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Elias Motsoaledi's R2.8 Million project washed away in two weeks

SEPHAKU

It has been barely two weeks after the Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) celebrated the practical completion of a R2.85 million storm-water channel at Sephaku Village. Today, that channel is gone, washed away by the first heavy rains, raising questions about the quality of workmanship.

The 500-metre channel in EMLM Ward 23 was officially unveiled on 30 October 2026, with the municipality announcing that it had reached practical completion after six months of construction from May to October 2026.

The municipality said the project, funded through the Municipal Disaster Recovery Grant (MDRG), was aimed at combating soil erosion and protecting road infrastructure. The scope included clearing and grubbing, filling the eroded donga with G5 material, constructing wing walls, installing culverts and casting a concrete lining.

EMLM Mayor, Cllr David Tladi, hailed the project at the time, stating: "Our commitment as the ANC-led Municipality is to deliver infrastructure that transforms lives, protects communities and restores dignity. The completion of the Sephaku Donga stormwater channel demonstrates our resolve to overcome infrastructure challenges, create jobs, empower local SMMEs and bring meaningful development to the people of Elias Motsoaledi."

The municipality also stated that the project created 10 local jobs and benefited six local SMMEs.

However, visual material and information received by Sekhukhune Dispatch from community members this week shows the concrete lining completely broken up, the wing walls collapsed and the channel filled with mud and debris, with the road once again covered in sand.

Residents who spoke to this publication on condition of anonymity say they had warned that the construction was substandard.

"We are not surprised. We told them during construction that the concrete was too thin and there was no proper steel reinforcement. Now R2.8 million has just gone down the drain like the rainwater," said one concerned resident from Sephaku.

Another resident added: "This donga has been here for years and it is very dangerous when it rains. We were happy when they finally fixed it, but now it is worse than before. The municipality must come back and explain to us who will pay for this. It cannot be taxpayers again."

"The Mayor said it restores our dignity, but now our dignity has been washed away with the channel. Children use this road to go to school and now it is not safe," said a third community member.

Sekhukhune Dispatch sent a detailed media enquiry to the Elias Motsoaledi Communications Unit, requesting confirmation of the damage. However, at the time of going to press, the municipality had not responded.



The Sephaku storm-water channel which was washed away by heavy rains barely two weeks after completed.



Sephaku residents looking at the washed away storm-water channel after heavy rains.



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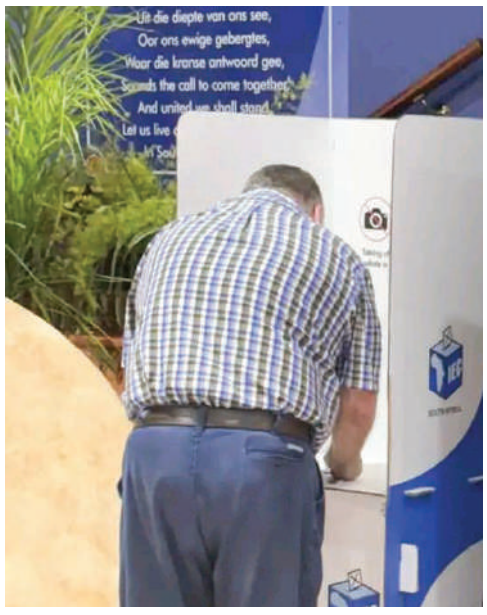
DA hails best-ever elections results in Limpopo

LIMPOPO

The Democratic Alliance (DA) in Limpopo has recorded best-ever electoral performance in the province, nearly doubling their voter support and significantly increasing their council representation.The party has thanked voters after the 2026 Local Government Elections, held on Wednesday 4 November, describing the results as a historic breakthrough ahead of the 2029 National and Provincial Elections.

According to DA Limpopo Provincial Leader, Jacques Smalle, the party's combined ward and proportional representation (PR) votes surged by almost 91%, from 122,583 in the 2021 municipal elections to 234,012 in 2026.



The DA in Limpopo is celebrating the best-ever electoral performance in the province after the 2026 Local Government Elections.

In terms of seats, the party grew its representation across Limpopo's 22 local municipalities from 65 councillors in 2021 to 95 in 2026. This is made up of 23 directly elected ward councillors and 72 PR councillors.In addition, the DA secured nine directly elected district council seats, up from six in 2021. This brings its combined local and directly elected district representation to 104 seats, compared with 71 in 202, an increase of 33 seats, or 46.5%.

Smalle said further district representation may still follow through the indirect election of councillors from constituent local municipalities. Smalle said the 2026 elections have fundamentally changed Limpopo politics.

"The political landscape in Limpopo has changed dramatically, with ten hung local municipal councils, compared with just two in 2021, and indications that Capricorn and Waterberg District Municipalities may also be without outright majorities," Smalle said.

The ten hung councils include high-profile municipalities like Elias Motsoaledi, Modimolle-Mookgophong, and others where the ANC lost the outright majority.

"The message from our communities is clear, residents want responsible municipal governance, reliable service delivery and municipalities that attract investment, stimulate economic growth and facilitate job creation. They want municipalities that work, public money spent responsibly, infrastructure maintained and public representatives who are accountable to the communities they serve," said Smalle.

He extended appreciation to every DA candidates, activists, volunteers, public representatives and election agents who worked during the campaign.

He reaffirmed the party's commitment, stating: "Our commitment to the people of Limpopo remains unchanged. We will continue to champion reliable water and electricity, functioning infrastructure, responsible financial management, clean and accountable local government, and an environment in which businesses can grow and create jobs."

Smalle furthered thanked Limpopo residents who exercised their democratic right to vote, regardless of political affiliation. "To those who voted for the DA, thank you for your trust and support. We do not take it for granted and remain committed to honouring that trust through hard work, public service and accountability," he said.

