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SCAN ME

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Thirty-six corruption related arrests made in Limpopo municipalities

MARBLE-HALL

Fresh concerns over accountability in Limpopo municipalities have been raised after 36 arrests linked to alleged corruption were reported across six municipalities in the province over the past 12 months.

The figure was revealed by DA Provincial Spokesperson for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Jacques Smalle.

According to Smalle, the arrests include both municipal officials and service providers and are linked to alleged corruption, procurement fraud and related misconduct.

Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality (EPMLM) in Sekhukhune District is among those implicated. While details of the Ephraim Mogale case relate to alleged licensing corruption, the municipality is now grouped with other high-profile cases in the province.

This includes the alleged R38 million procurement scandal in Molemole Municipality where 12 officials were reportedly arrested, tender-related investigations in Polokwane and Blouberg Municipalities and a fleet-management investigation in Mogalakwena Municipality.

"These cases raise serious questions about the protection of public funds and the effectiveness of consequence management," Smalle said.

Smalle said the DA believes the reported arrests may be only the tip of the iceberg and do not reveal the full extent of alleged misconduct within Limpopo municipalities.He added that arrests alone do not show the full picture, particularly where senior officials may be suspended while investigations or disciplinary processes remain unresolved.

Smalle confirmed that the DA will write to the MEC for CoGHSTA in Limpopo, Pule Shayi, requesting a province-wide breakdown of senior municipal officials who are currently suspended.

"We want disclosure of the municipality involved, the official's position, date and reason for suspension, status of disciplinary or criminal proceedings, and the cost to municipalities of keeping suspended officials on the payroll," Smalle said.

He emphasized that corruption in municipalities directly hurts residents.

"Corruption in municipalities is not a victimless crime. When public money is lost through corruption, fraud or irregular procurement, residents ultimately pay the price. Funds intended for water infrastructure, sanitation, roads, housing and other essential services are put at risk, while communities continue to struggle with poor service delivery," he said.

Smalle stressed that an arrest does not constitute proof of guilt and that every accused person is entitled to due process, but said residents deserve to know whether investigations are progressing, whether cases are reaching court, and whether public money is being recovered.

"Arrests alone are not accountability. Limpopo residents deserve answers about the extent of alleged corruption, consequences for proven wrongdoing, the recovery of public money and municipalities that prioritize service delivery over political protection," Smalle said.

The Ephraim Mogale matter is expected to put further pressure on the municipality to strengthen internal controls and ensure transparent supply-chain management processes.



Ephraim Mogale Municipality is among Limpopo municipalities implicated in a case related to alleged licensing corruption.

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About 200 people were rescued by the police and Department of Social Development officials at an illegal rehabilitation centre in Watervaal B, Siyabuswa.



The police in Siyabuswa arrested a pastor and his wife for housing approximately 200 people at an illegal rehab in Watervaal B, Siyabuswa.

Couple nabbed for running illegal rehab centre in Siyabuswa

SIYABUSWA

The police in Siyabuswa outside Marble Hall have arrested a 59-year-old pastor, Saki Thabo Sepato and his 58-year-old wife, Paulina Sepato, on Friday 16 October 2026, following the discovery of a premises where approximately 200 people were allegedly being kept.

The arrests stem from an operation conducted on Thursday 15 October 2026, at Watervaal B in Siyabuswa area.

Brigadier Donald Mdhluli, Mpumalanga Provincial Police Spokesperson, said officials from the Department of Social Development in the Nkangala District, were conducting inspections targeting illegal rehabilitation centres when they went to the said premises and requested assistance from the SAPS.

"Preliminary investigations revealed that the premises was allegedly being operated as a rehabilitation centre without the required registration and authorisation. About 200 people were allegedly found accommodated on the property," said Mdhluli.

He added that 14 people had to be taken for medical treatment on the night of the operation, while the couple was taken in for questioning.

Mdhluli said the couple is facing serious charges, including kidnapping, Contravention of Section 19(1) read with Section 19(13) of the Prevention of and Treatment for Substance Abuse Act, Act 70 of 2008 – Establishment and management of an unregistered Treatment Centre, failure to comply with health and safety standards in terms of applicable Environmental Health By-laws and the National Health Act.

Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Mpumalanga, Lieutenant General Apaphia Modise, has assembled a team of seasoned detectives and other specialised units to investigate the matter.

"There is no stone that will be left unturned," General Modise said.

The police have not ruled out the possibility of further arrests, adding that additional charges may be added as the investigation continues.

The two suspects appeared before the Mdutjana Magistrate's Court in Siyabuswa on Monday 19 October 2026 and were granted a R1000-00 bail each. They will appear again on 27 November 2026.

Meanwhile, Lieutenant General Modise commended officials from the Department of Social Development and Environmental Health for their contribution in ensuring the safety and welfare of the victims, and thanked SAPS members for the swift arrest.

She emphasised that the team will ensure that justice is served for the victims.



NORTHAM BOOYSENDAL
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Booysendal Platinum is situated on the border of the Limpopo and Mpumalanga Provinces near the towns of Mashishing (Lydenburg), Roossenekal and Steelpoort. The mine is located on the southernmost exposure of the eastern limb of the Bushveld Complex with eighty percent of its resources in the Mpumalanga Province. The Mine has a board and pillar mining layout and operates with trackless mechanised mining equipment. Booysendal is a subsidiary of the JSE-listed Northam Platinum Limited, a well-established, mid-tier independent and integrated platinum group metals producer with a strong tradition of innovation and technical expertise in the sector.

