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# FINANCE TALK

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**provincial treasury**

Department  
Provincial Treasury  
North West Provincial Government  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



A NATION THAT WORKS FOR ALL



**DO THE RIGHT THING,  
PAY YOUR MUNICIPAL  
ACCOUNT**

**North West MEC for Finance  
convenes Inaugural  
North West Provincial  
FRP Political  
Oversight  
Committee**



# DO THE RIGHT THING PAY YOUR MUNICIPAL ACCOUNT



By Kelepile Mokaila

Municipalities across the country are owed large sums of monies by consumers, government departments and businesses and this affects their liquidity and cash flow. As a result, local government is struggling to recoup money as well as pay their creditors. It is against this state of affairs that consumers, government departments and private businesses have been encouraged to service their municipal accounts or risk facing disconnections.

This was the message City of Matlosana under the support of Provincial Treasury was sending out to those whose accounts are in arrears and have not made any payment arrangement with the municipality to settle their debt.

To ensure municipalities improve debt collection through robust implementation of their revenue enhancement strategies and credit control, the Provincial Treasury as part of Thunsha Lerole programme that took place in the City of Matlosana local municipality, assisted the municipality to implement its strategies by disconnecting electricity supply to businesses, government departments and households whose accounts are in arrears.

The municipality is owed an exorbitant amount of money which it has been struggling to collect from many of consumers of their services and this has placed a huge



pressure on their budget. Municipalities also owe their creditors, such as water boards and power utility, Eskom lots of monies which they cannot pay. Most of the defaulters whose supply was disconnected owed municipality in excess of R1 million each.

National Treasury in its fourth quarter local government report for a period covering 01 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 states that aggregate municipal consumer debts amounted to R427.7 billion (compared to R339.9 billion reported in the fourth quarter of 2023/24) as at 30 June 2025 whilst the government debt accounts for 5.8 per cent or R24.7 billion of the total outstanding debtors.

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Furthermore, Provincial Treasury assisted the municipality with auditing of water meters to ensure accurate billing system and minimise queries relating to accuracy of billing. "Inaccurate" billing systems has been a bone of contention between municipalities and consumers with many often raising queries about its accuracy.

The move is further aimed at encouraging communities to pay for their municipal services to improve revenue collection and ultimately service delivery.

A local Jouberton businessman, whose funeral parlour, had an outstanding debt of R1220 677 55 asked to make payment arrangement with the municipality after his electricity was disconnected.

Speaking to those whose supply was disconnected, the MEC for Finance Kenetswe Mosenogi e advised them to make payment arrangement with the municipality and those who are unemployed and do not have any source of income to approach their municipality to be included in their indigent register to qualify for free basic services (FBS).

Indigent households qualify for FBS and the programme is solely intended to assist them. Free basic service is defined as the minimum amount of basic levels of services, provided on a day to day basis, sufficient to cover or cater for the basic needs of the poor households.

# As men, you really matter to the department and society



By Kelepile Mokaila

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# North West MEC for Finance convenes Inaugural North West Provincial FRP Political Oversight Committee



Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs MEC Oageng Molapisi and MEC for Finance Kenetswe Mosenogi addressing the Financial Recovery Plan (FRP) political oversight committee.

By Kesalopa Gill

Rustenburg: For the province to ensure that municipalities placed under mandatory and voluntary Financial Recovery Plan interventions register progress, the North West Provincial Financial Recovery Plan (FRP) Political Oversight Committee has been instituted.

MEC For Finance, Ms Kenetswe Mosenogi held the inaugural meeting to lay the foundation and ensure that the interventions are implemented in the ten (10) identified municipalities.

The North West Provincial FRP Political Oversight Committee is comprised of Mayors and Speakers of these municipalities with the MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs as the Deputy Chairperson.

MEC Mosenogi said that “the primary responsibility to avoid, identify and resolve financial problems in a municipality rests with the municipality itself. In instances where these have not been done and mandatory and voluntary



Financial Recovery Plans interventions instituted, the municipality must take responsibility of complete implementation.

