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# EPMLM silent on electrical skills shortage




**The DA in EPMLM has set a 7-day ultimatum to the municipality's council to respond to concerns raised regarding a looming electrical skills crisis that could leave residents facing longer power outages.**

**MARBLE HALL**

The Democratic Alliance (DA) in Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality (EPMLM) is calling for urgent answers from the municipal manager and the mayor over what they describes as a looming electrical skills crisis that could leave residents facing longer power outages.

DA Caucus Leader in EPMLM, Cllr Flip Jacobs, said the party submitted comprehensive written questions to the Council since 8 April 2026, seeking clarity on the municipality's preparedness for the retirement of senior electrical personnel who operate and maintain the 11kV high-voltage electricity network.

A formal follow-up was sent on 8 June 2026, requesting answers within a stipulated period. According to Jacobs, the municipality has still not responded.

"The retirement of experienced technical personnel is not an unforeseen event but a foreseeable management challenge that requires proper planning, skills transfer and succession management. The municipality's continued silence suggests that adequate succession planning is not in place and that there is insufficient internal 11kV operational capacity," Jacobs said.

The DA questions covered seven key areas, the municipality's succession planning and skills audit, remaining internal capacity to maintain 11kV infrastructure, skills transfer and mentorship programmes, operational and financial risks, contingency plans for electricity failures, compliance with safety regulations, and accountability for workforce planning.

Jacobs warned that the lack of skilled staff poses a direct threat to service delivery.

"Electricity infrastructure is one of the municipality's most critical services. Council and residents deserve answers. Reliable electricity services depend not only on infrastructure but also on the availability of competent technical staff to operate, maintain and repair that infrastructure safely and efficiently," said Jacobs.

He added that the current situation exacerbates the risk of longer power outages due to a shortage of skilled personnel and is a foreseeable crisis that can be prevented.

As of Monday 3 August 2026, the DA is demanding a response within seven days. Failing that, Jacobs said the party will pursue available oversight mechanisms to hold the municipality accountable and ensure a stable grid.

At the time of go to press, the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality could not respond to the publication's enquiries.



# New Limpopo Police Commissioner vows zero tolerance as he takes command



Newly appointed Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Jan Petrus Scheepers, being congratulated by Limpopo Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba.

**LIMPOPO**

The South African Police Service (SAPS) has officially announced the appointment of Lieutenant General Jan Petrus Scheepers as the Provincial Commissioner of Limpopo, with effect from Saturday 1 August 2026, following his successful tenure as Acting Provincial Commissioner.The announcement was made on Friday 31 July 2026 by the SAPS Office of the Provincial Commissioner, ending his stint as Acting Provincial Commissioner and confirming him in the province's highest policing office.

He steps into the role at a pivotal moment, as SAPS pushes forward with its national Reset Agenda aimed at strengthening accountability, rebuilding trust, and delivering ethical, visible policing.

Scheepers brings 38 years of public service experience to the job. His career began in the South African National Defence Force before he joined the SAPS in 1988 after training at the Tshwane Police Academy.For the past 28 years he served in Gauteng, cutting his teeth in some of the province's toughest policing precincts. His postings included The Barrage, Deur, Ennerdale, Sedibeng, Sebokeng, Vanderbijlpark, Orange Farm and Lenasia South. He also worked in the Dog Patrol and K9 Unit, as well as in Crime Prevention and Visible Policing.

That frontline grounding shaped the next phase of his career. For 16 years he commanded police stations, a period colleagues describe as marked by operational agility and decisive leadership. His track record saw him promoted to Brigadier in 2013 as Station Commander of Sebokeng Police Station.

In 2016, he moved to Limpopo, promoted to Major General and appointed District Commissioner of Capricorn District. A year later, he was elevated to Deputy Provincial Commissioner: Policing, a position he held for almost a decade. In that role, Scheepers provided strategic oversight to province-wide crime-combatting operations and helped coordinate integrated law enforcement efforts across Limpopo's five districts.Scheepers holds a National Diploma in Police Administration. He has also received specialized training from the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation as a Hostage and Suicide Negotiator, experience SAPS says will bolster his crisis management capability.