MANAGER: MINING (EL)

Ref. No.: BDMAN02/26 ● BOOYSENDAL - MANAGEMENT

Position purpose: • The Manager: Mining is appointed as a 3.1(a) legal appointment in terms of the MHSA of 1996. The position is to provide strategic leadership and management of mining operations, development and growth initiatives in support of the Company's growth strategy. The Manager: Mining is accountable for the safe, efficient and cost-effective execution of mining activities, production plans and strategic projects, ensuring operational excellence, achievement of critical milestones, statutory compliance and continuous improvement.

Role requirements: The successful candidate must have the following basic requirements: • Relevant degree / diploma in Mining Engineering • Mine Manager's certificate of competence • A Business Management qualification will be advantageous • Medical certificate of fitness • Minimum of five (5) years' management experience in a similar mechanised mining environment • Both Sinking and Trackless Mine experience will serve as an advantage • Project management skills will be advantageous • Knowledge of applicable legislation, policies and procedures • Competent in functional systems used in Mining operations.

Key performance areas: • Strategic planning and execution of mining operations, development and growth initiatives • Ensure the achievement of production targets, project deliverables and critical milestones • Support the implementation of company safety strategies and ensure statutory compliance • Optimise operational performance, resource utilisation and cost management • Provide effective stakeholder engagement and cross-functional collaboration • Drive continuous improvement, operational excellence and sustainable business growth • Lead employee development, capacity enhancement and performance optimisation.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT (DL)

Ref. No.: BDFIN16/266
BOOYSENDAL - FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Role requirements: The successful candidate must have the following basic requirements: • Grade 12 or equivalent at NQF level 4 • Degree in Finance / Cost Management • Medical certificate of fitness • Minimum of five (5) years' experience in a similar position with at least two (2) years' in the mining environment • Minimum of two (2) years' experience as a Cost Accountant • Relevant experience in SAP & SAP BW modules • Relevant experience in capital project accounting • Sound knowledge of the Microsoft Office suite.

Key performance areas: • Prepare, manage and monitor project budgets, forecasts and expenditure • Analyse project costs, identify variances and recommend corrective actions • Develop project financial models and support business case evaluations • Compile accurate financial reports on project performance, costs and commitments • Ensure compliance with financial policies, accounting standards and governance requirements • Monitor project cash flow, funding requirements and financial risks • Collaborate with project managers, engineers and procurement teams to ensure financial alignment • Manage project financial close-out, asset capitalisation and handover processes.

MINE OVERSEER (DL)

Ref. No.: BDMIN65/26
BOOYSENDAL - MINING DEPARTMENT

Role requirements: The successful candidate must have the following basic requirements: • Grade 12 / NQF 4 equivalent • Blasting certificate of competency • Mine Overseer certificate of competence • Valid first aid certificate • Medical certificate of fitness • Good communication skills in English • At least five (5) years' working experience as a Mechanised Shift Supervisor • Exposure to acting as a Mine Overseer will be advantageous • A good track record of safety and production within a TMM and Conventional mining environment.

Key performance areas: • Ensure the safe achievement of production targets in line with quality standards and targets • Attend to planning for and the management of crews • Effective operational management • Ensure compliance with the Health and Safety policies and practices of the company • Manage labour and discipline within the area of responsibility.

ENGINEERING MANAGER (EL)

Ref. No.: BDMAN01/26 ● BOOYSENDAL - MANAGEMENT

Position purpose: • The Engineering Manager is appointed as a 3.1(a) legal appointment in terms of the MHSA of 1996. This position is to provide strategic leadership and oversight of engineering projects in support of the Company's growth strategy. The Engineering Manager is accountable for the planning, execution and delivery of critical engineering projects, infrastructure development and capital initiatives within approved timelines, budgets and quality standards. The role ensures engineering excellence, statutory compliance, effective resource utilisation and stakeholder alignment to achieve strategic business objectives and key project milestones.

Role requirements: The successful candidate must have the following basic requirements: • Relevant degree / diploma in Engineering • Government Certificate of Competency in Mines and Works – Mechanical / Electrical • A Business Management qualification will be advantageous • Medical certificate of fitness • Minimum of five (5) years' management experience in a similar mechanised mining environment • Both Sinking and Trackless Mine experience will serve as an advantage • Project management skills will be advantageous • Knowledge of applicable legislation, policies and procedures • Competent in functional systems used in Engineering operations.

Key performance areas: • Develop and execute engineering strategies and project plans aligned with the Company's growth objectives • Lead and oversee the successful delivery of strategic engineering projects, infrastructure development and capital initiatives • Ensure effective project governance, risk management and compliance with engineering, safety and statutory requirements • Manage project budgets, resources, schedules and key milestones to ensure cost-effective and timely delivery • Manage stakeholder engagement, contractor performance and cross-functional collaboration to achieve project objectives • Provide strategic engineering leadership, technical expertise and performance reporting to support business growth.

