutes of the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services meeting, 7/3/2006.
- [12] See Supreme Court of Appeals, DPP (KZN) v P, Case no. 363/2005. Justice Mthiyane expressed his “complete disillusionment” with correctional supervision.
- [13] Sunday Times 5 March 2006. Remuneration packages of R93 000 per annum are being offered for registered psychologists. The Minister of Correctional Services has in fact acknowledged that remuneration at this level will not attract the requisite skills. (Correctional Service Portfolio Committee meeting, 9 March 2006)
- [14] Portfolio Committee meeting, 7/3/2006
- [15] It should be borne in mind that the four prisons budgeted for in this MTEF, are the four of eight planned prisons; the second set of four new prisons is scheduled for after 2010/11.
- [16] PMG Minutes of Correctional Services Portfolio Committee, 17 September 2002.
- [17] The estimate is made by the author.
- [18] PMG Minutes of the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services, 1 February 2006.
- [19] PMG Minutes of the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services, 7 March 2006
- [20] PMG Minutes of the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services, 6 September 2005. The minutes included a copy of a presentation on the topic distributed by the DCS representatives.
- [21] Telephonic interview with member of the Directorate: HIV and Aids in the DCS on 24 February 2006.

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