



Vote 9

# Policy & Budget Speech 2025/26

*"Mpumalanga, a Province that works for all"*



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



# **POLICY AND BUDGET SPEECH VOTE 9 DELIVERED BY THE MPUMALANGA MEC FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY, SECURITY AND LIAISON, HONOURABLE MR KJ MACIE, AT THE MPUMALANGA PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE, CITY OF MBOMBELA**

**24 JULY 2025**

Honourable Speaker; Ms. Makhosazane Masilela;  
Deputy Speaker; Mr. Sam Masango;  
Chief Whip of the Majority Party; Honourable Eva Mathabane;  
Honourable Premier; Mr. Mandla Ndlovu;  
Honourable Members of the Executive Council;  
Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature;  
Chairpersons of various Portfolio Committees; the Chairperson of the House of Traditional Leaders Kgoshi Lameck Mokoena, and other Traditional Leaders present;  
Executive Mayors and Councilors from District and Local Municipalities,  
Director-General; Ms. Maggie Skosana and Heads of various Departments;  
The Head of Department of Community Safety, Security and Liaison; Ms. Gloria Mazibuko;  
The Acting Provincial Commissioner of the South African Police Service (SAPS); Major-General (Dr) Zeph Mkhwanazi;  
Deputy Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners from the SAPS  
Leadership of the governing party the African National Congress and fellow compatriots present;  
Representatives from Labour federations.  
Distinguished guests,  
Members of the Media and members of the public.  
Ladies and gentlemen.

## **SANIBONANI**

### **Introduction**

Honourable Members, Madam Speaker, it is a great pleasure and honour for me to present to this august house and the people of Mpumalanga, the Policy and Budget Speech for the Department of Community Safety, Security and Liaison (Vote 9) for the financial year 2025/26.

Honourable Speaker, Section 195 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, states that Public Administration must be governed by the democratic values and principles enshrined in the Constitution, including the following principles:

- (a) A high standard of professional ethics must be promoted and maintained.
- (b) Efficient, economic and effective use of resources must be promoted.
- (c) Public administration must be development-oriented;

- (d) Service must be provided impartially, fairly, equitably and without bias.
- (e) People's needs must be responded to, and the public must be encouraged to participate in policy-making; and
- (f) Public administration must be accountable.

To this end, we understand the mammoth task we are faced with as the Department. We have the responsibility of creating safer living conditions for all people in our province. We must take decisive actions and heighten our endeavor to make a significant dent against the rising levels of crime in our society.

Central to our resolve to address the levels of crime in the province are the resolutions taken by the previous Lekgotla of the Provincial Executive Council, African National Congress (ANC) manifestos, and the National Development Plan (NDP) of 2030.

The Department's budget is aligned to strategic priority number three (3) of the Medium-Term Development Plan (MTDP), which is Building a Capable, Ethical and Developmental State.

Honourable Speaker, it is precisely because of the evolution of our well cherished democracy that transparency and accountability call upon us today to reflect on what we have achieved as a Department and what all of us will ceaselessly do to discourage criminality, and ensure change in people's lives for the better, particularly in an economically growing and developing province, such as Mpumalanga.

We present to you this Policy and Budget Speech just days after the 70<sup>th</sup> commemoration of the Freedom Charter, which is regarded as a foundational document for freedom in this country. The Freedom Charter was adopted on 26 June 1955 at the Congress of the People in Kliptown, Soweto. It was a collaborative effort by the anti-apartheid movements. The Charter propagated, among others, democracy, and equality for all.

One of the freedoms that the Freedom Charter championed was equal rights for all irrespective of their race, gender, colour, creed or religion. This year, our Constitution, which became effective 28 years ago on 4 February 1997, after it was signed into law by the former President (Dr) Nelson Mandela on 10 December 1996.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am reflecting on these two important documents because they are the cornerstone of our democracy and freedom. It is also these documents that inform the work that this Department must do. Our mandate is not only to monitor and oversee the South African Police Service (SAPS), but to also mobilise communities in the fight against crime.



Madam Speaker, we will truly achieve the ideals of the Freedom Charter when women and children walk freely in the streets and are able to enjoy their rights without fearing for their lives. We would have achieved the ideals of the Freedom Charter and the Constitution when people are free to enjoy their basic rights enshrined as in both the Freedom Charter and the Constitution.

Therefore, we still have a lot of work to do to turn the tide against Gender-based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) and many other social ills in our communities. We will continue to implement various programmes that will support efforts in government and the broader society to bring down levels of crime including the scourge of GBVF.

Despite the efforts that Government has done over the last 31 years of democracy, criminals continuously attempt to undermine our efforts of truly realizing the ideals of the Freedom Charter and the Bill of Rights contained in our Constitution.

Honourable members, we are not about to give up, we continue to work harder as a collective in the security cluster to take the war back to criminals. We will ensure no effort is spared in pursuit of perpetrators of crime.

