

ISSUE
N^o.3
2025
OCT-DEC

LegisTalk

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LIMPOPO LEGISLATURE



NCOP WEEK

SECTORAL PARLIAMENTS
YOUTH PARLIAMENT
WOMEN'S PARLIAMENT



**TAKING LEGISLATURE TO
THE PEOPLE**



Vision

A capable and representative legislature that aspires to unite and improve the lives of the people of Limpopo.

Mission

The legislature is an autonomous institution and an agent for transformation that strives to:

- Make impactful laws for the citizens of the province.
- Hold the executive arm of government accountable through oversight and; Have effective, efficient, and meaningful participation of the citizen in the lawmaking processes.

Values

- Accountability
- Collaboration
- Integrity
- Responsiveness
- Transparency

Mandate

- Law-making
- Oversight
- Public Participation

EDUCATIONAL TOURS

Tours to the Limpopo Legislature are open to the general public, schools, and institutions.

Visiting days are Monday to Friday at 08h00 to 16h00, preferably Tuesdays and Thursdays when there is a Sitting.

Appointments are done through the Office of the Secretary.

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Polokwane
0700

or email:

info@limpopoleg.gov.za

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EDITOR'S

NOTE

It is with great pleasure and pride that we connect with you, our valued reader, as we present the third edition of the Limpopo Legislature's official newsletter, LegisTalk. The stories within these pages are crafted not only to inform but also to inspire, keeping you—the people of Limpopo Province—closely connected to the work and vision of your Legislature.

This edition highlights a range of programmes of the 7th Legislature, reflecting our unwavering commitment to being the true voice of the people of Limpopo. At the heart of this edition is one of our flagship initiatives, Taking Legislature To The People, held under the theme: "Unlocking Service Delivery Challenges through Strengthening Public Participation and Oversight Mechanisms." The success of this programme stands as a powerful reminder that the Legislature is steadfast in deepening democracy, fulfilling its constitutional mandate, and realising its vision and mission with purpose and dedication.

From pages 4 to 12, we take you to Sekhukhune, where the programme came alive. Our team captured remarkable moments of collaboration and unity, showcasing how different spheres of government worked hand in hand with a shared goal: to uplift the lives of every resident of Limpopo. Beyond service delivery, we highlight the importance of a strong and respectful partnership between the legislative arm of government and the

province's traditional authorities—an essential pillar for building a united, resilient, and progressive Limpopo.

You will also find detailed accounts of the tireless work carried out by the Legislature's Standing and Portfolio Committees. From holding the Executive to account in committee meetings, to conducting oversight visits to key government-supported projects and infrastructure initiatives, to participating in the recent, highly appreciated oversight visit by Permanent Delegates to the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) alongside Members of the Provincial Legislature (MPLs), these stories reflect the Legislature's unwavering dedication to service, accountability, and progress.

As you explore the pages ahead, we hope you gain a deeper appreciation of the work your Legislature does daily to strengthen democracy and push for improved service delivery across our province.

Finally, we invite you to remain connected and engaged with your Legislature. Follow us on social media and subscribe to our YouTube channel to stay updated on programmes, events, and the ongoing work that shapes a better Limpopo for all.

Andries Lekalakala

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SPEAKER'S

NOTE



The Limpopo Legislature remains steadfast in fulfilling its constitutional mandate to advance accountability, transparency, and meaningful public participation. In this spirit, the 2025 Taking Legislature to the People programme was convened in the Sekhukhune District, in partnership with the Executive and local government. The visible collaboration of the Premier, Dr Phophi Constance Ramathuba, the Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District, Cllr Minah Bahula, and the Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Municipality, Cllr Merah Mahlase, reflects our commitment to cooperative governance and shared responsibility for effective service delivery.

As is customary before the commencement of formal oversight activities, I together with Presiding Officer's led courtesy visits to several traditional authorities within the district. These engagements continually reaffirm the Legislature's respect for traditional leadership and acknowledge their pivotal role in community representation, cultural stewardship, and grassroots development. Our

programme included a visit to Her Majesty Queen Manyaku Thulare of the Bapedi Kingship at Mhlaletsi, followed by engagements with Kgoshi Legare Mashegoana and Kgoshi Tswaledi Mashegoane in Schoonoord. The participation of the Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Municipality underscored the unity and collective purpose of our delegation.

These interactions serve as a reminder of the enduring value of traditional institutions in shaping and strengthening community structures. The Legislature remains committed to nurturing these partnerships as we continue to bring the institution closer to the people, respond to community concerns, and deepen our oversight work. The support demonstrated by Honourable Members of the Legislature in executing this project is highly commendable and deeply appreciated.

Through programmes such as Taking Legislature to the People, we strive to ensure that governance remains transparent, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of every citizen in Limpopo.

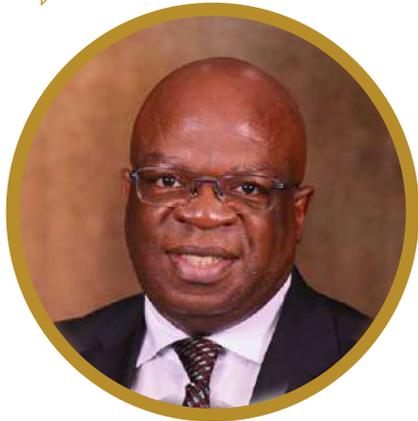
In addition to this programme, the various committees of the Legislature have, throughout 2025, traversed the length and breadth of the province to fulfil their oversight responsibilities. Their work has ensured not only effective monitoring of service delivery, but also steadfast accountability in the management and use of the public purse. We have equally held successful sectoral parliaments led by the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Quality of Life and Status of Women, Youth and People with Disabilities. We remain committed to ensuring that all our efforts continue to advance our core mandate of Law-making, Oversight, and Public Participation.

I trust that this edition of LegisTalk provides you with meaningful insight into the progress we have made thus far as the 7th Legislature.

Dr Makoena Makhurupetje

THE SPEAKER





Dr. M. T. Maake

SECRETARY TO THE LEGISLATURE

The 7th Legislature has consistently remained true to its mandate of law-making, oversight, and public participation. This mandate inspires every Member of the Provincial Legislature and staff to build an institution that is responsive to the realities and challenges faced by the people of Limpopo Province. It is this guiding principle that enables us to meet the expectations of our citizens, protecting their interests and advancing their aspirations through our work. We take this moment to reflect on the achievements recorded thus far.