The appointment was welcomed by Limpopo Premier, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, who said the province's 6.5 million residents need decisive leadership.

"The position of Provincial Commissioner is not a soft seat, but a suit of armour in the fight against crime," Ramathuba said.

She called on Scheepers to lead with integrity and to restore public confidence in SAPS, while reaffirming the Provincial Government's support for integrated operations including Operation Shanela, Operation Retsepeng and other joint crime-fighting initiatives.

Accepting the appointment, Scheepers said his first order of business is simple, restore public confidence, root out misconduct, and put more boots on the ground.

He described his new appointment as "a great honour and privilege to serve the people of Limpopo."

He pledged to work closely with government, municipalities, traditional leaders, Community Policing Forums, other law enforcement agencies, civil society and residents to make communities safer.

Scheepers was blunt about internal discipline. "Under my leadership, there will be no room for corruption, poor service delivery, misconduct or any behaviour that undermines the integrity of the South African Police Service," Scheepers said. He directed all members to uphold professionalism, discipline, accountability and ethical conduct.

The new Provincial Commissioner outlined five immediate priorities, intensify the fight against violent crime, target murder, rape, armed robbery and gang activity through focused operations, strengthen intelligence-led policing, use data and community information to get ahead of criminal networks.He also vows to ensure victims are treated with dignity and cases are investigated properly, increase patrols and visible policing in hotspots and rural areas and to work with CPFs, traditional leaders and other stakeholders so communities feel protected.

SAPS said the Reset Agenda will underpin his term, with an emphasis on consequence management for members who fail the public and on rebuilding trust through consistent, lawful policing.

Scheepers takes over a province where community expectations are high and resources are stretched. Analysts note that his long experience in both Gauteng's urban townships and Limpopo's district structures gives him insight into both visible policing and strategic coordination.His background in K9 and crime prevention units, combined with nearly 10 years as Deputy Provincial Commissioner, suggests a leadership style focused on operations rather than administration alone.

The coming months will test that approach. The SAPS in Limpopo will be expected to show measurable progress in reducing contact crime, improving detective work, and maintaining a visible presence, while also dealing with internal issues of discipline and service delivery.



Lieutenant General Jan Petrus Scheepers was appointed as the new Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo.

# Limpopo Public Works welcomes 140 new staff



MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure in Limpopo, Ernest Rachoene, addressing the new employees at Jack Botes Hall in Polokwane.

**LIMPOPO**

The Limpopo Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, has welcomed 140 new employees during the induction held on Monday 3 August 2026 at Jack Botes Hall in Polokwane, marking the fourth cohort of appointments since the start of the 7th Administration.

With this intake, the department has now appointed a total of 730 employees over the same period as part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen internal capacity and enhance service delivery across the province.

According to the department, the new cohort comprises 58 females and 82 males who will carry out their responsibilities at the 36 cost centres and district offices across the Limpopo Province.

Sixty-two of the appointees are young people. The group also includes beneficiaries of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) who were previously trained by the department.

Welcoming the new employees, MEC Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Tonny Ernest Rachoene, said the appointments are aimed at strengthening departmental capacity and improving infrastructure delivery across the province.

"Through the two appointment circulars, a total of 140 employees have been appointed, comprising 21 internal candidates, 37 external candidates and, importantly, 82 EPWP beneficiaries who were trained by the department across the province," Rachoene said.

He stressed that the department is focused on turning training into permanent work.

"These appointments demonstrate our commitment to building a capable department while ensuring that skills developed through our programmes are retained and contribute towards strengthening our workforce," Rachoene added.

The MEC further noted that the department remains committed to ensuring the investment made in training and developing EPWP beneficiaries translates into meaningful employment opportunities.

Rachoene said the additional staff is expected to improve operational capacity and support the effective implementation of the department's infrastructure mandate throughout Limpopo.