SAFETY COORDINATOR (DL)

Ref. No.: BDSHEQ07/26
BOOYSENDAL - SHEQ DEPARTMENT

Role requirements: The successful candidate must have the following basic requirements: • Relevant degree / diploma in Safety Management or similar • Blasting certificate of competency • Relevant Section 26D/13 trade certificate will be an advantage • COMSOC 1 to 3 / SAMTRAC • Quality Assurance certificate - ISO 9001, ISO 14001 • Registration as a Safety Professional will be advantageous • Medical certificate of fitness • Minimum five (5) years' experience in a similar position, with at least five (5) years in the hard rock trackless mining environment • Project Management experience will be advantageous • Shaft development experience will serve as an advantage • Experience in developing, implementing, managing and auditing Safety and Risk Control initiatives and programs • Research and resource development of relevant mining legislation • Impact assessments of new legislation on company's policies and standard operating procedures.

Key performance areas: • Ensure appropriate safety management systems are in place, aligning with legal requirements and the Mine's SHEQ Strategy • Monitor and ensure operations comply with all legal requirements, safety standards, and the Mine's SHEQ Policy through regular inspections and audits • Monitor, Identify and report deviations from safety procedures and legal standards, effectively managing hazards and associated risks • Conduct safety program audits, prepare safety and health trend reports, and provide actionable feedback to improve safety measures • Facilitate the effective management of organisational health and safety performance by implementing action plans and monitoring their execution • Develop and maintain good employee relations, ensuring a safe working environment and managing safety representative systems effectively • Support and participate in the training and development of team members, enhancing safety competencies and career growth • Benchmark and implement best practices for safety management approaches, regularly auditing and updating safety procedures • Administer necessary safety systems, compile reports, review safety and incident reports and ensure adherence to established standards and regulations • Identify and implement improvement projects to enhance safety measures and operational efficiencies.

Please attach a comprehensive updated curriculum vitae as well as a certified copy of your ID and your qualifications.

Should you meet all the requirements, please submit your CV to: targetrecruit@norplats.co.za and please quote the job title and reference number in the subject box. Kindly note that Booysendal will only correspond with short-listed candidates.

Applications close: 30 October 2026

CV's received in any form after the closing date and time will not be considered.
Should you not hear from the company within 21 days after the closing date for applications, please consider your application as unsuccessful.

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MEC Rachoene advances road infrastructure in Sekhukhune



Acting Executive Mayor of SDM, Cllr Corpas Ngobeni, welcomed the projects and expressed appreciation for the investment in the district's road infrastructure.



MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Ernest Rachoene, officially handing-over three contractors and a consulting engineer for major road infrastructure projects in the Sekhukhune District.

GROBLERSDAL

Limpopo MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Ernest Rachoene, has on Thursday 14 October 2026, introduced three contractors and a consulting engineer for major road infrastructure projects in the Sekhukhune District.

The introduction took place at the Sekhukhune District Council Chamber in Groblersdal, where representatives of the affected municipalities joined the MEC.

The projects include the upgrading of D4260 Road, linking Malope and Phokwane Villages, and the D4285 Road, from Maserumule Park towards Leeuwkraal in Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality (MLM).

The programme also includes an additional three kilometres on the D4180 Road from Atok to Gaselepe Village.

MEC Rachoene said the occasion demonstrates the province's seventh administration's commitment to prioritising road infrastructure development and delivering on its service delivery commitments.

"These road projects demonstrate our commitment as government to delivering quality infrastructure that connects communities, improves access to essential services and creates meaningful economic opportunities for local people. We are determined to ensure that infrastructure development in Limpopo contributes directly to safer roads and improved livelihoods," said Rachoene.

Acting Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM), Cllr Corpas Ngobeni, welcomed the projects and expressed appreciation for the investment in the district's road infrastructure.

"The upgrading of these roads will make a significant difference to our communities by improving mobility, supporting local economic activity and ensuring better access to schools, healthcare facilities and other essential services. We welcome this investment in the development of Sekhukhune," said Ngobeni.

Acting Executive Mayor Ngobeni, together with SDM Council Speaker, Cllr Kgwediebotse Chego, welcomed the programme on behalf of Executive Mayor Cllr Minah Bahula.

They acknowledged the importance of the projects in improving road accessibility and contributing to accelerated service delivery across the district.

The appointed contractors and consulting engineer are expected to contribute to the delivery of quality road infrastructure that strengthens connectivity, supports local economic development and improves the daily lives of communities in Makhuduthamaga Municipality and across the Limpopo Province.



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Two men get 15 years for attempted murder in Tubatse

BURGERSFORT

The police in Limpopo welcomed two separate 15-year direct imprisonment sentences handed down by the Burgersfort Regional Court for attempted murder cases committed in Tubatse area, Sekhukhune District.

In the first case, the Burgersfort Regional Court sentenced Colman Mogale (22) to 15 years direct imprisonment for attempted murder. He was also declared unfit to possess a firearm in terms of Section 103 of the Firearms Control Act.

According to Brigadier Hlulani Mashaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, the case stems from an incident that occurred on 22 October 2023 at approximately 00:20 in Tubatse, where the 31-year-old victim was discovered by a passerby while walking home from a local tavern. He had sustained multiple stab wounds, was severely injured and was subsequently taken to Dilokong Hospital for medical treatment.

"A case of attempted murder was opened and assigned to Constable Frank Machaka for further investigation. The suspect was identified and arrested. The matter was finalized in court at Burgersfort where Mogale was convicted and sentenced," explained Mashaba.