Section 114(2) (a) and (b) of the 1996 Constitution states that a provincial legislature must provide for mechanisms to ensure that all provincial executive organs of state in the province are accountable to it; and to maintain oversight of the exercise of provincial executive authority in the province, including the implementation of legislation; and any provincial organ state. To this effect, the Legislature through its Portfolio and Standing Committees have managed to play oversight over the executive authority in the province. In doing so, a total of one-hundred and fifty-four (154) committee meetings were conducted wherein Members of the Executive Council led by the Premier of the Province presented their reports regarding the good work government has been doing in the province. This was augmented by a total of sixty-two (62) oversight visits that were conducted by the various committees since the beginning of the new financial year to date.

SECRETARY'S

NOTE

As part of playing oversight, the NCOP's National Provincial Week programme was conducted in Mopani District Municipality under the theme: "Building Viable Municipalities for Enhanced Delivery of Basic Services to Communities." The oversight visit was led by the permanent delegates of the NCOP representing Limpopo Province. This is another mechanism that the Legislature is able to hold the Executive to account.

While we have highlighted the oversight work done by the Members of the Provincial Legislature, we need to highlight the importance of a strong administration. For the Members of the Provincial Legislature to play their oversight role, the capacity of the administration is critical. In this regard, the Legislature has advertised a total of twenty-seven (27) posts were advertised and the process of concluding the interviews is underway and it is expected to be concluded before the end of the current financial year. This will increase the capacity of the Legislature to execute its constitutional mandate.

Since the beginning of the new financial year, the administration has been working hard to put in place the appropriate internal controls. Performance management is one of areas the institution had prioritized to initiate some changes, and it is encouraging to see the improved performance on the set targets. The improved performance was evidenced through the first (1st) quarter performance report wherein out of a total target of one-hundred and forty-three (143) targets, eighty-one (81) targets were achieved. Similarly, the financial performance of the Legislature has displayed a huge improvement as compared to the previous years' performance. The Legislature managed to achieve an expenditure of twenty-two comma six (22,6) percent against the projected twenty-five (25) percent in the first quarter. Some of the greatest achievements recorded by the Legislature were in the Parliamentary Service

Programme. The Legislature planned to implement sectoral parliaments. It is with great pleasure to report that the following sectoral parliaments were successfully conducted: Youth Parliament, Women Parliament, Disability Parliament and Men's

Parliament. The deliberations and resolutions taken at the various sectoral parliaments will be referred to the respective Committees for processing and tracking the implementation. We would like to take this opportunity to appreciate the contribution and participation by various stakeholders. One of the cornerstones of our democracy is public involvement in matters that affect them. Section 118 (1)(b) of the 1996 Constitution state that a provincial legislature must conduct its business in an open manner. This constitutional requirement was fulfilled when the Legislature successfully implemented a programme referred to as "Taking the Legislature to the People", held in the Sekhukhune District Municipality within Makhuduthamakga Local Municipality. The occasion was graced by Her Majesty Queen Manyaku Thulare of the Bapedi Kingship.

As we reflect on the achievements highlighted in this edition of *LegisTalk*, I extend my sincere appreciation to Honourable Members for their unwavering commitment, and to the staff of the Legislature for their commitment, resilience and dedication. Your collective efforts continue to strengthen the integrity, efficiency, and effectiveness of this institution.

Join us on a journey through this publication and see the direction our institution is heading. We are improving our systems gradually and we can do more if we embrace each other and work as a team.



TAKING LEGISLATURE TO
THE PEOPLE

OVERSIGHT VISIT

HIGHLIGHTS CRITICAL SERVICE DELIVERY & INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGES IN SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT

The Limpopo Legislature, through the speakership, Hon. Dr Makoma Makhurupetje and Hon. Tebogo Mamorobela, continues to uphold the constitutional mandate to ensure accountability, transparency, and meaningful public participation within the provincial governance system. The 2025 Taking Legislature to the People programme was conducted in collaboration with the Executive and local municipalities, represented by the Premier of Limpopo, Dr Phophi Constance Ramathuba, the Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District, Cllr Minah Bahula, and the Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Municipality, Cllr Merah Mahlase. This cooperative

governance approach strengthens the Legislature's oversight work while ensuring that service delivery challenges raised by communities are addressed collectively.

Before the official oversight activities commenced, the Speaker of the Limpopo Legislature, Hon. Dr Makoma Makhurupetje, led a series of courtesy visits to traditional authorities within the Sekhukhune District. "These engagements reaffirm the Legislature's commitment to recognising and working closely with traditional leaders, who remain key custodians of community development and cultural heritage," she said.

The day began with a procession at Mohlaletsi for a courtesy visit to Her Majesty Queen Manyaku Thulare of the Bapedi Kingship. This was followed by another procession at Schoonoord, where the Speaker paid a courtesy visit to Kgoshi Legare Mashegoana, and later to Kgoshi Tswaledi Mashegoane. These visits symbolised the Legislature's respect for traditional leadership structures and its recognition of their integral role in community representation.

Joining the processions was the Mayor of Makhuduthamaga Municipality, Cllr Merah Mahlase, forming a united delegation in these visits.



To conclude the day, the Speakership convened an engagement session with traditional leaders from across the Sekhukhune District led by Hosi Ngove at Boiketlong Lodge. Traditional leaders reflected on both progress and ongoing challenges within the district. They acknowledged several notable achievements by the government, particularly the development of “adequately built roads,” which they praised for significantly improving access to essential services. Highlighting that communities are now able to reach health facilities and other key services much more easily due to improved road infrastructure.



THEME:
“Unlocking Service Delivery Challenges through Strengthening Public Participation and Oversight Mechanisms.”





Speaker of the Legislature Hon Dr. Makoma Makhurupetje together with The regent Bapedi Queen, Manyaku Thulare leaving the sitting at the Peter Nchabeleng Sports Ground, after it was declared as a parliamentary precinct for Taking Legislature to the People.



Members of the Legislature receive a briefing on the status of the Jane Furse Township Establishment and District Office Relocation Project.

The Limpopo Legislature's oversight programme in the Sekhukhune District has revealed urgent infrastructure and administrative challenges affecting key service delivery points in Jane Furse, Nebo, Schoonoord, Marulaneng, and surrounding areas.

The Legislature noted with concern that the Jane Furse Township Establishment and District Office Relocation Project, initiated more than ten years ago, remains in the planning phase. The Committee called for strengthened coordination between COGHSTA, DPWRI, and the Sekhukhune District Municipality to fast-track land allocation, finalise funding, and begin implementation.

