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Sekhukhune Dispatch

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SCAN ME

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Executive Mayor Bahula moves to tackle water crisis in Moroke



Magadimane Ntweng Traditional Authority leader, Mmakgoshi Ntwampe, Hunadi 'a Bauba, welcomed the visit and the intervention by the district municipality.

MOROKE

The Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), Cllr Minah Bahula, has reaffirmed her commitment to tackling persistent water service delivery challenges across the district, with a focused intervention in the Fetakgomo Tubatse area.

In a decisive move on Friday 21 August 2026, Executive Mayor Bahula led a high-level delegation to meet with the Magadimane Ntweng Traditional Authority and affected residents of Moroke Village to address challenges stemming from Phase One of the water project.

The delegation included the Mayor of Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality (FTLM), Cllr Eddie Maila, MMC for Women, Children and People with Disabilities, Cllr Samson Nkosi, and SDM Municipal Manager Meshack Kgwale.The meeting, held with the Magadimane Ntweng Traditional Authority led by Mmakgoshi Ntwampe, Hunadi 'a Bauba, focused on service delivery failures experienced during Phase One of the water project. The project, which affects several wards in the area, was implemented on behalf of the district municipality by the Lebalelo Scheme.

The district municipality confirmed that it has committed to prioritizing all challenges identified during Phase One.

According to SDM, addressing these shortcomings is critical to enable the timely commencement of Phase Two of the project.As an immediate intervention to alleviate the plight of residents, Executive Mayor Bahula has committed the district municipality to providing temporary water supply to affected villages through multiple boreholes.

The municipality stated that this intervention will be implemented within a short period, as agreed with the Royal House and affected communities.

The Magadimane Ntweng Traditional Authority and residents welcomed the visit and the intervention by the district municipality. The community also committed to supporting government efforts to accelerate the delivery of essential water services without unnecessary delays or disruptions.

In turn, the Traditional Authority commended the municipality for taking responsibility for the shortcomings identified during Phase One and for taking decisive steps towards resolving the challenges.

Bahula and her team welcomed the community's commitment to ensuring that the water project proceeds and ultimately delivers much-needed and sustainable water services to affected residents.



SDM Executive Mayor, Cllr Mminah Bahula, led a high-level delegation to meet with the Magadimane Ntweng Traditional Authority to address challenges stemming from Phase One of the water project.

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Hundreds shut-down Groblersdal in anti-illegal immigration march



Scores of residents from different parts of Sekhukhune partaking during the anti-immigration march in Groblersdal.

GROBLERSDAL

Hundreds of community members from across Sekhukhune District, brought the Groblersdal CBD to a standstill on Thursday 20 August 2026, during a mass demonstration organized by the March and March anti-illegal immigration structure.

Protesters from Elias Motsoaledi, Ephraim Mogale and Makhuduthamaga Local Municipalities, marched peacefully from the Groblersdal Fire Station to the Department of Home Affairs offices, where they handed-over a memorandum of demands.The demonstrators raised concerns about illegal immigration, particularly on farms in Groblersdal and Marble Hall. They alleged that undocumented foreign nationals are taking jobs meant for locals while communities continue to face high unemployment.

They further complained that some illegal immigrants are involved in serious crimes. They cited drug dealing, hijacking of buildings, human trafficking and murder. They also accused some migrants of disguising themselves as Pan Africanists who label South Africans as xenophobes when they are challenged to go and fix their broken countries.

March Convener, Seithati Moroka Matlou, addressed the crowd before the hand-over of the memorandum. Matlou said the march was a message that South Africans are tired and want their country back.

"We are not xenophobic, we are protecting our sovereignty. South Africa cannot be a haven for every undocumented person while South Africans suffer without jobs, without houses and without safety," Matlou said.

Matlou added that calling South Africans xenophobic has become a weapon to silence them. He said every citizen has a responsibility to fix their own country and not run away to South Africa.

In their memorandum, the residents demanded that Limpopo Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba must declare a state of emergency on what they called a sovereign invasion. They said this declaration will fast track a countrywide national crackdown on illegal immigration.