The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Jan Petrus Scheepers, has welcomed the sentence.

"This sentence sends a clear message that violent crimes will not be tolerated. We commend the investigating officer and the prosecution team for ensuring justice is served for the victim," said Scheepers.

In the second case, the police welcomes the 15-year sentence handed down to a 44-year-old man on Tuesday 13 October 2026, by the Burgersfort Regional Court.

The accused, Thagelo McDonald Sebola (44), was convicted of attempted murder and also declared unfit to possess a firearm in terms of Section 103 of the Firearms Control Act, 2000 (Act No. 60 of 2000).

"The incident occurred on 19 June 2025 when the 26-year-old male victim from Riba Cross Village was standing at the gate of his workplace in Tubatse. A Toyota Rumion stopped, and the driver allegedly insulted him without provocation. When the victim responded by telling the driver to show respect, the accused allegedly grabbed him by his clothes and stabbed him three times in the stomach before fleeing the scene," informed Mashaba.

He added that the injured victim managed to secure assistance from a good Samaritan, who transported him to hospital for medical treatment.

"The case was opened and assigned to Constable Robert Mogale of Tubatse SAPS, who followed up on all leads until Sebola was brought to justice and sentenced to 15 years behind bars," said Mashaba.

Both sentences were welcomed by police as a deterrent to violent crime in the Sekhukhune District.



Constable Robert Mogale of Tubatse SAPS ensured the 15 year sentencing of Thagelo McDonald Sebola who was convicted of attempted murder.



Constable Frank Machaka conducted a thorough investigation that led to the15 year direct imprisonment sentencing against Colman Mogale at the Burgersfort Regional Court.



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ANC Sekhukhune welcomes defectors in Fetakgomo Tubatse, introduces candidates to Tribal Authorities



The ANC in Sekhukhune Region bolstered ranks by welcoming new members from opposition parties and officially introducing councillor candidates to traditional leadership.

SEKHUKHUNE

The African National Congress (ANC) in Sekhukhune Region has bolstered ranks in the Fetakgomo Tubatse Sub-Region after welcoming new members from opposition parties, while also officially introducing its councillor candidates to traditional leadership in Makhuduthamaga Sub-Region.The developments took place during a series of engagements, led by ANC Sekhukhune Regional Chairperson Minah Bahula.During a meet and greet session at Bosele Thabeng with ANC volunteers in Fetakgomo Tubatse Ward 34, Chairperson Bahula officially welcomed members from opposition parties who have joined the ANC.

The regional leader said the move demonstrates that the African National Congress remains the only hope and a home for the people of Sekhukhune. The new members were welcomed into the fold as the party intensifies its ground campaign ahead of the local government elections.

In a separate programme in the Makhuduthamaga Sub-Region, Bahula officially introduced the ANC councillor candidates to two key traditional authorities. Candidates for Makhuduthamaga Municipality Wards 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, were introduced to the Phokwane Tribal Authority at Phokwane Village outside Jane Furse, while candidates for Wards 27, 28 and 29 were introduced to the Masemola Tribal Authority at Ga-Masemola Village near Jane Furse.

In line with tradition and as a sign of respect, the Regional Chairperson Bahula presented an offering of a bull and blanket to each traditional leader. The tribal authorities warmly welcomed the candidates and offered their blessings.

The engagements are part of the ANC Sekhukhune Region's ongoing programme to strengthen relations with traditional leadership, and to formally present its candidates to communities through established customary structures.

The region is expected to continue with meet and greet sessions and door-to-door campaigns across all sub-regions in the coming weeks.



ANC Sekhukhune Regional Chairperson, Minah Bahula, led a series of engagements welcoming new members from opposition parties, while also officially introducing its councillor candidates to traditional leadership.



Defectors from opposition parties in Fetakgomo Tubatse were welcomed by the ANC in Sekhukhune Region.

Man arrested for possession of stolen truck



The white Hino 500 truck fitted with a crane was recovered along the R37 in Sekhukhune after it had been reported stolen in the Mankweng policing area.

SEKHUKHUNE

A 26-year-old male suspect has been arrested in Sekhukhune District for possession of a suspected stolen motor vehicle, after the police recovered a truck that had been reported stolen in Mankweng.

According to Brigadier Hlulani Mashaba, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, on Thursday 15 October 2026, police members received information from a tracking company regarding the whereabouts of a white Hino 500 truck fitted with a crane, which had been reported stolen in the Mankweng policing area.

"Acting on the information, the police followed up on the lead and spotted the vehicle along the R579 Road near Sebayeng Lodge in Sekhukhune. Members intercepted and stopped the truck and approached the driver. During questioning, the suspect allegedly informed the police that he had been hired by unknown individuals to transport the truck to Belfast in Mpumalanga Province," explained Mashaba.

He said the suspect was immediately arrested for possession of a suspected stolen motor vehicle and the recovered vehicle was subsequently handed back to its lawful owner.

Mashaba said the suspect is expected to appear before the Nebo Magistrate's Court on a charge of possession of a suspected stolen motor vehicle. Mashaba said police investigations are continuing.

The Provincial Commissioner of the Police in Limpopo, Lieutenant General Jan Petrus Scheepers, has commended the police members for their swift response which led to the arrest and recovery.