The Committee further expressed dissatisfaction with conditions at the Jane Furse Home Affairs and Labour Offices, where inadequate office space, ICT failures, corruption cases, and staff shortages continue to undermine efficient service delivery. National departments were urged to prioritise the establishment

of permanent, compliant office infrastructure.

In Nebo and Schoonoord, the oversight found deteriorating infrastructure at Magistrate Courts and police stations, with shortages of vehicles, unreliable communications systems, leaking roofs, and insufficient workspace. The Legislature will engage the Departments of Justice, SAPS, and DPWRI to ensure urgent refurbishment and provision of essential resources.

At Marulaneng and Phaahla Clinics, the Committee acknowledged the strong commitment of healthcare staff despite water scarcity, electricity challenges, security concerns, and limited personnel. Long-term investment is required to stabilise service delivery.

The oversight also raised concern over the aging infrastructure at the Veeplaats Cost Centre and the slow

progress on the D4260 Malope-Phokoane road upgrade. The Legislature calls on Roads Agency Limpopo and DPWRI to secure adequate multi-year funding and accelerate implementation.

The Committee welcomed progress on the Ga-Mampane Library, now at 97% completion, and encouraged continued engagement with Eskom to enable final electrification and handover to the community.

The Limpopo Legislature will continue to monitor all identified issues to ensure improved service delivery and accountability within the Sekhukhune District.





Members of the Legislature receive a briefing on the status of the Jane Furse Township Establishment and District Office Relocation Project.



Officials of the Limpopo Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements & Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) brief Members of the Legislature on the status of the Jane Furse Township Establishment and District Office Relocation Project.



Members of the Legislature are getting a briefing from the Court manager on the status of the infrastructure at the Nebo Magistrate Court.



Members of the Legislature listening to a briefing on the status of the infrastructure at the Schoonoord Magistrate Court and police station.





Honourable Members during their visit at Kopano Citrus Cooperative in the Sekhukhune Municipality



Honorable Members doing their walkabout during their visit Vlakplaast clinic in the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality

The Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality raised concerns over stalled infrastructure projects. The D2919 road between Tshikanoshi and Mmalebitsa, earmarked for upgrading from gravel to tar, remains incomplete and has been closed despite being 80% finished. At Vlakplaats clinic, MPLs found recurring flooding during rainy season, compromising access and the integrity and limited doctor availability only a biweekly visit where also highlighted. The Legislature recommended urgent intervention to address drainage failures.

Makeepsvlei clinic was found to have suspended its 24-hours operation in 2024 due to a shortage of nurses. Although services resumed in September 2025 after addition staff were hired, patients reported long waiting hours. Sewage spillage remains a persistent health hazard. The oversight team also visited the Marble Hall Great North Transport

Depot, which operates 12 routes and services over 100 villages. The Legislature noted the collapse of GNT's operational capacity, with the company now operating without its own fleet and relying on costly leased buses.

The entity also lacks its own premises and suffers from poor collection revenue. On the second day, the MPL's assessed Marble Hall SAPS, where they discovered unfilled critical posts, unpaid overtime claims, and rising crime levels in Koteng and Masakaneng informal settlements. Reports of drugs being smuggled into police holding cells further alarmed the team. They recommended the establishment of specialized police units to stabilize the affected areas. The team later visited Kopano citrus Cooperative, regarded as one of the more successful community-driven projects. However, recent hailstorms severely damaged crops, reducing

harvest volumes. The Legislature called for additional support to help the cooperative access commercial and export markets.

At the Flag Boshielo Bulk Water Supply Scheme, MPL's were concerned that the plant currently pumps only 14 megalitres of water per day below its 16 megalitres capacity and far short of the demand from 156 villages across four municipalities. Illegal connections and vandalism continue to undermine supply reliability. The team recommended increasing plant capacity to 30 megalitres per day before the projected 2040 deadline. The final site visit was done at Mogalatsane Irrigation Scheme, operated in partnership with SAMBANDA. The project currently produces oats, cotton and maize and land they use has not been used for 15 years due to community disputes. While operations are now stable, the Legislature encouraged continued departmental support to help the cooperative enter export markets.



Nurses, officials and Honourable Members at the Makeepsvlei clinic in the Sekhukhune District



Honourable Members doing walkabout at the Marble Hall Great North Transport Depot







The speakership meeting stakeholders from various sectors converging at Boeketlong Guesthouse. They include youth and women formations, people with disabilities, women in business, and the agricultural community.

The Taking Legislature to the People programme continued with a series of focused engagement sessions involving youth, women, persons with disabilities, special interest groups, churches, moral regeneration organisations, public health and home-based care workers, business forums, women in business, and the taxi industry. These sessions were designed to create inclusive spaces where diverse sectors could voice their concerns and contribute to solutions that strengthen participatory democracy and oversight.

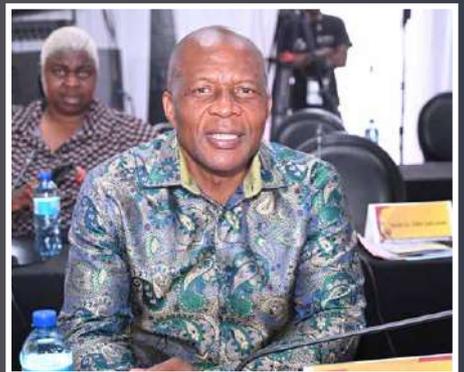
These engagements were facilitated by the Chief Whip of the Limpopo Legislature, Hon. Essop Mkgonyana, who welcomed all participants and encouraged active involvement. In his opening remarks, he emphasised meaningful participation and guided stakeholders on the engagement process.

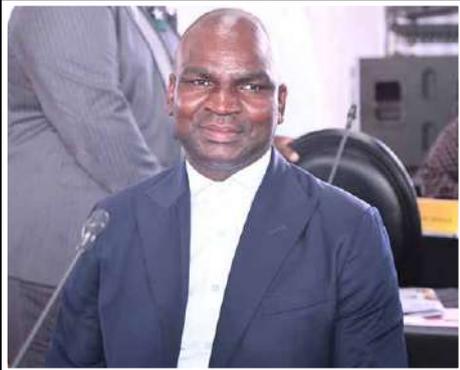
Across the three sessions, several key challenges were consistently raised. Youth highlighted limited access to economic opportunities, insufficient





TAKING LEGISLATURE TO
THE PEOPLE





support for skills development, and rising substance abuse in communities. Women's groups and people with disabilities raised concerns about safety, gender-based violence, and inaccessible facilities. Churches and moral regeneration groups pointed to moral decay, social instability, and the need for strengthened community-based support structures. Public health and home-based care workers expressed concerns about shortages of resources, delayed stipends, and lack of adequate equipment. Meanwhile, business forums and women in business raised challenges around regulatory barriers and lack of funding opportunities, while the taxi industry highlighted route disputes, inadequate infrastructure, and safety issues.



