



community safety,  
security & liaison  
MPUMALANGA PROVINCE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



MEC Pat Ngomane

*Budget Speech*  
*Policy*  
**2018/19**  
*Budget Speech*



MPUMALANGA  
THE PLACE OF THE RISING SUN

## **MEC PS Ngomane's Policy and Budget Speech delivered on 31 May 2018**

Honourable Speaker and Deputy Speaker

Honourable Premier of the Province, Ms. RM Mtshweni

Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature

Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee Honourable G C Tshabalala

House of Traditional Leaders led by the Chairperson, Inkhosi Sandile Ngomane

Acting Director General of the Mpumalanga Provincial Government, Mr. KM Mohlasedi

Head of Department, Mr. William Mthombothi and fellow HODs present

The South African Police Service (SAPS) Provincial Commissioner Lt. General Mondli Zuma and his management team,

Chairperson of the CPF Provincial Board Mr. Kevin Pillay

Public Safety councilors from various municipalities

Representatives from the JCPS Cluster

Distinguished guests and all dignitaries present today

Members of the media,

Comrades and Friends

Ladies and gentlemen

Sanibonani, dumelang, avuxeni, lotjhani, goeiedag, good day.

Honourable Speaker, following the re-election of the governing party in 2014, it was mandated that one of the key objectives of the current government, as per the National Development Plan, is to ensure that people are and feel safe, which is entailed in outcome number 3.

The work that this department has done over the last four years has been towards the realization of that objective.

Although major strides have been made in the fight against crime, the recent attacks on the most vulnerable members of the society, mainly children, suggest that we still have a long way to go to achieve the objective of ensuring that all South Africans are and feel safe.

The former Premier, now the Deputy President of the Republic, Honourable DD Mabuza during his last State of the Province Address said: "We are pleased to see a gradual decline in many categories of crime. But we are no near where we should be in ensuring that our people feel safe in areas where they live."

There have been several cases of children who disappeared from their homes and were later found dead. Earlier this year, Madam Speaker, two children Gabisile Shabani who was living with albinism and her sister, were kidnapped in Vosman near Emalahleni. One of them, her body was later found with missing body parts. The case of these children is very painful. Madam Speaker, because they are not yet buried since their bodies were found in a bad state of decay and this resulted to a prolonged DNA process to confirm their identities.

In another incident, a 16-year-old Amogelang Rammone from Mametlhake was reported missing last year in October. She disappeared after informing her mother that she was visiting a friend at a nearby village. Her whereabouts is still unknown.

A 10-year-old child, Bawinile Khoza disappeared only to have her lifeless body found dumped at Snake Park in Mametlhake few months later.

In another recent incident, a 13 year old boy, Katlego Marite, was abducted in Tasbet Park in Emalahleni. Few days ago another girl was abducted by men at her school in Siyabuswa. Fortunately Madam Speaker, both children have been found alive.

This sadly happens while the country is commemorating Child Protection Week.

These are some of the few cases that should indicate to us that we still have a lot of work to do in order to make all people feel safe especially those who are vulnerable and are also unable to protect themselves such as children.

What is encouraging though, Madam Speaker is that arrests have been made in most of these cases and suspects are currently appearing in courts in relation to these cases and other cases which include murder, kidnapping and defeating the ends of justice.

We want to appeal to those who have been entrusted with the duty of investigating these cases to do thorough investigations in order to ensure that the evil doers are successfully prosecuted and accordingly punished.

We are also appealing to communities to work with us by exposing those who threaten the wellbeing of our children and also give the police information that will assist in solving these cases.

On the other hand, the department will continue to enhance awareness campaigns around child safety in communities. This we will do through the 365 days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children and other school safety projects that are currently implemented in identified schools.

Madam Speaker, it is also in this context that as a province, we fully welcome the announcement made by Police Minister, Honourable Bheki Cele during the tabling of his Policy and Budget Speech that another Firearms Amnesty is on the cards and will be implemented this year.

We support this initiative by the Minister because we all know that most of the violent crimes are committed using these weapons. We are therefore encouraging communities to co-operate with the police when the time comes for voluntary surrendering of unwanted, unlicensed firearms and ammunition.

Madam Speaker, as the house is aware that we are nearing the end of our term and the election season is looming. The electioneering period is often characterised by sporadic service delivery protests that are at times violent. SAPS in the province is ready for any eventuality

In order to prevent this, our department has met with stakeholders in various municipalities in order to discuss ways in which to rid communities of unrests.

The stakeholders that we met include public safety councilors, traditional leaders and SAPS. During the meetings we looked at various ways in which to minimize violent protests; find other ways of preventing crime and also reducing road crashes.

Madam Speaker, our area of concern however is people who when they protests, they prevent children from going to school or individuals from going to work.