The DA is now expected to be a key player in coalition negotiations across the ten hung municipalities in the province.



For first time in history, Elias Motsoaledi to be run by Coalition

GROBLERSDAL

The political landscape of the Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) has been fundamentally altered after the municipality was officially declared a hung council, forcing it into a coalition government for the first time since its establishment.

According to the final results released by the Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) after 100% of votes were captured in the 2026 Local Government Elections, no party managed to secure an outright majority to govern alone.

The African National Congress (ANC), which has governed the municipality uninterrupted since 2000, suffered a historic setback. The party secured 48.94% of the vote, translating to 30 seats, just one seat short of the 31 needed for a majority in the 61-seat council.

This marks the end of an era of single-party dominance in one of Sekhukhune's most politically contested municipalities, and the only municipality in the Sekhukhune District where the ANC failed to secure an outright majority.

Despite the blow in Elias Motsoaledi, the ANC has managed to retain its dominance across the rest of the Sekhukhune District, holding onto its traditional strongholds.

The ruling party retained comfortable majorities in Ephraim Mogale, Makhuduthamaga and Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipalities, ensuring that it remains the dominant force in the district as a whole. This makes Elias Motsoaledi the outlier and a critical test case for coalition politics in Limpopo.

The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) emerged as the official opposition and potential kingmaker with 14.28% obtaining 9 seats, followed by the Democratic Alliance (DA) with 10.62% and accumulating 7 seats.

The Bolsheviks Party of South Africa secured 7.09% getting 4 seats, while former ANC alliance partner, the South African Communist Party (SACP), which contested independently this time, obtained 5.28% getting 3 seats.Former President Jacob Zuma's uMkhonto weSizwe (MK) Party made its debut in the municipality with 2.8% securing 2 seats, while the Freedom Front Plus (VF Plus) also secured 2 seats with 2.65%.

The Dennilton Residents Association (DRA) and the Afrika Mayibuye Movement each secured one seat.

While the ANC remains the largest party, its path back to power is no longer guaranteed. It will now be forced to negotiate with smaller parties to reach the magic number of 31.

Political analysts say the loss in Elias Motsoaledi, while the ANC retained the three other local municipalities in Sekhukhune, shows growing voter frustration specific to service delivery issues in Groblersdal, Dennilton, Tafelkop, Monsterlus and other surrounding villages of the municipality.

The party now has two clear but difficult options, negotiate with the EFF, or try to stitch together a coalition of many smaller parties including the DA, VF Plus and community-based DRA, a move that would be ideologically complex.

On the other hand, opposition parties could theoretically unite to form an alternative government. If the EFF (9), DA (7), Bolsheviks (4), SACP (3), MK (2), VF Plus (2), DRA (1) and Afrika Mayibuye (1) were to agree, they would command 29 seats, but still one short, meaning they would need at least one defection from the ANC.

"The people of Elias Motsoaledi have spoken. They want accountability and they have withdrawn the blank cheque they gave to one party. The fact that the ANC retained the rest of Sekhukhune shows this is a localised protest vote," said a local political analyst.

All eyes will now be on the first council sitting expected within the next 14 days, where a mayor, speaker and chief whip must be elected.



The Elias Motsoaledi Municipality has for the first time in history, been run by a coalition government.

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Makgata hits FTLM with R47.2 Million law suit



Fetakgomo Tubatse Municipal Manager, Mogaramedi Joel Makgata, served the municipality with a legal notice demanding R47.25 million in damages

BURGERSFORT

Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality is facing a potential financial collapse after the Municipal Manager, Mogaramedi Joel Makgata, served the municipality with a legal notice demanding R47.25 million in damages, not only from the municipality but from 77 councillors and officials in their personal capacities.

Makgatha's legal team served the statutory notice on Monday 9 November 2026, on intention to sue not only the municipality as an institution, but also the involved councillors.

Makgata, who was appointed on a five-year fixed-term contract from 1 November 2022 per Council Resolution OC48/2022, is claiming his precautionary suspension on 18 October 2024 was unlawful.

According to the notice, his suspension lapsed automatically on 18 January 2025 in terms of Regulation 6(6)(a) of the Local Government: Disciplinary Regulations for Senior Managers, 2010, because the Municipality failed to commence disciplinary proceedings within the prescribed period.Despite the lapse, the municipality allegedly kept him on suspension and continued with a disciplinary hearing on 13 January 2025 in Polokwane, outside its area of jurisdiction.

On 3 June 2025, the High Court Limpopo Division, declared that his precautionary suspension had lapsed and ordered the municipality to allow him to resume duties.

Two weeks later, on 17 June 2025, the municipal council, through a resolution, summarily terminated his employment with immediate effect without any hearing and stopped his salary.

On 8 July 2025, the High Court again ruled in Makgata's favour, declaring the termination unlawful and invalid.

The municipality attempted to appeal both judgments, and also the enforcement order granted under section 18(3) of the Superior Courts Act 10 of 2013, which allowed Makgata to return despite the appeal. All attempts failed, including a petition to the Supreme Court of Appeal.

Makgata now argues that the entire council, officials and agents acted unlawfully, maliciously and in breach of contract and persisted in litigation without cause.

The amount is broken down as follows. For emotional and psychological distress, loss of amenities of life and degeneration of his marriage, he claims R5,000,000. For incidental benefits accruing from his contract, he claims R2,600,000. For defamation and injury to his good name, he claims R2,000,000. For damage to his career and loss of future opportunities, he claims R18,000,000. For legal fees incurred in defending himself, he claims R9,500,000. For security costs, he claims R650,000. And for past and future medical costs, he claims R9,500,000.