These collective inputs provided the Legislature with valuable insights into ongoing community pressures and reaffirmed the importance of inclusive stakeholder engagement to be reported back in the sitting of the event.





Hon. Members: (front 2nd L-R) Sebopela ST, Jack LV and acting Mayor (in black) led by Hon. Bella Kupa-Mabuza (front - R) Maringa VW, and Nempumbulini C (back row) during the briefing session at Groblersdal Town Library.

Members of the Limpopo Legislature recently embarked on a three-day Taking Legislature to the People programme in Sekhukhune District. Members were divided into five (5) groups for the purpose of conducting oversight in key identified projects and public facilities.

Team Elias Motsoaledi led by Honourable Kupa-Mabuza Bella had the opportunity for direct engagements and interaction with the affected communities, project implementers, and Government representatives with the aim of assessing progress made and functionality of the identified sites.

Members conducted these site visits at Tafelkop Farmers Association, Motetema Police station, Motetema Great North Transport (GNT) depot, Rammupudu Clinic, Bakwena ba Matsepe Traditional Council Office, Dennilton Victim Empowerment centre, Sempupuru Social Development Office, Masakaneng Bulk Water Sewer Infrastructure, and Groblersdal Town Library. Key stakeholders were afforded an opportunity to voice their concerns

an challenges whereby Members noted some common challenges across the projects such as but not limited to, lack of maintenance on public infrastructure, Security, high vacancy rate, minimal operational budgets, power and water supply challenges, slowed-down progress on implementation of projects resulting from poor coordination by implementing agencies and the local authorities.

There were also project specific challenges identified such as severe shortage of police vehicles, resource shortages in Maternity unit, GNT has a number of non-operational buses in their facility that needs disposal, and lack of space to accommodate women and children affected by domestic violence.

In conclusion, Members highlighted the need for improved intergovernmental partnerships, very timely maintenance of public infrastructures, and community capacity building relating to awarded projects for sustainable effective service delivery.

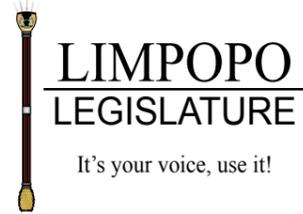


Hon. Andre Moss during site visit at the Police station.



Honourable Members Sebopela ST and Nempumbulini C (black cap) during visit to Sempupuru Social Development Offices in Dennilton.





MEMBERS OF THE SEVENTH LIMPOPO LEGISLATURE & NCOP PERMANENT DELEGATES



Dr Makhurupetje Makoma Grace
SPEAKER



Dr Ramathuba Phophi Constance
PREMIER



Mamonobela Tshogo Portia
DEPUTY SPEAKER



Makama Rodgers Basikopo
Leader of Government Business
MEC: CoGSTA



Lenile-Ramakhanya Makhungu Maureen
MEC: Education



Redziani Fufuho Florence
MEC: Social Development



Kakana Nakedi Grace
MEC: Agriculture and Rural Development



Maithe Tshilireke Baldwin
MEC: Economic Development,
Environment and Tourism



Mthye Susani Violet
MEC: Transport & Community Safety



Maseko Funani Jerry
MEC: Sport, Arts & Culture



Mahul Kgabo Elias
MEC: Provincial Treasury



Mashogo Diketseng Masei
MEC: Health



Racheone Ernest Sebataolo
MEC: Public Works, Roads &
Infrastructure



Mkgonyana Esob Mmanoko
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Manthata-Mahasela Mafodi Caroline
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Letsoalo Mapula Gratitude
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Magolo Mathebane Abraham
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Malemele Dumisani
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Molapo Walter Samuel
MPL



Baloyi Dunani
MPL



Mapula Johanna Ledwaba
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Wilson Evelyn Rayne
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Democratic Alliance



Smalle Jacques
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Democratic Alliance



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Adv. Marx Franco
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Jack Velle Cyril
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iAmKoro weSizwe



Moss André
Leader:
Freedom Front Plus



Malobane Jump Sebothoma
Leader:
United African Transformation



Mokwele Malesela Frans
Leader: NCOP



Molokomme Kolobe Regina
NCOP



Ndlhlovi Sanny
NCOP



Phala Phisoene
NCOP



Kennedy Meise
NCOP: EFF



Pienaar Nicolas Hendrick
NCOP: DA



Permanent delegates to the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) and Members of the Provincial Legislature (MPLs) posing for a photoshoot following a briefing by Road Agency Limpopo (RAL) officials at the construction site of road D1350 in Tzaneen.

PERMANENT DELEGATES TO THE

NCOP

CONDUCTED OVERSIGHT VISITS IN MOPANI

Limpopo's permanent delegates to the National Council of Provinces (NCOP), alongside Members of the Provincial Legislature (MPLs), conducted oversight visits to the Mopani District, from Tuesday, 18 November 2025.

This visit was part of the NCOP's National Provincial Week programme; an annual initiative held under varying themes. This year's theme was: "Building Viable Municipalities for Enhanced Delivery of Basic Services to Communities." The oversight focused on assessing incomplete, delayed, and abandoned public infrastructure projects across the district.

The program kicked off at the Greater Tzaneen Municipal Chamber with a series of presentations:

- Acting Limpopo Premier, Hon. Rodgers Basikopo Makamu, addressed the measures aimed at improving service delivery within the province.
- MECs from the Departments of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs;

Health; and Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure discussed the implementation of the 2024 National Provincial Week resolutions, particularly in the Waterberg district, and efforts to enhance municipal functioning in the Mopani district.

- The Executive Mayor and local municipal Mayors provided an overview of the state of municipalities within Mopani.