Such behavior should be stopped. While communities have rights to express their unhappiness on issues affecting them, they should do that within the ambit of the law. They should also respect the rights of others and not destroy private or public property or even intimidate other people.

Similarly, we should not condone vigilantism, crime is our number one enemy, we all agree. We should all work towards making our communities safe. That however does not mean we should take the law into our own hands regardless of how strong we feel. The police should bring to book any person who instigate mob justice and any person who is linked to acts of vigilantism.

Madame Speaker, we should also welcome the launching of Operation Fiela 2 which took place at Embalenhle in February this year. Since its launch there has been several operations made by SAPS and numerous illicit goods we confiscated and suspects were brought to book. The arrested suspects include undocumented foreign nationals. Some of them have already appeared in various courts across the province.

Ladies and gentlemen, the security agencies are kept busy by cash in transit robbers that have been in operation since the beginning of the year. Mpumalanga has also seen such with the recent one occurring on R38 Road between Manzana and Umjindi last week.

Yesterday, the prompt response of police prevented another cash in transit robbery where a gang of more than ten men fled the crime scene empty handed following the appearance of police on the KaMhlushwa and Langeloo road in Nkomazi.

The challenge with these CIT robberies, ladies and gentlemen, is that it is not only the security companies that bear the brunt of these daring villains. It is also civilians who become caught in the crossfire. The level of violence displayed by these rogue elements is extreme. Innocent passersby get violently hijacked of their vehicles that are used in the commission of these crimes and some as gate-away vehicles.

There seem to be a greater degree of sophistication in a manner in which these crimes are committed and this therefore, places a huge pressure on our police to find ways of closing the space for these criminals.

We are also appealing to our communities to voluntarily give information to the police by anonymously reporting these people even while their activities are still in the planning phase.

The Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority (PSIRA) should also ensure that stricter measures are put in place in recruitment and selection procedure of security officers especially those handling cash. We are raising this matter, Honourable Speaker because we have some information that indicates that in some cases internal people were involved in CIT's.

These companies are further encouraged to work closely with state security agencies to assist in determining the suitability of individuals that they employ.

We further applaud SAPS Provincial Commissioner, Lt. General Zuma for the establishment of a task team to deal with cash in transit robberies in the province. The task team comprises of senior police officers from different units within SAPS such as detective services, HAWKS, crime intelligence, Tactical Response Team (TRT) as well as the flying squad.

The team, which is established under Operation Gijima Tsotsi, has already yielded successes that include the arrests of 28 suspects linked to serious crimes such as cash in transit robberies, bank robberies, attempted murder and ATM bombings. The suspects are appearing in various courts across the province.

## **Programme 1: Administration**

The budget for Administration in the department has increased from R116 million to R135 million in the 2018/19 financial year. This is due to the maintenance and running costs of government owned vehicles. The budget further assist the department to provide effective support services to all the core function sections of the department.

## **Programme 2: Civilian Oversight**

The programme's allocation for the current financial year went up to R60 million from the previous financial year's R57 million. It is expected to cater for the appointment of Tourism Safety Monitors (TSMs) who have already started their work.

The budget will assist with strengthening of community and private based partnerships with SAPS to fight crime.

As part of strengthening policing, three research projects were conducted last year. The aim of the research projects was to assist various departments and stakeholders with information that would enable them to determine crime prevention strategies. The department will further conduct two more research projects in the current financial year.

Last year, ladies and gentlemen, as part of waging war against domestic violence, 56 Domestic Violence Act (DVA) compliance audits at police stations were conducted. This year we will increase the number of stations to be audited on DVA compliance to 87.

The department will continue to monitor the police on policy compliance in terms of the Constitution, which mandates the department to conduct Civilian Oversight over the police.

The department implemented several educational awareness programmes in line with the 365 Days of Activism for no Violence Against Women and Children campaign. We will also assist Victim Empowerment Centres across the province to ensure that those who are affected are not subjected to secondary victimization.

The department will further mobilize the private sector to become involved in resourcing Victim Empowerment Centres. I will personally visit some of these victim support centres to ensure that they are adequately supported.

As part of strengthening community participation in crime prevention, the department will conduct three Public Participation Programmes (Izimbizo) in all three regions.

## **Programme 3: Transport Regulation**

Transport Regulation's allocation for the current financial year went up to R575 million from the previous year's R517 million. Honourable Speaker and Honourable members, road crashes in the province remain a thorn in the flesh.

We have noticed that young people who are still economically active are the most affected. An average of 1200 people are killed every year on road crashes in the province. Much more are seriously injured, which result to some of them becoming disabled. This last financial year fatalities in the province increased from 1184 to 1277.

Deaths and injuries as a result of road crashes cost the national government billions of rands. If these road crashes could be prevented, some of the monies could be channeled towards the upliftment of our communities.

As per our undertaking last year, we have purchased seven Moving Violations Recorders (MVRs) in order to accelerate the law enforcement's ability to deal with moving violations on the roads. Numerous speeding offenders who include high profile individuals were brought to book and some have been successfully prosecuted.