"This arrest demonstrates the value of partnership between the police and private security companies. The quick coordination ensured that the stolen vehicle was recovered and returned to its owner, and the suspect was brought to book," said Scheepers.



The white Hino 500 truck fitted with a crane was recovered along the R37 in Sekhukhune after it had been reported stolen in the Mankweng policing area.

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Kgoshi Phaahla taken to court over eviction of foreign traders



Ga-Phaahla Traditional Leader, Kgoshi Letsiri Phaahla, says he will not be intimidated by legal actions taken against him following his decision to remove foreign shop owners from his village.

GA-PHAAHLA

Kgoshi Letsiri Phaahla is facing legal action in the Sekhukhune Magistrate's Court, following the evacuation of foreign nationals who owned shops at Ga-Phaahla Village on Friday 9 October 2026.

The court action follows an operation led by Kgoshi Phaahla and community members on 9 October, after a deadline of 30 September for foreign shop owners to leave the village expired. The deadline followed an earlier ultimatum issued in August. On Friday 9 October 2026, Kgoshi Phaahla posted a night-time video on Facebook showing vehicles loaded with goods leaving the village.Following the evictions, an urgent application was lodged by five applicants at the Sekhukhune Magistrate's Court to dispute the removal of foreign shop owners in the village.

The case was filed on 14 October and served by the Sheriff on 15 October. The matter is set down for 27 November 2026 for the respondent, Kgoshi Phaahla, to show cause why a final order should not be granted. Responding to the summons, Kgoshi Phaahla vows that legal actions instituted against him over the removal of foreign shop owners will not deter him. He told the publication that the Traditional Council has resolved to oppose the court application.

Phaahla said the Traditional Council will not be intimidated or dictated to by court papers seeking to force the community to cohabit with unknown people.

"We are in no way scared by this. We are not worried by these papers and the stupidity of their actions, which has far-reaching consequences for shop owners who are Ga-Phaahla residents. We can't be dictated to, or forced to cohabit with unknown people by a court paper," said Kgoshi Phaahla.Phaahla confirmed that he has convened an urgent Traditional Council meeting to chart a way forward.

"We resolved to approach our legal advisor to respond to the summons, and a consultation with our attorneys to respond to their ill-advised move," he said.

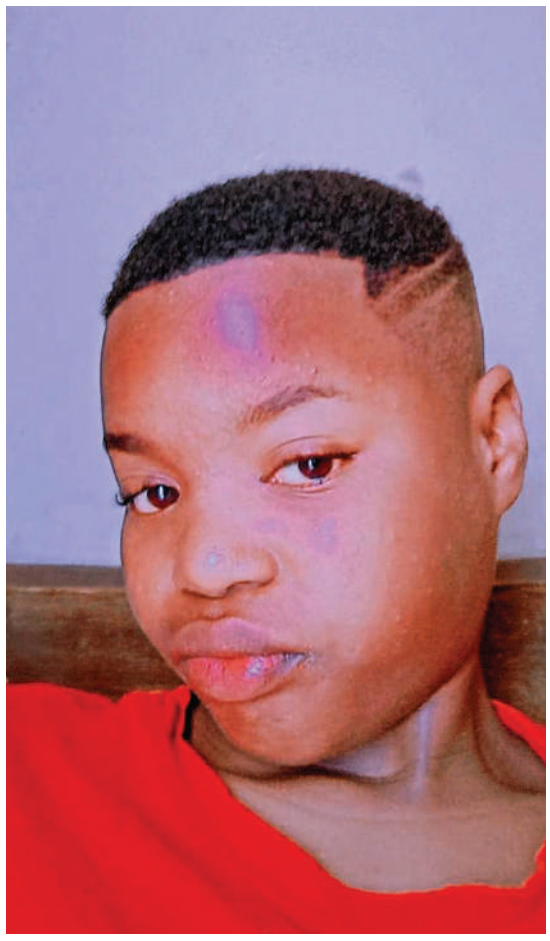
Phaahla also raised concern over two shops owned by foreign nationals that resumed trading despite the Traditional Council's directive.

"We have noticed that two Pakistanis returned and opened their shops on Friday 16 October 2026, under instruction of one of the five applicants who went to court to dispute the removal of foreign nationals. I am going to plead with the community not to act against them pending this court matter.

Whatever the court outcome, these foreigners will leave our villages. We are not compromising on that one," Kgoshi Phaahla added.According to Kgoshi Phaahla, a general community meeting has been earmarked to take place soon to communicate the Traditional Council's resolutions, which include a boycott of all shops operated by foreign nationals.

Phaahla said the core of the dispute is the blatant disregard for customary law and the conditions of the Permission to Occupy (PTO).

"This is a clear disregard of customary rule because the PTO given to one of court applicants indicates that neither the site nor any portion allocated shall be leased in any way, or transferred without written consent of Traditional Council. It's going to be interesting how he will argue against a paper in his hands, which he agreed to," said Phaahla.