They demanded that government must deploy military personnel, surveillance drones and motion detectors at every kilometre along the border fence. They also demanded the establishment of a multidisciplinary security cluster that will prioritize mass arrests, prosecution and deportation of undocumented immigrants.

The memorandum further calls on Parliament to kick-start the process of rewording the constitutional preamble. The protesters want the Department of Home Affairs to audit companies to identify companies employing undocumented foreign nationals and to slap them with hefty fines.

They also want the Department of Social Development to audit the welfare system to identify fraudulent grant beneficiaries. Another demand is for the Department of Education to remove all undocumented children from South African schools and to prioritize South Africans.

"The jobs on our farms belong to our people. The grants belong to our gogos. The classrooms belong to South African learners," Matlou said.

Officials from the Department of Home Affairs in Groblersdal received the memorandum and signed it. They promised to escalate it to the relevant authorities. The march was monitored by police and ended peacefully.

INTERNAL / EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

EXTENSION OF CLOSING DATE OF ADVERTISED POST OF SENIOR INTERNAL AUDITOR X1

This serves to extend the closing date of the post of Senior Internal Auditor X1 which was previously advertised on the local media publication: Sekhukhune Times on 09 July 2026 with the closing date of 31 July 2026. The closing date has been extended to 18 September 2026 @12:30 pm.

Enquiries: Ms. MP Senne or MP Mapheto (Tel: 013 262 7423/ 7441).

MUNICIPAL MANAGER
KGWALE MM

www.sekhukhunedistrict.gov.za

SEKHUKHUNE District Municipality

NKANGALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

PUBLIC NOTICE: NKANGALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY 2027 ACADEMIC YEAR EXTERNAL BURSARY SCHEME /OPPORTUNITY.

The Nkangala District Municipality is offering full bursary opportunities to first-time applicants, aged 18–35, from historically disadvantaged backgrounds who reside within the municipality's jurisdiction. The bursary supports deserving and qualifying students wishing to pursue full-time undergraduate studies at any public South African University or TVET College.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Only South African citizens residing within NDM **(i.e. Emakhazeni, Emalahleni, Victor Khanye, Thembisile Hani, Steve Tshwete and Dr JS Moroka Local Municipalities**) area of jurisdiction who intend on pursuing undergraduate studies at a public university, university of technology or TVET Colleges are legible to apply.
- Students already studying at University/TVET College are encouraged to apply.
- The following studies will be prioritised; Mining Engineering, Civil Engineering, Regional/ Town Planning, IT Engineering (Robotics/Software Development), Architecture, Finance and Social Sciences.
- You must have a proven financial need, as determined by household income.
- For university students you must have obtained a minimum average of 60% in your academic results in the year that you are applying for the bursary.
- For TVET College students you must have obtained a minimum average of 50% in your academic results in the year that you are applying for the bursary.
- Completed forms can be hand delivered to the following local municipalities; **Nkangala District Municipality, Emakhazeni, Emalahleni, Victor Khanye, Thembisile Hani, Steve Tshwete and Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality.**
- Note that this bursary cannot be used to pay for existing loans or debts.

APPLICANTS SHOULD ATTACH:

1. Complete and signed NDM Bursary Application Form
2. Certified copy of the latest academic transcript/record on official letterhead/logo (if you are already at a public University, University of Technology or TVET College.
   2.1. Grade 11 final results, as well as your mid-year results if you are currently in grade 12.
   2.2. Grade 12 final results as well as your mid-year results if you are currently in your first year at university/college.
   2.3. Your last academic year results as well as your current mid-year results if you are currently in your second or third year at university/college.
3. Certified South African Identity Documents of the applicant and parents/guardian.
4. Copy of acceptance/conditional acceptance letter if available
5. Proof of residence stating the applicant's full name and surname.
6. **Proof of financial need:** A payslip, where applicable, SASSA proof confirming receipt of a grant by the applicant and/or parent/guardian, and an affidavit from the parent/guardian confirming financial need.

NDM Bursary Application Form can be downloaded on the Council's web site: **www.nkangaladm.gov.za**, Nkangala District Municipality and local municipalities.

Enquiries: Miss. Colleen Madlala on 013 249 2049 OR Mr Headman Skhosana on 013 249 2049.
Closing date: 30 October 2026 AT 13:30
NB: Correspondence will be limited to short-listed prospective bursars.