The new Limpopo Department of Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure cohort is set to strengthen departmental capacity and improve infrastructure delivery across the province.



The stolen blue Toyota Etios which was recovered at Ga-Mphahlele during a targeted police operation.



The orange Toyota Etios which was recovered by the police at Seleteng in Ga-Mphahlele after it was reported stolen in Witbank.

# Lebowakgomo Police recover two suspected stolen vehicles in Seleteng

**GA-MPHAHLELE**

A 26-year-old man was arrested at Seleteng Village in Ga-Mphahlele, on Monday 3 August 2026, after the police recovered two suspected stolen vehicles during a targeted operation in the area.

According to Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, police members of the Lebowakgomo Crime Prevention Unit acted on information received and conducted a follow-up operation in the Ga-Mashoene Section of Seleteng.

"There they located two vehicles matching descriptions circulated to police, a blue Toyota Etios and an orange Toyota Etios. The police gained access to the premises where the vehicles were parked and found the suspect on site. The suspect confirmed that he had brought and parked both vehicles on the premises," explained Ledwaba. Ledwaba said police preliminary investigations conducted on the vehicles revealed that both had been reported stolen in July 2026, one at Hammanskraal in Gauteng Province and the other at Witbank in Mpumalanga Province.

"The man was arrested on the scene for possession of suspected stolen motor vehicles. He is expected to appear before the Thabamoopo Magistrate's Court on Tuesday 4 August 2026. Police investigations are continuing," concluded Ledwaba.




# Limpopo records over 34 000 surgeries in successful Winter VMMC Campaign



MEC for Health in Limpopo, Dieketseng Mashego, advised the public to continue to make use of designated public health facilities for VMMC to curb the new HIV infections.

**LIMPOPO**

The Limpopo Department of Health has successfully concluded the 2026 Winter Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) campaign, with a total of 34 834 surgeries recorded between 1 June and 28 July 2026. Of these, 30 543 were performed on boys, aged 10 to 14 years, while 4 291 were performed on males, aged 15 years and older. According to the department, the campaign was implemented across all five districts in the province. Capricorn District led with 11 143 surgeries, followed by Waterberg with 6 928, Sekhukhune with 6 212, Mopani with 5 745, and Vhembe with 4 806. Among the best-performing facilities were Seshego Hospital with 1 500 procedures, Lebowakgomo Hospital with 1 307, Thabaleshoba CHC with 891, WF Knobel Hospital with 852, and Warmbaths Hospital with 652. MEC for Health in Limpopo, Dieketseng Mashego, expressed appreciation to the Limpopo Department of Health staff members, community leaders, parents, and all who participated in the campaign. She said: "This achievement demonstrates what is possible when communities, healthcare workers and partners work together towards a common goal. Every circumcision performed represents another step in protecting lives, preventing new HIV infections and building healthier communities across Limpopo."

Mashego reiterated that voluntary medical male circumcision remains available throughout the year at designated public health facilities. She encouraged eligible males to continue utilizing this free service as part of a comprehensive HIV prevention package.

# 477 suspects arrested in week-long Operation Shanela across Limpopo



The police recovered a total of 465.636 litres of alcoholic beverages during the province-wide Operation Shanela.



Local shops were inspected for compliance during a week-long multidisciplinary operation.

**LIMPOPO**

The Police in Limpopo arrested 477 suspects for a range of offences during a week-long multidisciplinary operation, aimed at curbing serious and violent crime in the province.

According to the police, the arrests were made during Operation Shanela, which ran from Monday 27 July 2026 until Sunday 2 August 2026.

"The operation was conducted across the province and focused on intelligence-driven policing, roadblocks, Vehicle Control Points, stop-and-search operations, compliance inspections and the tracing of wanted suspects," said Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson.

He said during the operation, the police managed to stop and search 13 541 persons, 4 879 vehicles and 1 119 premises during the seven days.

"They also set up 1 389 Vehicle Control Points, 15 roadblocks and conducted 5 861 patrols. Police further carried out 56 wanted suspect tracing operations and closed 52 unlicensed liquor premises," Ledwaba informed.

