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BULLETIN

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EXECUTIVE MAYOR REACHES OUT TO FARMING COOPERATIVES AS HE CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY

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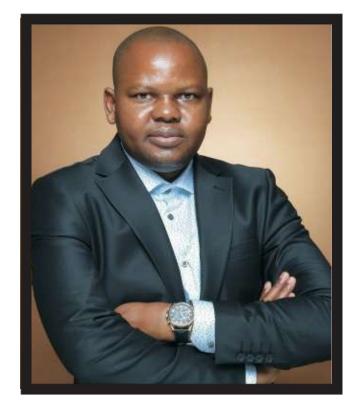
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Editorial

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We write to you on the backdrop of Youth Month, which is celebrated under the theme "Skills for the Changing World: Empowering Youth for Meaningful Economic Participation"- and the tagline "Gear Up for Greatness."

We had an opportunity to host the National Youth Service Roadshow led by the NYDA – this as part of commemorating youth month. We also had an opportunity to host the Minister of Higher Education and Training in a Youth Month Commemoration event held at Mopani TVET College in the Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality. The minister used the event to launch the R5 million NYDA fund for youth enterprises.

In this edition we also cover the council approval of the reviewed 2025/26 IDP and Budget. We have been to Mogapeng village in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality, led of course by the Executive Mayor as part of his quarterly imbizo. He used the imbizo to outline the progress we are recording on the Tours Water Scheme Project, and also the immediate interventions to water challenges in the area.

As build towards the State of the District Address, which is one of the most important occasions as we start the financial year. The Executive Mayor will have an opportunity to give progress report on the work done during this financial year, but also unpack key plans for the 2025/26 financial year. We therefore invite members of the public to share with us their expectations.

We still extend an invitation to members of the public to submit inputs on how best we can make our communications platforms more interactive. It is only through engagements that we are able to get a sense of where we need to improve as a Municipality, especially on the information needs of our people. We further invite members of the public to engage with us through our social media platforms, including our Facebook Page.



Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi

Executive Mayor's desk

It is my singular honour and privilege to write to you on the backdrop of the fourth quarter of the 2024/25, which effectively marks the conclusion of the financial year. We are from council where we approved the budget and the reviewed Integrated Development Plan for 2025/26. This integrated development plan is grounded on the social compact made with our people around the programme of building better communities together.

Our work at this level of our democratic government is done within the framework of the district development model which is about improved,

well-coordinated, accelerated service delivery in the district space. This integrated development plan is grounded on the social compact made with our people around the programme of building better communities together.

Our work at this level of our democratic government is done within the framework of the district development model which is about improved, well-coordinated, accelerated service delivery in the district space. Through this model, various stakeholders including the other spheres of our democratic government, the business community and civil society actively participated in shaping the programmes as detailed in this reviewed integrated development plan.

We take this opportunity to thank all the stakeholders and members of the public who took time to participate during the consultative meetings. It is through those consultative meetings that we were able to receive inputs on the most immediate needs and aspirations of our people across the district.

We have committed ourselves to a programme of expanding the provision of basic services to address the backlog, particularly the water provision to our communities in the district. We have to ensure that more and more of our people in the district have access to piped water in their homes. We will be prioritizing the electrification of boreholes while also ensuring that we protect and secure our water resources.

From the Executive Mayor's desk

Through the district development model, we will also pay special attention to upgrading our water treatment plants, rehabilitating and improving reticulation, reducing water leaks, fix roads and ensure that our poor households do benefit from the free basic services. We will also be engaging our communities that have consistent water supply to commence with cost recovery strategy, which should ultimately help in funding our maintenance plan.

Our priorities for 2025/26 are also aligned to the three priorities adopted by the 7th Administration. They are as follows:

§Priority 1: To drive inclusive growth and job creation

§Priority 2: To reduce poverty and tackle the high cost of living

§Priority 3: To build a capable, ethical and developmental state

All these priorities are informed by the goals as set out in the National Development Plan – our roadmap to 2030. One of the key pillars of the NDP which continues to guide our work is the active involvement of citizens in their own development, but also in strengthening democracy and in holding their government accountable.

Working with our traditional leaders, we will ensure that our communities are located in well-situated land closer to economic opportunities, and away from the flood lines. This we will do through the township establishment programme, which is designed to support our efforts in building integrated human settlements.