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Over 2000 suspects nabbed as Operation Shanela sweeps Limpopo

LIMPOPO

A total of 2 016 suspects were arrested and 10 firearms were seized during a multidisciplinary high-density Operation Shanela, conducted across Limpopo Province from Monday 17 August 2026 until Sunday 23 August 2026.

The operation, led by the police in Limpopo under the Office of the Limpopo Police Provincial Commissioner, targeted serious and violent crime through intelligence-driven policing, roadblocks, Vehicle Control Points, stop-and-search operations, compliance inspections and other crime prevention initiatives across the province.The police confirmed a wide range of arrests made. According to Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, during the operation, seven suspects were arrested for murder and 14 for attempted murder.

"Four suspects were also arrested for robbery with aggravating circumstances, 13 for robbery with weapons other than firearms and 20 for common robbery. Ten suspects were arrested for rape, two for sexual assault and seven for other sexual offences," Ledwaba said.

He added that 120 suspects were arrested for assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm and 98 for common assault, and a further 5 suspects were arrested for business burglary and 24 for residential burglary, with two nabbed for stock theft, 2 for arson, 42 for malicious damage to property, 39 for shoplifting, 12 for fraud and 31 for theft.

"Other arrests included 147 suspects for drug-related crimes, 77 for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, 10 for illegal possession of firearms and ammunition, 20 for possession of suspected stolen property, 23 for transgressing the Domestic Violence Act, 367 undocumented immigrants, 409 for public drinking and 99 for illegal dealing in liquor, among various other offences," informed Ledwaba.

He indicated that, the police, during the operation, seized and confiscated several items including 1,249,049 counterfeit cigarette sticks, 10 firearms, 156 rounds of ammunition, 40 dangerous weapons and 40 knives.

"Drug seizures included 301,413.56 grams of dagga, 26.1 grams of crack cocaine or rocks, 43.058 grams of crystal meth known as Tik, 102.5 grams of khat and 28.9 grams of nyaope. Police also confiscated 1,140,462.5 millilitres of liquor and recovered nine stolen or robbed vehicles. In addition, a total of 1,833 fines were issued," Ledwaba said.

He furthered said as part of crime prevention efforts, the police and law enforcement partners conducted an intensive programme of actions.

"They carried out 4,132 compliance inspections at liquor premises and 756 compliance inspections at Second Hand Goods Dealers. They conducted 1,495 crime prevention operations, 52 drug operations and 435 liquor control operations," said Ledwaba.

He said in terms of road safety initiatives, the police mounted 83 roadblocks, 3,412 Vehicle Control Points and 9,416 stop-and-search operations. They tested 7,094 vehicles, searched 17,708 vehicles and searched 37,956 persons. They also conducted 14,899 blue-light patrols and nine observation services.

"The police also attended 578 domestic violence incidents and served 268 protection orders. They closed 87 shebeens and searched 1,380 spaza and tuck shops," Ledwaba added.

He said all arrested suspects have started appearing before various Magistrates Courts across the province.

Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Jan Scheepers, commended the dedication and commitment displayed by SAPS members and all law enforcement partners.

"We commend our members and law enforcement partners for these successes. We will continue with intelligence-driven operations to disrupt criminal activities and keep the people of Limpopo safe," he said.



During the recent Operation Shanela activities, the police in Limpopo mounted 83 roadblocks, setting 3,412 Vehicle Control Points and 9,416 stop-and-search operations.



Unlicensed firearms were seized during a multidisciplinary high-density Operation Shanela conducted across Limpopo.

Missing Jane Furse man found dead, two arrested



The police confirmed that suspects were arrested in connection with the brutal murder of Jesaya Masha, who was discovered deceased on Saturday 22 August 2026 at Arabie Dam in Elandskraal.

ELANDSKRAAL

The body of a 42-year-old man reported missing in Jane Furse has been found floating in the Arabie Dam, leading to the arrest of two suspects.

Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, confirmed that the body of victim, Jesaya Masha, was discovered on Saturday 22 August 2026, at Arabie Dam within the Elandskraal policing area outside Marble Hall.

