

First with the People, First with the News

**Premier Ndlovu: "No safe haven for corruption" in Mpumalanga**

Read More on Page 5



**Hundreds take to the streets of Delmas demanding action from authorities**

More on Page 7



**R1.4bn budget targets jobs, tourism recovery and green energy in Mpumalanga**

Full Story on Page 4

**10 YEARS ON, STILL THE VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS**

Celebrating **10 Years** of telling our communities' stories

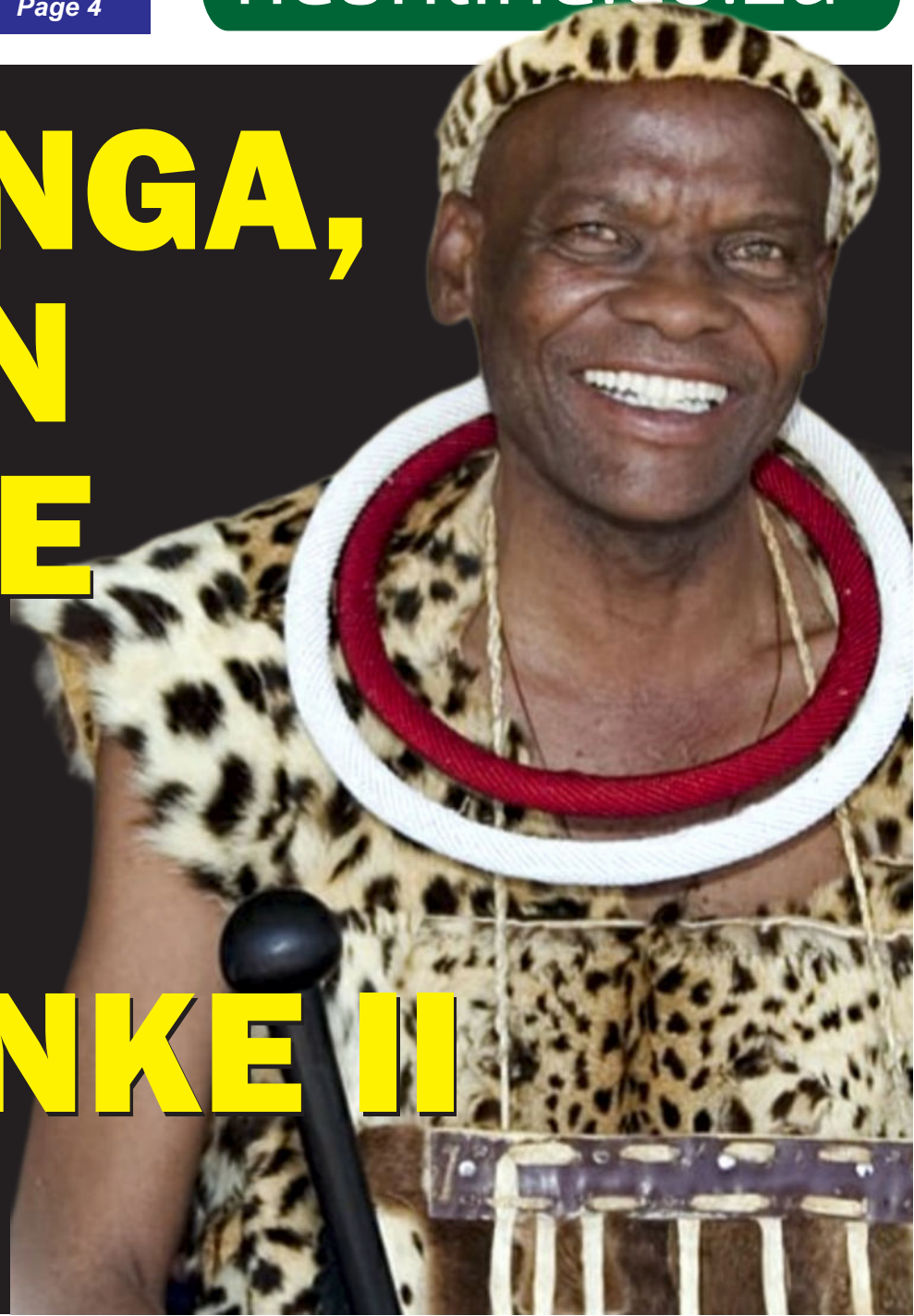
ISSUE: 373 • 12 JUNE 2026

**FREE**

[hconline.co.za](http://hconline.co.za)

# MPUMALANGA, THE NATION MOURN THE PASSING OF KING MAKHOSONKE II

Read More on Page 3



**NKAMA**  
Nkangala Arts & Music Awards



"Celebrating the Creative Pulse of Nkangala"

**ARE YOU READY?**

**INTRODUCING THE NKANGALA ARTS & MUSIC AWARDS**

Celebrating, Unearthing and Elevating local talent across the Nkangala District



VISIT [hconline.co.za](http://hconline.co.za) for more



Nkangala District Municipality

**HIGHVELD CHRONICLE**

FOR NKANGALA PEOPLE - PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY NKANGALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY IN COLLABORATION WITH HIGHVELD CHRONICLE