We look forward to sustaining our support to SMMEs in the district but also working closely with other stakeholders in the rollout of broadband infrastructure to our rural communities. Working together, we can register major breakthroughs in efforts to drive local economic development, including a comprehensive support to spaza shops in the district. We will continue to support our SMMEs to participate and showcase their services and products at events such as the Durban Travel Indaba, the Rand Easter Show, and Marula Festival.

The implementation of our catalytic project, the Moshupatsela Project AgriPV Project will help address the energy challenge and create jobs for our people. Through this project we hope to generate enough energy to supply the Nkowankowa Industrial Park. The development of the KNP Shangoni Gate is also seen as one of the projects to help improve the economic outlook of the district.

From the Executive Mayor's desk

Having supported the Water Services Directorate with the purchase of fleet during the 2024/25 financial year, we will be paying attention to the urgent needs identified in the Fire Services Division. And that would include the purchase of specialised vehicles and other fire fighting equipment.

We have made a solemn pledge to consolidate on the gains recorded over the last 30 years of our freedom and democracy, and this includes fighting corruption, malfeasance and wastage. We have an obligation to our people to improve on financial management, and to deliver quality services. We further have an obligation to promote participatory democracy by holding regular feedback meetings through our Imbizo platform. We have equally committed to hold officials accountable for under-performance.

This Council will rely on the support from the people of Mopani to realize all the commitments, engraved in this developmental tool. Therefore, we are making a clarion call for our people to continue walking this journey with us – the journey of building better communities together.

CLLR. PULE SHAYI EXECUTIVE MAYOR



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.











Executive Mayor reaches out to farming cooperatives as he Celebrates

Mopani District Municipality's Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi donated boreholes to farming cooperatives as part of his birthday celebrations, saying the donations are aimed at helping the cooperatives to continue contributing to efforts around food security and fighting hunger in communities.

He started his day by handing over a borehole and storage tank to Kuhlula Farming Projects, a cooperative at Lefara village in Ward 22 of Greater Tzaneen Municipality. The cooperative was formed in 2027, and has since established access to market, including supplying major food retailers and local non-governmental organizations.

The Executive Mayor's next stop was at Lephaphane in Ward 34 of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality. He also handed over a borehole and water storage tank to Tswaranang Disabled Project.

He then proceeded to the Greater Giyani Municipality. He also handed over a borehole and water storage facility to Khwezi Lehlabile Agricultural Coop, a women-led farming cooperative at Khaxani village.

He concluded his birthday outreach programme with a visit to Benfarm village in Ward 17 of Ba-Phalaborwa Local Municipality, where he handed over a borehole to Kurhula Benfarm Cooperative.

The Executive Mayor said the donations were in line with the demands of the freedom charter, saying: "We selected to invest in food security by supporting cooperatives across the entire district. Through resource mobilization, we were able to drill and equip boreholes. We do that to ensure that we support cooperative that are women, youth-led, but also led by our disabled communities.

"We think we have sufficiently covered the ground in supporting our people. In their growth, they will be able to access the market and expand the businesses for the immediate communities to benefit from the proceeds, "he said.

EXECUTIVE MAYOR REACHES OUT TO FARMING COOPERATIVES AS HE CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY















Partnership with Limpopo Connexion will benefit young people in rural communities - Executive Mayor says.

Mopani District Municipality's Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi says the partnership with Limpopo Connexion will help provide stable access to internet connectivity, benefiting young people in the rural communities.

Speaking during the Phalaborwa Job Fair Career Expo at Mashishimale stadium on Friday, 25 April, the Executive Mayor said the rollout of the broadband infrastructure is set to start in the next few days with Mashishimale in the Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality and and Thomo village in the Greater Giyani Municipality targeted as the first communities to benefit.

"Through this partnership with Limpopo Connexion, we will soon start with the project to rollout broadband infrastructure to assist our rural communities with access to Wi-Fi connectivity, and the first communities targeted is Mashishimale and Thomo village.

"The team should be starting with work in the next few days. Young people need access to stable internet connectivity to browse for economic opportunities, but also to apply for admissions at tertiary institutions and for their academic research," he said.

He said that it was important for young people to possess the skills required by the dominant economic sectors in the district, particularly tourism and mining. "But most importantly, we appreciate that the big players in the key sectors that drive our economy as a district forms part of this career expo, we are looking at SANParks representing the tourism sector and of course the mines.