The numbers recorded in the recent crime statistics are not going to deter us from putting more efforts into better protecting women and children through laws and policies that are going to make it difficult for culprits to go unpunished.

We owe it to our forebearers and those who fought for liberation in this country to create conditions where all people will thrive and move freely in the streets without fear of being attacked. We owe it to our forebearers to reduce criminality and remove many illegal firearms that are used in the commission of most violent crimes.

Surely, we cannot claim to be truly free when women and children are attacked, sexually assaulted and even killed. Often some of these assaults are committed in the homes of the victims. Based on the 2024/25 Third and Fourth Quarter Crime Statistics, Mpumalanga recorded a reduction in all 17 community reported serious crimes, except sexual offence, which increased.

Despite the reported reductions, the numbers mean that there are individuals and families whose rights were taken away by criminals. In the worst cases, others paid with their lives. Hence, we must all re-dedicate ourselves to bring an end to crime.

## **GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND FEMICIDE AND POLICE PERFORMANCE**

The Mpumalanga province is on a quest to eliminate GBVF. The President, Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa declared GBVF a national crisis and a second pandemic. Crime trends show an increase of cases where women are assaulted, some even paying with their lives.

Incidences of GBVF top the list of our priorities when it comes to dealing with crime. We need to ensure that those who commit these crimes are dealt with harshly to send a clear message to perpetrators.

To intensify the fight against the GBVF pandemic, the Mpumalanga Premier, Mr. Mandla Ndlovu, launched a Provincial GBVF structure in February 2025. Recently, the Mpumalanga Province Executive Council (EXCO) approved the Provincial Strategic Plan on Gender Based Violence and Femicide (PSP-GBVF) and appointed the GBVF Council to bolster the fight against GBVF.

The Council is expected to develop an action plan for the implementation of the Provincial Strategic Plan on GBVF, co-ordinate prevention measures, facilitate strategic partnerships with relevant stakeholders, and revise the plans periodically.

Honourable members, the Department will continue to support efforts to eradicate the scourge of GBVF through the 365 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children, which is inclusive of the annual 16 Days of Activism Campaign.

We also continue to monitor the SAPS's compliance with the provisions of the Domestic Violence Act. Last year we launched the 16 Days' Campaign at Elukwatini in the Chief Albert Luthuli Local Municipality

The province implemented a multi-stakeholder 90-Day Action Plan in May this year. The Plan was developed to implement plans aligned to key focus areas of the Integrated Crime and Violence Prevention Strategy (ICVPS) which was approved by Cabinet and remains one of the apex strategic intervention in our sector to reduce violence and crime in a comprehensive approach.

We are proud to report that the province has made significant strides in the implementation of the Plan in terms of arrests, convictions, and awareness campaigns, which will surely reflect in reductions in crime statistics soon.

Honourable Speaker, the 90-Days Action Plan was used to intensify the awareness on GBVF and accelerate cases that were slow in effecting arrests and processing perpetrators through the proper channels of justice.

The 90-Days Action Plan was anchored on the following objectives:

- \* Stabilising and reducing cases of GBVF through targeted law enforcement;
- Increasing awareness, community engagements and reporting of incidents of GBVF.
- Improving victim support services.
- Enhancing the SAPS's response and visibility; and
- Fostering multi-sectoral collaboration in the fight against GBVF.

During the 90 days period, the SAPS in Mpumalanga conducted a total of 3 924 awareness campaigns. The summary of the campaigns are as follows:

Type of Awareness	Number of Campaigns
Crimes against Women and Children	286
Domestic Violence	602
Drug Abuse	119
Sexual Offences	286
Substance Abuse	258
Community Safety	1483
Youth	288
School Safety	332
Road Shows / Street imbizo	142
Media Engagements	128

Honourable Speaker, between the months of May and July 2025, the SAPS effected 2 316 arrests as a result of crimes committed during the course of the 90-Days Campaign.

The following categories of crime resulted into the number of arrests effected:

Crime	Number of Arrests
Rape	181
Sexual Assault	38
Assault GBH	1137
Assault Common	634
Domestic Violence transgressions	132

Attempted Rape	6
Sexual Offences	5
Kidnapping	30
Murder	149
Child Abuse	4

Within the very same period, between May and July 2025, the following convictions were handed down by various courts in the province:

<b>Charge</b>	<b>Conviction / Sanction</b>
Piet Retief – 3 x Rape	3 x Life imprisonment terms
Secunda – 4 x Rape	4 x life imprisonment terms
Secunda – 2 x Rape	2 x life imprisonment terms
Kwaggafontein 2 x Rape	2 x life imprisonment terms
Standerton – Rape & Burglary	25 years' imprisonment for Rape, 10 years' for Assault 60 days' for Burglary 4 years' for Kidnapping,
KwaMhlanga – Rape & Common Robbery	20 years' imprisonment for Rape 12 months for Robbery
Ermelo – Rape	Life imprisonment
Ermelo – Rape	Life imprisonment

Honourable Speaker, on this note, I would like to applaud the Acting Provincial Commissioner, Major General (Dr) Zeph Mkhwanazi and his team for their hard work, dedication, and commitment in ensuring that the people of Mpumalanga experience peace and comfort in their homes and businesses.