# Over 700 Bazani Primary learners benefit from textbook donation

● RODNEY HLATSHWAYO

**DELMAS** – More than 700 learners at Bazani Primary School in Botleng are set to benefit from a textbook donation by the Mkhwebane Foundation aimed at improving access to learning resources. The school, a Quintile 3 no-fee institution within the Victor Khanye Local Municipality, serves a community facing socio-economic challenges. The donation forms part of the foundation's education support programme, which provides learning resources to under-resourced schools across Mpumalanga. The textbooks cover subjects including Mathematics, English, Technology and Natural Sciences for learners from Grade R to Grade 7. The initiative is expected to benefit between 700 and 810 learners and aims to ensure that all pupils have access to curriculum-aligned learning materials. According to the foundation, schools are selected based on need, shortages of educational resources, their location in disadvantaged communities and their potential to improve learner outcomes. Advocate Busisiwe Mkhwebane said the

donation forms part of a broader effort to support learners in historically disadvantaged communities. "Education remains one of the most powerful tools for breaking the cycle of poverty. Through this textbook donation programme, we aim to equip learners with the resources they need to succeed academically and unlock opportunities for a better future. Our commitment goes beyond textbooks; we seek to restore dignity, hope and opportunity in communities that continue to face socio-economic challenges," she said. Mkhwebane said the foundation also supports initiatives aimed at addressing barriers that affect learning and school attendance. The organisation has previously distributed school shoes, uniforms and sanitary pads to learners in Thembisile Hani, Emalahleni and Bushbuckridge. It also facilitates mentorship programmes involving teachers, lawyers, business professionals

and community leaders. Future plans include expanding mentorship initiatives, introducing digital learning resources and assisting with infrastructure projects such as classroom upgrades and library development. Bazani Primary School SGB chairperson Linah Margaret welcomed the donation and thanked the foundation for its support. "On behalf of the School Governing Body, staff and the entire school community, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the

Mkhwebane Foundation for the generous donation of textbooks. These resources are relevant to our curriculum and will make a meaningful contribution to improving teaching and learning at Bazani Primary School. Your support is greatly appreciated and will have a lasting positive impact on our learners' academic success. uZimu akwandisele lapho uthethe khona," said Margaret. The donation is expected to strengthen teaching and learning at the school by providing learners with additional curriculum resources.



## Explorare Deum marks Child Protection Week with safety lessons for learners

● RODNEY HLATSHWAYO

**DELMAS** – Children at Explorare Deum Homeschool Learning Space in Delmas marked National Child Protection Week with lessons on safety, community helpers and the role of emergency service personnel in protecting children.

National Child Protection Week was observed from **29 May to 05 June 2026** under the theme **"Working Together in Ending Violence Against Children."**

Explorare Deum, a homeschool learning space that supports Foundation Phase homeschooling families through a structured learning environment with tutor support, social interaction, friendship-building and enrichment activities, hosted a series of interactive activities aimed at teaching learners about child safety in an age-appropriate manner.

The learning space welcomed members of SAPS Delmas, who taught children about police work and public safety. Learners were introduced to the responsibilities of police officers and given a hands-on opportunity to explore equipment used by law enforcement.

Highlights of the visit included children trying on a 12kg bulletproof vest, examining handcuffs, learning about fingerprint identification and understanding how to identify a police officer. The children also sat inside a police vehicle and experienced its sirens. SAPS Delmas provided each child with a gift packet following the visit.

Representatives from Maximum Security also visited the learning space to share child safety information. Children were taught practical safety measures, including avoiding conversations with strangers, refusing sweets or gifts from strangers and protecting their

personal information.

The security representatives also explained what children should do during emergencies and encouraged them to seek assistance from trusted adults when they feel unsafe. Learners received lucky packets from the security company as part of the visit.

Throughout the week, children participated in arts and crafts, educational discussions, dress-up sessions, and learned rhymes and songs related to emergency services. The activities reinforced safety messages while making learning enjoyable.

Founder of Explorare Deum, Tjar-Lize Klopper, said Child Protection Week provided an opportunity to equip children with practical safety knowledge from an early age.

"Our goal was to help children understand that there are people in our community whose job it is to protect and help them. By meeting police officers and security professionals in a friendly and interactive environment, the children were able to learn important safety lessons while building confidence and trust in those who serve our community," said Klopper.

She added that safety education is most effective when presented in a way children can understand and enjoy.

"Children learn best through hands-on experiences, play and meaningful interactions. We wanted them to leave the week not only with happy memories, but also with practical knowledge that could help keep them safe in everyday situations," she said.

Klopper said the week highlighted the importance of collaboration between families, community organisations, law enforcement and security services in creating safe environments where children can learn and thrive.



Learners from Explorare Deum Homeschool Learning Space with members of SAPS Delmas during Child Protection Week.

"the path of the righteous winds upwards to flee from hell beneath us" Prov 15:24



### How your love for God is measured

By Maurice Kande

"If you love me, keep my commands." (John 14:15)

We already know that God loves humanity. This post is not about debating it. But here is a question: 'how is your love for God?'

'Love is a two-way street'. Believers and unbelievers like to say that but in many cases, the 'two way-street' thinking is not always applied with their relationship with God.

In the Kingdom of God, our love for God is not measured by the romantic stuff we say to Him.

As a matter of facts, before Jesus died, Peter promised that he would never betray Jesus (Ref. Matthew 26:31-36) but later he (Peter) betrayed Jesus swiftly.

In Matthew 7:21, Jesus gives a glimpse into Judgement Day where he said: 'Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.'

It's easy to say romantic things to God with our mouth. However, in the Kingdom of God, Jesus said: 'if we love Him, we will obey Him' (ref. John 14:15).