"To fully benefit from the successes and opportunities of these sectors, young people must possess the right skills. This is an opportunity to learn more about the essential skills that are required by these sectors to help us make informed career choices. These sectors are always looking for highly motivated young people who are committed to growth," the Executive Mayor said.

The Municipality through its partnership with Limpopo Connexion will be training 5000 young people in artificial intelligence (AI). The online training programme which is set to start next week will run for the whole month

He said that Mopani District Municipality will also be exploring ways to formalise the relationship with the NYDA expanding support to youth enterprises in the district.











EXECUTIVE MAYOR COMMENDS COMMUNITY FOR SUPPORT IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TOURS PROJECT

Mopani District Municipality's Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi has hailed the continued support from the community in the implementation of the Tours Water Scheme Project which is set to benefit 25 villages in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality.

The Executive Mayor engaged with the community as part of his Imbizo Programme at the Bulamahlo hall in Mogapeng on Friday, 06 June 2025. He said that one of the major projects for the Municipality is the Tours Water Scheme Project funded through the municipal infrastructure grant.

"We are busy with Phase 3 which at the end of the third quarter was at 57,3%, but now at 79,9%. This phase is set to cover the remaining 12 villages such as Maselapata, Sunnyside, Makhwibidung, Burgersdorp, Calais in Maruleng, Bodweni, Nsolani, Hoveni, Madhawa, Gazaza, Kampalanga, and Mangweni.

"The project has so far benefited 10 SMMEs from an local economic development point of view, and 184 of our people benefiting through employment. We want to thank our communities for supporting this work. We are much closer to the completion of Phase 2D, which at the end of the 3rd quarter was at 92,5%,"he said.

The Executive Mayor said the Municipality's performance at the end of third quarter stood at 87%, "meaning we were able to achieve 87% of the targets agreed with our people through the SDBIP," he told the Imbizo which was also attended by the Mayor of Greater Tzaneen Municipality Cllr. Gerson Molapisane.













He said the priority remains water provision, reporting that the Municipality has bought and allocated 15 bakkies to artisans in the water services directorate, saying this will help the team respond faster to community needs.

He also reported that Council has approved the by-law on municipal health services, adding that the municipal health services division has been able to conduct 89 health hygiene workshops in the third quarter of the 2024/25 financial year. "We were also able to inspect 651 formal food premises, and 350 were found to be compliant. We also inspected 914 informal food premises, and 310 were found to be compliant.

"Through our blitz inspection programme, 94065 kg of expired food and 3949 litres of drinks was condemned in the 3rd quarter. We have been able to issue out 2423 certificates of acceptability (COA). We inspected 58 schools for the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP), he said.

The Executive Mayor said the Municipality also has the responsibility to promote economic sectors of the district. "We had an opportunity to support 46 SMMEs at the Marula Festival as well through the Pop-Up Market held at Mamaila in the Greater Letaba Municipality. Council has during its last ordinary sitting approved the signing of an MoU with the National Youth Development Agency, which aims to help boost support to youth business enterprises. We have already set aside R2million as part of this collaboration with the NYDA."









MMC SHIBAMBU LAUDS FIREFIGHTERS, BUT ALSO IMPLORES THEM TO MAKE USE OF THE POST-INCIDENT COUNSELLING SERVICES

Mopani District Municipality's MMC for community services, Cllr. Basani Shibambu says the district has not lost firefighters in the line of duty in the past years, but also appealed to firefighters not to take for granted the need for post-incident trauma counselling.

MMC Shibambu was addressing firefighters during the national event to celebrate the International Firefighters' Day held in Tzaneen on Wednesday, 7 May 2025. The event was organized by the Department of Cooperative Governance (DCoG) through the National Disaster Management Centre in collaboration with Limpopo Provincial Disaster Management Centre.

Delegates came from as far as KwaZulu–Natal, North West, Gauteng and Mpumalanga, who joined other districts from Limpopo such as Capricorn, Sekhukhune and Vhembe in celebrating the International Firefighters 'Day.

"We wish to take this opportunity as well to implore all of you as first responders to make use of our employee assistance programmes to receive mental health therapy. You are humans and most of the things you are exposed to in the line of duty are very traumatic.