Masha, from Ga-Masha Village, was reported missing at the Jane Furse Police Station after he left his home on Sunday 16 August 2026, at approximately 17:39.

He was travelling in a blue Hyundai motor vehicle at the time. His family reported him missing, prompting police to circulate information about his disappearance and the vehicle.

According to Ledwaba, the investigation took a significant turn when police received information that the missing man's vehicle had allegedly been sold to a member of the public. The vehicle was subsequently handed over to police for further investigation.

"Follow-up investigations conducted by members of the Nebo Jane Furse Tracking Team, Nebo and Sekhukhune Detectives and the Sekhukhune Flying Squad led police to a 32-year-old suspect in Jane Furse, who was arrested on Friday 21 August 2026," said Ledwaba.

He added that during the investigation, the police obtained information indicating that the victim had allegedly been kidnapped and murdered, and that his body had been disposed of in the Arabie Dam.

"A multidisciplinary team was immediately mobilised to search the identified area. On Saturday 22 August 2026, the operational team, joined by the SAPS Water Wing and Emergency Medical Services, conducted an extensive search operation in the vicinity of the bridge at Arabie Dam. The search resulted in the discovery of the victim's body in an advanced state of decomposition," explained Ledwaba.

He added that the investigation continued, leading to the arrest of a second suspect, aged 27, in Jane Furse on Sunday morning 23 August 2026.

"Both suspects, aged 27 and 32, are expected to face charges of kidnapping, murder and defeating the ends of justice. They are expected to appear before the Sekhukhune and Groblersdal Magistrate's Courts soon," Ledwaba informed.

Ledwaba said the police cannot rule out the possibility of further arrests as the investigation continues.

"Anyone with information that could assist the investigation is urged to contact the Investigating Officer, Sergeant Jacob Pilusa, on 082 772 9266, the nearest police station, Crime Stop on 08600 10111, or use the MySAPS App," he said.

Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Jan Scheepers, commended the police members and all role players involved in the investigation and search operation for their swift response, persistence and coordinated efforts, which resulted in the arrests and recovery of the victim's body.

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LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS & CULTURE

2026/27 Literary Competition

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture hereby **invites** potential writers to enter for the 2026/27 annual literary competition.

GENRE: Short Stories

Minimum requirements: A minimum of 15 and maximum of 20 typed short stories of 4 to 5 pages per short story.

Font: Arial, size 12 with single line spacing in all the paragraphs.

The competition is presented in six official languages of Limpopo. i.e. Afrikaans, English, IsiNdebele, Sepedi, Xitsonga and Tshivenda.

The THEME of the competition is GBV(Gender Based Violence), covering(but not limited to) the following focus areas: human trafficking, substance/drug abuse, LGBTQ(Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer) , Child -headed families etc.

There are three categories of prizes to be won for each language:

1. **First Prize: R25 000.00**
2. **Second Prize: R20 000.00**
3. **Third Prize: R15 000.00**

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture has in terms of section6(2) of the constitution of the Republic of South Africa,1996 which emphasizes that the state must elevate the status and use of the historically disadvantaged languages, the mandate to implement practical and positive measures to redress the disparities of reading materials in the previously marginalized languages. Therefore the Department has allocated an additional amount of **R5 000.00** to all the first prize winning manuscripts written in the indigenous languages of Limpopo, viz, **Sepedi, Xitsonga, Tshivenda and IsiNdebele**.

Once submitted for competition, entries may not be submitted for publication elsewhere. It is **only** after the awards ceremony that authors can have their manuscripts published.

Manuscripts are judged anonymously by independent evaluators who are not attached to the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture. Writers are requested to ensure that their names appear only on the entry form.

Each entry must be accompanied by the entry form. Only one author per manuscript is allowed to enter the competition. Entrants are encouraged to keep copies of their manuscripts. The work submitted should be true original, unpublished and not translated from other languages. The judges' decision is final.

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture does not accept any responsibility for any manuscript that can be delayed, damaged or lost in transit. Faxed manuscripts will not be accepted. The Department will communicate only with entrants who obtained positions 1,2 and 3 for the results of the competition.

Government employees are not allowed to enter the competition.