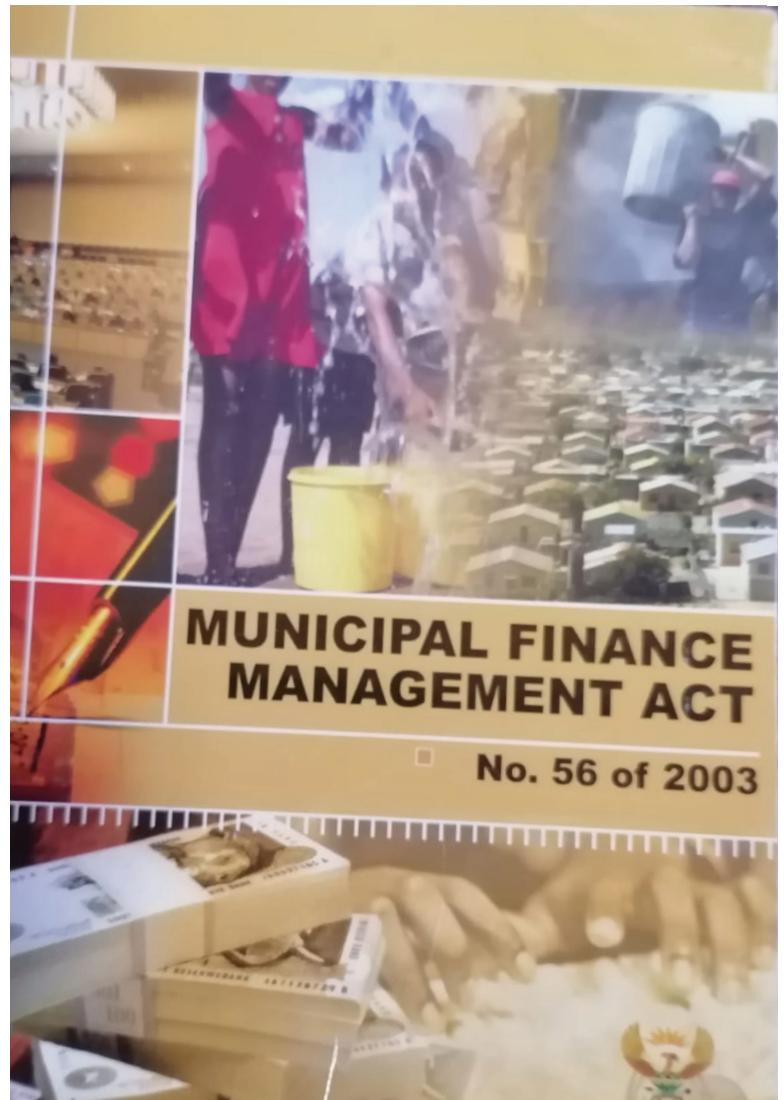
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Municipal Councils are directed to demonstrate leadership, exercise effective oversight and enforce accountability to ensure that the Financial Recovery Plan achieves its intended outcomes and lays foundation for long term municipal sustainability.

Successful implementation of the FRP relies on an environment characterized by political buy-in. Political leaders must embrace the interventions as solutions to problems facing the municipalities, identifying and mobilizing human and financial resources needed, monthly and quarterly reporting as well as consequence management.”

The Executive Committee (EXCO) resolved in November 2021 to place eight municipalities( Naledi, Dr RSM, Madibeng, Kgetleng, Ramotshere Moiloa, Tswaing, Ditso-botla and Mafikeng under mandatory intervention in line with S139(5) (a) and (c) of the Constitution read together with Section 139 of the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA).

In addition to Section 139(5)(a) and (c) mandatory intervention, the Provincial Treasury provided support to Mamusa, City of Matlosana and Maquassi Hills local municipalities with the voluntary financial recovery services, in line with section 154(1) of the Constitution.



# STRATEGIC PROCUREMENT FRAMEWORK FOR MUNICIPALITIES



Ms Linda Nengovhela Chief Director Municipal Finance Management says procurement framework is expected to address Supply Chain Management challenges.

By **Priscilla Masigo**

Municipalities are increasingly required to implement structured sourcing strategies for commodities such as road signs, in line with the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA).

It is against this background that The North West Provincial Treasury in partnership with the National Treasury convened a workshop with municipal officials to build capacity on the Strategic Procurement Framework (SPF). The SPF provides a methodology that aligns procurement activities with organizational goals, optimizes value, and reduces risks while ensuring effective resource allocation.

The session focused on bridging the gap between theory and practice in municipal procurement, with particular emphasis on compliance, cost efficiency, and improved service delivery.

Linda Nengovhela, Chief Director responsible for Municipal Support said the revised strategic sourcing process,



Official from Municipal Finance Unit attended the workshop.

presented during the workshop, consists of three phases which are opportunity assessment, strategy development, and implementation supported by eight steps. She urged supply chain practitioners, referred to as municipal champions, to internalize these processes to strengthen procurement systems.

Nengovhela said, currently, municipalities face challenges including supply chain irregularities, inadequate planning, complex approval processes, and underspending, which hinder timely project delivery. She emphasised that strategic sourcing is expected to address these issues by reducing duplication, ensuring price consistency, and enhancing compliance.

Through this framework, municipalities are encouraged to embrace National Treasury's "4Es" principles: Economy (spending less), Equity (spending fairly), Efficiency (spending well), and Effectiveness (spending wisely). This approach will promote sustainable development, create fiscal space, and contribute to economic growth.

# MEC Mosenogi Launched Enterprise Database.



MEC Mosenogi addresses journalist during the media launch of North West Business Enterprise Database.

By Kelepile Mokaila

Businesses in the North West now have their own database that has been launched by Finance MEC Kenetswe Mosenogi who hailed it as a major step towards the development of a comprehensive profile of enterprises across the province. Speaking during the launch, MEC Mosenogi indicated that the North West Business Enterprise Database, is a pioneering digital platform set to unlock unprecedented opportunities for local businesses, big or small.

MEC Mosenogi further said the provincial government through Provincial Treasury deemed it necessary to commence with a massive programme of understanding the entire landscape of enterprises located within the province such that programmes which support broad economic development initiatives could be informed by the pool of enterprises in the province.