"We have seen the pictures of the horrific R40 accident in Hoedspruit that claimed the lives of 14 people early this year. You were there as first responders. Just last week, we lost lives in a tragic accident in Kampersrus, and you were there as first responders. So, we want to urge you not to take for granted the need for post-incident mental health debriefing," she said.

Mopani District Municipality's firefighters have battled several fires in the past twelve months, including the Georges Valley fire that destroyed an estimated 400 hectares of plantation, the Broaderstroomdrift fire and the recent fire that gutted the Eden Square Mall in Phalaborwa.







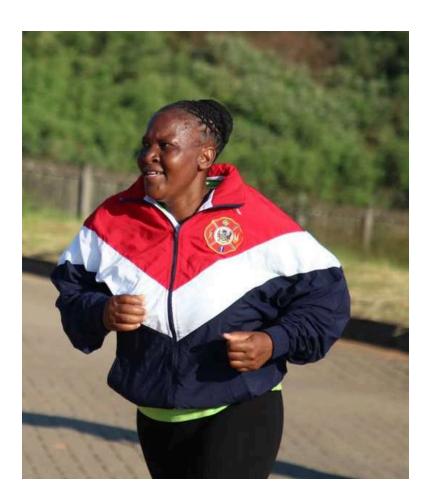


MMC Shibambu lauded the efforts of the firefighters, saying the damage could have been worse if the response was sloppy. She also welcomed the newly formed non-profit organization, the Tzaneen Emergency Support Team. "We want as well to take this opportunity to extend our special gratitude to those that are doing this work on a voluntary basis, which is a clear demonstration of their love for our communities."

She said that the Municipality will set aside a budget in the 2025/26 financial year to buy new specialized firefighting vehicles, and other fire and rescue equipment. "We also plan to install cameras at high risk areas in the district, and we have set aside R700 000 in the draft budget to install these cameras, but this is still to be approved by council having considered inputs from the consultations currently underway."











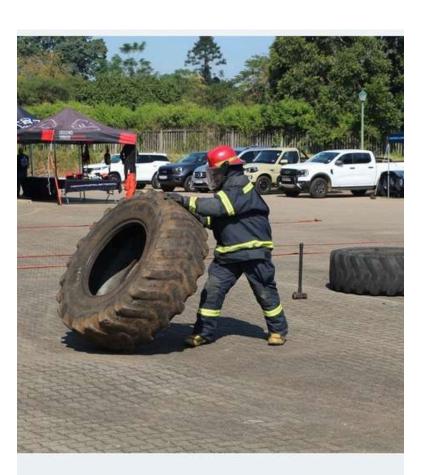






















































MDM SET TO INTENSIFY ITS EFFORTS TO COMBAT WATER THEFT AND INFRASTRUCTURE VANDALISM

Mopani District Municipality's Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi says the Municipality will be working with law enforcement authorities in intensifying efforts to combat illegal water theft that persistently deprives communities of water supply in the district.

The Executive Mayor said this after certain individuals were caught tapping illegally on the bulk pipeline from the Tours Water Scheme, which is meant to supply water to many communities in the Bulamahlo cluster of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality. The Municipality has since opened a case at Maake Police Station.

He said that water theft places undue burden on law-abiding citizens who are forced to use their hard-earned money to buy water from illegal water vendors. The Executive Mayor says the Municipality as the water service authority will not allow attempts to deliberately weaken its capacity to supply water to communities in the district.

"Our resolve is to safeguard the water infrastructure across the district in order to ensure that our people have access to water. We have to do everything in our power to protect these limited, but precious resources. Working with the law enforcement authorities, we should be able to register a breakthrough in holding the perpetrators accountable."

The Executive Mayor who is scheduled to further engage with the communities around Bulamahlo as part of his imbizo programme on Friday, has implored members of the public to also help in safeguarding the water supply infrastructure and to report suspicious activities to law enforcement authorities.

"We are therefore once again appealing to our communities not to keep quite when they witness these unlawful activities. It is our shared responsibility to combat water theft, and to ensure water conservation within our communities," he said.

Mopani District Municipality Hosts Two Day Ward Committee Conference at Karibu Leisure Resort

The Mopani District Municipality successfully hosted a two day Ward Committee Conference from 24 to 25 July 2025 at Karibu Leisure Resort, outside Tzaneen. The event was officially led by the Speaker of Council, **Cllr Martha Maswanganyi**, and brought together ward committee members from all five local municipalities.