The total is R47,250,000.00, plus interest at the prescribed rate. The notice further states that additional damages for further legal costs, forced withdrawal of investments and withdrawals from his mortgage bond account are still to be quantified.

What makes this notice unusual is that it does not only cite the municipality. They include the Acting Municipal Manager Ms Mavis Magooa, the Mayor Cllr Dorah Mphethi, who took over in September 2026 after former Mayor Eddie Maila resigned to become Limpopo MEC for Health, the Speaker Cllr Vincent Shoba, and all members of the Executive Committee and Council.

The notice has sent shockwaves through the council. When contacted on Tuesday morning, several councillors disputed the move and vowed to contact their legal representatives, especially those from opposition parties. Opposition councillors argue that they never voted in favour of the unlawful resolutions. The Democratic Alliance in Fetakgomo Tubatse has been vocal about the matter. On 4 August 2025, the party issued a statement warning the ANC caucus to adhere to the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, the Municipal Systems Act and the Standing Rules of Order.

The DA stated that on 3 June 2025 the High Court ruled that Makgata's suspension had lapsed, yet the ANC caucus convened an irregular council meeting to appeal the judgment and later terminated his contract. The DA said it would write to the Speaker to request that all councillors who voted for these unlawful resolutions be referred to the Ethics Committee for investigation and possible sanction, in terms of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

One opposition councillor, who asked not to be named because he had not yet consulted his lawyer, said, "We warned them in council that this would cost the municipality. We are now being dragged personally for ANC decisions. We will consult our lawyers."

The legal threat comes at a time when FTLM is already under financial pressure. In July 2026, National Treasury temporarily withheld the municipality's Local Government Equitable Share allocation after the municipality failed to comply with financial management legislation. FTLM was the only municipality in Sekhukhune and one of five in Limpopo to be affected.

If Makgata succeeds in his claim, the R47.25 million could have to be paid from public funds, unless the court pierces the corporate veil and holds councillors personally liable, as his lawyers intend to argue.

The municipality had not responded to media enquiries at the time of going to press.



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Form 8

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENCE IN TERMS OS SECTION 28(1) (c)

Limpopo Liquor Act, 2009 (Act 5 of 2009) Regulation 8

I, the undersigned applicant hereby give notice in terms of Section 28 (1) (c) that an application for a liquor licence will be lodged with the Sekhukhune Local Liquor Authority. In terns of section 28 (2) (b) of the Act, you may lodge an objection to the application. The objection form is obtainable from the above - named Local Liquor Authority. Objection must be submitted to the aforesaid Local Liquor Authority within 21 days from the date of lodgement of the application.

1. Full names of applicant **: Makua Mashego Jan**
2. Intended trading name : **Signals Tavern**
3. Identity or registration number of the applicant **: 820417 5556 083**
4. Full address and location of the premises **: Stand No 8652 KS Vaalbank , farm Ga Rakgoadi**
5. Global positioning system (GPS) coordinates of the property where the retail operations are to be carried out. (Note: coordinates must be recorded from the centre of the property)
   LATITUDE: degrees, minutes, seconds **-24.918888**

   LONGITUDE: degrees, minutes, seconds **28.959498**
6. Types of licence applied for **: On Consumption**

Prepared By: **Prepared For:**

Segope Water & Environmental Services

MODIKWA PLATINUM MINE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE INTENT TO CARRY OUT AN INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION (EA) AND WATER USE LICENCE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR MINING ACTIVITIES ON WINTERVELD 293 KT, IN THE FETAKGOMO TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN LIMPOPO PROVINCE BY MODIKWA PLATINUM MINE

Notice is hereby given in terms of Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (Act No.28 of 2002) and its associated Regulations, Regulation 41 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, as amended by Government Notice (GN) R.326 of 7 April 2017, promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) and the National Water Act, (Act No. 36 of 1998)

Modikwa Platinum Mine (Pty) Ltd intends to undertake a Scoping and Environmental Impact Assessment process for the Environmental Authorisation (EA) and Water use licence application for the proposed South 3 – Phase 2 Extension on the farm Winterveld 293 KT, within the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality, Sekhukhune District Municipality, Limpopo Province.

The proposed development involves activities identified under Listing Notice 1 (GN R.327 of 7 April 2017), Activities 12, 19, 21D, 24 and 27; Listing Notice 2 (GN R.325 of 7 April 2017), Activity 15; and Listing Notice 3 (GN R.324 of 7 April 2017), Activities 4, 12 and 14, as amended. Triggered water uses under the National Water Act (NWA) include section 21 (a), (b), (c), (i), (g) and (j).

Project Description: MPM intends to carry out an EA and Water use licence process for the intention to extend mining activity in the South 3 Project thereby marking the commencement of a new project called South 3 – Phase 2 Extension.	**Project location:** MPM South 3 – Phase 2 Extension is located approximately 20 km north-west of Steelpoort along the D1296 Road within FTLM in Limpopo Province

Public Participation Process (PPP) and Timelines: Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are hereby invited to register, participate and submit comments, issues of concern and inputs regarding the proposed South 3 – Phase 2 Extension within 30 days for the Environmental Authorisation (EA) Scoping process and 60 days for the Water Use Licence Application (WULA). All comments received will be recorded and addressed as part of the PPP.

The Background Information Document (BID) and Scoping report remain available for public review at the following locations:

- **Steelpoort Post Office**
- **Steelpoort Pick n Pay**
- **Malaeneng Tavern**
- **Ka-zang Ubuntu Tuckshop**

The Scoping Report can be found at BaBinaPhuthi ba Mabanna Tribal Office for your review Soft copies can also be obtained upon request from Segope Consulting via email or electronic file-sharing platforms.