"The North West Business Enterprise Database is one of our strategic responses to ensure that the local economy is catalysed to be inclusive and transformatory. It is a powerful tool designed to channel our procurable budget into the hands of local enterprises, creating jobs, nurturing

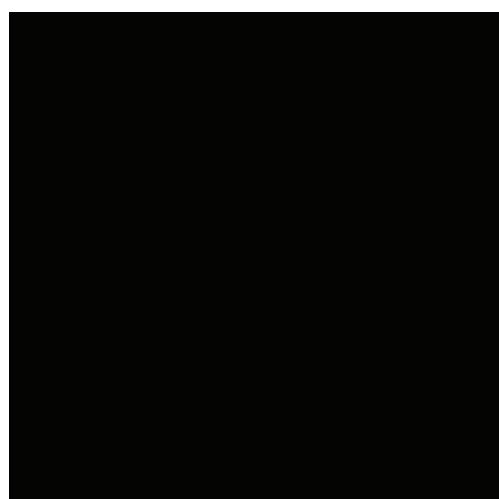
entrepreneurship, and uplifting communities across the province.

"Through the database, we aim to achieve the transformative objectives of having a comprehensive supplier profiling system, closing gaps in supplier registration and will connect relevant enterprises to emerging investment opportunities in an effort to drive economic transformation.

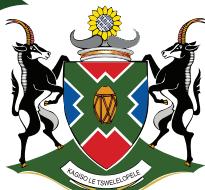
This initiative embodies our commitment to ensuring that every rand spent by government creates maximum local impact, sustaining livelihoods, fostering entrepreneurship, supporting our manufacturing capability through the use of government procurement and building a more resilient and inclusive economy" said MEC Mosenogi.

She made it clear that the North West Business Enterprise Database is not a substitute for the Centralised Suppliers Database, but a province-specific platform that amplifies supplier visibility and enhances our distribution capabilities. She further encouraged to register on the database and requested provincial departments, municipalities, state agencies, and corporate partners to support this initiative by assisting enterprises to register on database.

*To register on the database kindly visit our website <https://treasury.nwpg.gov.za/> or alternatively scan the QR code below.*



Please Scan/ Follow the Link **OR**  
WhatsApp Community below  
<https://forms.office.com/rjVZPNypDe2>



## provincial treasury

Department  
Provincial Treasury  
North West Provincial Government  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# DEPARTMENTAL

## BUDGET VOTE SPEECH HIGHLIGHTS

2025/2026



WE BELONG WE CARE WE SERVE

**MEC for Finance Kenetswe Mosenogi presented the departmental budget before the Provincial Legislature and reflected on past achievements as well as outlining key focus areas for the 2025/26 financial year.**

### FOCUS AREAS FOR 2025-26

#### Inclusive Growth and Job Creation

As part of our efforts to grow the economy through infrastructure delivery, the department will intensify its oversight over infrastructure delivery departments to ensure that projects are effectively planned, adequately funded, and efficiently executed.

The Provincial Treasury will conduct targeted workshops on the Infrastructure Delivery Management System (IDMS) to ensure that projects are properly scoped, adequately budgeted for, and aligned with provincial priorities. Regular site visits and inspections will be conducted to ensure quality workmanship and value for money, with priority given to projects in education, health, and transport sectors which are vital to service delivery and public well-being.

#### Reduction of Poverty and Tackling High Cost of Living

This year, we will prioritise filling critical posts and achieving gender parity at senior management level, ensuring 50 per cent female representation as part of our commitment to transformation.

We will continue to combat youth unemployment through internships and learnerships, targeting the appointment of 115 departmental graduate interns and 15 internal audit technician interns. These initiatives support skills development while addressing unemployment challenges facing our young people.

#### Building a Capable, Ethical, and Developmental State

Provincial Treasury will continue to monitor and guide the implementation of procurement reforms, including transversal contracting to ensure effective management and fairness in public procurement. In addition, the Provincial Treasury will also prioritize the improvement of internal controls, the strengthening of quarterly CFO forums, and the timely escalation of issues to Heads of Departments, CEO's, and Audit Committees for resolution.

The Provincial Treasury is proud to report progress on the establishment of the North West Development Fund (NWDF), a strategic financial instrument aimed at driving inclusive economic development in the province. The fund has been successfully registered with CIPRO as a Non-Profit Company, and the Provincial Treasury is currently engaging SARS to secure a Public Benefit Organisation (PBO) status for the NWDF.

Whilst these foundational steps are underway, planning and coordination processes have already begun to ensure readiness for full-scale operations. The fund will serve as a catalyst for mobilising resources to support catalytic infrastructure projects and support all initiatives that would make contributions towards economic development and job creation.

The department has established and launched a database of the North West based enterprises. This catalytic intervention aims to develop a profile of North West Province based enterprises in all sectors of our economy. This profiling will

assist in ensuring that where investment opportunities are secured, these are linked to the relevant enterprises.

The province recognises that public private partnerships is one of the ways in which efforts by the public and private sector can be harnessed to stimulate economic growth. Therefore, the province noted and appreciated the key amendments to Regulation 16.5.6, which directs that effective from 01st June 2025, an amount of R2 billion and lesser has been determined as the value of the PPP which are exempted from obtaining National Treasury IIA and IIB.

Continuous support will be provided to the NTI Group with preparation of Annual Financial Statements to facilitate submission to the Auditor General as well as clearing the backlog on the submission of previous year financial statements.

Provincial Treasury will strengthen the preventative and deductive measures to ensure that departments comply and pay suppliers on time. Furthermore, the department will advocate for strict consequence management measures for those departments that persistently fail to comply.

The Provincial Treasury has institutionalised strict control measures over budget and cash management and none of the provincial departments will be allowed to overdraw their account as any overspending will be recovered through an adjustment from their future cash transfers. This intervention is meant to enhance cash management and will ensure timely processing of payments.