The conference aimed to strengthen the role of ward committees in enhancing participatory democracy, improving service delivery monitoring, and deepening community engagement. In her keynote address, Cllr Maswanganyi emphasized the importance of ward committees as the "heartbeat of local democracy," urging members to remain active, responsive, and community focused.

The programme featured panel discussions, capacity building workshops, and strategy sessions on governance, intergovernmental coordination, and public participation tools. Delegates engaged on best practices and the challenges faced at ward level, particularly around communication and accountability.

The Speaker closed the conference by reaffirming Council's commitment to supporting ward structures, stating that "effective ward committees are essential for developmental local government and for ensuring that the voices of communities are heard where it matters most."

The conference concluded on a positive note, with clear resolutions adopted to improve functionality, oversight, and stakeholder collaboration at the ward level.













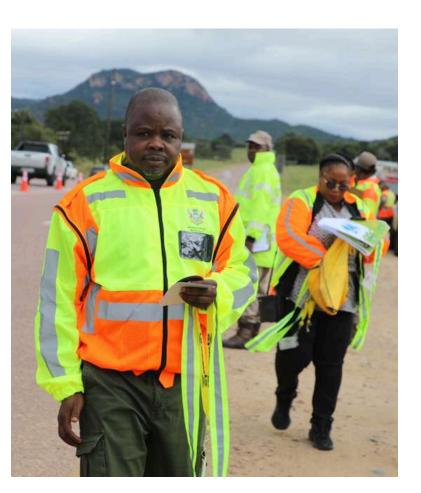




EASTER ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN

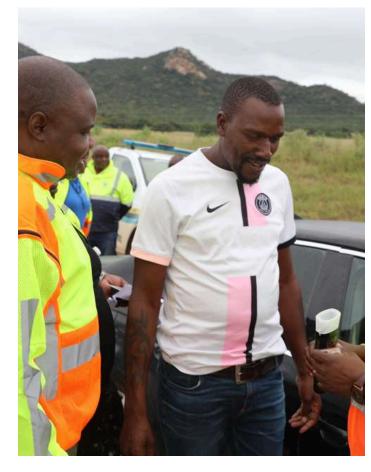




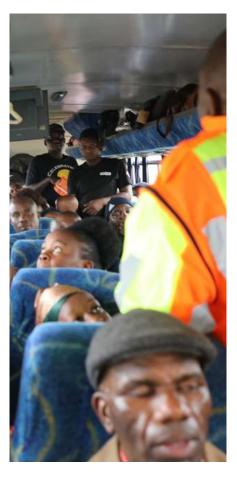














MDM ENGAGES COMMUNITIES ON THE DRAFT IDP AND BUDGET

Mopani District Municipality has been engaging with communities – this as part of the consultative meetings on the draft reviewed IDP and Budget for the 2025/26 financial year.

The meetings provide an opportunity for communities to make inputs on the draft reviewed IDP and budget. Council adopted the draft reviewed IDP and budget in March with a projected revenue of R2,4 billion. The bulk of the revenue will be from the equitable shares and the municipal infrastructure grant.

Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi has appealed to members of the public to use the opportunity to communicate their needs and aspirations. He has previously spoken about the need to elevate the issue around strengthening the Municipality's capacity to implement the cost recovery strategies and generate revenue, saying dependence on the national fiscal is not sustainable given the economic outlook.

A total budget of R45 million is set aside for the electrification of boreholes. Council is set to approve the final budget at the end of May, having incorporated the submissions made during these consultative meetings.













BUDGET REVENUE

- Equitable shares: R1,4 million
- Financial Management Grant: R3 million
- Municipal Infrastructure Grant: R543 million
- Rural Roads Asset Management Grant: R2,5 million
- Expanded Public Works Programme: R7,8 million

SCHOOL SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Gauteng Provincial Commissioner Lieutenant General Tommy Mthombeni and Limpopo Provincial Commissioner Lieutenant General Thembi Hadebe partnered with SA Hope Foundation and Department of Education visited Mabavaza Primary School in Tzaneen on Friday, 09 May to hand over donated school uniform and sanitary towels in a joint effort to support the learners.