Public Meeting: Members of the public are hereby invited to attend a public meeting to be held on the **3rd of December 2026** at **Mahlakwena Sports / Soccer Grounds**, near Steelpoort Town, at **09h00**.

All issues received from I&APs will be addressed by the independent consulting firm, **Segope Consulting.** For further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at the details below:

Segope Water and Environmental Services:

Contact Person: Lesego Montshiwa

Address: 1176 Crescent Wood Estates, 11 Canyon Way, Noordwyk, Midrand 1687

Cell: 079 730 9778/061 505 5147

Email: Info@segope.co.za /lesego.montshiwa@segope.co.za

R202 Million chrome assets preserved in Steelpoort illegal mining case

STEELPOORT

The Limpopo Division of the High Court in Polokwane has upheld a preservation order worth approximately R202 million against assets, linked to an alleged unlawful chrome and Platinum Group Metals (PGMs) processing operation.

The order was secured by the National Director of Public Prosecutions (NDPP) in terms of section 38 of the Prevention of Organised Crime Act 121 of 1998 (POCA).National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) Limpopo Regional Spokesperson, Mashudu Malabi, said the order relates to approximately 150 000 tons of mineral stockpiles and processing machinery located at the Universal Chrome Minerals (Pty) Ltd washplant in Steelpoort."

The preservation order followed an investigation by members of the SAPS in the Burgersfort policing area, who seized the property on 24 August 2026. The court accepted that there were reasonable grounds to believe that the property constituted the proceeds of unlawful activities and/or was an instrumentality of offences. The alleged offences include theft of minerals, fraud, money laundering, and contraventions of sections 5 and 6 of POCA relating to dealing with or benefiting from the proceeds of unlawful activities," explained Malabi.She added that the operation is also alleged to have contravened the National Water Act 36 of 1998 in relation to unlawful water use.

"The underlying offences are alleged to involve the misuse of Phabema Enterprise, a community company established under Samancor's Social and Labour Plan (SLP) to manufacture bricks for local women and young people," Malabi said.

She informed that Phabema Enterprise was provided with de-watered waste rock free of charge on condition that it contained no chrome and was used solely for aggregate and brickmaking purposes.

"It is alleged, however, that the waste rock was unlawfully crushed and screened before being transported to the Universal Chrome washplant in Steelpoort for the recovery and enrichment of chrome and PGMs. The processed minerals were subsequently allegedly transported through the Port of Maputo in Mozambique for export," added Malabi.

She said investigations established that no authorisation had been granted for the processing or sale of the chrome or PGMs.

Malabi said joint environmental inspections at the Universal Chrome premises further revealed alleged unlawful water use and environmental contraventions.

"The washplant operated without a Water Use Licence, unlawfully abstracted water, disposed of sludge in an unlined pit and stored heavy minerals in an area without appropriate containment. Universal Chrome Minerals (Pty) Ltd misrepresented its regulatory compliance by claiming on its website that it held a valid Water Use Licence and complied with applicable environmental legislation," she said.

Malabi said following the preservation order, Onelink Investment (Pty) Ltd launched an urgent application for reconsideration of the order, claiming to be an innocent owner in terms of section 52 of POCA. "The company contended that it had merely leased the preserved machinery and weighbridge to Universal Chrome in terms of two lease agreements. The State opposed the application before the High Court on 3 November 2026. On 5 November 2026, Judge Muller dismissed Onelink's application with costs, leaving the preservation order in force," said Malabi.

Malabi said the NPA, through its Asset Forfeiture Unit, will continue using the remedies available under POCA to deprive criminals of the proceeds and instrumentalities of crime.

Welcoming the judgment, the Director of Public Prosecutions in Limpopo, Advocate Ivy Thenga, said: "One cannot steal water and minerals under the guise of a community project and export them via Mozambique. The Asset Forfeiture Unit will pursue the forfeiture of the minerals and the plant. This matter also sends a clear message that claims of innocent ownership will be rigorously tested.

The Asset Forfeiture Unit's forfeiture application will follow in due course."



The High Court in Polokwane has upheld a preservation order worth approximately R202 million against assets, linked to an alleged unlawful chrome mining in Steelpoort.

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Local Government Elections concludes with 33 cases and 20 arrests in Limpopo



Limpopo Provincial Commissioner, Lieutenant General Jan Petrus Scheepers, briefing the media at The Ranch Hotel Results Operation Centre in Polokwane.



IEC Limpopo Provincial Electoral Officer, Ms Nkaro Mateta, expressed gratitude to residents who turned out to exercise their democratic right to vote.

LIMPOPO

Limpopo has successfully concluded the 2026 Local Government Elections with 20 arrests and 33 criminal cases recorded across the province.

This was confirmed by SAPS Limpopo Provincial Commissioner, Lieutenant General Jan Petrus Scheepers and IEC Limpopo Provincial Electoral Officer, Ms Nkaro Mateta, at a joint briefing held at The Ranch Hotel Results Operation Centre in Polokwane on Friday 6 November 2026.The briefing was addressed by Scheepers and Mateta. They were accompanied by Deputy Provincial Commissioners for Policing, Major General Leseba Mashilo, and Crime Detection, Major General William Mashava.During the briefing, Mateta revealed that more than 1.4 million of the approximately three million registered voters in Limpopo participated in the elections. She expressed gratitude to residents who turned out in numbers to exercise their democratic right to vote.She further indicated that although the province experienced some disruptions in Musina, the challenges were successfully addressed, allowing the electoral process to continue. She also highlighted an incident at a voting station in Tzaneen, Mopani District, where the opening of the station was delayed.On the security front, Lieutenant General Scheepers commended members of the SAPS and all law enforcement agencies for their vigilance, professionalism and dedication in maintaining law and order throughout the election period.