The department has developed a strategic document on Industrialisation and Job Creation for consideration by EXCO. The objective of this initiative is to take advantage of the procurable budget by identifying frequently procured commodities based on volumes to drive establishment of manufacturing entities in economically depressed municipalities in support of industrialisation and job creation.

Informed by the assessment concluded on the performance of the PER including progressed registered against key deliverables of the Financial Recovery Plan (FRP), the Provincial Treasury would be completely overhauling our Mandatory Intervention Support Programme to make it more effective, intentional but importantly to place the responsibility on the implementation of the recovery plan to the municipality with a much more focused on critical success areas of the FRP.

#### 2025/26 PROVINCIAL TREASURY BUDGET ALLOCATION

Programme	Amount – R'000
Administration	184 751 000
Sustainable Resource Management	250 361 000
Asset and Liability Management	64 328 000
Financial Governance	195 741 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>695 181 000</b>



Municipal Finance Management officials have been offering technical support to various municipalities in the province

# Provincial treasury assists municipality to produce reports



By Kelepile Mokaila

Ga- Mogopa As part of Thunsha Lerole accelerated Service delivery programme in Ga-Mogopa village which falls under the jurisdiction of JB Marks local Municipality, the Provincial Treasury's Municipal Finance Management provided technical support to the municipality's Budget and Treasury Officials to address challenges relating to exponential increase of unauthorized, irregular, fruitless and wasteful (UIF&W) expenditure incurred.

Following the discussion held in the session, Provincial

Treasury guided and assisted the municipality with preparation of the 2022/23 and 2023/24 unauthorized expenditure reports, which are due to be submitted to the Municipal Public Accounts Committee by the municipal manager for possible recovery or write-off. In addition officials also assisted with to review and revision of the UIF&W reduction strategy and implementation plan before being tabled in council for adoption.

According to National Treasury's warnings to municipalities across the country, failure on their part to demonstrate efforts put in place to address such irregular expenditure could trigger section 216(2) of the constitution which allows national treasury to cut transfers to repeat offenders.

This means municipalities stand to lose their equitable share tranche transfer in December and this could throw a spanner in the works of municipalities' service delivery machinery thus leaving communities despondent.

The provincial treasury's plea to municipal officials concerns the critical need to curb Unauthorized, Irregular, Fruitless, and Wasteful (UIF&W) expenditure. The reduction of this spending is meant to improve the municipality's financial stability, which in turn, is essential for hastening service delivery to the public.



MEC for Finance Kenetswe Mosenogi led staff members in celebrating the annual International Nelson Mandela Day by visiting Schweizer-Reneke where they renovated a house belonging to an elderly Ms Ennie Du Plessis.



By Kagiso Mbatha

As part of a day declared by United Nations as International Nelson Mandela day celebrated on 18th July annually, that marks the birthday of an international icon and South Africa's first democratically elected president, Nelson Mandela, the MEC of North West Provincial Treasury Kenetswe Mosenogi brought smiles and a sense of pride and dignity when she handed over a renovated house to an elderly, Ms. Ennie Du Plessis, a 107 year old senior citizen from Schweizer - Reneke in Mamusa,

For the longest time, Ms Du Plessis had longed for her house to be homely and Provincial Treasury made her dreams come true.

The renovations to the house included essential upgrades such as roof repairs, improved sanitation facilities and rewiring of electrical connections.

Speaking at the event MEC Mosenogi stated "Today is a reminder that we have not forgotten our elders. The government will continue to identify elders and assist them. This home is a symbol of respect and care"

MEC Mosenogi added that the project is part of a broader government programme aimed at assisting the most vulnerable, households by improving living conditions and promoting safe living spaces.

A visibly emotional centenarian Ms Du Plessis, expressed deep gratitude to the department of Provincial Treasury and the community for their support. "I never thought I would live to see my home looking this good. I am going to stay in my home with dignity and may God bless all who made this possible" said Ms. Du Plessis

The day kicked-off with MEC Mosenogi, accompanied by Head of department Mr Ndlela Kunene, community leaders, and local residents spending their 67 minutes of Mandela day cleaning at Marang Old age service club. Mandela Day 2025, is a call to action and was held under the theme: "It's still in our hands to combat poverty and inequity."

Nelson Mandela, in addressing the scourge of poverty, suffering and deprivation, said: "It is in your hands to make our world a better one for all, especially the poor, vulnerable and marginalised."

# Mphatlhalatsane Primary gets new pairs of shoes



Provincial Treasury Accountant General Mr Geo Paul and ABSA's Provincial Public Sector Manager Ms Lerato Qoma handover school shoes to learners at Mphatlhalatsane Primary School.

By Kelepile Mokaila

No child should walk to school barefooted particularly in this biting cold winter season. Also no child should drop out of school because they did not have school shoes.

Provincial Treasury in conjunction with ABSA brought smiles and a sense of dignity to over 304 learners at Mphatlhalatsane primary school in Ventersdorp's Tshing extension 10 when they donated school shoes to the school.

Speaking on behalf of the MEC, the acting head of department Mr Geo Paul said the handover of school shoes was more than a ceremonial gesture but rather a tangible response to a real need and expressed his gratitude to the bank for partnering with government to protect the dignity and uphold the rights of every child in the province. He said ABSA's involvement in the initiative is a powerful example of what is possible when government and the private sector come together in service of the people



The school's principal Mr Matsemela Moloi shares a light moment with Director in the MEC's office Mr Kgosana Selebano.