Manuscripts should be neatly typed, properly edited and posted or submitted to:
Director:
Language Services
Department of Sport, Arts and Culture
Private Bag X9549, Polokwane, 0700
Or
Hand delivered to: Olympic Towers Building
21 Cnr, Biccard and Rabe Streets
Polokwane

Closing date for entries:

22 JANUARY 2027

The Department will communicate with the winners only.

LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS & CULTURE

2026/27 LITERARY COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK LETTERS)

SURNAME: .....

NAMES: .....

IDENTITY NO: .....

GENDER: .....

POSTAL ADDRESS: .....

.....

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: .....

.....

TELEPHONE: (Home) ...../ **(Work):** .....

Cell No: ...../ **E-mail:** .....

TITLE OF MANUSCRIPT: .....

.....

LANGUAGE USED FOR ENTRY: .....

SIGNATURE: .....

DATE:.....

Enquiries: Ms M.P Mogodi,
015 284 4056, 4054, 4057

Magagamatala children risk lives in broken scholar buses

MAGAGAMATALA

For the nearly 1000 households of Magagamatala Village outside Groblersdal, the right to education comes with a daily gamble on dangerous roads, broken-down buses and overcrowded classrooms kilometres away from home.

Magagamatala has no public school at all. Not a single one. Instead, hundreds of learners are forced to scatter across the region every morning, dependent entirely on government scholar transport that residents say is failing them, mechanically and morally.

The closest school, Sizani Primary, is 6km away. The school itself has only four classrooms and is severely overcrowded, yet it remains the only nearby option for foundation phase learners. Two scholar transport buses have been allocated to ferry learners there.The majority of the village's children travel much further. They attend De Wagendrift Combined School in De Wagendrift, about 30km away, also serviced by two buses.Others attend Sanco High School in Laersdrift, approximately 27km away, while secondary learners are sent to Rakidiwane Secondary School in Masakaneng Settlement near Groblersdal, a staggering of about 40km journey, with only one bus allocated for the route.

Residents say the buses are in a shocking condition, breaking down regularly and forcing children to miss entire days of schooling.

"The situation is painful and frustrating. Our children are being punished for being born in Magagamatala," says Maruruwele Mathunyane, Chairperson of the Magagamatala Development Committee.



Emergency personnel attending to the scene after one of the buses transporting 70 pupils from Magagamatala to De Wagendrift Combined School involved in an accident.



A scholar transport bus ferrying 70 learners to De Wagendrift Combined School broke down while speeding, veered off the road and was only stopped by trees.

"We have been complaining for years about the lack of schools and the poor condition of this scholar transport. These buses are old, they are not roadworthy, they break down now and then. Sometimes our children just stay at home because the bus never comes. How can they pass like this?" he asked.

The community's worst fears were nearly realized on Friday morning, 21 August 2026, when one of the scholar transport buses ferrying 70 learners to De Wagendrift Combined School broke down while speeding, veered off the road and was only stopped by trees. Fortunately, no learners were harmed.

"That could have been a mass funeral. God protected our children on Friday. The bus failed while speeding and went off the road. We are worried sick about the safety of our children. We have raised this with the school principals repeatedly, but nothing changes," Mathunyane said.

He said they feel like they are treated inferior by government as their complaints keep on falling on deaf ears all the time.

"We are treated like we are not South Africans. Our children leave home before sunrise, travel 30 to 40 kilometres in a bus that has no business being on the road, and return late, tired and hungry. What future are we building," Mathunyane said.

The community's frustration is compounded by what they call a betrayal by the Limpopo Department of Education.

According to Mathunyane, residents formally raised the issue of a school for Magagamatala four years ago. Their hopes were lifted when the Department issued an EMIS number for the village, a critical step that serves as official approval for the construction of a new school. However, four years later, not a single brick has been laid."They gave us an EMIS number and we celebrated because we thought finally government has heard us. But that number is just on paper. When we go back to the Education Department, they tell us there is a shortage of budget to build the school. For four years it's the same story, no budget," Mathunyane lamented.

He added: "How can there be no budget for our children's future? They can find budget for buses that kill our children, but not for a school in our own village? We have land, we have children, we have 1000 households, but we have no school. It is an insult."