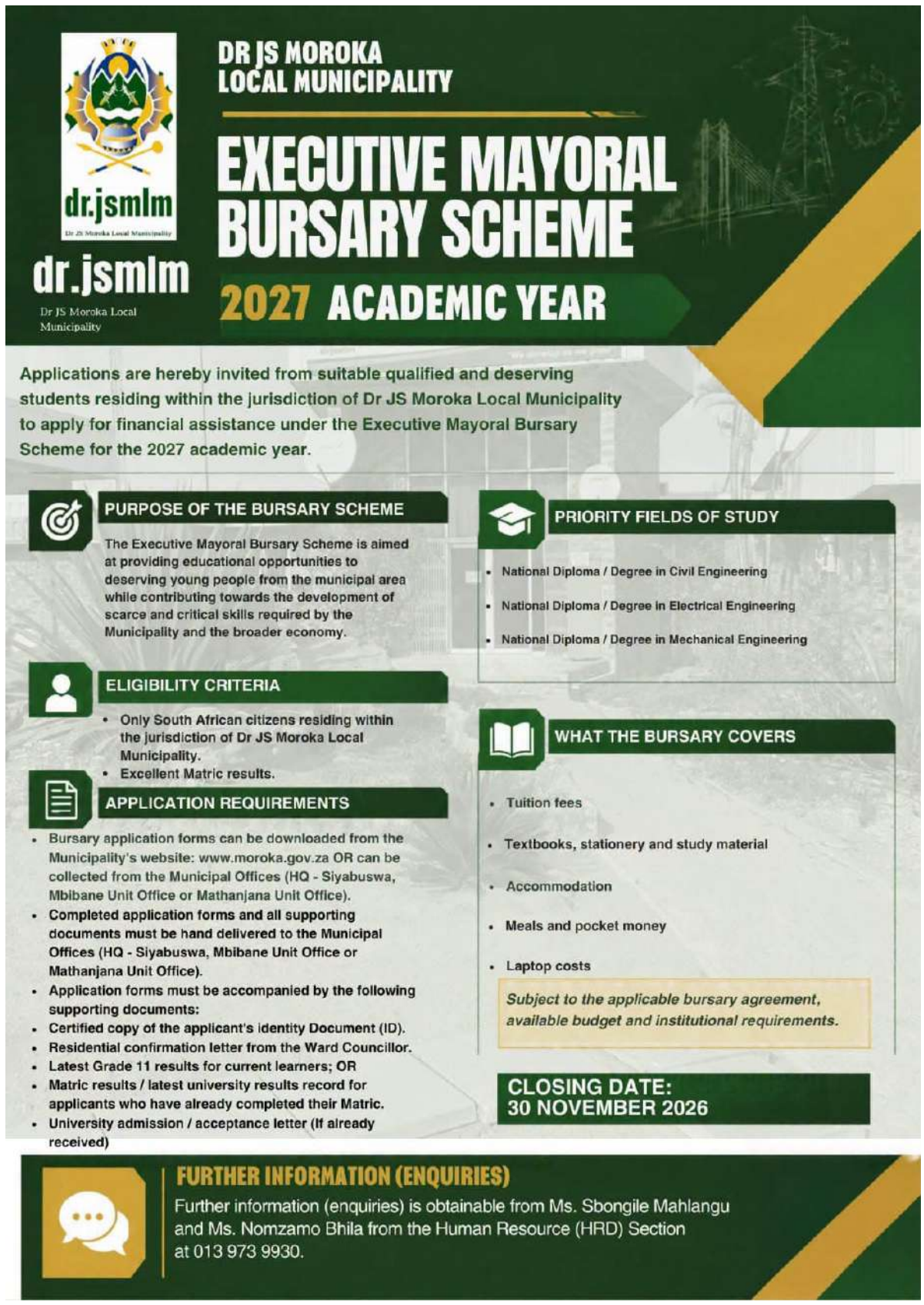


The police in Motetema appeal to the public to help in locating 13-year-old Tiisetso Makuwe who went missing on Friday 2 October 2026.