"Through the partnership our learners are receiving more than new shoes, they are being given the gift of confidence, comfort and care. These shoes are a symbol that their lives matter, their education matter and their dignity matters," he said

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Furthermore, he said the initiative aims to remove all obstacles that stand in the way of a child's right to education and personal growth.

Ms Lerato Qoma, ABSA's Provincial Public Sector Manager, stated that as a bank they are a financial institution with a pulse in various communities and are always ready to partner with government to extend a helping hand where there's a need.



Batch of boxes containing school shoes donated to the school.

"As a bank, we believe that education is very important and that it takes a village to raise a child hence we decided to partner with government to assist children from disadvantaged households with school shoes," she said

The school's principal Mr Matsemela Moloi expressed his gratitude to the department and the bank for the donations and said as a newly established school made of pre-fabricated structure there's still a long way to go to be on the standard of other schools, however they are optimistic that public private partnership can change things and as a quintile one91) school they stand to benefit from such partnership.

He appreciated both the department and the bank for having considered his school for shoes donations and said this will instill confidence and a sense of pride in the learners.

Through this partnership, ABSA and the department have been able to donate almost eight hundred school shoes since the beginning of the year with most schools benefitting from this gesture in Schweizer Reneke in the Tswaing municipality



Director in the Office of the MEC Mr Kgosana Selebano directed the day's program.



*Badiri ba lefapha ba thusa dikgwebo ka ikwadiso le go fetola dintlha tsa tsone mo Central Suppliers Database (CSD).*

# **Lefapha la matlotlo la porofense le ikgolaganya le baagi ba dikgwebo mo maitekong a go ruta le go thusa ka ga CSD.**

*By Aobakwe Olehile*

Lefapha la Matlotlo la Porofense ya North West ka lephata la Iona la PSCM le ne mo malobeng la etela kgaolo ya Bojanala, kwa baagi ba dikgwebo ba Mmasepala wa Selegae wa Moretele ba neng ba bona thuso ka letsholo la Polokelo tshedimosetso ya Batlamedi ba Bogare (CSD) la go kwadisa le go tlhabolola dintlha tsa dikgwebo , ditheo tse eseng tsa puso le ditheo tsa tlhokomelo ya bomampipana (ECD)

Go fitlhelela batho gape go ne go ikaeletse go netefatsa gore dintlha tsa batlamedi kgotsa bagwebi di nepagetse, di mo nakong, di netefaditswe e bile di tsamaisana ka bottlalo le melawana e e laolang CSD. Go bona tshusumetso e e kwa godimo ya go fitlhelela temoso eno, badiredi ba PSCM ba ne ba tshwanelwa ke go dira dithulaganyo tse mo mafaratlhatheng go netefatsa gore ditheo tse dintsit di amogela thuso ka moo go ka kgonegang ka teng mo lefelong.

Go ne ga nna le kgatelopele e e bonalang ya go kwadisa dikgwebo tse dintshwa dile 19, dile 79 di ne tsa gakololwa ka ga dithulaganyo tsa CSD le ditheo tse eseng tsa puso

ebile di sa dire morokotso mme le ditheo tsa poraefete di le 117 di ne tsa tshegediwa gore di obamele melao e e laolang CSD ka bottlalo. Seno gape se raya gore ditheo tse di ikobelang melao di ne tsa katisiwa ka ga thulaganyo ya dithendara tsa CSD le go tlamelwa ka dithendara tse di setseng di le teng mo mafapheng le ditheo tsa puso go simolola go dira kopo.

Lefapha la Matlotlo la Porofense le soloeditse gore le tla tswelela go dira maiteko ano a a bottlhokwa go sireletsa dikgwebo le ditheo tsa mofuta mongwe le mongwe go thibela ditirelo tsa ba ba bidiwang "baeletsi (consultants) ba CSD", tse di tlang ka tlhwatlhw a e kwa godimo mme gantsi di tse tse tshedimosetso ya sephiri ya batlamedi kgotsa bagwebi mo kotsing e e ka dirang gore ba dire ditiro tsa tsietso le bo nweenwee.

Lenaneo le, le le neng le tshwaretswe kwa mmasepaleng wa seleage wa Moretele, le ne la netefatsa gore ditirelo tsa CSD di fitlha kwa dikgaolong tse di kgakala tsa motse-selegae jaaka Mathibestad, Syferskuil, Seutelong, le Maubane ka go netefatsa gore le bone ba a tlhatlhoba gore a dikgwebo tsa bone di a dira, di ikobela molao le gore a dintlha tsa bone tsa go ikgolaganya le bone di mo nakong.

*Continues on Pg 14*

Mo godimo ga moo, letsholo leno le ikaeletse go oketsa kitso ya gore batlamedi ba tshwanetse go dira eng le gore ba tshwanetse go nna le ditokomane dife gore ba kgone go dira kgwebo le puso. Ditokamane tsa go tshwana le:

- Valid tax clearance certificate
- BEE registration certificate
- Valid CIPC registration
- ID documents of owners, partners, etc.
- Bank account details
- Proof of address.

Ditokomane tse di tlhokegang tseno di kwadilwe ka botlalo mo: <https://secure.csd.gov.za/Home/RegistrationProcess>.