He said the arrests included three suspects nabbed for illegal possession of firearms and two for illegal possession of ammunition.

"One suspect was arrested for dealing in drugs and 16 for possession of drugs. The police also arrested 35 suspects for illegal dealing in liquor and eight for possession of dangerous weapons," Ledwaba said.

In terms of violent crime, Ledwaba said two suspects were arrested for murder, two for attempted murder, and seven for rape.

"Sixty suspects were also arrested for assault GBH and 47 for common assault. Two other suspects were arrested for aggravated robbery, one for business robbery, five for business burglary and 11 for residential burglary. Nineteen suspects were further arrested for malicious damage to property," he said.

Ledwaba added that other arrests included 17 suspects who were nabbed for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, 48 illegal immigrants, and 25 wanted suspects who were arrested for various serious offences.

"During the operation, the police confiscated three firearms, one round of ammunition and 13 dangerous weapons. They also seized 13.41 kg of cannabis, known as dagga, as well as various quantities of illicit drugs. A total of 465.636 litres of alcoholic beverages were taken, along with 39 packets of illicit tobacco products, five cellphones and one motor vehicle," informed Ledwaba.

He said all arrested suspects have started appearing before various magistrates' courts across the province.

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

"These operational successes demonstrate our continued commitment to protecting the communities of Limpopo. We will sustain our efforts to ensure criminals are brought to justice and that our communities remain safe," he said.







**NKANGALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**

**TENDERS ARE HEREBY INVITED FROM SUITABLY QUALIFIED SERVICE PROVIDERS TO RENDER THE FOLLOWING SERVICES WITHIN THE NKANGALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**

| Project No | Project description | Points | CIDB Grading | Technical Enquiries | Compulsory Briefing | Closing date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 57495 | Appointment of a panel of service providers for the supply and delivery of ICT equipments for Nkangala District Municipality for 36 months (Re-Advert) | 80/20 | Not Applicable | Mr MJ Sereme<br>IT Services<br>serememj@nkangaladm.gov.za<br>Tel: 013-249-2031 | Physically at Nkangala District Municipality Building, on **07th August 2026 at 10:00am** | **04 September 2026 at 12H00** |
| 34377 | Appointment of a consultant to implement an accredited Safety and Security SETA learnership programme within Nkangala District Municipality for 50 learners per financial year (2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29) (Re-Advert) | 80/20 | Not Applicable | Mr TT Mabunda<br>Planning and Economic Development<br>mabundatt@nkangaladm.gov.za<br>Tel: 013-249-2020 | Physically at Nkangala District Municipality Building, on **07th August 2026 at 12:00pm** | **04 September 2026 at 12H00** |
| 7302/14 | Request for professional services in respect of Rural Roads Assets Management Systems (RRAMS) | 80/20 | Not Applicable | Mr AJ Skosana<br>Technical Services<br>skosanaj@nkangaladm.gov.za<br>Tel: 013-249-2040 | Physically at Nkangala District Municipality Building, on **11th August 2026 at 10:00am** | **04 September 2026 at 12H00** |
| 120543 | Appointment of a professional service provider to provide Conflict of Interest and SCM Data Verification System for a period of three (03) years | 80/20 | Not Applicable | Mr S.I Masilela<br>Finance Services<br>masilelasi@nkangaladm.gov.za<br>Tel: 013-249-2104 | Physically at Nkangala District Municipality Building, on **11th August 2026 at 12:00pm** | **04 September 2026 at 12H00** |

Documents will be available from the National Treasury e-tenders Website from the **06TH August 2026** and can be downloaded free from **www.etenders.gov.za**

**NB: Service Providers are requested to contact the Municipality's Anti-fraud and Corruption Hotline Number on 0800 014 816 or go to https://alert-us.co.za for known Instances in Relation to the Soliciting of Bribes or Fraudulent Activities with regards to Procurement.**

Tenders are to be completed in black ink and completed in accordance with the conditions and rules contained in the tender documents. The Tenders and relevant documents must be sealed in an envelope and externally endorsed with the relevant project and be deposited in the Tender Box, Ground Floor, Nkangala District Municipality, 2A Walter Sisulu Street, Middelburg, Mpumalanga. The tenders will be immediately be opened in public on a specified closing date. The Tenders shall remain valid for a period of a minimum of **90** to a maximum of **120** days from the closing date. Telegraphic, telephonic, fax, telex e-mail or late tenders will not be accepted.