With young children forced into long, unsafe commutes and older learners dropping out due to transport failures, Mathunyane said they will escalate their issues to the Limpopo Provincial Government."We will not wait for another near-tragedy to be heard. We are tired of being patient. Patience is now putting our children in danger," Mathunyane concluded.

The Limpopo Department of Education had not responded to questions at the time of going to print.



EMLM Disability Coordinator, Theto Makgatha, called for sustained collaboration between stakeholders to address ongoing challenges facing people living with disabilities.



Stakeholders from across EMLM attended the municipality's Capacity Building Workshop set to strengthen the delivery of care and support for persons with disabilities.

EMLM empowers disability centres' managers and caregivers

GROBLERSDAL

Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM) organized a Capacity Building Workshop for Managers and Caregivers of Disability Centres on Tuesday 18 August 2026.

Held at the EMLM Municipal Chamber in Groblersdal and facilitated by the Office of the Mayor through the Disability Coordinator, the workshop brought together managers, caregivers and key stakeholders from across the local municipality to strengthen the delivery of care and support for persons with disabilities.

The engagement focused on critical areas including effective management of disability centres, improving caregiving standards, safeguarding the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities, and finding practical solutions to service delivery challenges.

Participants used the platform to share experiences on the ground, identify gaps in service provision and explore collaborative approaches to improve support for vulnerable community members.

Speaking at the workshop, EMLM Disability Coordinator, Theto Makgatha, said building the capacity of those at the forefront of care was non-negotiable.

"We must ensure that every person with a disability receives the care, protection, dignity and support they deserve. Empowering our caregivers and managers is a critical step towards achieving this," said Makgatha.

"This workshop provided an important platform for sharing knowledge, addressing challenges and strengthening our collective commitment to quality and inclusive service delivery," he added.

Makgatha furthered called for sustained collaboration between disability centres, caregivers, government departments and other stakeholders to address ongoing challenges and improve the quality of services.

The municipality said the workshop forms part of its broader drive to build an inclusive society where persons with disabilities are respected, empowered and fully included in community life.

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ANC Sekhukhune builds house and donates wheelchair in Dennilton



The Maseko family was relying on a dilapidated one-roomed shack, exposed to harsh weather conditions and without adequate space or privacy.



ANC Sekhukhune Regional Secretary, Tala Mathope, after donating a wheelchair to Florence Mothapo who has been without personal mobility for several years.



NTŠWELEMOTSE MPHELENG

The African National Congress (ANC) in Sekhukhune Region has once again, demonstrated its commitment to restoring the dignity of the most vulnerable, with a double act of service in the Elias Motsoaledi Sub-Region on Wednesday 19 August 2025.

Led by ANC Sekhukhune Regional Secretary, Tala Mathope, the ANC in the region officiated the sod-turning ceremony for a new house for the Maseko family in Ntšwelemotse Section, Dennilton.

The family of eleven has for years, been crammed into a dilapidated one-roomed shack, exposed to harsh weather conditions and without adequate space or privacy.

Addressing community members and ANC volunteers at the site, Mathope said the intervention was about more than just bricks and mortar.

"I want the dignity of this family to be restored. They must sleep in a safe and comfortable house which will make their day to day home activities easier," said Mathope.

Construction of the fully-built house is set to commence immediately, with local ANC structures and volunteers pledging to see the project through to completion.

In a second leg of the programme defined by humility and compassion, ANC Sekhukhune Regional Secretary Mathope, proceeded to Mpheleng Village also in Dennilton, to donate a wheelchair to Florence Mothapo, who has been without personal mobility for several years.

The donation has brought renewed hope and independence to Mothapo, who previously struggled to move around and access basic services. Community members welcomed the gesture, describing it as a practical act of kindness that will change her daily life.

The ANC Sekhukhune said the two initiatives form part of its ongoing community outreach programme aimed at responding directly to the needs of the people and ensuring that no one is left behind.

Residents of both villages expressed their gratitude to the regional leadership for its hands-on approach to community development.

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New Mohlaletse tar road crumbles barely a year after multimillion rand construction





The newly constructed Magakala internal road in Mohlaletse Village is totally deteriorating after less than two years of construction.