This means that in the Kingdom of

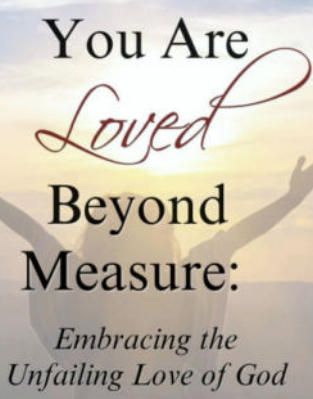
God, your love for God is measured by the obedience you display towards Him.

When God wanted to save humanity, He did not send a love song or poetic blurbs to humanity. On the contrary, He gave His son. The sacrifice He made was an action.

In the spiritual realms, love is measured by actions. Please note that I am not excluding the importance of words in worship, prayers and praise and prayers. I strongly believe that we should keep expressing them. Added to those words, your obedience to God must serve as the proof of your love to Him.

Why am I radical on this?

On Judgement Day, many people will be excluded from entering the Kingdom of Heaven for simply not doing the will of God. It matters that I, as a Bible teacher, place emphasis on this point. At least I would have shown true love to my fellow humans and the blood of many condemned will not be in my hands.



## WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU

FOR FEEDBACK FOR COMMENTS PLEASE EMAIL THE EDITOR ON

info@highveldchronicle.co.za

**HIGHVELD CHRONICLE**

Editor

Magnificent Mndebele

064 785 9746

Advertising

081 303 7023

info@highveldchronicle.co.za

Mulawu Mathye

072 452 9700

Nodicah Fundama

072 817 9329

Esther Mahlangu

082 050 6407

Journalist

Lucas Shongwe

071 499 8950

Rodney Hlatshwayo

076 691 6658

PUBLISHER,

Layout & Design

HIGHVELD CHRONICLE

info@highveldchronicle.co.za

Contact Numbers

081 303 7023

www.hconline.co.za



### DISTRIBUTION AREAS

- \* Delmas
- \* Sundra
- \* Eloff
- \* Ogies
- \* Phola
- \* Kriel
- \* Emalahleni
- \* Machadodorp
- \* Belfast
- \* Waterval Boven
- \* Middelburg
- \* Mhluzi
- \* Hendrina
- \* Kwaggafontein
- KwaMhlanga
- Tweefontein

Call 081 303 7023 to find out the exact spots where you can get the paper



Affiliate with:





# R1.4bn budget targets jobs, tourism recovery and green energy in Mpumalanga

● LUCAS SHONGWE

**MBOMBELA** – The Mpumalanga government has allocated R1.4 billion to economic development and tourism in the 2026/27 financial year, with major investments planned for tourism recovery, business development, industrial growth and renewable energy projects.

Economic Development and Tourism MEC Jesta Sidell tabled the department's R1,406,635,000 budget for the 2026/27 financial year in the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature on 11 June 2026.

She described the budget as a roadmap to transform the economy and ensure growth benefits communities across Mpumalanga.

"This is not just about hope," Sidell told the House. "Every rand has been planned for job creation, fixing our economy, and making sure no area is left behind."

## Tourism receives biggest share

Tourism received the largest allocation of the budget, amounting to R574.9 million.

Most of that funding — R563.5 million — will be transferred to the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA). The agency will use the funds to rehabilitate nature reserves and tourism facilities damaged by floods, while also to revitalise ageing infrastructure and introduce new tourism products to increase visitor

numbers.

Sidell said tourism remains the province's "golden egg". Mpumalanga is currently ranked second in South Africa for international tourist arrivals, and the department aims to maintain that position.

A total of R981.8 million will be transferred to the department's entities and agencies.

Budget allocations

## Programme 1: Administration – R146.9 million

This allocation will fund personnel, operational requirements and administrative functions to ensure the department operates effectively.

## Programme 2: Integrated Economic Development – R358.5 million

Of this amount, R281.5 million will be transferred to the Mpumalanga Economic Growth Agency (MEGA) to support business development and economic growth.

An additional R3.1 million has been allocated to the Mpumalanga Tourism Youth Fund to support youth participation in the tourism sector.

## Programme 3: Trade and Sector Development – R135.5 million

This includes:

- R80 million for the Nkomazi Special Economic Zone to

attract investment, industrial development and job creation.

- R2.3 million for the Mpumalanga Stainless Steel Initiative.
- R743,000 for Furntech.
- R21 million for the Mpumalanga Green Cluster Agency to support renewable energy and green economy projects.

## Programme 4: Business Regulation and Governance – R165 million

Of this amount, R136.7 million will be transferred to the Mpumalanga Economic Regulator (MER).

According to Sidell, MER generated approximately R2 billion in revenue during the previous financial year, compared to R1.5 billion the year before. The regulator also conducted more than 6,800 inspections at liquor outlets and acted against illegal gambling operations.

Sidell warned that proposed national taxes on online gambling could negatively affect provincial revenue streams.

She said the proposal could remove up to 42.5% of gambling income before operational costs are deducted, reducing funding available for local development initiatives.

## Programme 5: Economic Planning – R25.5 million

The allocation will be used to review and update the province's economic growth and trade development plans.

Focus on green energy and industrial growth

The department plans to host a Mpumalanga Energy Investment Roundtable aimed at attracting additional investment into solar, wind and other renewable energy projects. The initiative forms part of broader efforts to diversify the provincial economy and support job creation within the renewable energy sector. Agriculture, mining, manufacturing,

tourism and the green economy remain the province's key economic sectors.

The department is also reviewing its economic growth strategy to strengthen industrial development and boost exports.