Rre Lerato Leseka Modiri wa lefapha go tswa kwa PSCM o ne a supa fa a itumeletse segolo-bogolo go nna teng ga basha. "Ke itumeletse gore segolobogolo basha ba tsaya ditshono tse di ntseng jalo ka botlalo ka gonne ke bone isago ya naga eno". "Ke dumela gore dikgwebo tse di golang tse, di eteletsweng pele ke basha, di tla gola le go nna le seabe se segolo mo ikonoming ya naga ya rona", o ne a oketsa.

Fa a ne a bua ka dikgwetlho tse gantsi batlamedi ba ditirelo kgotsa tsone dithoto ba ka ba lebanang le tsone, Rre Leseka o ne a tlhagisa gore molao o thibela badiredi puso go dira kgwebo le puso. Le fa go ntse jalo, badiredi ba pele ba puso ba ba eletsang go kwadisa dikgwebo tsa bone mo CSD ba tshwanetse go netefatsa gore ba na le tetla e e tlhokegang go tswa go mothapi wa bone wa pele go netefatsa gore melao yotlhe e e maleba le dikaelo tsa maitsholo di a latelwa.

CSD ke database e le nngwe e e dirisiwang jaaka motswedi wa tshedimosetso yotlhe ya batlamedi mo maphateng otlhe a puso. Ka jalo, tshedimosetso ya batlamedi e tla tlhomamisiwa ke ditheo tse di jaaka SARS, Khomisene ya Ditlamo le Thoto ya Tlhaloganyo (CIPC), Lephata la Merero ya Selegae.

Thulaganyo ya go ikgolaganya le CSD ya go ikwadisa e tla tswelela mo dikgaolong tse dingwe go ralala porofense go oketsa kitso ka ga dithulaganyo tsa go dira dithendara tsa CSD le bothokwa jwa go netefatsa gore ditheo tseno di ikobela ka botlalo melao yotlhe e e laolang polokelo-tshedimosetso ya motlamedi.



# North West Provincial Treasury takes stock of implementation of HoD's 8 Principles



Head of Department (HOD) Mr Ndlela Kunene gets a report from Deputy Director - Transformation Mr Mompatti Ngakantsi, on the progress registered in the implementing of HOD's 8 Principles Action Plan.

By Gomoelmo Mothibi

Against the scenic backdrop of Black Rock Resort, the North West Provincial Treasury recently hosted a powerful and thought-provoking Public Service Women in Management Meeting. The gathering marked a pivotal moment to reflect on five years of progress under the Department of Public Service and Administration's (DPSA) HOD's 8-Principles Action Plan — a blueprint designed to dismantle barriers, amplify women's voices, and accelerate gender transformation in the public sector.

It was more than just a meeting; it was a clarion call — a reminder that equality cannot exist in theory alone, but must be lived, institutionalized, and fought for daily. This was an introspection exercise of some sort to take stock of progress registered and obstacles encountered if any in the implementation of the principles.

## Building a Fairer, More Inclusive Public Service

The HOD's 8-Principles Action Plan, first launched in 2007, provides a comprehensive framework to integrate gender

empowerment into every layer of government. These principles challenge departments to move beyond compliance and towards a transformative culture, focusing on:

- Transformation for non-sexism
- Establishing a policy
- Meeting equity targets
- Creating an enabling environment.
- Gender Mainstreaming.
- Empowerment
- Providing adequate resources.
- Accountability, monitoring and evaluation
- These principles are not abstract policies; they are the foundation upon which a new era of leadership in the North West's public service is being built.

## Beyond Compliance — Towards Meaningful Change

While significant milestones have been achieved over the last decade, today's dialogue highlighted an uncomfortable truth: progress has been uneven. Despite increased representation of women in senior management, systemic barriers remain deeply entrenched.

Continues on Pg 16



Women senior managers Ms Mastense Matshediso and Chief Financial Officer Ms Ayesha Hassim attended the departmental Public Service Women in Management meeting.

Participants called for more robust strategies to institutionalize gender equality, ensuring that empowerment initiatives are not just annual events or symbolic gestures but sustained programs with measurable impact.

"It is not enough to count the number of women in leadership; we must also make leadership count for women," one participant noted, underscoring the need for policies that translate into tangible improvements in working conditions, recruitment practices, and promotional pathways.

#### Key discussions focused on:

- Establishing departmental women's forums to provide platforms for dialogue and mentorship.
- Improving the working environment to foster productivity and well-being.
- Ensuring equity in recruitment and promotion, breaking the "glass ceiling" that often limits women's upward mobility.
- Embedding quarterly feedback mechanisms to track real-time progress and correct course where needed.
- A Provincial Treasury That Leads by Example

The North West Provincial Treasury has positioned itself as a champion of gender equality, reaffirming its commitment to strengthen strategies for a fairer, more empowered public service.

This year, the department partnered with other provincial government entities — including the Office of the Premier and the Department of Public Works and Roads — to advance Gender-Responsive Planning, Budgeting, Monitoring, and Evaluation. From supporting supply chain transformation to translating gender-disaggregated data, these efforts aim to ensure that public spending reflects the realities and needs of women across the province.

The meeting also reflected on the broader context of Women's Month 2025, which was celebrated under the theme:

#### "Building Resilient Economies for All."

This theme served as a powerful reminder that economic empowerment is inseparable from gender equality. A thriving economy cannot exist while half its potential remains untapped.

