Question 450

Ms A M Dreyer (DA) to ask the Minister of Trade and Industry:

(1) Whether payments to lotto recipients are scheduled to take place during August and September each year; if not, when are these payments scheduled to take place; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) Whether there is any clause in the contract with the Lotto company that stipulates that payments should be made to recipients by a certain time in the financial year; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) Whether there is a penalty clause in the contract in the event of the company not adhering to such stipulation; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(4) Whether there is any remedial action available to recipient organisations providing essential support services to needy communities, including the aged and sick, in the event of nonpayment of their grants; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

Response:

(1) Payments are made as and when required and are usually made a few times a month, every month.

(2) The lottery operator has no involvement in the allocation or payment of grants. In terms of the licence, they have to transfer the amount earmarked for payments to the National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund (NLDTF) each week.

(3) The response is similar as in point 2 above.

(4) Those applicants that apply for funding have to meet specific requirements. Allocated funds are paid to the applicants once all the specified conditions have been met. In addition, the Lotteries Act requires that applicants apply for funding only for projects.