Tenders will be evaluated in terms of the Supply Chain Management Policy of Nkangala District Municipality. The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted, and Nkangala District Municipality reserves the right not to consider any tender not suitably endorsed or comprehensively completed, as well as the right to accept the tender in whole or part. Suppliers and/ or Service Providers need to be registered on CSD. Administration Queries may be directed to the Supply Chain Office from Nkangala District Municipality at 013 249 2104/ 05 / 06 / 07/2081.

**M.L MAHLANGU – MUNICIPAL MANAGER**
**NKANGALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**

TBSNDM01




# MEC Makamu returns to Mohlaletse to address traditional council matters



**MEC for CoGHSTA in Limpopo, Basikopo Makamu, paid homage to Bapedi Kingdom headquarters in Maebe Tjate Royal Palace to resolve administrative challenges within the Marota Mohlaletse Traditional Council.**



**Her Majesty Queen Leganabatho II Thulare was pleased with MEC Makamu's visit at Maebe Tjate Royal Palace in Mohlaletse.**

**MOHLALETSE**

Recently, MEC for Limpopo Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) in Limpopo, Basikopo Makamu, was back at the Bapedi Kingdom headquarters in Maebe Tjate Royal Palace, Mohlaletse Village, for high-level talks aimed at resolving administrative challenges within the Marota Mohlaletse Traditional Council.The meeting formed part of the department's ongoing intervention to support good governance and stability in traditional communities across Sekhukhune District.MEC Makamu met with Her Majesty Queen Leganabatho II Thulare. Key items on the agenda included the status quo on the appointment of headmen and headwomen, and a review of how the 2026 Initiation Schools' Season which were conducted under the council's jurisdiction.Speaking at the engagement, MEC Makamu stressed the importance of partnership between government and traditional leadership.

"Our engagement with traditional leadership is essential to ensuring stability, good governance and effective service delivery in our communities. We remain committed to working together to resolve outstanding matters and strengthen traditional institutions for the benefit of our people," said Makamu.The department said it remains committed to collaborating with traditional authorities to develop and deliver services to communities, particularly around land administration, cultural practices, and the recognition of traditional leadership structures.CoGHSTA indicated that follow-up engagements will be held to monitor progress on the appointment processes and to ensure that future initiation seasons are carried out in line with provincial policy and customary law.

**NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR A WATER USE LICENSE IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL WATER ACT NO. 36 OF 1998**

Nutri Feeds (Pty) Ltd: Marble Hall Site is an existing large-scale, industrial animal feed manufacturer situated in the industrial area of Marble Hall, within the Sekhukhune Local Municipality, Ephraim Mogale District Municipality, Limpopo Province. The site is applying for a water use license (WUL) for water use activities currently undertaken on the site. This letter serves as a notice of the Public Participation Process (PPP) to be undertaken regarding the water use license application (WULA).

**Location of the activities:**
Erf 154, 156 and 157 Marble Hall, Extension 1 Township, Sekhukhune Local Municipality, Ephraim Mogale District Municipality, Limpopo Province.

**Nature of proposed activity, applicable legislation, and listed activity applied for:**
The following water uses will be applied for:

Section 21(b):
- Storage of water

Section 21(g):
- Storing or disposing of waste

**Competent authority and relevant reference number:**
Department of Water and Sanitation: Olifants Water Management Area
Reference number: To be allocated

**Additional information**
Letters are sent to all I&APs and stakeholders on the 7th of August 2026. A site notice will be placed at the site on the 7th of August 2026.