"We extend our gratitude to the Independent Electoral Commission for taking charge of the electoral process and working closely with the police," he said.

Scheepers disclosed that a total of 33 election-related cases were reported across the province during the election period from Monday 2 to Wednesday 4 November 2026, resulting in approximately 20 arrests.

Among the incidents reported were cases where individuals allegedly contravened the Electoral Act by taking photographs of marked ballot papers using their cellphones and subsequently circulating or publishing the images on various social media platforms. Such conduct is prohibited in terms of electoral legislation and undermines the secrecy and integrity of the voting process.

Police also responded to other incidents involving alleged unlawful conduct during the election period, resulting in the opening of criminal cases and the subsequent arrest of suspects.Scheepers welcomed the arrests and commended police members, other law enforcement agencies and all stakeholders who worked tirelessly to ensure a safe and peaceful election period.

He applauded the collective efforts, dedication and cooperation demonstrated by all role players, highlighting the importance of partnerships and coordinated efforts in safeguarding communities, voters and election officials.He further expressed his appreciation to members who remained committed to their duties throughout the election period, as well as stakeholders who provided unwavering support, cooperation and prayers towards ensuring that the electoral process proceeded in a safe and secure environment.Scheepers reiterated that the police will not hesitate to take action against anyone who violates the law, irrespective of their position or affiliation, and that all reported cases will be attended to in accordance with the law.

Some of the arrested suspects have already started to appear before local Magistrate's Courts.

FETAKGOMO TUBATSE
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

Public notice
Grant Funding Opportunity

The Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality (LIM476) through its Local Economic Development & Tourism (LEDT) department has LED Strategy in place. The LED Strategy identified various programmes that are aimed at supporting local SMMEs and Cooperatives with financial and non-financial support. The LED Plan identifies Local SMMEs, Local Cooperatives, Local Youth, Women & Persons with Disability SMMEs to form part of the support programmes aimed at creating an enabling environment for local businesses to thrive through the acquisition of assets for the reduction of costs.

In its effort to address the key priorities of government and the job drivers as identified in the National Development Plan, the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality invites all eligible Local SMMEs, Local Cooperatives, Women & Persons living with disability, and youth SMMEs to apply for local economic development (led) grant funding for agriculture. As set out in Council Resolution No. OC25/2021, the allocation of grant funding is primarily aimed at stimulating pro-poor growth whilst strengthening local competitive advantage and paving the way for sustainable economic growth. Moreover, the grant funding support will ensure that emerging businesses increase their outputs and reduce input costs and thereby accessing markets at competitive prices.

Guidelines for applications:

1. Applicants must be permanent residents of Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality with a valid South African identity documentation.
2. Operating as a group of 5 or more people, i.e. **Cooperative** model or any other form of organized business ventures. For SMMEs, they should be having 5 or more temporary or permanent employees in the business at the time of application.
3. Legally Registered with Companies & Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) or any relevant authority.
4. Valid Proof of land ownership or Permission to occupy.
5. Quotation/s not exceeding R40 000 of support applied for (all support requirements tools/equipment's);

Application forms may be collected from and be submitted at Burgersfort Civic Centre (Head Office), Apel Regional Office, Praktiseer Satellite Office, Mapodile Satellite Office, Atok Thusong Centre and Ohrigstad Satellite Office. Applications are open from 09 November 2026 to 24 November 2026. For more information contact the Local Economic Development Officer Mr Mtheza GS on (0722940180) or (gsmtheza@ftlm.gov.za).

Makgata MJ

Municipal Manager

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This isn't a story, it's a journey.

I am Modecia Phasha, proud owner of Magaile Enterprise, established in 2018. My company specialises in construction, with expertise in trench construction and dust suppression services.

I saw an opportunity from Glencore in our local community newspaper and applied, securing a 6-month contract with Glencore's Lion Smelter for Tailing Storage Facilities trench construction.

Stepping into the male-dominated mining industry was not easy, but Glencore's support has been a game-changer. Through their GIBS programme, I gained invaluable skills in project management and finance. That initiative plus their assistance in procuring a water truck transformed my business, propelling it to new heights.

Today, with 18 employees by my side, I see Magaile Enterprise soaring internationally in the next five years.

To aspiring entrepreneurs, especially women, I say: prepare your mind and seize every opportunity.