#### Walking the Talk — A Call to Action

The day concluded with a renewed sense of purpose and urgency. Delegates agreed that the time has come to move from policy to practice, from promises to performance.

The call was clear:

Break the silence where bias exists.

Dismantle structural barriers that limit women's growth.

Hold leadership accountable for transformation targets.

As one official aptly put it: "Equality is not a favour — it is a right. And a right delayed is a right denied."

The North West Provincial Treasury has pledged to continue championing women's empowerment by embedding gender equity into its core business and creating leadership pathways that reflect the diversity and strength of the communities it serves. Because when women rise, nations thrive.

#### Looking Ahead

The road to gender equality in the public service is neither short nor simple. Yet, today's gathering reaffirmed that the North West Provincial Treasury is determined to lead the way — one policy, one program, and one empowered woman at a time. In the words of African feminist and scholar Dr. Philisiwe Buthelezi: "Transformation is not a destination; it is a journey of courage, resilience, and collective will." And at Black Rock Resort, that journey was reimaged — boldly, inclusively, and unapologetically.



Officials from government departments and entities who attended the Provincial Risk Management Forum.

# NORTH WEST STRENGTHENS Risk Management to Protect Service Delivery

By Gomolemo Mothibi

Government departments and entities in the North West are tightening their grip on risk management, with the Provincial Risk Management Forum holding its second-quarter session of the 2025/2026 financial year this recently.

The meeting brought together departments and entities under one roof to reflect on how the province can better safeguard public resources and prevent risks from derailing service delivery.

## Building Stronger Systems

At the heart of the discussions was the Risk Management Maturity Model, a tool that helps government measure how far it has come in building reliable systems to manage risks. Members agreed that benchmarking with other provinces will provide valuable lessons and help North West refine its own systems.

## Collaboration, Not Duplication

A lively debate emerged around Combined Assurance, an approach that ensures auditors, managers and oversight bodies work together rather than duplicating efforts.

Concerns were raised about how the Provincial Internal Audit can independently validate a model it is also part of, and how coordination between Internal Audit and Risk Management officers should be improved. Departments also highlighted human resource shortages, calling for a review of organograms to provide adequate staff for these critical functions.

Another concern was consistency, departments pointed out that without a standard template from Provincial Risk or Internal Audit, it is often difficult to ensure uniform application of combined assurance across the province. Weaknesses in compliance management, described as the backbone of combined assurance, were also flagged.

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In response, Mr. Floyd Motlhale from the Provincial Internal Audit noted that research is underway to clarify roles within the combined assurance model, with findings to be communicated in due course. The Provincial Risk Management team has also been tasked with drafting a tailored plan for departments, taking into account their unique dynamics.

## Tools for Accountability

The Forum further discussed strengthening the Provincial Risk Management System which is the set of tools and processes that keep government accountable and efficient. Departments also presented their work on Project Risk Management, which requires that risks be identified and managed at every stage of government projects. This step, the Forum stressed, is critical to preventing costly delays and disruptions.

## Why This Matters for Communities

Although these discussions may sound technical, their impact is deeply practical. Strong risk management ensures that public funds are protected, that risks are identified before they spiral into crises and most importantly, that communities continue to receive essential services without disruption.

Speaking after the meeting, the Forum Chairperson Mr. Ofentse Sebaetse emphasised the direct link between effective risk management and service delivery:

“When we manage risks better, we protect public resources and ensure services reach our people without interruption. Risk management is not just about ticking boxes—it is about making sure that government delivers on its promises to communities.”

By refining systems, clarifying roles and building collaboration, the Provincial Risk Management Forum is laying the foundation for a more resilient provincial government, one that delivers services more consistently, efficiently, and responsibly.



Mr Ofentse Sebaetse, Provincial Risk Management Forum chairperson and Provincial Treasury Acting Director: Provincial Risk Management.



# AUDITORS AND FINANCE OFFICIALS TRAINED on AFS preparation and review



Some of the officials who attended Annual Financial Statements preparation and review training

- **Material Misstatements:** Several municipalities submitted financial statements containing material misstatements that were not detected through the existing governance review mechanisms, including internal audits.
- **Limited Impact of Governance Structures:** The audit outcomes indicated that the work of governance structures—such as internal audit units and audit committees—has not significantly improved the quality of financial and performance reports submitted for audit.
- **Capacity and Effectiveness of Internal Audit Units:** Some internal audit units were found to be inadequately capacitated and/or ineffective in fulfilling their responsibilities.
- **Overreliance on Consultants:** Many municipalities continue to depend heavily on consultants for the preparation of financial statements, instead of leveraging their internal capabilities.

By Priscilla Masigo

Provincial Treasury in collaboration with SALGA and COGTA through the Municipal Management Unit, held the Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Training for Auditors and Financial officials from all municipalities. The training was to capacitate the officials to review the Annual Financial Statements and supporting audit files.

The objective of the training is to improve the credibility and quality of the Annual Financial statements by capacitating financial statements reviewers and Internal audit units to perform their function of providing assurance.

Over the past five years, the Auditor-General has consistently raised concerns regarding the continued reliance by many municipalities on the audit process to produce high-quality financial statements. This is despite the presence of adequately skilled personnel within finance units, as well as operational internal audit units and audit committees.

The following key issues have been highlighted for urgent attention:

- **Inadequate Review Processes:** The necessary levels of review were not consistently performed, including those by audit committees and internal audit units, resulting in the submission of poor-quality reports.