**Register as an interested and affected party (I&AP):**
To register as an I&AP of this project, to obtain more information, or submit comments, please request a Registration Form from BECS and return it to the details provided below, on or before the 9th of October 2026.

**Contact details for more information:**
To obtain additional information, please contact the EAP at the details provided below.
BECS Services (Pty) Ltd,
Calvin Lion-Cachet: 083 227 3693, eap4@becsenv.co.za

Salome Beeslaar (Responsible EAP)
(EAPASA Reg. No. 2020/846)
Cell: 072 191 6074, salome@becsenv.co.za

# De Hoop Dam Governance Assembly strengthens community voice




De Hoop Dam Governance Assembly participate in deliberations at De Hoop Governance Assembly held at SDM Council Chamber in Groblersdal.




Traditional leadership and other stakeholders converged for the Second Sitting of the De Hoop Dam Governance Assembly.

**GROBLERSDAL**

The Second Sitting of the De Hoop Dam Governance Assembly has delivered five major milestones, aimed at improving oversight, representation and economic opportunity around one of Sekhukhune District Municipality's (SDMs) most strategic water assets.

Held on Friday 31 July 2026 at the SDM Municipal Chamber in Groblersdal following a Joint Site Inspection Tour to the dam on Thursday 30 July, the Assembly brought together ward councillors, traditional leadership, government departments, state entities and community representatives in what President of the Assembly Mahlagaume Meshack Kgwale described as a demonstration of increasing institutional maturity.

Proceedings began on schedule and concluded before 13:00, with members praised for their punctuality and active participation.

A key achievement was the full participation of ward councillors from affected communities. Councillors from Wards 2, 6, 27, 28 and 29 of Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality (FTLM), and Ward 30 of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality (EMLM), attended both the inspection and the sitting.

Kgwale commended members for their exceptional commitment, punctuality and enthusiastic participation, noting that their input strengthened the Assembly as the principal platform for consultation and cooperative governance around the De Hoop Dam Resource Management Plan.

The Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to broaden stakeholder participation and ensure decisions are informed by inclusive consultation and consensus.

Members undertook a clause-by-clause review of Draft 2 of the Terms of Reference for the Assembly. The discussions focused on improving representation, clarifying institutional responsibilities, and strengthening accountability and decision-making.

Rather than adopt the document immediately, the Assembly agreed the proposed amendments should be consolidated into a final draft. The refined terms of reference will be tabled for formal adoption at the third sitting in January 2027.

The Joint Site Inspection Tour gave members a first-hand look at the dam and surrounding infrastructure.

Observations included deteriorating infrastructure, inadequate maintenance, vandalism and safety concerns for visitors and potential investors.

The tour also clarified institutional roles. Many delegates had believed the Sekhukhune Development Agency (SDA) was permanently stationed at the dam and responsible for its condition. The Assembly was informed that SDA operates as the implementing agent under the Resource Management Plan and does not manage the site daily.

As a result, the Assembly resolved to prioritize coordinated maintenance, improved safety, stronger institutional collaboration, and the progressive restoration of the precinct to support tourism, recreation, environmental protection and inland blue economy development.

In a major development for local youth, the Assembly welcomed the South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) as a strategic partner. Regional Boating Officer, Vusimuzi Dube and Certification Administrator, Sylvia Arandse attended the sitting.

The Assembly resolved to work with SAMSA to develop accredited training programmes, technical workshops and career opportunities in boating operations, maritime safety, water transport and recreational activities.

A structured model will be developed to prepare young people from affected communities for employment and entrepreneurship. The Assembly also endorsed hosting a National Transport Month Career Awareness Programme to promote careers in water transport and improve public safety awareness.

The Assembly adopted a resolution to establish the De Hoop Dam Governance Cabinet as its principal leadership, advisory and representative structure.

The cabinet will comprise 20 members selected through a transparent, merit-based process. The SDA has been mandated to issue an Intra-Assembly Memorandum calling for applications.

Members will serve voluntarily and will be drawn from fields including legal services, engineering, infrastructure, project management, accounting, economics, local economic development, and public administration.