"To the people of Mpumalanga, 'The Place of the Rising Sun,' the sun is rising once more," Sidell said.

"We are rebuilding. We are recovering. We are opening the doors of the economy for everyone."



Economic Development and Tourism MEC Jesta Sidell with the Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) team during a walkabout of exhibition stalls ahead of delivering her budget speech.

**Mpumalanga**  
TOURISM AND PARKS AGENCY  
An Entity of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism

Book **2 nights** or more at  
**KROMDRAAI CAMP**

Reservation Contact Number: +27 13 065 0865 | Email: Reservations@mtpa.co.za  
WhatsApp: 082 870 5522 | Terms and condition apply. Package valid from 1 May - 31 July 2026

MPUMALANGA, EMBRACE THE UNKNOWN, LIVE THE ADVENTURE.

[www.mpumalanga.com](http://www.mpumalanga.com)

[#DiscoverMpumalanga](https://www.instagram.com/DiscoverMpumalanga)



# Premier Ndlovu: “No safe haven for corruption” in Mpumalanga

● LUCAS SHONGWE

**MBOMBELA** – Premier Mandla Ndlovu has pledged tougher action against fraud and corruption, saying there will be “no safe haven for corruption” as the Office of the Premier (OTP) prepares to implement a R505.9 million budget for the 2026/27 financial year. Delivering the Vote 1 Policy and Budget Speech in the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature on Thursday, 11 June 2026, Ndlovu said public trust depends on clean governance. He said the OTP would lead by example and ensure provincial departments and entities spend public funds responsibly. The Premier promised stronger internal controls and risk management across government. This includes regular audits, closer monitoring of procurement processes and stricter penalties for officials and suppliers who break the rules. “Prevention comes first,” Ndlovu stressed, adding that departments would receive support to close loopholes before public funds are lost. He also committed to working closely with law enforcement agencies such as the Hawks, Special Investigating Unit (SIU) and National Prosecuting Authority (NPA).

“Where investigations find wrongdoing, the Office of the Premier will ensure cases are followed through and that officials found guilty face disciplinary action. There will be no safe haven for corruption,” he said. Ndlovu highlighted plans to strengthen whistleblower protection, saying the OTP would improve channels for public servants and citizens to report fraud without fear of victimisation. He added that reports would be investigated promptly, with feedback provided where possible. He linked corruption directly to service delivery. “Every rand lost to fraud is a rand that can’t go to jobs, clinics, schools or fixing tourism infrastructure,” he said. To strengthen accountability, the OTP will publish regular updates on disciplinary cases and funds recovered, enabling the public to track progress. The Premier also linked anti-corruption efforts to the province’s economic growth agenda. He said investors and businesses would be reluctant to invest in

Mpumalanga if contracts were awarded unfairly rather than on merit. By strengthening controls in procurement and project management, the province aims to create a fairer environment for youth, women and small businesses to participate in the economy. “To the people of Mpumalanga, your government belongs to you,” Ndlovu said. “We will guard it, we will clean it, and we will make it work for you.” Ndlovu requested the House to approve a budget of R505,959,000 for the 2026/27 financial year. The budget is allocated as follows: **Programme 1: Administration** receives R197,190,000 to support the operations of the Office of the Premier. **Programme 2: Institutional Development Support and Integrity Management** receives R241,591,000, the largest allocation, to strengthen governance, risk management and the fight against fraud and corruption. **Programme 3: Policy, Research, Performance Monitoring and Evaluation** is allocated R67,178,000 to drive planning, research and performance oversight across the provincial government.



Premier Mandla Ndlovu pledges tougher audits, strengthened whistleblower protection and “no safe haven for corruption” as the Office of the Premier commits to advancing clean governance in Mpumalanga through its 2026/27 budget.

## GCIS empowers Nkangala TVET students to exercise their democratic rights

● NODICAH FUNDAMA

**EMALAHLENI** – The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) conducted a campus activation at Nkangala TVET College’s Witbank Campus on 10 June 2026 to encourage active citizenship and democratic participation among young people.

The activation formed part of the national commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the 1976 Youth Uprising. Through the initiative, GCIS sought to honour the legacy of the youth of 1976 by empowering today’s generation with information and opportunities to participate meaningfully in South Africa’s

democracy. The programme featured the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), which engaged students on the importance of voting and participating in democratic processes. The IEC also provided on-site voter registration services, allowing eligible students to register, verify their registration status and update their details. GCIS representative Patricia Matsila said the activation formed part of efforts to empower young people through access to information and encourage them to exercise their democratic rights. “As we commemorate 50 years since the 1976 Youth Uprising, it is

important to empower the youth of today with information that enables them to participate meaningfully in democracy,” said Matsila. “We invited the IEC to guide students through the voter registration process, assist those who are not yet registered and help them identify their voting stations. Through initiatives like these, we are ensuring that young people understand the importance of their voice and their role in shaping the future of the country.” Students welcomed the initiative, saying it highlighted the importance of civic responsibility and active citizenship. Nkangala TVET College N6 student

Ruth Nxumalo expressed appreciation for the programme and its focus on youth empowerment. “We thank GCIS for visiting our campus during Youth Month to educate and encourage us to participate in the upcoming local government elections,” she said. “As young people, we are sometimes reluctant to get involved in matters that affect our future. This programme has shown us the importance of voting and making our voices heard. It is a valuable opportunity for us to become active participants in our democracy.”