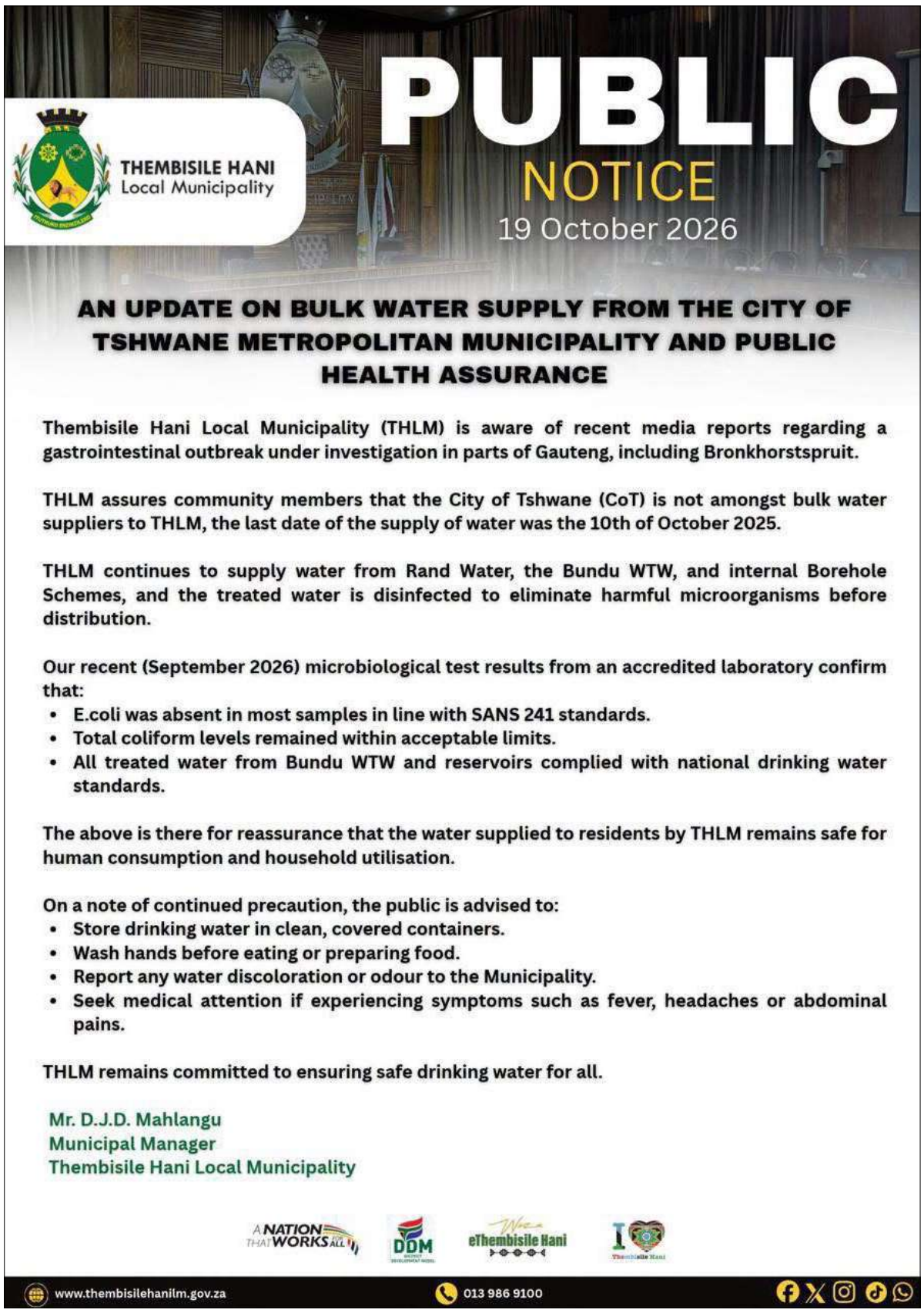
Police seek public assistance to locate missing 13-year-old Tiisetso Makuwa

TAFELKOP

The police in Motetema are appealing to members of the public for assistance in locating a 13-year-old girl, Tiisetso Makuwa, also known as "Momo", who was reported missing at Tafelkop Village, within the Motetema policing area.According to Sergeant Maphure Manamela, Limpopo Provincial Police Spokesperson, it is alleged that on Friday 2 October 2026, at approximately 23:30, the child's mother, Maria Makuwe, arrived at their home in Mgababa Section, Tafelkop, and discovered that her daughter was not at home."The mother searched the surrounding area for the missing child, but her efforts were unsuccessful. Unfortunately the victim has not been found to date, and her current whereabouts remain unknown," said Manamela.She said the clothes she was wearing at the time of her disappearance are unknown. Manamela said the police appeal to anyone who may have information that could assist in locating Tiisetso Makuwa to contact the investigating officer, Sergeant John Tshoane, on 082 573 3978 or 082 414 6464, contact the nearest police station, use the MySAPS App, or call Crime Stop on 08600 10111.



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Tafelkop residents decry deplorable internal roads, accuse Elias Motsoaledi Municipality of years of neglect



TAFELKOP

For residents of Tafelkop Village in Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, daily commuting has become a nightmare as internal gravel roads continue to deteriorate to a deplorable state, with no permanent solution in sight.

The roads, which connect different sections of the sprawling village, are riddled with deep dongas, potholes and uneven surfaces, making them almost impassable for both motorists and pedestrians. During the rainy season, the situation worsens as the roads become muddy, slippery and flooded.

Community leader, Johannes Nkgadima, has come out strongly against what he describes as years of neglect by the Elias Motsoaledi Municipality, saying repeated engagements with municipal officials have yielded no results.

According to Nkgadima, the community has for many years been trying to engage the municipality to rehabilitate and maintain the internal roads, but their pleas have fallen on deaf ears.



Internal roads in Tafelkop Village Elias Motsoaledi Municipality are in a deplorable state with no permanent solution from the municipality.

"We have been engaging the municipality for many years without success. We have written letters, attended public meetings, and raised this matter during IDP consultations. Every time we are promised that the grader will come, but nothing sustainable happens," said Nkgadima.

He said residents feel abandoned and treated as second-class citizens despite being ratepayers and loyal voters.

"The roads are in a serious deplorable state. You cannot call these roads anymore, they are dongas. Cars get damaged, people get stuck, and we are forced to live like this for years while the municipality does nothing," he added.

Nkgadima further accused the municipality of only providing cosmetic interventions that do not address the root problem.

He alleged that the municipality sometimes intervenes by sending a grader only when there are funerals in the area, leaving the rest of the road network untouched.

"The painful part is that the municipality sometimes intervenes to grade roads only when there are funerals. If there is a funeral of an important person, you will see the grader that same week. They will grade a short stretch of road where the funeral will pass and then leave. After the funeral, the road is left to deteriorate again. Does it mean we must have funerals every week to get our roads fixed? We need a permanent solution, not temporary arrangements," Nkgadima charged.

Of serious concern to the community is the condition of the road leading to two local schools, Kopa Secondary School and Rite Primary School.