The cabinet will be responsible for strategic oversight, supporting implementation, facilitating negotiations, mobilizing investment, and reporting back to the Assembly.

# Limpopo eyes economic boom as Premier Ramathuba pitches SEZ model to China

**LIMPOPO**

Limpopo Premier, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, told the Chinese investors that the province's biggest economic opportunity lies not in digging more minerals, but in making things with them at home.

Speaking at the South Africa - China Electricity and Energy Investment Conference in Beijing, China, this week, Ramathuba pointed to a stark imbalance in Limpopo's economy, with mining contributes 19.1% to provincial Gross Domestic Product (GDP), while manufacturing sits at just 3.6%.

"That sizeable gap presents a unique opportunity for major job creation for our residents. Rather than exporting raw minerals, Limpopo is positioning itself to beneficiate and manufacture locally through our Special Economic Zones, using energy infrastructure as a catalyst for industrial development," she said.

The Premier was speaking on day two of the conference at the Beijing Power China offices, where the South African delegation is led by Minister of Electricity and Energy Dr Kgosientsho Ramokgopa. Also on the delegation are Deputy Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Thandi Moraka, Eastern Cape Premier Oscar Mabuyane and Western Cape Premier Allan Winde.

At the centre of Limpopo's pitch is the newly designated Fetakgomo-Tubatse Special Economic Zone (FTSEZ) in the Sekhukhune District and the Musina-Makhado Special Economic Zone (MMSE) in Vhembe District, the areas Ramathuba and MEC for Limpopo Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET), Dr Tshitereke Matibe, are championing as the province's industrial heartland.The FTSEZ was officially gazetted on 22 May 2026 under the Special Economic Zones Act. It covers about 1 000 hactres to 1 220 hactres in Steelpoort, strategically located between the Samancor and Lion ferrochrome smelters and adjacent to Glencore Mining Input Suppliers Park along the R555 corridor.

The area sits on the Bushveld Igneous Complex, which hosts the world's largest deposits of platinum group metals and chrome.

Trade, Industry and Competition Minister Parks Tau said the zone is designed to deepen mining-linked manufacturing and industrial clustering.

Ramathuba described the SEZ as a game-changer, a multi-sectoral economic zone intended to transform a historically marginalized district into a driver of Limpopo economy.

Government says investor interest is already strong. According to the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (DTIC), 46 companies are on the FTSEZ investment pipeline with a combined value of about R52.6 billion. Sixteen have signed letters of intent and nine completed due diligence with the Industrial Development Corporation in 2024.

Projections show 8 000 jobs in the short term, scaling to more than 20 000 jobs over 10 years. Phase 1 covers 316 hactres for light and heavy industry, with later phases to include renewable energy, mixed-use and residential developments.

The Limpopo Provincial Government committed to fund critical infrastructure, while Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) has pledged support for SEZ infrastructure.



Limpopo Premier, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, addressing the South Africa - China Electricity and Energy Investment Conference in Beijing, China.

# Sports facilities depicts FTLM's failures in execution, planning and oversight





Kgopaneng Sports Complex has subsided


**PUBLICNOTICE**

02 June 2026

**RESOLUTION LEVYING PROPERTY RATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 01 JULY 2026 TO 30 JUNE 2027**

PN NO: EMLM 027/06/2026

Notice is hereby given in terms of section 14(1) and (2) of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004; that at its meeting of 28/05/2026 the Council resolved by way of council resolution number BT25/26-98 to levy the rates on property reflected in the schedule below with effect from 01 July 2026.

| Category of property | Ratio rate | Cent amount in the Rand determined for the relevant property |
|---|---|---|
| Residential property | 1:1 | 0.011247 |
| Business and commercial property | 1:2 | 0.022217 |
| Industrial property | 1:0.26 | 0.002932 |
| Agricultural property | 1:0.25 | 0.002809 |
| Mining property | 1:2 | 0.022217 |
| Public service infrastructure property | 1:0.25 | 0.002809 |
| State Owned Properties for benefit of the public | 1:1 | 0.011247 |
| Public benefit organisation property | 1:0.25 | 0.002809 |
| Vacant | 1:1 | 0.010909 |
| Municipal properties and Unknown properties | | Not levied |