**STRUGGLING WITH SALES?**

**WANT MORE VISIBILITY?**

**IF YOUR ANSWER IS YES, REACH OUT TO US, LET US GIVE YOU A PACKAGE WITH TRACEABLE RETURNS**

**CONTACT US TO FIND OUT MORE!**

**081 303 7023**

# ISIKO LETHU

## Our Story

WITH SIPHO MAHAMBA

## ILIZWI

### Ukuqakatheka kokwenzela abantwana abomazisi

Umazisi mtlo oqakathekileko ophethe imininingwana yokubelethwa komuntu. Umazisi wabantwana owathoma ukukhutjiswa ngomnyaka we-2013 umumethe imininingwana ababelethi bobabili (umma nobaba) efaka hlangana amagamabo, amalangabo wkubelethwa nobuzwe babo. Abantwana babelethelwa eemtholapilo namkha eembhedlela bese umma unikelwa ubifakazi bokubeletha, pheqelesi i-proof of birth. Ngemva kwalokho umntwana nombelethi bathathwa imino, Kufuneka nomazisi wombelethi loyo. Ukutlolisela abantwana abomazisi Kuqakathekile ngombana lokho kurhelebha umbuso ngenani elinqopholeko labantu abakhona eSewula Afrika, ukwenzelana bona umbuso uhlele ngekusasa lenarha, uhlele iinsiza zezepilo, iindingo zezefundo nokhunye okunengi.

Abomazisi baqinisekisa ukuvikela amalingelo wabantwana. Abantwana kufanele baziwe, kwaziwe nobuzwe babo, bavikelwe ekwetjweni nekuqatjhwani. Abantwana nabanabomazisi bakghona ukuthola imigomo eemtholapilo evikela amalwele ngokuhlukana kwawo.

Abantwana nabanganabomazi abakghoni ukuthola ekubafaneleko njengesibonelelo seemali esivela ebusweni. Kanti-ke nokudla okulethwa eenkolweni kulethwa, kumedwe ngesibalo sabantwana abanabomazisi esikolweneso ngombana irherho leskolo libala abantwana laba abalethe abomazisi k'phela esikolweni. Ngikho uthola ukudla esikolweni kutlhayela ngaphambi kobana iinkolo zivalwa nje. Abantwana nangabe balitjhumu esikolweni kodwana abahlanu abanabomazisi, umbuso uletha ukudla wabantwana abahlanu k'phela, lokho kuba nomthelela omumbi ekukhamboseni nokuhlela ngemali yombuso.

Umbuso nabadlalindima kufanele babeke phambili imizamo yokuqinisekisa bonyana ukuba abomazisi kukhamba phambili ukuze woke umuntu wenarheni azuze okumfaneleko.

Umtloli. Sibongile Precious Skosana

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

Daybreak Foods Delmas Abattoir is an existing poultry abattoir which slaughters, processes, and packages poultry products. The site is situated in the town of Delmas, within the Victor Khanye Local Municipality and the Nkangala District Municipality under the Mpumalanga Provincial Government. The site is applying for a water use license for water use activities currently undertaken on the site. This advertisement serves as a notice of the Public Participation Process to be undertaken regarding the water use license application.

#### Location of the activities:

Portion 21 of Geluk 234/IR, Victor Khanye Local Municipality, Nkangala District Municipality, Mpumalanga Province

#### Nature of proposed activity, applicable legislation, and listed activity applied for:

The following water uses will be applied for:

#### Section 21(a):

- Abstraction of water from a groundwater source

#### Section 21(b):

- Storage of water

#### Section 21(e):

- Engaging in a controlled activity

#### Section 21(g):

- Storing or disposing of waste

#### Section 21(c):

- Within 500 m of a wetland

#### Section 21(i):

- Within 500 m of a wetland

#### Competent authority and relevant reference number:

Department of Water and Sanitation: Olifants Water Management Area

Reference number: Yet to be allocated

#### Additional information

Letters are sent to all I&APs and stakeholders on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2026. A site notice will be placed at the site on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2026.

#### Register as an interested and affected party (I&AP):

To register as an I&AP of this project, to obtain more information, or submit comments, please request a Registration Form from BECS and return it to the details provided below, on or before the 12<sup>th</sup> of August 2026.

#### Contact details for more information:

To obtain additional information, please contact the EAP at the details provided below.

BECS Services (Pty) Ltd,  
Hussain Kaka:072 605 5294 eap1@becserv.co.za

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



**CHADOR**  
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION CONSULTANT

**Your Service Partner in:**

- Trucking & Logistics Admin
- Bookkeeping
- HR & Payroll Services
- RTMS Implementation & Audit Services

**Get in Touch with Us ...**

TEL: 013 880 0225  
Business WhatsApp: 072 642 2069 | Website: [www.chadorprojects.co.za](http://www.chadorprojects.co.za)

QUALITY SERVICES  
◆ INNOVATION  
◆ INTEGRITY

### NEW CLYDESDALE COLLIERY NOTICE TO INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES REGARDING THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR BASIC ASSESSMENT FOR SECTION 102 AMENDMENT OF UNIVERSAL COAL DEVELOPMENT IV (PTY) LTD (NEW CLYDESDALE COLLIERY)

**Introduction and Background:** Universal Coal Development IV (Pty) Ltd ("UCDIV") is a joint venture between Ndalamo Resources (Pty) Ltd and Universal Coal Energy Holdings SA (Pty) Ltd. UCDIV currently conducts both open-cast and underground mining activities across several farms. The operation is supported by approved Environmental Authorisation and Water Use License authorisations. The approved mining area includes portions of the farms Middeldrift 42IS, Diepspruit 41IS, Rietfontein 43IS, Vaalkranz 29IS, Lourens 472IS, Clydesdale 483IS, Enkeldebosch 20IS, Fincham 826 IS, Haasfontein 28IS, and Roodekop 63IS, covering a total extent of approximately 4 960.77 hectares. UCDIV has the following existing authorisations:

- Environmental Authorisation (EA), MP30/5/1/2/3/492MR; and
- Water Use Licence (WUL), 06/B11E/ACGIJ/12237.