MOHLALETSE

Residents of Magakala Section in Mohlaletse Village, Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality (FTLM), are up in arms over the deteriorating state of their newly constructed internal tar road, which they say has started peeling off less than two years after it was built due to alleged poor workmanship.

The road was constructed in the 2023/2024 financial year after the FTLM set aside a multimillion-rand budget for the project. According to residents, the project was meant to bring long-awaited relief from dusty and inaccessible roads, but it has instead become a symbol of shoddy service delivery. Community members allege that last year, FTLM Mayor, Cllr Eddie Maila, visited the project to monitor progress. During the visit, he reportedly promised to return for an official hand-over ceremony to the community.

That promise, residents claim, has never been fulfilled. While they continue to wait for the mayor to officially hand-over the road, the surface has already started to crumble and peel off, raising serious questions about the quality of construction and oversight."We are worried because this road was supposed to change our lives, but now it is already falling apart. We want the mayor to come back as he promised so we can raise our complaints directly to him," said one concerned resident who did not want to be named.

The situation in Mohlaletse is not isolated. The poor state of roads remains one of the most pressing service delivery challenges facing Fetakgomo Tubatse.

According to the municipality's Integrated Development Plan (IDP), the municipal road network is severely underdeveloped, with only 527 surfaced roads out of a total of 870 roads.

This means the majority of wards depend on unsurfaced roads for access to socio-economic opportunities. Affected residents claim that these unsurfaced roads, particularly found in scattered villages, are poorly maintained, rocky, muddy during rainy seasons and limit transport access due to lack of storm water drainage and bridges.The scale of the problem has even been acknowledged by the mayor himself. Delivering his State of the Municipal Address last year, Mayor Maila called for investments to improve road infrastructure, saying the vision of becoming a city cannot be realized if municipal road infrastructure is not up to standard. He confirmed that several road projects covering a total of 25.4 kilometres were undertaken in the 2023/2024 financial year.

Elsewhere in the municipality, residents have long complained about other critical routes, including heavy traffic and poor conditions on the R37 and R555, the road from Steelpoort to Jane Furse (D2219), and the D4154 from Ga-Moraba to Leboeng and Phiring, which has been in a bad state for more than five years due to lack of funds for upgrades.

For the residents of Magakala Section, however, the issue is more immediate. They are now calling on the municipality to urgently intervene, hold the contractor accountable, and ensure that the multimillion-rand project does not go to waste. Efforts to get comment from FTLM Spokesperson, Mahlako Komane, at the time of publishing were unsuccessful. The municipality is expected to respond to the community's demands for a site inspection and a formal explanation on the project handover.

SDM addresses water crisis in Waalkraal

WAALKRAAL

The Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) has outlined emergency interventions to address the ongoing water supply challenges affecting the Walkraal RDP community in Kgobokwane and surrounding areas, Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM).

On Thursday 20 August 2026, the district municipality has moved swiftly to appoint contractors to drill six boreholes and fill the existing steel water tanks, which will provide immediate temporary relief to affected residents. Two contractors have been appointed, with the work expected to be expedited.

In addition to the new boreholes, the municipality confirmed that there are two existing boreholes requiring maintenance. Work is underway to ensure that these are restored to operational capacity as soon as possible.

The district municipality said it continues to engage with the Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality on matters relating to water provision, noting that the issues surrounding the water supply challenges are longstanding and require constructive engagement among all relevant stakeholders.

It is in this spirit that a meeting was held on Wednesday 19 August 2026 with community leaders, Councillors and other relevant stakeholders. The meeting was led by SDM MMC for Water Services, Cllr Carpos Ngobeni, to seek practical and immediate solutions.

According to the municipality, the situation remained tense, with community protests commencing on Wednesday 19 August. In the interest of the safety of residents, contractors, officials and all other stakeholders, the municipality temporarily halted the implementation process.

The municipality said it has resolved to resume the work on Thursday 20 August 2026. According to the municipality, MMC Ngobeni and the relevant municipal team engaged with the local traditional authority to strengthen cooperation, address concerns and expedite the implementation of the emergency water interventions.