Ms. NR MAHLAKWANE, PR Tech Eng.
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

"The agro-economical and ecotourism heartland"

#Arehleganeng 013 262 3056 info@emlm.gov.za Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality

ELIAS MOTSOALEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

A NATION THAT WORKS FOR ALL

2030 NDP

Issued By: EMLM Communication Unit


**KGOPANENG**

The excitement on the recently completed Kgopaneng Sports Complex has subsided. Ward 16 residents in Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality are now up in arms about what they termed "below-par and shoddy work "rendered by the municipality at the sports facility.

According to the residents, the project is incomplete. "We need floodlights and completed pavement. Another major concern is the lack of athletics track. The artificial pitch is already showing split seams and melted spots," complained the communities.

Speaking during the official opening, Mayor Eddie Maila said: "Today we are not only opening a sports facility, but investing in the dreams and potential of our young people. These upgraded facilities will provide a safe and conducive environment for sporting activities, talent development and community recreation. We call on residents to protect this investment so that it continues to benefit future generations."

Residents demanded that the FTLM return back to install the omitted facilities. "We were told to take good care of the centre, and we will do that, but now we plead with them to at least install floodlights at the sports complex."

Sekhukhune Dispatch's attempts to solicit a comment from the FTLM's communications team drew blanks, they were yet to respond to our queries at the time of going to press.

It appears sports facilities are earmarked to misuse the taxpayer's money in the FTLM or they are the alleged cash cow for corrupt individuals.

The Praktiseer Stadium has become a grazing field for cattle, goats and pigs after years of being left unfinished.

Ntoampe Sports Centre in Moroke is also one of those neglected in Tubatse. Due to poor municipal oversight and lack of security, the facility is vandalized and was stripped of critical infrastructure. Ntoampe was upgraded at a cost of R3 million and is now a shell of what it once was.

Rolling back the years, the Ga Motodi Stadium was handed over to communities with no stormwater drainage or water reticulation system as per the scope of the project. The are no parking facilities. There are no changing rooms and also the pavilion has no roof.

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# Sports



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**MEC Makamu returns to Mohlaletse to address traditional council matters**

## Sekhukhune United starts season with win and new signing






Sekhukhune United FC defeated Durban City 1-0 at Seshego Stadium in their opener for the 2026/2027 PSL season







Sekhukhune United have acquired the signature of the winger Mokibelo Simon Ramabu from Polokwane City.

**SEKHUKHUNE**

Sekhukhune United have opened their Betway Premiership campaign with three points and a fresh face in attack, confirming the signing of winger Mokibelo Simon Ramabu from Polokwane City, hours before beating Durban City 1-0 at Seshego Stadium on Saturday 1 August 2026 in their opener for the 2026/2027 PSL season.

The club announced on Monday 3 August 2026 that the attacker has signed for Babina Noko and brings valuable Betway Premiership experience to the squad.

The 28-year-old right winger, nicknamed "Mmotong" and born in Moletjie, joins Babina Noko after two-and-a-half seasons with Polokwane City. Ramabu is listed as moving on a free transfer, and ranks among best players in the Betway Premiership and 3rd among the current Sekhukhune squad.

Renowned for his pace, creativity and 1versus1 ability, Ramabu arrives with proven top-flight numbers.

In 2025/2026 for Polokwane, he made 27 appearances, scoring 4 goals and playing 1 871 minutes.

He managed 46 shots with 19 on target, created 28 chances and had 3.44 expected assists. In a statement, Sekhukhune United said Ramabu has consistently contributed in the attacking phase, registering important goals and assists in key fixtures, while also demonstrating strong work rate.

"The club extends a formal welcome to Mokibelo Ramabu and wishes him every success during his time with Babina Noko," the team said in a statement.