The department was unfortunate to lose Provincial Inspector, Mr. JV Ngomane, who was one of the best operators of the system earlier this year. Ngomane was knocked down by a motorist while he was busy issuing a summon to another motorist.

The department once more sends its heartfelt condolences to the families of all traffic officers and officials of the department who lost their lives.

The department was involved in the National Road Safety Debates and Participatory Education Techniques (PET) competitions where all nine provinces participated.

These two programmes are some of the road safety initiatives involving young students in road safety.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are proud to report to the house that both teams were crowned as national champions in the two competitions respectively. They were named during the national finals that were held in Rustenburg in North West province last October.

Although we are happy that they represented us well, what we hope to achieve is to see them being road safety ambassadors in their communities. This will contribute towards reducing road crashes in the province and the country as a whole.

All ten learners who participated during the competitions were rewarded with laptops by the department as a token of appreciation for their outstanding performance.

The department will also continue to beef up law enforcement operations in the roads that contribute the highest number of crashes. These roads include the N4, N17, N3, N12, R40, R573 (Moloto Road), R38 and R570.

Road users, Honourable members do not respect the rules of the road. Some of them drive or walk while under the influence of alcohol and sometimes drive at a very high speed. Visibility of the traffic officers has been found to be a better solution in reducing road crashes and fatalities. It is on this basis that the department will ensure that the visibility of traffic officers on our roads is increased.

Drunken driving operations will be conducted especially over the weekend and during the holidays. The department will continue to increase its road safety education campaigns. This will assist with the efforts of changing the attitude of road users. Programmes such as awareness campaigns, which involves community based organizations and community members in general will be undertaken.

Madam Speaker, the graduation of the first traffic learners in our traffic college happened last December. The inaugural graduation was a culmination of a lot of hard work that was put in the construction of the college. With the recent appointments of the 65 traffic officers, we are positive that we will make an impact on reducing road crashes and saving lives on the road.

We currently have **154** learners enrolled at the college for 2018 and only 36 of these learners were enlisted by the department. We also have learners from North West Province and Musina Local Municipality in Limpopo Province.

Other learners are coming from municipalities such as Thaba Chweu, Mbombela, Mkhondo, Emalahleni and the National Department of Transport. Honourable members we should also applaud good corporate citizenship displayed by Sasol by funding 10 learners from Dipaliseng Local Municipality.

We have already sent officials to the SADEC countries such as Swaziland and Mozambique last year in order to market the college and the response seems to be positive.

#### **Programme 4: Security Management**

The programme's allocation for the current financial year is R453 million and this represents a decrease of R10 million from last financial year's R463 million. The department will continue to safeguard and protect all government buildings and installations.

Honourable Speaker last year we undertook to conduct security awareness workshops to employees in the department.

We are happy to report that security awareness sessions for employees were held. We will continue with these awareness programmes in the current financial year in order to ensure that we have a security conscious workforce and ensure safety of state properties in the province.

In conclusion Honourable Speaker, I once more thank the former Premier and current Deputy President of the Republic, Honourable DD Mabuza for the sterling leadership and guidance that he provided to us before he was appointed as a Deputy President of the Republic.

I also want to appreciate the Premier, Honourable RM Mtshweni for having entrusted me with such an important portfolio. I also thank my other colleagues in the Executive for their support.

Let me also extend my appreciation to all members of the Provincial Legislature, particularly the Portfolio Committee and its Chairperson, the Honourable G.C Tshabalala for monitoring the work of the department and for their guidance and support.

Let me thank the collective effort by the Department under the leadership of HOD Mr. W. Mthombothi.

The SAPS collective in the Province under the leadership of Lt. General Zuma and the entire Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster for their continued and reliable support.

I want to thank my beautiful wife, La Shabalala, the whole family and all comrades for their unwavering support.

Honourable Speaker, allow me therefore, to present and table to this house the 2018/2019 budget for Department of Community Safety, Security and Liaison as follows:

**Programme1: Administration**

R135 million

**Programme 2: Civilian Oversight**

R60 million

**Programme 3: Transport Regulation**

R575 million

**Programme 4: Security Management**

R453 million

The total budget allocation for the Department of Community Safety, Security and Liaison is **One Billion, Two Hundred and Twenty Eight Million Rand** (R1, 228, 000 000).

I thank you.

Head Office  
Physical Address:  
No. 7 Government Boulevard  
Building 4, 2nd Floor, Riverside Park, Nelspruit  
Telephone Number: + 27 13 766 4062  
Fax Number: + 27 13 766 4615  
Postal Address:  
Private Bag x11269  
Nelspruit  
1200

***“Together Let’s Fight Crime and Road Carnage”***

[www.dcssl.gov.za](http://www.dcssl.gov.za)