Nkgadima said among the roads, the one leading to schools is the worst affected, posing a serious risk to learners, teachers and parents.

"This is a very busy road used by hundreds of learners every morning and afternoon. When it rains, our children arrive at school covered in mud. Their uniforms are dirty, their books are wet. Some small children fall in the dongas," he said.

He added that taxi operators and scholar transport drivers have threatened to stop servicing the village because of the poor road conditions.

"Many taxis refuse to come into the inner sections of Tafelkop. They say the roads damage their vehicles. So learners have to walk long distances to the main road. For girl children, this is very unsafe, especially in the early mornings. Education is being compromised because of bad roads," said Nkgadima.

Beyond education, Nkgadima said the deplorable state of the roads is affecting other basic services. Ambulances and police vehicles struggle to access certain sections of the village, particularly at night and during emergencies.

"When someone is sick and you call an ambulance, it will take hours because drivers are scared of damaging their vehicles. The same goes for police. Criminals know that police cannot easily access certain areas, so crime increases," he said.

Nkgadima has called on the Elias Motsoaledi Municipality to urgently intervene and provide a comprehensive road maintenance plan for Tafelkop.

"We are not even demanding tar roads at this stage. All we are asking for is that our gravel roads be properly graded, compacted and have proper stormwater drainage. We deserve better. We want the municipality to come and see for themselves how our people are suffering. Tafelkop is a big village with thousands of residents, but its internal roads look like we are living in a deserted area," Nkgadima concluded.

At the time of going to press, the Elias Motsoaledi Municipality had not responded to questions sent regarding the state of roads in Tafelkop Village.

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Sports



Sekhukhune Dispatch
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INSIDE

ANC Sekhukhune welcomes defectors in Fetakgomo Tubatse, introduces candidates to Tribal Authorities

The Masters Sports Academy FC crowned Sekhukhune Champions



The Masters Sports Academy FC has been crowned champions of Sekhukhune Nedbank Cup Preliminary Knockout and will represent the region in the SAFA Limpopo Provincial Playoffs.

JANE FURSE

The Masters Sports Academy FC has been crowned the overall regional champions of Sekhukhune after a dominant display in the Nedbank Cup Preliminary Knockout at the SAFA Sekhukhune Region Championships held at the Jane Furse Artificial Pitch on Sunday 18 October 2026.

The annual Nedbank Cup, known as South Africa's premier knockout competition and the "Cup of Dreams," sees teams from all levels of South African football compete for a place in the national Round of 32.

The tournament structure consists of 32 teams, 16 from the Betway Premiership, 8 from the Motsepe Foundation Championship, and 8 from the SAFA Second Division (ABC Motsepe League).

The SAFA Sekhukhune playoffs form the first hurdle to reach the provincial final and ultimately the national stage.

The Sekhukhune Regional action kicked off with two thrilling semi-final encounters. In the first semi-final, The Masters Sports Academy FC made their intentions clear with a convincing 4-1 victory over Tsa Saboshego FC, booking their place in the regional final.

The second semi-final was a nail-biter between Dennilton Callies FC and Mampa Stormers FC. After a 1-1 stalemate in regulation time, the match went to a penalty shootout where Callies held their nerve to win 9-8 on penalties, securing their spot in the final in dramatic fashion.

In the regional final, Masters proved too strong for Dennilton Callies. In a high-scoring affair, the Academy ran riot to clinch a 5-2 victory over Callies, sealing the Sekhukhune Regional title in emphatic style.With this victory, Masters emerged as the overall regional champions of Sekhukhune. As Sekhukhune champions, The Masters Sports Academy will now progress to the SAFA Limpopo Provincial Playoffs, where they will face the winners from other Limpopo regions, Waterberg, Capricorn, Mopani, and Vhembe for a place in the national preliminary round of the Nedbank Cup.

The provincial winner will join the country's elite in the national draw, where lower-division giant-killers get the chance to face Betway Premiership giants like Kaizer Chiefs, Orlando Pirates and Mamelodi Sundowns in a straight knockout format with no seeding.

EMS personnel demonstrate emergency response skills as part of commemoration

ATOK

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel showcased their daily duties through practical simulations during the National Emergency Medical Services Commemoration Day. The event was held at Serokolo Secondary School in Atok village on October 16. It featured a simulated emergency scenario demonstrating the different stages of an emergency response, including rescue extrication, advanced life support, and air evacuation. The demonstration highlighted the critical role of EMS personnel in providing emergency medical care and the importance of coordination among emergency response agencies. The South African Police Service (SAPS), Traffic Services, and the Fire Department also participated, demonstrating the importance of inter-agency collaboration in managing emergencies. The commemoration provided learners with career guidance on opportunities within EMS and practical demonstrations simulating the daily work of emergency medical personnel, highlighting the critical role they play in saving lives.

"We salute the men and women in green who work day and night to respond to emergencies and provide critical care to people when they need it most," said MEC for Health Eddie Maila. The event was attended by the tribal leaders from Moshate wa Baroka ba Nkwana, Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality Mayor Cllr Dorah Mphethi, heads of departments from the municipality, pupils from Serokolo, and locals from the Atok area.



The MEC for Health, Eddie Maila.



An accident-damaged car used during the demonstrations



Traffic Services demonstrating the importance of inter-agency collaboration in managing emergencies.

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