Progress. Together.
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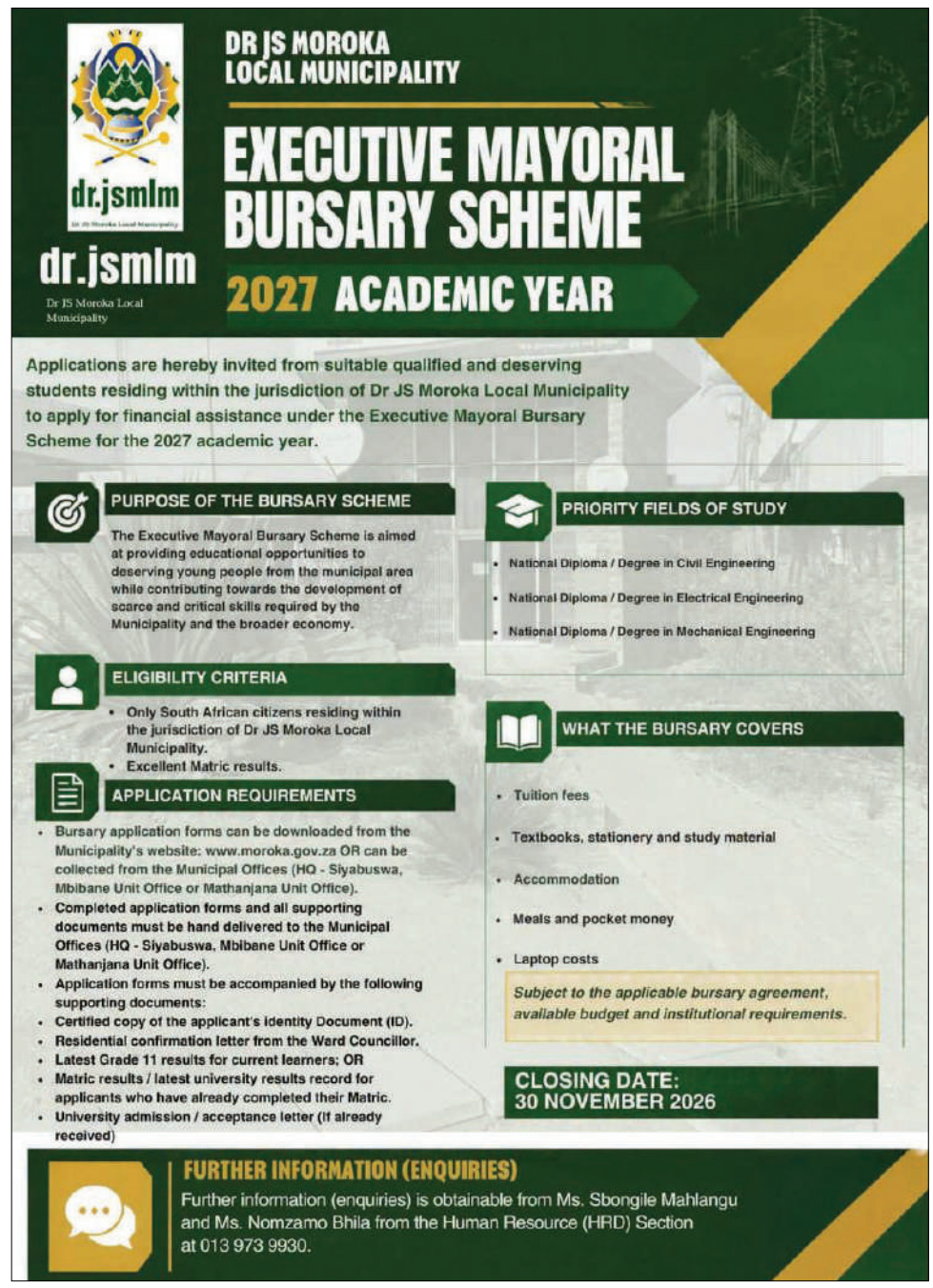
GLENCORE



Burgersfort taxi driver sentenced for murder



The Burgersfort Regional Court has sentenced Mathews Butibuti Mboweni, to a total of 22 years direct imprisonment for murder committed in Burgersfort Taxi Rank

BURGERSFORT

The Burgersfort Regional Court has on Monday 9 November 2026, sentenced a 40-year-old taxi driver, Mathews Butibuti Mboweni, to a total of 22 years direct imprisonment for murder and other serious offences.

He was sentenced following an incident in which a pedestrian was knocked down by a taxi at the Burgersfort Long Distance Taxi Rank in June 2022. The fatal incident resulted in the death of a 43-year-old victim, Paka Joseph Poti.

According to Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, a culpable homicide case was initially opened after Poti was knocked down.

"Following the presentation of the case docket before the Magistrate's Court, the court instructed that the charge be changed from culpable homicide to murder. Mboweni was subsequently arrested on 12 June 2022. He was released on bail of R1 000 on 22 June 2022," informed Ledwaba.

He said the matter was later transferred from the District Court to the Regional Court, where the accused stood trial.

"On 4 September 2026, Mboweni was found guilty and remanded in custody pending sentencing. On 5 October 2026, the Burgersfort Regional Court sentenced the accused on count one which is murder to 15 years direct imprisonment, count 2, assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm (GBH) to 5 years direct imprisonment, and count 3, inconsiderate driving to 2 years direct imprisonment," explained Ledwaba.

He said the case was investigated by Sergeant Hendrick Mmaritji Mmotla, whose diligent investigation contributed to securing the conviction and sentence.

Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Jan Petrus Scheepers, has welcomed the sentence. He commended the investigating officer for ensuring that justice prevailed and emphasised that perpetrators must be held accountable for their actions.

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Dennilton Police probe alleged Elias Motsoaledi Ward 8 vote rigging

DENNILTON

The outcome of the fiercely contested Ward 8 in the Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) is now the subject of a police investigation, after four opposition parties opened a criminal case against the Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) and a presiding officer.

The case was opened at Dennilton Police Station on 7 November 2026 by the uMkhonto weSizwe (MK) Party, Bolsheviks Party of South Africa (BPSA), Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) and the Asihlangane Political Party.

The parties are contesting the results at the Ekucathuleni Primary School Voting Station in Elandsdoorn, Dennilton, following alleged irregularities occurred on Wednesday 4 November 2026.

According to Nicolas Jiyane, Regional Secretary of the MK Party in Sekhukhune, who is acting as spokesperson for the complainants, the alleged irregularities occurred during the closure of the voting station at 21h00, allegedly after party agents representing the four opposition parties discovered that signatures had been appended on their behalf on official IEC closing documents, without their knowledge or presence.

"The affected party agents were not called when the signatures were made, and someone signed on behalf of them during the closing procedure. Only ANC party agents were available at the time," Jiyane said.

He further alleges that the four parties suspect their votes were misallocated to by the presiding officer.The complaining political parties have laid charges of fraud, forgery and contravention of the Electoral Act.The police confirmed that a case has been opened and that it is under investigation.

In terms of IEC procedure, presiding officers are required by law to ensure that all party agents present sign the official results slip (Form MEC7) and the ballot box seal verification forms upon closing. Any signing on behalf of another agent is considered a serious irregularity.