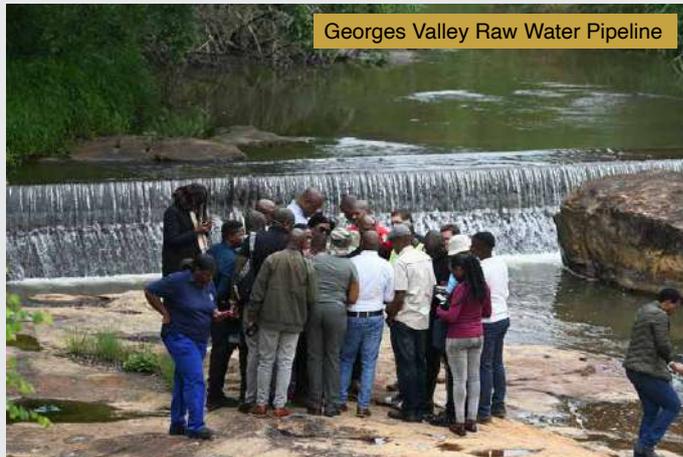
Following the presentations, the NCOP delegates and MPLs divided themselves into two groups to visit various infrastructure projects over the three-day period. On the first day group one visited the Georges Valley Raw Water Pipeline and the Nkowankowa Water Works projects. On the second day they visited the rehabilitation of the 1.86 km Lorraine Access Road in Maruleng, water reticulation and household connections in Rhulani Village, borehole installations in Lenyenye, Home Affairs office and construction of road D1350 in Tzaneen.



The Limpopo Provincial Legislature Speaker Hon. Dr Makoma Makhurupetje welcoming Permanent delegates to the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) and Members of the Provincial Legislature (MPLs) during the start of the provincial week at the Greater Tzaneen Municipal Chamber.

On the third day group one split into two groups, where group one (a) visited the Middle Letaba Dam project (bulk water supply to Olifantshoek, Mamaila, Sephukubje, and Phooko villages), the groundwater scheme household connections in Thakgalane Village, and Kgapane Hospital. Group one (b) visited the pipeline construction to supply water to Matshwi and Maphalle villages, the Sefotse to Ditshosine Bulk Water Project, and the 2.5 km pavement road project connecting Makaba and Moshakga villages.





Leader of delegation Hon. Frans Mokwele interacting with a community member as permanent delegates to the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) and Members of the Provincial Legislature (MPLs) were assessing progress of water reticulation and household connections in Rhulani Village.



Permanent delegates to the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) and Members of the Provincial Legislature (MPLs) engaging with officials during a briefing on the status of the borehole installations in Lenyenye, Greater Tzaneen Municipality.

Members of the public listening attentively during engagements with their public representatives at the at the Greater Tzaneen Municipality old fire station.





Hon. Molokomme R chairing the briefing session with Hon. Kennedy M and Hon. Matjomane A to her left

NCOP WEEK

Honourable Members in group 2 in Greater Giyani municipality led by Honourable Molokomme R and Sepuru DMC, conducted their oversight visits at key identified projects and public facilities under the Greater Giyani and Ba-Phalaborwa municipality respectively.

Members first site visit was at Nkhensani Hospital situated under Giyani Municipality, the hospital caters a vast area made up of a total of 96 villages and a referral to 28 clinics. The hospital reported to members on shortage of staff, forensic pathologists, overcrowding at neonatal ward, unclaimed bodies and shortage of cabinet in the mortuary.

The next site visited was Hlomela street paving project which is funded by the municipality infrastructure grant. It was reported that the project was successfully completed on scheduled time, and that local community EPWP workers were employed in the project and also that two student undergoing in-service training were also involved in the project. Members commended the traditional leader and the community for successful completion of the project without



any delays and vandalism protests by the local communities.

Members also visited the Nandoni-Giyani-Nsami water treatment works (WTWs) which is a 40.5 km raw water pipeline discharging water into Xikukwani and ultimately gravitating into a balancing dam at Giyani WTWs.

It was noted that challenges faced during the implementation of the project were, vacant positions, illegal water connections, and vandalism of technical infrastructure.

Common concerns were raised at Thomo and Khakhala villages on water and household reticulation due to lack of by-laws enforcement to curb these challenges. The concrete water reservoir has damaged valve that spills water of the road when full.

The last leg of site visits was done at Tension Pilusa Mashishimale storm water culvert and Maphutha-Malatji Hospital under Ba-Phalaborwa local municipality. The hospital has been reported to be built 50 years ago. It's a referral to 10 clinics with only 02 operating 24 hours. The hospital raised challenges such as staff shortages on nurses, doctors and technical staff, illegal immigrants visiting the hospital without identity documents and false identification, and unclaimed bodies.

Members concluded with direct engagement with stakeholders, whereby basic service delivery challenges were raised relating to incomplete water reticulation, non-functional boreholes, reservoir and valve failures, poor planning and project monitoring.

Members in their recommendations, emphasised that households in villages should be reticulated and have standpipes, repairs of water valves and improvement of communication with communities regarding projects in their area, and most importantly to develop contractors performance management systems.



Stakeholders making inputs on service delivery challenges and concerns.

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LIMPOPO WOMEN UNITE AT 2025 PROVINCIAL WOMEN'S PARLIAMENT TO TACKLE INEQUALITY AND DRIVE ECONOMIC INCLUSION

The Limpopo Legislative Chamber was a hive of activity on 28 August 2025 as more than 400 delegates from across the province gathered for the 2025 Provincial Women's Parliament. Hosted by the Standing Committee on Quality of Life, Status of Women, Youth and People with Disabilities, the sitting brought together women from political formations, civil society organisations, professional bodies, rural communities and advocacy groups to debate critical issues affecting their socio-economic wellbeing.

Convened under the theme "Building Resilient Economies for All Women," the Parliament served as a platform for women to voice their concerns, share lived experiences, and propose sustainable solutions to long-standing challenges including digital exclusion, unemployment, gender-based violence, and limited access to economic opportunities.

Wide-Ranging Representation and High-Level Participation

Delegates included representatives of all political parties in the Limpopo Legislature, alongside organisations such as NAPWA, DEAFSA, Women of His Power, Tsoga Mosadi, the LGBTQUIA+ community, business forums, and several youth and faith-based formations. The Speaker of the Limpopo Legislature, Hon. Dr. Makoma Makhurupetje, attended the session and delivered the closing address, while Acting Premier Hon. D. Mashego provided a comprehensive response to issues raised.

Members of the Standing Committee, led by Chairperson Hon. Manthata-Mahasela, presided over the session, guiding robust debates and presentations from 32 speakers representing diverse sectors.

Key Issues Debated

1. Women and Technology in the 4IR Era

Participants underscored the widening digital gender divide, particularly in rural areas where

limited internet access, poor infrastructure, and costly devices exclude women from economic and educational opportunities. Concerns were also raised about online harassment and the barriers preventing women from entering tech fields. Delegates called for AI, coding and robotics training to be introduced at school level and for unemployed women, emphasising the need for culturally inclusive digital tools.

2. Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment

With women representing 51% of the population but facing over 30% unemployment, entrepreneurship was highlighted as a vital tool for economic liberation. Delegates criticised the misallocation of grants and support programmes, citing fronting practices, red tape, and persistent bias in the private sector. Strong calls were made for the establishment of Women-Focused Enterprise Zones, improved access to funding, and prioritised support for rural entrepreneurs.



Deputy Speaker Hon. Tebogo Mamorobela presiding over the 2025 Women's Parliament in the Lebowakgomo Legislative Chambers.



Hon. Marie Helm co-presiding over the 2025 Women's Parliament in the Lebowakgomo Legislative Chambers.



Deputy Speaker Hon. Tebogo Mamorobela leading the procession into the 2025 Women's Parliament in the Lebowakgomo Legislative Chambers.

3. Strengthening Community Care Initiatives

Women-led community projects—supporting the elderly, children, and persons with disabilities—were celebrated as a backbone of grassroots development. However, delegates warned that without sustained funding, market access, and land availability, many of these initiatives remain at risk. They urged government to partner more deliberately with NPOs and community-based enterprises already doing impactful work.

4. Eliminating Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF)

GBVF was unanimously condemned as a national pandemic requiring urgent, multi-sectoral action. Delegates called for strengthened policing, trauma-informed training for justice officials, expanded Thuthuzela Care Centres, and inclusive programmes addressing intersectional vulnerabilities—including those faced by LGBTQIA+ women and women with disabilities. Economic empowerment was also identified as a key factor in enabling women to escape abusive environments.

Key resolutions adopted by the Women's Parliament include:

- Introducing coding, robotics and AI training for girls and unemployed women from 2026.
- Continuous support for women-led businesses, including incubators and mentorship programmes.
- In-sourcing EPWP programmes with stronger skills transfer to women.
- Establishing a Provincial Women's Innovation Fund to finance women-owned start-ups.
- Increasing psychosocial services and improving access to sexual and reproductive healthcare.
- Implementing data-driven, culturally sensitive policies that better represent the realities of women across Limpopo.

In her closing remarks, Speaker Hon. Dr. Makhurupetje reaffirmed the Legislature's commitment to championing women's rights and ensuring government implements the recommendations decisively. The Acting Premier's response—detailing progress since the 2023 Women's Parliament—was warmly received as delegates expressed cautious optimism for accelerated change.

Chairperson Hon. Manthata-Mahasela concluded that the resolutions adopted will strengthen oversight and advance a province where women can participate fully and equally in economic and social life.

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LIMPOPO LEGISLATURE CONVENES SUCCESSFUL 2025 PROVINCIAL

YOUTH PARLIAMENT

The Limpopo Legislature, through its Standing Committee on Quality of Life, Status of Women, Youth and People with Disabilities, successfully hosted the 2025 Provincial Youth Parliament at the Legislature Chamber in Lebowakgomo. The sitting brought together more than 400 young delegates from across the province to debate critical issues affecting youth development and economic participation. The Youth Parliament took place under the theme:

“Skills for the Changing World – Empowering the Youth for Meaningful Economic Participation.” The programme forms part of the Legislature’s mandate to promote public participation and ensure that the voices of young people inform policymaking and oversight processes.

The Office of the Premier, represented by MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure Hon. SE Rachoene, presented a progress report on the

implementation of resolutions adopted during the 2021 Youth Parliament. While acknowledging achievements made, the MEC emphasised the province’s continued efforts to address remaining challenges and strengthen youth development initiatives.

Young people representing political parties, student movements, civil society organisations and disability groups actively participated in the debates. Delegates engaged on four key topics:

- 1. Education and Skills Development**
 - Calls were made for alignment between higher education curricula and workplace needs, expanded experiential learning opportunities, and prioritised inclusion of youth with disabilities.
- 2. Economic Development and Employment Opportunities**
 - Delegates highlighted the need for sustainable investment in key



Hon. Seanego Tumelo Sebopele presided over the 2025 Youth Parliament in the Lebowakgomo Legislative Chambers.

sectors, improved access to procurement opportunities, and utilisation of unemployed graduate databases.

- 3. Enterprise Development**
 - Young people identified entrepreneurship as a viable tool for tackling unemployment and called for simplified funding systems, financial literacy support and accessible business development services.



MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure Hon. Ernest Sebataolo Rachoene represented the Office of the Premier, and presented a progress report on the implementation of resolutions adopted during the previous Youth Parliament.



4. Curbing Social Ills and Health Challenges

•The Parliament underscored the importance of psycho-social support, community-based rehabilitation, and recreational facilities to reduce vulnerabilities linked to crime, substance abuse and mental health challenges.

The session was attended by Members of the Legislature, the Executive Mayor of Capricorn District Municipality Cllr M. Teffo, representatives of youth organisations and civil society stakeholders.

The sitting concluded with a keynote address by the Speaker of the Limpopo Legislature, Hon. Dr. Makoma Makhurupetje.

Following the deliberations, the Standing Committee submitted recommendations to the provincial

executive, including:

- Establishing youth-focused funding mechanisms with simplified online portals by the end of the 2025/26 financial year.
- Phasing out outsourcing of entry-level job opportunities to enable in-sourcing for unemployed youth.
- Strengthening digital innovation platforms in townships and rural areas.
- Increasing market access and procurement opportunities for youth-owned enterprises.
- Expediting minerals beneficiation programmes to unlock local economic opportunities.
- Scaling up psycho-social and vocational training hubs in partnership with community organisations.
- Integrating emotional intelligence and mental wellness into TVET and public education curricula.

- Enhancing mechanisms for youth participation in policy and governance.

Chairperson of the Committee, Hon. Manthata-Mahasela, commended all youth delegates for their meaningful contributions and reiterated the Committee's commitment to ensuring full implementation of Youth Parliament resolutions.

"The Legislature remains committed to strengthening youth representation and ensuring that the insights and recommendations arising from this Parliament inform government planning, policy and service delivery," she said.

The Limpopo Legislature expresses its appreciation to all stakeholders who contributed to the success of the 2025 Provincial Youth Parliament.



Honorable Members of the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development from Northwest and Limpopo Legislatures during the oversight visit to Maria Swele cotton farm in the Sekhukhune District



THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

conducts oversight into Agricultural projects in the province.

The Portfolio Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development led by the Chairperson Honorable Kupa-Mabuza Bellah conducted a joint oversight visit with their counterparts from the North-west Provincial Legislature to various agricultural projects around the province. The Committee visited Maria Swele Cotton Farm at Maktlerenkeng area, Tafelkop Farmers Association Projects, Kopano Disabled Cooperative in the Sekhukhune District and Majeje Citrus Farm at Phalaborwa in the Mopani District.