MMC for Water Services in SDM, Cllr Carpos Ngobeni, led a municipality delegation to seek practical and immediate solutions, on the ongoing water supply challenges affecting the Walkraal RDP community in Kgobokwane and surrounding areas.

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Sports



Sekhukhune Dispatch
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INSIDE

SDM addresses water crisis in Waalkraal

Sekhukhune Regional Football League puts final touch for new season



MNC FC is among teams eager to win the upcoming SAFA Sekhukhune Regional Football League in the 2026/2027 season.



Ajax Forest FC is expected to be competitive in the upcoming SAFA Sekhukhune Regional Football League in the 2026/2027 season which is expected to commence in October.

JANE FURSE

The Hollywoodbets SAFA Sekhukhune Regional Football League has officially begun preparations for the new 2026/2027 football season, with a preparatory meeting convened on Sunday 23 August 2026, at the Bapedi Lutheran Church in Jane Furse.The meeting brought together team owners, coaches and managers from across the Sekhukhune Region to map the way forward for the new season, which is expected to kick off at the beginning of October 2026.

Several important resolutions were taken to guide the new season. The council resolved that all teams must pay both affiliation and participation fees, which have been set at R3500. The council emphasized that this amount must be paid using PayShap or immediate payment only, and that no EFT will be allowed.

It was further resolved that all teams are to participate in the Nedbank Cup competition. Player registration for the new season has already started, and the council stated that all under-age players must carry their identity documents. The council concluded by advising all team owners to refrain from bribery and all methods of cheating in order to protect the integrity of the league.

In a major structural change, the league will now play with five streams instead of six streams.

According to League Coordinator, Frank Maredi, this reduction will make the league more competitive. The referees' fee has also been increased from R150 to R200 per team.

"We thank all members who managed to attend the meeting, we really appreciate it," Maredi said. With the affiliation deadline looming, Maredi said teams are urged to pay and register early to avoid being excluded from both the Nedbank Cup and the new league season.The Hollywoodbets SAFA Sekhukhune Regional League is the fourth tier of South African football under SAFA Limpopo. Winners of the five streams will contest the regional playoffs for a place in the Provincial playoffs and a chance for promotion to the ABC Motsepe League (SAFA Second Division).

Government brings health and agricultural services to Sekhukhune



MEC Nakedi Kekana supplies Motlolo community members with fertiliser

BURGERSFORT

The first day of Provincial Service Delivery Week and the District Development Model (DDM) saw government departments take health and agricultural services directly to communities in the Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality (FTLM) and the wider Sekhukhune region on August 24. The Limpopo Department of Health brought its Cheka Impilo services to residents at Burgersfort Taxi Rank and Mafarafara Village as part of the DDM initiative, which is led by Limpopo Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba.

The initiative aims to bring government services closer to communities and ensure that residents have access to essential services. From August 24 to 28, various government departments are operating across the FTLM to provide services, respond to community needs and strengthen people-centred service delivery. The Cheka Impilo programme includes HIV testing and counselling, screening for tuberculosis and other respiratory conditions, blood pressure and diabetes screening, and screening for sexually transmitted infections. Residents can also access cancer screening and education, including relevant breast and cervical cancer screening, eye screening and basic vision services, dental and oral health screening, health education and lifestyle advice. The services further include referrals and linkage to care for people requiring additional assessments or treatment, as well as other basic primary healthcare services. Healthcare professionals from various facilities gathered at Jane Furse Hospital for specialised ultrasound training aimed at strengthening clinical skills and enhancing capacity to provide quality care.

The urology and urogynaecology teams were also at the hospital, where they provided specialist surgical services to patients. Meanwhile, the MEC for the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Nakedi Kekana, led an agricultural outreach programme. It began at the Motlolo Animal Handling Facilities, where the department's veterinary team provided livestock healthcare services and administered vaccinations. The team then visited Mmakgoleng Crèche in Ga-Photo, where Kekana officially handed over a sustainable irrigation system intended to support local agricultural production. The outreach continued at Rapjane Crèche in Ga-Nkoana Village and concluded at Motlolo, where Kekana distributed agricultural inputs to local producers.



A mobile clinic at Mafarafara

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