The IEC Limpopo office had not responded to media enquiries at the time of publishing. The IEC's national policy is that all allegations of misconduct by its staff are investigated internally, and officials found guilty face immediate dismissal and criminal prosecution.The dispute could have major implications for the council composition of Elias Motsoaledi, which has already been declared a hung council. The ANC secured 30 seats, one short of an outright majority. If the Ward 8 result were to be set aside, it could alter the balance of power.

Jiyane indicated that the parties intend to open a second case related to Ntwane Village in Ward 10. He alleges that in voting districts in Ward 10, the number of votes cast exceeded the number of registered voters on the voters' roll by approximately 300 voters.

The affected political parties say they will be guided by the outcome of the police investigation to determine their next steps, which may include lodging a formal electoral dispute with the Electoral Court to have the Ward 8 result set aside.



Opposition political parties opened a criminal case against the IEC and a presiding officer, following claims of alleged votes rigging at Ekucathuleni Voting Station in Dennilton.

NOTICE OF A BASIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Notice is hereby given in terms of Regulation 41(2) published in Government Notice R 326 under chapter 6 of the National Environmental Management Act (No 107 of 1998) of the intent to submit an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) application for environmental authorization to the Department of Mineral and Petroleum (DMPR), Water Use Authorization application to the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), and Tree Removal Permit application to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Roads Agency Limpopo (RAL) proposes upgrading a road and the establishment of borrow pits along D4260 road from Malope to Phokwane within the Sekhukhune District Municipality, Limpopo Province (RAL/T1047/2021). The current phase is 5 km road upgrade including associated infrastructure which is part of the 14.7 km upgrade of road D4260 from gravel to bituminous surface within the Sekhukhune District municipality.

THE FOLLOWING LISTED ACTIVITIES IN TERMS OF THE EIA REGULATIONS APPLY:

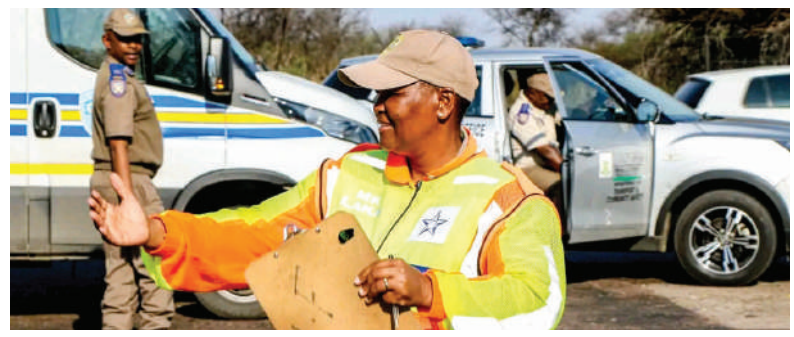
Applicable Listing Notice	Activity No & Description
GN R 327: Listing Notice 1	**Activity 21(E) -** Any activity including the operation of that activity for which the Minister responsible for mineral resources has issued an exemption in a Government Notice in terms of section 106(1) of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, as well as any other applicable activity as contained in this Listing Notice or in Listing Notice 3 of 2014, required for the exercising of such exempted activity.
GN R 327: Listing Notice 1	**Activity 27 (i)** - The clearance of an area of 1 hectare or more, but less than 20 hectares of indigenous vegetation, except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for (i) the undertaking of a linear activity.
G R 327: Listing Notice 3	**Activity 12(e) ((ii)** - The clearance of an area of 300 square metres or more of indigenous vegetation except where such clearance of indigenous vegetation is required for maintenance purposes undertaken in accordance with a maintenance management plan - Within critical biodiversity areas identified in bioregional plans.
The National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) - Water use authorization application triggered by construction of 5 km road and associated infrastructure such culverts, bridge and stormwater: Section 21 (a) taking of water from a water resource (i.e., groundwater abstraction from a borehole). Section 21 (c) impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse. Section 21 (i) altering the bed, banks, course, or characteristics of a watercourse The National Forest Act, 1998 (Act 84 of 1998) - Tree removal permit triggered by the establishment of borrow pits and road upgrade: Section 15(1) (a) (i) Effect of declaration of protected tress – cut, disturb, damage any protected tree.	

HUMISANI Holdings (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to undertake the EIA processes for the proposed D4260 road upgrade (Bridge repair and upgrade) and associated Borrow Pits in terms of the EIA Regulations (2017), as amended. The notice serves to invite Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) to register by submitting their names, contact details and any comments to the contact person below.

The Basic Assessment Report will be available for review for the period of 30 days from the date of this Notice:

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONEER	CONTACT DETAILS
HUMISANI HOLDINGS	**HUMISANI Holdings (Pty) Ltd** Public Participation Administrator Mashudu Tshipala 22 Hoog Street, Polokwane, 0700 Mobile: 082 877 0049 Tel: 073 200 1020 Email: Mashudutshipala89@gmail.com or Tshipalak@gmail.com

Sekhukhune leads by example as only district with zero drunk drivers



Traffic police in Limpopo have arrested 31 drunken drivers who were nabbed during the Phuza Weekend Operation conducted across the province.

SEKHUKHUNE

Sekhukhune District has emerged as the shining example of responsible road use, after recording zero arrests for drunk driving during this past weekend's "Phuza Weekend Operation", while 31 other drivers were nabbed across Limpopo.

The Limpopo Department of Transport and Community Safety concluded its intensive operation, which ran from Friday 6 November to Sunday 9 November 2026, with traffic officers deployed across all five districts to curb drinking and driving ahead of the festive season

According to figures released by the Limpopo Department of Transport and Community Safety, Waterberg recorded the highest number of drunk drivers with 14 arrests, followed by Mopani with 10, Vhembe with 4 and Capricorn with 3. Sekhukhune recorded no arrests.