The Provincial Commissioners were joined by MMC for Community services Cllr Basani Shibambu, Mopani District Commissioner, Major General Mashaba, Hosi N'wamitwa, Mopani East District Director for Department of Education Mme Modika and various stakeholders that include School Governing Body, sponsors, local Ward Councillor and local Community Policing Forum (CPF).









IDP REP FORUM IN PICTURES

Having concluded the public consultative meetings on the draft reviewed IDP and Budget for the 2025/26, the District IDP Rep Forum convened on Wednesday, 21 May to receive and engage on the report. The Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi has thanked stakeholders for the support during the consultation sessions.

















2025 EMPLOYEE WELLNESS DAY



























Minister of Higher
Education and Training,
Dr Nobuhle Nkabane led
the Youth Month
Celebration event at
Mopani TVET college.
She was joined by MEC
Basikopo Makamu, the
mayor of Ba-Phalaborwa
Municipality Cllr.
Merriam Malatji and
MMC Basani Shibambu
onbehalf of the
Executive Mayor.



The quarterly Intergovernmental Relations Forum took place in Tzaneen on Tuesday 24 June. The forum played a key role in coordinating the work and aligning the strategic plans of all three spheres of government. MMC Lucky Mohlala chaired the forum on behalf of the Executive Mayor, Cllr. Pule Shayi.

















DRIVERS WORKSHOP



















VISION

To be the food basket of Southern Africa and the tourism destination of choice

MISSION

Provide Services to the people and co-ordinate activities of other service providers resulting in the enhancement of sustainable social, physical and economic well being for all

Mopani District Municipality

Giyani Main Road, Government Buildings Mopani District Limpopo Province, South Africa

Private Bag X 9687, Giyani, 0826

Tel: +27 15 811 6300 | Fax:+ 27 15 812 4302

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Vision

"To be the leading municipality in the delivery of quality services for the promotion of socio-economic development"

Mission

To ensure an effective, efficient and economically viable municipality through:

Promotion of accountable, transparent and consultative and co-operative governance;

Promotion of local economic development and poverty alleviation;

Strengthening cooperative governance;
Provision of sustainable and affordable services and
Ensuring a compliant, safe and healthy environment.
To improve the delivery of quality services through the use of smart technology

Slogan "Maatla go Setšhaba"

Greater Letaba Municipality

Botha Street, Civic Centre Modjadjiskloof PO Box 36, Modjadjiskloof 0835

> Telephone Numbers +27 (0) 15 309 9246

www.greaterletaba.gov.za



Vision

To be the fastest growing economy in Limpopo, this will ensure access to basic services to every household.

Mission

To exceed our constitutional mandate in delivering developmental services to our people through partnerships with stakeholders.

Greater Tzaneen Municipality

Agatha Street, Civic Centre Tzaneen PO Box 24, Tzaneen 0850

> Telephone Numbers +27(0) 15 307 8000

www.tzaneen.gov.za



BA-PHALABORWA

Vision

"Best Tourism Destination in Limpopo by 2020"

Mission

To ensure financial viability, sound administration, and accountable
governance for investor attractiveness;
 To render all stakeholders with quality and affordable infrastructure and
services for enhancing a safe and better life for all;
 To manage the environment for future sustainable economic growth;

To build the mining industry for economic growth;
To position Ba-Phalaborwa as a tourism destination of choice.

Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality

Civic Centre Nelson Mandela Drive Phalaborwa Private Bag 01020, Phalaborwa 1390

> Telephone Numbers +27 (0) 15 780 6300

www.ba-phalaborwa.gov.za



Vision

The Vision of the Maruleng Municipality is to become the powerhouse of socio-economic development through sustainable and integrated agriculture and tourism.

Mission

The Mission statement reads as follows: "Maruleng is committed to the provision of integrated basic services and sustainable infrastructure development in an accountable manner"

Maruleng Local Municipality

64 Springbok Street Hoedspruit PO Box 627, Hoedspruit 1380

> Telephone Numbers +27 (0) 15 793 2409

www.maruleng.gov.za



Vision

A municipality where environmental sustainability, tourism and agriculture thrive for economic growth.

Mission

A democratic and accountable municipality that ensure the provision of services through sound environmental management practices, local development and community participation.

Greater Giyani Municipality

Main Road BA 59, Civic Centre Giyani Private Bag x9559, Giyani 0826

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