

## COUNCIL APPROVES A R2,7 BILLION BUDGET FOR 2025-26 FINANCIAL YEAR

A special sitting of Mopani District Council held on Friday, 30 May has approved a R2,7 billion budget along with the reviewed Integrated Development Plan for 2025-26 financial year.

Delivering the budget speech at the Municipal Chambers in Giyani, Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi said the budget is grounded on the social compact to build better communities with the people even under the prevailing difficult economic climate.

Reflecting on the journey traversed by the Fifth Council, the Executive Mayor said progress has been made in ensuring that communities have access to water and sanitation, committing to use R638 million in the 2025-26 financial year to expand the water and sanitation infrastructure across the district.

"And while we acknowledge that the challenges that lie ahead are still many, we should nonetheless be buoyed and draw courage from the small victories, and the stories of hope that we have written together with our people.

"Today, our people at Ndindani have water in their yards, their story is not different from our people at NwaKhuwani, it is also not different from our people at Mapayeni, Homu 14A and other communities where our people have felt the impact of your efforts around altering their living conditions," he said.

















He said that Council is also committed to ensure that the communities have access to potable water in the immediate while waiting for sustainable bulk water supply. "And our work in ensuring that our people have water in the short-term should receive a massive boost with the budget of R45 million set aside, specifically for electrification of boreholes across the district."

The Executive Mayor said the budget is also aligned to the three priorities adopted by the Government of National Unity, focusing on driving inclusive growth, job creation, reducing poverty, and tackling the high cost of living.

"To help contribute to efforts around youth economic development, we have set aside R2 million – this of course forms part of partnership agreement with the National Youth Development Agency. Through this contribution and the portion that will come from the NYDA, we will be able to provide support to deserving youth owned enterprises and cooperatives with Mopani District Municipality to fully participate in the economy," he said.

## CLEAN EARTH SCHOOLS COMPETITION

Mopani District Municipality launched 2025 Clean Earth Schools Competition which promotes environmental awareness and action among learners, and this year it runs under the theme: "Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development."

Learner representatives from the 25 participating schools were equipped with knowledge and practical tools on various environmental issues in preparation of their submissions for the competition. The workshop was held at the Giyani Municipal Chambers on Friday, 09 May.