The oversight was aimed at assessing the status of the farms, Production operation, government support, market access and the challenges faced by the farmers. The department briefed the Committee on the status of the farms. The first visit was made to Maria Swele Cotton Farm, which produces cotton on 169 hectares of land. Production on this farm is challenged by factors such as: Storage, Irrigation limitations,

electricity, global warming, stray animals and general lack of financial support as the production on the farm relies on rain-fed conditions. The owner of the farm, Mme Maria Swele explained to the Committee that she is still encountering challenges because they are still using old machines, tractors, handpicking when doing harvesting, which are not good for the current operations. "During the harvesting we handpick the cotton fiber put it in the plastic bags and piled them for sale to Great North Ginners serving markets in Toitskraal Marble Hall", said Maria Swele explaining the type of the marketing she is using after harvesting.

The department of Agriculture and Rural Development assisted the farm in the form of financial distress and others. The Committee praised Mme Maria Swele for doing a great job as a woman and appreciated the work done by the department intervention which has played an important role. The Committee recommended that Maria Swele cotton farm be

provided with adequate storage facilities to reduce post-harvesting, have modern and efficient farming equipment, be provided with supplemental irrigation systems.

Members of the Committee continued the oversight by visiting Tafelkop Farmers Association and Kopano Disabled Cooperative where they had an opportunity to engage with emerging black farmers and stakeholders to gain insights into current status of the projects. They were briefed on challenges faced and potential opportunities that may be explored in future.

Farmers indicated historical challenges in Agricultural support which includes but not limited to closure of critical support structures such as the Agricultural Credit Board and Commodity Boards like, Maize, Cotton, Grain and Sorghum, which left them without the much-needed support leading to a significant gap in support towards black emerging farmers in the area.

The committee emphasized the importance of support towards emerging black farmers to ensure the much-needed economic growth, employment and development which will result in major market access for farmers into mainstream formal markets for their produce.

The Committee also visited the Majeje citrus which is a public-private partnership. The farm grows a variety of citrus fruits including lemons. The infrastructure progress in the farm has been made, which 466 hectares have been cleared, and hectares of citrus has been established; irrigation been installed and solar power pump station transfers water from a nearby river to the farm's dams ensuring a sustainable irrigation system.

Facilities like office buildings and

dam construction are completed with the third dam being developed. The owners of the farm said the packhouse is being prepared but further upgrades are still needed as production increases over the years. The farm has permanent contract workers, which they say may increase in the near future. The department has contributed

funding for Majeje to become an agricultural enterprise contributing to local economic development and job creation. Majeje Citrus explained that they are experiencing environmental challenges of sun damage, of which they need protective measures as they are unable to afford the shade nets because of the high costs. Irrigation and water supply was also identified as a challenge because they rely on solar power to pump

water from the river. The farm has two boreholes but only one is operational for irrigation and due to limited electricity capacity, it cannot be able to irrigate the whole farm. In terms of market, Majeje Citrus sale their products to international markets by supplying high quality citrus produce, and the produce that does not meet export standards is processed into juice to avoid waste. The Committee recommended that: The department provided subsidies for shade nets to protect plants from sun damage, investigates feasibility of upgrading solar power systems or integrating alternative energy sources to address water shortages, Fastrack the collaboration with relevant authorities at Eskom to resolve electricity connection issues and increase electricity capacity,



Mme Maria Swele, the owner of Maria Swele cotton Farm explaining the background of her farm to Honorable Members



Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development Honorable Kupa-Mabuza Bellah and Honorable Mapula Mokaba harvesting some lemons at Majeje citrus



Member of the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development Honorable Ngobeni Peter harvesting lemons at Majeje Citrus Farm



Honorable Mnisi Gloria and the Chairperson for the Portfolio Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development Honorable Kupa-Mabuza Bellah (seated) during the committee visit to the farms





PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE, HUMAN SETTLEMENT AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS CONDUCTS **OVERSIGHT VISITS** TO ENSURE SERVICES DELIVERY TO THE COMMUNITY

In a bid to ensure service delivery to the community, the Limpopo Legislature's Portfolio committee on Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs led by the chairperson Hon. Sepuru Champ conducted an oversight visit to and Lephalale Municipality in the Waterberg District.

The aim for the visit was to assess and monitor progress at Community Residential Units (CRU) and Altoostyd Informal Settlement since the committee's oversight visit in October 2024 and evaluate Marapong CRU project and relocation procedures for Altoostyd informal settlement.

The committee started by meeting with the Lephalale local Municipality under the mayorship of Mokgetle Aaron and the contractor of the Marapong CRU to get a briefing on the progress of the construction. The contractor of the Marapong CRU stated that the 150 blocks of

514 Units are at a roof level and the touch-up included plumbing, electrical installation, tiling, ceiling and electricity. They also stated that the overall work is at 95% to completion.

The committee continued with the oversight by visiting the Altoostyd Informal Settlement to assess the progress, focusing on the refurbishment of ablution facilities, the provisions of the permanent houses to qualified beneficiaries. The overall work done at Atostyd is at 65% completion and two new temporary ablution containers have been installed and connected for reticulation to septic tank.

Two appointed contractors are on site for the construction of 1200 units. "The verification of the beneficiaries has been completed, and 196 beneficiaries has been confirmed and approved in line with the 2017/2018 relocation lost" said the representative from the department while giving the progress report to

the committee.

The committee recommended that:

- A review of plans is needed to ensure practicality and effectiveness of adjustments timelines.
- The department should consider changing the unrealistic date of completion of the projects.
- The department must consider the relocation of the residents to an area with all the basic needs.
- Ensures that relocation plans includes both initial residents who were relocated to Atostyd and those who will remain is not tempered within the initial list.

The chairperson for the portfolio committee Honorable Sepuru Champ said the department should monitor the projects and implement these recommendations to improve service delivery.

The Committee further continued with its oversight visit to Ga-Mokgolobotho village in the



Greater-Tzaneen Local Municipality Ward 17, Portion led by Kgoshi Mokgolobotho MJ. The area is experiencing challenges related to water, electricity and roads. Based on the previous oversight visit findings in the area, the Committee wanted to assess service delivery in terms of water provisions, electricity and the state of the municipal roads within the Greater Tzaneen area, establish the root cause for unresolved challenges, assess channels of communication and information dissemination to relevant stakeholders and evaluate approach of district and local municipalities on community challenges.