The highest alcohol reading during the weekend was recorded in Waterberg at a staggering 1.54 mg/1000ml, more than six times the legal limit.MEC for Transport and Community Safety, Ms Nakedi Kekana, has expressed deep concern about motorists who continue to disobey the rules of the road, particularly those who drive under the influence of alcohol.

"Drunk driving remains one of the leading causes of fatal crashes, as alcohol impairs judgement, slows reaction time and gives drivers a false sense of confidence, endangering their own lives and those of innocent road users," Kekana said.

The weekend's figures come against a worrying background. According to the Department's October 2026 report, a whopping 137 drivers were arrested for drunk driving in October alone. Mopani was the biggest culprit with 46 arrests, followed by Waterberg with 32, Vhembe with 29, Capricorn with 16 and Sekhukhune with 14.

Kekana said it is particularly worrying that Mopani still recorded 10 arrests this past weekend, even though Waterberg now tops the list.

"These figures prove that some motorists have still not taken the message seriously. There will be no tolerance for drunk driving in Limpopo, and operations will be intensified ahead of the festive season to remove drunk drivers from our roads," said Kekana.

She has called on road users to plan ahead, use a designated sober driver, use public transport or stay where they are if they have been drinking.

The MEC also appealed to families, friends and tavern owners not to allow a person who has been drinking to drive, warning that "one bad decision can destroy many lives."

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Sports



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INSIDE

Local Government Elections concludes with 33 cases and 20 arrests in Limpopo



Tsa Saboshego FC, champions of SAFA Sekhukhune Regional Football League Stream D, are looking ahead to dominate the stream in the current football season.

Tsa Saboshego FC building stronger legacy

GA-PHAAHLA

While many clubs in the Hollywoodbets SAFA Sekhukhune Regional Football League are desperate for promotion to the ABC Motsepe League, one Sekhukhune giant says promotion is just a bonus, building a legacy is the real target.

Tsa Saboshego FC, based at the famous Mocatation Football Ground in Ga-Phaahla Mmakadikwe, Makhuduthamaga Sub-Region, under Kgoshi Letsiri Phaahla, is no ordinary village team. The club carries almost 50 years of history.

Team Manager, Frank Sedibane, said Tsa Saboshego FC was transformed from a team called Mocatation FC, which was founded almost 50 years ago. In 2013, the Chairman officially registered the name Tsa Saboshego FC, although the team still carries the inherited name Mocatation FC because of the same tradition and values that are still practised to this day.

The name itself carries royalty. "Tsa Saboshego is borrowed from Kgoshi Saboshego. In the context of the team, it simply means we are the Lions of Kgoshi Saboshego. The majority of the anchors of the team are the descendants of Kgoshi Saboshego. The full team name is Tau Tsa Saboshego FC," says Sedibane.

Last season, Tau Tsa Saboshego were crowned champions of Sekhukhune Stream D in the SAFA Sekhukhune Regional League. In the 2025/2026 season, they are back in the same stream, and have started on a high.

"The season has been great for us. We have just won our first league game against our arch-rivals, which happens to be a derby game and one of the biggest games you will ever come across in the region, if not in the province. It is just a pity that media outlets do not pay attention to that emotional fixture," Sedibane said.

Despite last season's heroics, Sedibane insists the pressure of promotion is not weighing on them.

"Promotion was never our target. However, if it comes, it will be a bonus for us. Our immediate and main goal is to build a very strong, competitive team with consistent performance throughout all our games," he said.

The team is backed by a deep structure led by Chairman Taumang Mathibeng, assisted by Mathale Mabatane, with Sedibane as Team Manager, Maseageng Mamphekgo, Ntobeng Makabulane and Letago Phahlamohlaka handling marketing and brand, Patric Maphutha as Organising Manager, Kat Motsilane as Transport Manager, and Ivy Masemola and Innocent Mokomane Chikapala heading administration. The technical team is led by Coach Mashite Chumu, famously known as "Disco".

The club boasts a youthful leadership with Marcelo Theto Marishane as youngest captain.While rooted in Ga-Phaahla, Tsa Saboshego's net is wide. "We have a technical team that is responsible for the recruitment of all our players. When we spot a jewel, we disregard the area of origin, as long as they can play good football. Some of our players are from Gauteng, Mpumalanga and the Capricorn Region," Sedibane explained.

"All our players are key players. You give them a jersey and they represent the team well, with pride. We would not want to single out an individual as a key player, because we are one big family," he said.

Sidibane indicated that like most regional clubs, challenges remain, but not where you'd expect. "Our biggest challenge is accommodation for players to camp in one place, which contributes heavily to transport costs. The only important thing we hope a good Samaritan can assist us with is shade at our field of play, because when it is too hot, our supporters are heavily exposed to the sun."

In five years, Sedibane sees more than just league status. "We want to be amongst the best teams that every soul will want to be associated with," he said.

FETAKGOMO TUBATSE
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



Makgata MJ
Municipal Manager

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUBJECT: INAUGURATION OF THE NEW MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality is inviting Magoshi, members of the public, civil society and all interested parties to attend the inauguration of the new Municipal Council in terms of Section 19 of the Municipal Systems Act 32/2000 and Regulations scheduled as follows.

Date :19 November 2026

Time :11h00

Venue: Moses Mabotha Hall (Apel)

Ps. Members of the public and invited guests are advised to be seated in the hall at 10h45.

For more information and reservations please contact Council Secretary. Mr. Mohlala WG @0826453195 or wgmohlala@ftlm.gov.za.

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