UCDIV intends to consolidate Portions RE1, 2, RE 3, 5, 6 and 20 of the farm Middeldrift 42-IS, and a Portion of Portion 9 of the farm Kromfontein 39-IS currently authorised under the mining right MP30/1/2/2/375MR, of the Glencore Operations South Africa (Pty) Ltd Impunzi Division ("Impunzi") owned by Glencore Operations South Africa (GOSA), into the existing UCDIV mining right area. Impunzi has the following respective authorisations:

- EMPr, MP30/5/1/2/3/375 MR; and
- WUL, 06/B11E/CIBFGJA/9305.

As part of the proposed project, UCDIV also plans to develop and operate new infrastructure, as well as expand or modify existing infrastructure, to support mining and mineral processing activities within the consolidated area. The proposed infrastructure will comprise a coal crushing plant, a weighbridge, a pad, a security tarpaulin, and a powerline.

**Environmental Regulatory Process:** The proposed consolidation of the properties and incorporation of the Impunzi MR into the MR of the UCDIV requires the amendment of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) in terms of Section 102 of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act 28 of 2002) (MPRDA) (Section 102 EMP Amendment), as amended. The Section 102 EMP Amendment triggers listed activities and EA application and Basic Assessment (BA) to be undertaken in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), read in conjunction with the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 (GNR.982 of 4 December 2014), as amended (2014 EIA Regulations).

Please note that the presence and potential disturbance of protected trees on site constitute a listed activity. As such, this triggers the requirement for a licence/permit from the relevant authority, which will be applied for and submitted as a separate process.

**Project Locality:** New Clydesdale Colliery is located in Mpumalanga Province within the Witbank Coalfield, approximately 50 km south of Emalahleni and 30 km north of Bethal. The mine is surrounded by small villages and communities, including Albion, Thubelihle, Ga-Nala and Rietspruit, as well as scattered farmsteads and agricultural holdings.

**Public Participation Process:** In line with the EA Application Process, a Public Participation Process (PPP) must be conducted in accordance with Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations, 2014. The purpose of the PPP is to promote transparency and to ensure that communities, organisations, and other stakeholders are informed about the proposed project and have an opportunity to share their views and concerns. Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) are encouraged to review the environmental documents made available for public comment and submit written feedback. This process helps decision-makers consider community input and make informed environmental decisions. All individuals, communities, and organisations who may be affected by, or have an interest in the proposed project are invited to register as I&APs.

**The Draft Basic Assessment Report (DBAR), including the EMPr amendment, is available for a 30-day legislated period for reviewing and commenting from 12 June 2026 to 13 July 2026.**

The report is available on various platforms within the project area and on the Digby Wells website ([www.digbywells.com](http://www.digbywells.com)) under Public Documents and can be downloaded free of data charges on the provided link: <http://view.datafree.co/PublicDocuments/>.

#### REGISTRATION AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY:

To register as an I&AP to receive further information or provide comments on the proposed project, please use the contact details provided below and include the Digby Wells project reference number: **NDL9887**.

**Digby Wells Environmental contact details: Contact Person:** Tshilidzi Tsotetsi / Floyd Babani

**Email:** [sh@digbywells.com](mailto:sh@digbywells.com) **Tel:** (011) 789 9495, **Fax:** (011) 789 9498

**Post:** Private Bag X10046, Randburg, 2125



**SP MAHAMBA**  
**PEST CONTROL**

EXPERT IN  
COMMERCIAL  
INDUSTRIAL &  
HOUSEHOLDS  
TREATMENT






**NEED LONG TERM PEST CONTROL SOLUTION?**

**LOOKING FOR COMPLIANCE?**

**LOOK NO FURTHER... GET RID OF PESTS FOR GOOD!**

OUR RELIABLE AND EFFECTIVE PEST CONTROL SOLUTIONS ON OFFER:

- ✓ Rodent Control
- ✓ Cockroach Control
- ✓ Ants Control
- ✓ Termite Control
- ✓ Flies Control
- ✓ & MORE

CALL US TODAY... OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

- ✓ Effective & Efficient Solutions
- ✓ Professional work by experienced technicians
- ✓ Use of Eco-Friendly and safe products
- ✓ Competitive pricing

CLAIM YOUR FREEDOM BACK, Don't Let Pests Take Over!

Reach out to us today and qualify for a 10% discount for first time service when you mention this flyer!

**FOR A FREE QUOTE, CALL OR WHATSAPP**  
**060 650 2413**

TRUSTED FOR OVER 8 YEARS IN HOME AND INDUSTRIAL SOLUTIONS  
[www.spmahambatrading.co.za](http://www.spmahambatrading.co.za)





## Hundreds take to the streets of Delmas demanding action from authorities

● RODNEY HLATSHWAYO

**DELMAS** – Hundreds of residents marched through Delmas on Thursday, 12 June 2026, in a peaceful demonstration led by the March and March movement, calling for stricter law enforcement, immigration compliance, municipal by-law enforcement and improved public safety.

