

25 May  
2025

## LIMPOPO PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE RESPOND TO THE BASELESS, INCORRECT AND MISLEADING ARTICLE PUBLISHED ON THE 25 MAY 2025

The Limpopo Legislature wish to express its disappointment and concern regarding the recent article published on City Press newspaper regarding the alleged purchase of luxury cars by the Limpopo Speaker.

The article riddled with inaccuracies and malicious insinuations that have the potential to damage the reputation of the Speaker and the Limpopo Legislature. As we responded to your earlier question we indicated that the Speaker and Deputy Speaker does not have 2 cars therefore the article is malicious and ill-informed. The previous cars which were used by the former Speaker and Deputy Speaker were utilised by the Speaker and Deputy Speaker until they were replaced after exceeding the permissible 150 000 km as per the policy and guidelines. At the time of replacement, the said vehicle have exceeded 150 000 km as per the policy which was a security risk.

Therefore the facts surrounding the article were not accurately represented and we believe that City Press journalist who published the story acted contrary to the requirements of the Press Code as not adhere to the highest standards of journalism and facts checking.

It is important to firstly indicate that the procurement of the official vehicle in the Office of the Speaker is guided by "***A Guide on the Provision of Support to the Executive Authority, Deputy Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces and Deputy Speakers of the Legislature***" as adopted on the 13 April 2022. It is therefore damaging for a journalist to report matters of policy without first developing an understanding so that they can enrich their story so as to apply "fair and responsible reporting". What makes matters worse is the direct and personal attack on the persona of the Speaker which certainly cast serious doubt on the integrity of the journalist involved in the story and the media house itself. The Legislature therefore will formally complain to City Press and further approach the Press Ombudsman.

Despite what has been raised above the Office of the Speaker has directed the Accounting Officer to conduct an investigation and favour her with a report.



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