

Written questions member's Islandcouncil for the Executive Council/ Government Commissioners.
(art.159, lid 1 WolBES/ art. 46 RvO Islandcouncil)

Issue : Vaststelling jaarrekening 2020 Openbaar Lichaam Sint Eustatius
Date question : Tuesday, October 12, 2021
Sender : F. E. A. Spanner
Date answer : **(within 15 days)**
Responsible Com./Gov.Com. : C. Toet
Responsible editor :

QUESTIONS:

1. A major part of improving our financial management is reducing the backlog in financial statements. In the introduction (page 1) is mentioned that financial statements over several years has been delivered. Please indicate the dates that these financial statements were delivered starting from 2015 to 2020.
2. Could you explain what is meant by “reeds opgeleverde GVP schoolgebouwen” (page 7)? The renovation of the GvP school has not yet started.
3. Participations “deelnemingen” (page 8)? In 2020 Eutel NV recorded a small profit of \$ 161,354 while STUCO NV recorded a loss of \$ 50,576. In 2019 STUCO NV recorded a loss of \$ 91,219. What is the main reason for the short fall of STUCO NV and are further losses projected for this year. What steps are they taking to curb this situation? What is the agreement for the different entities to provide their financial statements to OLE? Do these companies provide their financial statements on-time?
4. Other receivables “overige vorderingen” (page 9) USD 2.5 million was transferred to STUCO NV for amongst others expansion of the underground distribution network. Please explain what percentage of the total electrical distribution network should be underground at the completion of this project? Are their other projects in execution or being requested from the European Development fund. Please provide a list.
5. On page 10 you find information regarding (not) earmarked liquidity at the end of the year. Could you explain how and where this money (\$ 65,450,909) is stored? Is this money earning interest or can it be invested? In principle how is not-earmarked liquidity created? What can the IC or Executive Council do to earmark the \$ 4,765,152? Can the not earmarked funds be used for new projects for example via a budget amendment (page 25)?
6. The positive result of 2020 is \$966,844 (page 11). Is it possible to reserve part of this amount for the strategic land purchase as proposed by land policy St. Eustatius 2020?
7. Pension provision former government authorities (page 12). Since 2017 the provision has been raised to \$ 450,000. Are all former government authorities who has requested this pension also receiving their pension payments, or are there backlogs in payment of pension to anyone in this group? If there are backlogs please inform when you expect these backlogs to be cleared? How many persons are receiving this benefit and what is the yearly total cost for government?
8. Land (grond) page 15. In the income statement presented no income amounts are mentioned for land. Please explain why?
9. Solvency ratio (page 27). The weakening solvency ratio is caused by the increasing “doeluitkeringen”. Could you provide an overview of the doeluitkeringen received over 2016 to 2020?
10. Stichting Wegenfonds (page 29). What actions has been taken in the past year to force the foundation to give account for the funding they received? What are you planning to do in 2021

to solve this issue? What are the amounts of the debt and fines that the Tax Office BCN has on the Public Entity and the Stichting Wegenfonds? Are the current or former members of the board of the foundation personally liable for the unresolved debts and fines of the Stichting Wegenfonds or is government liable?

11. Abstention of judgment “oordeelonthouding” BDO (page 49). The number of objections raised by the external accountant is going down but still remain worrisome. No progress has been achieved in many areas in 2020 and probably in 2021 as well. Instead of questioning every objection it seems more prudent to focus on the execution of the “Plan van aanpak op weg naar rechtmatig en doelmatig financieel beheer op Sint Eustatius”. Could you inform us of the state of execution of this plan? What has been completed and what is left to be done and what is the projected time frame?