The march began at the N12 in Emabhodini before proceeding through parts of Delmas, drawing additional supporters along the route. Some shops in the town centre temporarily closed as the procession passed.

The march remained peaceful throughout the day and was attended by traditional leaders as well as representatives of the movement's national structures.

Speaking to *Highveld Chronicle*, convenor Dikgetse "Slash" Sepenyane said the march was aimed at pressuring government to respond to concerns about law enforcement, crime, immigration compliance and economic conditions in the town.

"Today the people of Delmas have spoken with one voice. This march is about accountability and ensuring that government institutions fulfil their responsibilities," said Sepenyane.

The first stop was the Delmas Police Station, where memorandums were handed over to SAPS and the Department of Home Affairs.

The memorandum was received by Acting Station Commander Colonel Victor Dibakwane and Home Affairs office manager Marlene Ngema.

The march later proceeded to the Victor Khanye Local Municipality, where a third memorandum was submitted to Executive Mayor Vusi Buda.

The memorandum outlines concerns including immigration compliance, municipal by-law enforcement, alleged illegal trading, crime-related activity, electricity theft and public safety issues.

It states that the initiative is not motivated by xenophobia, but

seeks consistent enforcement of South African laws.

Traditional leaders expressed support for the march, calling for peaceful engagement and cooperation between communities and government.

Organisers said authorities have until Monday to show visible progress in addressing the concerns raised.

"The memorandums have been received and acknowledged. We now expect action from authorities," said Sepenyane.

He said further mobilisation would follow if no progress is made.

"This is not the end of the campaign. We will continue engaging authorities to ensure that concerns are addressed within the law."



## Two accused remain in custody after bail refusal

● RODNEY HLATSHWAYO

**DELMAS** – The Delmas Magistrate's Court has denied bail to Samuel Mthokozisi Mabethe and Xolani "Boy" Masuku, who are facing charges of murder, imputing witchcraft and defeating the ends of justice in connection with the death of Sibongiseni Sithole.

The two accused were arrested in May 2026 following a police investigation into Sithole's death and made their first appearance in the Delmas Magistrate's Court shortly thereafter. The matter was postponed to allow for further investigations and a formal bail application.

According to the State, Sithole was allegedly accused of practising witchcraft before he was killed. Prosecutors further allege that actions following the incident led to an additional charge of defeating the ends of justice. Sithole was allegedly stabbed at the suspects' residence in RDP Extension 3 on 12 June 2023. His body was reportedly dumped a few metres from the house and discovered by a passer-by the following morning.

During the bail proceedings, the State opposed the release of both accused, arguing that the seriousness of the charges and the interests of justice justified their continued detention.

In delivering judgment, the court found that the accused had failed to demonstrate the exceptional circumstances required under Schedule 6 of the Criminal Procedure Act to qualify for bail.

The court emphasised the gravity of the allegations, noting that the matter involved the loss of human life. Evidence presented during the bail hearing indicated that Sithole was allegedly strangled, stabbed twice and had a cross carved onto his forehead before his death.

Describing the alleged killing as particularly gruesome, the court noted that the level of violence had shocked members of the community.

In support of his bail application,

Mabethe told the court that he suffers from health complications affecting his legs and feet and feared losing his employment if bail was refused. Masuku told the court that he is responsible for supporting his minor children financially and that continued detention would affect his ability to provide for them.

However, the court ruled that these factors constituted ordinary personal circumstances commonly raised in bail applications and did not amount to the exceptional circumstances required by law.

The magistrate further considered whether the release of the accused would be in the interests of justice. Although neither accused has previous convictions or pending criminal cases, the court found that concerns regarding witness safety, community tensions and public confidence in the administration of justice weighed against their release.

Evidence before the court indicated that witnesses in the matter remain fearful and require protection. The court noted that both the prosecution and defence agreed that witness identities should not be publicly disclosed

for safety reasons. It further found that even strict bail conditions would not adequately address concerns relating to possible witness intimidation.

The court also took into account the reaction of the community. Although the alleged offence occurred in 2023, it noted that public anger remains significant. Evidence presented during the proceedings indicated that one of the accused's homes was allegedly set alight following community outrage over the incident. After considering all the evidence, the court ruled that the accused had failed to satisfy the requirements for bail and ordered that both remain in custody.

The matter was postponed to 29 June 2026 pending a decision by the Office of the Senior Public Prosecutor on whether the case will proceed in the Regional Court or be transferred to the High Court.

Speaking to *Highveld Chronicle* after the ruling, Siphwe Sithole, the mother of the deceased, welcomed the court's decision.

"I am happy with the court's decision. It gives me hope that we will finally get justice for my child," she said.

The case continues to attract public attention as the community awaits the next stage of the prosecution.



Accused number one, Samuel Mthokozisi Mabethe (right), and accused number two, Xolani "Boy" Masuku (left), appeared in the Delmas Magistrate's Court, where their bail application was denied. Photo: Rodney Hlatshwayo

## Residents accuse SAPS officers of misconduct during Middelburg raid

● LUCAS SHONGWE

**MIDDELBURG** – A residents' group has accused SAPS officers of misconduct during a joint operation in the Middelburg CBD, alleging that police failed to act on suspected criminal activity and that an activist was assaulted while in custody.

The allegations stem from a March-To-March operation conducted on 09 June 2026, during which activists claim they discovered drugs, cash, laptops and a suspected identity document printer inside a flat in the Middelburg CBD.