The committee met with the Mokgolobotho Tribal Authority Council and the community to be briefed on the challenges they experience. The community of Ga-Mokgolobotho had an opportunity to outline the challenges as follows:

- There are several water sources like boreholes which are not functional. The first borehole located in the Matafoleng area has issues of pumping schedule and electricity to pump water which resulted in the community facing drought issues.
- The next borehole next to Morokolotsi is not fully installed and water pipes have not been functional since their installation in 2014. The community also complained about the main road condition which makes it difficult for motorists and pedestrians to use. Residents further complained that new stands that started in 2019 have not been yet electrified. The Royal House said they felt disrespected and undermined, especially raising concerns about paving the main road which remains unaddressed.

They further stated that the continual absence of Ward Councilor causes division between the community and the municipality. The reported that another portion of Ward 17 not led by Kgoshi Mokgolobotho is being neglected.

The Committee recommended that water be priority in the integrated development plan (IDP), Municipality should establish effective mechanisms to identify and consult communities for service delivery planning, Budget allocations for Wards should be transparent. The Chairperson of the Hon. Sepuru Champ indicated that the government should work with the community to make service delivery effective.





COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSESS PROGRESS ON

SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

The Legislature's portfolio committee on Economic Development, Environment & Tourism chaired by Honourable Mapula Mokaba undertook site visits at the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) in the Province. The first leg of visit was at Musina-Makhado SEZ (MMSEZ).

Members of the Committee were met by lack of visible progress made on the ground at both the North and Southern sites of the MMSEZ. Members noticed heaps of white rocks at the North site which at first glance one could easily take them for an old mining dumping site, furthermore it was reported that the South site is still in the process of being rezoned for industrial use hence the delay on infrastructure development.

On Fetakgomo-Tubatse SEZ (FTSEZ), the committee noted that they have started with construction work on site, with visible signage and fencing over around the premises. The FTSEZ raised various challenges such as but not limited to, security, infrastructure and ongoing land invasions in the area. These delays if not addressed swiftly has high potential of withdrawal by some crucial investors which may impact negatively on project projections and development.

Members recommended that the department and the entity should fast-track and tighten all the loopholes impeding development progress and also ensure that all interested and affected parties are on board to avoid further future delays, furthermore Members advised on the importance to finalize all regulatory approvals and to put security measures in place and more emphasis on consultation with all stakeholders and potential investors.



Chairperson, Mokaba flanked by Hon. Pheedi on the left and Hon. Smalle and Hon. Jack on the right listening to department representatives outlining developmental stages to unfold at the SEZ.



Members of the Committee with Mr. Solly Kgopong from FTSEZ assessing progress made on site.



Honourable Members of the Portfolio Committee with the Baemedi Drop-in-Centre officials in Tsimanyane village, Sekhukhune District Municipality



THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT FLAGS SEVERE INFRASTRUCTURE AND FUNDING CHALLENGES IN

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRES

The Limpopo Legislature's Portfolio Committee on Social Development led by the Chairperson Hon. Simon Mathe has raised serious concerns following a month-long oversight programme across older people's homes, disability center, substance abuse programmes and drop-in center in Mopani and Sekhukhune districts.

The visit, conducted between 3 and 31 October 2025, assessed the functionality, compliance, staffing and overall conditions of facilities funded by the Department of Social Development. In the Mopani District, the Committee found the Kgapane Elderly Care Centre operating without electricity, running water, or proper shelter. The center which supports 31 older people, relies on buckets for water and uses a pit toilet. Essential infrastructure such as fencing, a sickbay and recreational space are also lacking. At Thushang / Pfunani Disability Project, funding shortages have left the center without adequate food, nappies or volunteers, despite serving nearly 100 beneficiaries across stimulation and protective

workshop programmes.

The province's largest residential facility, Shiluvani Frail Care Center, now managed by Intercity Ambulances JV Makotse Women's Club, is still facing operational hurdles after transitioning from Life Esidimeni. Water shortages, cracked wheelchair ramps, ageing infrastructure and a dysfunctional generator were among the most urgent issues flagged. In Sekhukhune, conditions varied sharply. The long-established Loskopvallei Rusoord old-age home demonstrated relatively stable operations, despite delays in departmental payments. However, NGOs such as the Teenagers Advise Group, which leads community campaigns against substance abuse, and Leeuwfontein Community Service Centre, which cares for older persons, reported low funding, lack of transport and severe water and electricity constraints.

Management of Loskopvallei Rusoord Old Age Home interrogating with daily work to the Members of the Portfolio Committee in Marble Hall in the Ephraim Mogale Local

Municipality. At Baemedi Drop-in-Center located in Tsimanyane village Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality in the Sekhukhune District, which supports vulnerable children after school, the Committee noted overcrowding, dilapidated structures, water shortages and limited financial support despite rising demand. Across facilities, a recurring concern was the chronic delay in departmental transfers, with centers often waiting months for funds and relying on credit from local shops to survive.

The Committee recommended that the Greater Letaba Municipality must install a borehole for the Kgapane Elderly Center, Department of Social Development must develop a plan of connecting patients to other organisations when done with the rehabilitation programme to avoid relapse, Department must address the maintenance challenges in all facilities as a matter of urgency, department must capacitate the centers on the monitoring tool for them to understand it.





JOINT COMMITTEES' VISIT TO THOHYANDOU INTERMODAL FACILITY & PR MPHEPHU AIRPORT

The Portfolio Committee on Transport and Community Safety led by Honourable Kedibone Lebea had joint site visits with the Standing Committee on Public Accounts (SCOPA) led by Chairperson Mosibudi Esther Mokoete and Portfolio Committee on Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure led by Honourable Khathu Netshifhefe, at Thohoyandou Intermodal facility and the PR Mphephu Airport in the Vhembe District.

Members upon arrival at the Intermodal facility discovered that it remained desolate for over 15 years after its establishment due to detected structural defects. Members of the Committees proceeded to the PR Mphephu Airport, wherein were met by a sore sight of a very unkept dilapidated infrastructure in use by privately owned airplanes for landing and taking-off purposes. The committees were equally disturbed by the state of the facility and level of lack of

adequate security to restrain any illegal activities that may occur. They voiced the importance to employ police services for maximum security at the airport.

Members emphasised the urgency of having a meeting with the Department and its entity Gateway Airport Authority Limited (GAAL) for clarity and progress report on the two facilities respectively.

P.R. MPHEPHU



Honourable Mabotja Thabo (black cap) and Honourable Mokoete Mosibudi (black hat) questioning officials from the Department on the state of infrastructure in the facilities.



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