Improvements have been observed since the last capacity-building sessions; however, in order to consolidate these gains and address the ongoing concerns raised by the Auditor-General. The training session will focus on the presentation of AFS which amongst other will include the following:

- Provide context and understanding of the GRAP requirements and the underlying AFS information required.
- The review of supporting audit file information which will be used by the Auditor-General in the audit of the AFS. The focus will be on each financial statement component.
- Understand the blind spots that have been hindering the Internal Audit units from producing quality reports and highlighting the emerging risks for the 2025 audits

Municipalities have a responsibility to ensure that the Annual Financial Statements is consistent with the Municipal Budget and Reporting Regulations (MBRR) and GRAP.

The draft Annual Financial Statements should be reviewed by internal audit and audit committee and should be availed to the Provincial Treasury to ensure correct application of standards, and to ensure that the AFS submitted are free from material misstatements.

# THE FUTURE: HRD's CAREER GUIDANCE ROADSHOWS



Learners who attended the career guidance roadshow facilitated by the Human Resource Development Unit.

By Moemedi Kotsedi

The North West Provincial Treasury's Human Resources Development unit collaborated with officials from the Internal Audit team to conduct their annual career guidance roadshow across Moretele and Moses Kotane Local Municipalities.

The purpose of the initiative is to inform and inspire students about potential career paths and opportunities. Furthermore, it provides a platform for them to explore different career options, learn about required skills and qualifications, and make informed decisions about their future. The roadshow also helps learners understand the importance of career planning and developing the necessary skills for the job market.

One of the key drivers behind this initiative is the growing concern over the decline in learner enrolments in commercial subjects such as Accounting, Business Studies, and Economics.

This decline stems from several factors, including:

- Misconceptions about the difficulty of these subjects
- Limited availability of qualified subject-specialist teachers

- Insufficient learning resources, such as up-to-date textbooks

These challenges are concerning because commerce-related disciplines are central to South Africa's economic development and provide access to higher education, employment opportunities, and entrepreneurship.

The decline is a serious concern, as these subjects are highly critical for economic development and accessing higher education and employment opportunities. As Provincial Treasury mainly hires officials with an extensive background in commercial vocations, the HRD unit, led by Mr. Keabetswe Mosane and Boinkanyo Rantlhane, looks to do their part in reintegrating and increasing the enrolment of commercial subjects within the province by conducting these annual roadshows to ensure a steady supply of learners looking to carve a path in the financial sector for years to come.

The internal Audit team, comprising finance professionals, participates in the initiative to help learners overcome the intimidation of these subjects, with team members serving as examples to learners, demonstrating that the journey, perceived as difficult, is achievable as long as learners



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remain vigilant and persistent in their studies.

"Encouraging learners to pursue the commercial stream is vital as it provides them with a strong foundation in business, finance, and economics—disciplines that are central to the functioning of modern economies." shared Mr. Mosane.

During these roadshows, officials engage learners by discovering where their passion lies, guiding them on the key attributes needed to pursue a particular vocation, and explaining the importance of career planning, while also assessing the necessary skills for the job market.

Learners had the opportunity to participate in a series of activities that aimed to help them assess and evaluate their career options, with the expectation that it would provide insights that would enable them to make informed decisions regarding their future and career prospects.

One of the said activities include the 5 steps towards choosing the right career path:

- Know Yourself. This speaks on encouraging learners to think about the things that truly interest them when it comes to a work environment. Learners have to consider the things they do well and tasks they enjoy and find fulfilling.
- Identify Career options: The responsibility lies with the students to explore different occupations, look into job market opportunities, and researching the required education and training.
- Evaluate career options: This step requires learners to weigh the pros and cons of each potential career path against their set of skills, interests, and values.
- Choose career option: At this point, learners will pursue the necessary education and training to prepare for your desired job.
- Design action plan: Outline clear, achievable short-term

and long-term goals to support your chosen career direction.

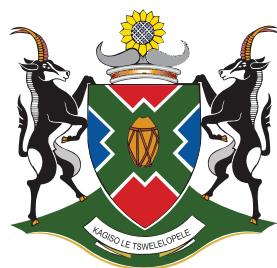
Mr. Boinkanyo Rantlhane believes strongly in the power of commerce-related education to transform lives: "By engaging in the commercial stream, learners gain the versatility to pursue diverse professional fields such as accounting, business management, law, and economics, while also cultivating the adaptability required in a dynamic global market. Ultimately, it empowers them to become strategic thinkers and leaders who can contribute to sustainable economic development and societal progress."

Career guidance at a commercial high school is a critical investment in shaping the future of young professionals, as it provides learners with structured insight into career pathways, economic trends, and the competencies required in a competitive job market. It goes beyond academic preparation by cultivating self-awareness, critical decision-making, and goal setting, thereby enabling learners to align their talents and aspirations with sustainable career opportunities.

In doing so, it bridges the gap between education and the world of work, ensuring that learners are not only employable but also capable of adapting, innovating, and thriving in an ever-evolving professional landscape.

South Africa's future economic success depends on its ability to cultivate a skilled, innovative, and financially literate workforce. By inspiring learners to embrace commercial subjects, the North West Provincial Treasury is helping shape a generation of professionals who will lead businesses, drive policy, and grow the economy.

The message is clear: commerce is not just a subject, it's a pathway to unlocking opportunities, empowering communities, and building a stronger nation.



## provincial treasury

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