In a statement issued on Thursday, the Acting Residents of Greater Middelburg alleged that the occupants of the flat requested the presence of the Acting Station Commander and another senior SAPS officer before opening the door.

"Upon entry, the senior officer unilaterally declared the premises 'clear,'" the group stated.

The group alleges that activists later discovered the items inside the flat and questioned why they had not initially been identified.

A confrontation later occurred between March-To-March member Nkazimulo Mabena and a SAPS colonel. Mabena was subsequently arrested and charged with assault.

The group further alleges that Mabena was assaulted while in police custody. "We have credible evidence he was subjected to brutal physical assault while in custody," the statement reads.

Mabena appeared in court on Wednesday with visible injuries to his head and eye before being released on R5,000 bail.

"We organised March-To-March to build a safer community," the residents declared.

"Instead, we were met with obstruction, suspected collusion with criminal elements and violence against our own members. We will not be silenced by intimidation or police brutality."

The group said formal complaints had been submitted to the Acting Provincial Commissioner, District Commissioner, the Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID), the MEC for Community Safety and the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC).

The group is calling for investigations into the conduct of the officers involved.

"We call upon the community to remain vigilant and peaceful as we pursue justice," the group vowed.

"Those tasked with protecting our citizens must be held to the highest standards of the law."

Mabena's assault case will return to the Middelburg Magistrate's Court on 26 June 2026.

When approached for comment, SAPS said the matter had been handed over to IPID for investigation.



Nkazimulo Mabena, who alleges he was assaulted while in police custody, was released on bail the following day.

**SEMITAH ELECTRICAL**

*Expert Electrical Solutions for Your Home and Business!*

**OUR SERVICES:**

- Fault diagnosis
- Appliance fixes
- Home inspections (COC)
- House wiring
- Air Conditioner Installation and repairs
- Solar Installation
- and many more

**CONTACT US**

0760361640/0832560533

info@semitahlectrical.co.za



# Bafana Bafana urged to regroup ahead of crucial World Cup fixtures

● RODNEY HLATSHWAYO

**SOUTH AFRICA** - South Africans have been urged to continue rallying behind Bafana Bafana despite a disappointing start to their 2026 FIFA World Cup campaign following their opening match against Mexico.

The national team struggled to find rhythm for large periods of the match, with costly mistakes and defensive lapses proving expensive against a disciplined Mexican side. Bafana Bafana lost 2 nil while also receiving two red cards. Poor decision-making in key moments, misplaced passes and missed opportunities in front of goal left many supporters frustrated as Bafana Bafana failed to produce the performance many had hoped for.

While the result was disappointing, football analysts believe the team still has an opportunity to recover and make a strong statement in their remaining group matches.

The focus now shifts to South Africa's upcoming fixtures against Czechia on 18 June and South Korea on 25 June. Both matches will be crucial if Bafana Bafana are to keep their hopes of progressing to the next round alive.

Supporters across the country have been encouraged to stand firmly behind the national team as they prepare for the next challenge. Government and sporting bodies have launched campaigns calling on South Africans to unite behind Bafana Bafana and use the World Cup as an opportunity to promote nation-building, unity and social cohesion.

Fans have also been encouraged to participate in the #BafanaFridays campaign by wearing official Bafana Bafana jerseys, replica shirts and national colours every Friday throughout the tournament.

The campaign aims to demonstrate visible support for the team and remind players that millions of South Africans continue to believe in them despite a difficult start. As Bafana Bafana return to training and prepare for their next

assignment, supporters will be hoping the coaching staff can address the errors that affected the opening match and inspire a stronger performance in the remaining group-stage fixtures.

The nation remains behind the team, with many believing that determination, improved execution and unity can help Bafana Bafana bounce back and keep their World Cup dream alive.



Bafana Bafana players during South Africa's 2-0 defeat to Mexico in their opening match of the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

**NKANGALA**  
Nkangala Arts & Music Awards

**NKANGALA SOCCER**  
ACTIVATION EVENT

**NO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WILL BE LEFT BEHIND**

Coming to you in:  
**JULY & AUGUST 2026**

**PRIZES TO BE WON**

**LOTS OF ENTERTAINMENT**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
Nkangala District Municipality

IN COLLABORATION WITH  
**HIGHVELD CHRONICLE**

For more info or registration contact: Mulawu on 072 452 9700 or 081 303 7023

**NKANGALA**  
Nkangala Arts & Music Awards

**NKANGALA NETBALL**  
ACTIVATION EVENT

**NO LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WILL BE LEFT BEHIND**

Coming to you in:  
**JULY & AUGUST 2026**

**PRIZES TO BE WON**

**LOTS OF ENTERTAINMENT**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
Nkangala District Municipality

IN COLLABORATION WITH  
**HIGHVELD CHRONICLE**

For more info or registration contact: Nodich on 072 817 9329 or 081 303 7023

**MYABA MEDIA & TECH**

**YOUR ONE-STOP SOLUTION FOR DIGITAL EXCELLENCE**

Let us strengthen your digital presence and accelerate your business/brand growth and impact.

**OUR SERVICES**

- Interactive Website Design
- Professional Corporate Branding
- Custom Software Solutions
- UP TO 30% OFF FOR MULTIPLE SOLUTIONS
- Promotional Video Clips
- Social Media & Online Marketing

CONNECT WITH US FOR A FREE TECH OR BRANDING GUIDE

Ready to grow your business?  
Call or WhatsApp **081 410 9337**

myabamediatech.com OR m-mediatech.co.za