While acknowledging that there are challenges and instances of misconduct within the SAPS, it is crucial to recognize the positive contributions of most police officers who work diligently to uphold the law and maintain public order.

Honourable Speaker, last year, on the very same podium on the occasion of the presentation of the Department's budget speech, I warned those who violate the rights of other people, including perpetrators of violence, murderers, gangsters, stock thieves and car hijackers that **"IYEKELENI LENTO NIZONGI LIMALELA"** because I knew that the long arm of the law would catch up with them.

Our police officers conducted a thorough and meticulous investigations, leaving no stone unturned. Their dedication led to the arrest of the alleged perpetrator in connection to the murder of Hillary Gardee. The perpetrator has already appeared in court and is now being processed through the criminal justice system. We are confident that the airtight docket will support a conviction and result in a hefty sentence - one that sends an unequivocal message that criminals will be brought to book.

Honourable Speaker, I have invited the team of detectives who made a breakthrough that led to the successful arrest of three suspects in connection to the murder of the late Councilor, Mr. Muzi Manyathi from Mkhondo Local Municipality.

The team is led by Brigadier PB Mahlangu and, with your indulgence, Honourable Speaker, may I request Lieutenant Colonel KM Mashilo, Sergeant P Maharaj, Sergeant HAL Nkosi, Sergeant MR Jiyane, Constable DW Nkonyane, and Constable MJ Motsweni to rise from the gallery for a moment.

The wheels of justice are turning in Mpumalanga. Once more, I would like to request Sergeant MJ Mkhathswa, Sergeant J Sondlane, Constable BT Mahungela, and Constable MS Sifundza to rise from the gallery.

These are the brave police officers who nabbed those involved in the murder of the late Ward Councilor, Thabo Ngwenya, from Mangweni, Ward 17, in the Nkomazi Local Municipality who was murdered and had his vehicle stolen in the process.

Honourable Speaker, I have invited these police officers to demonstrate, to the people of Mpumalanga, the magnificent work done by our men and women in blue. I want to applaud them for their exceptional bravery and tireless dedication. Their efforts to safeguard communities do not go unnoticed, and today I am certain that the Government and the people of Mpumalanga are proud of you.

We will further empower communities through awareness and educational campaigns. The Department now conducts door to door interactions on GBVF with identified



communities and this assists victims and survivors to speak out freely unlike when they are in large gatherings.

### **Programme 1: Administration**

Programme 1 has been allocated an amount of **One Hundred and Ninety-Five Million, Two Hundred and Fifty-Four Thousand Rand (R195 254 000)**.

Honourable Members I wish to express my gratitude to Premier Mandla Ndlovu and his Executive for enabling the appointment of the Accounting Officer for the Department. The Accounting Officer assumed her responsibility on 1 November 2024.

Last year, in August, we undertook to recruit 1 200 Crime Prevention Wardens (CPWs) to enhance already existing crime prevention efforts. We are proud to announce that the CPWs were recruited and are already assisting with crime prevention in various policing precincts and crime hotspots where they are deployed across the province. I would like to implore the CPWs to refrain from criminality as this would undermine the intended outcomes of the project.

Honourable Members, 95 young people successfully completed the 12 Months Basic Traffic Law Enforcement Learnership Programme towards the end of last year. The trainees were subsequently appointed as Provincial Inspectors in January 2025.

The Department is committed to addressing structural unemployment by affording the unemployed youth an opportunity to increase their employability. To this end, 104 more Provincial Inspectors will be appointed in the current financial year as they are currently undergoing training at the Mpumalanga Traffic Training College (MTTC).

Ladies and gentlemen, still on recruitment, we are happy to report that out of 108 critical posts that were earmarked for filling, 100 posts were filled in the 2024/25 financial year. The remaining eight (8) will be prioritized and filled in the current financial year, 2025/26 as part of the 22 posts that will be advertised.

This year the Department will place 60 unemployed young graduates in a 24-month Internship Programme. This will equip them with necessary practical experience and skills to enable them to gain meaningful employment upon the completion of the programme.

The Department aims at creating and supporting a culture of learning which will help employees to achieve departmental outcomes and extend their knowledge and competence to enable them to do their work effectively, while increasing job satisfaction. This will only be achieved by providing access to learning resources based on careful assessment of the needs and the principles of gender parity.

Madam Speaker, we are pleased to report that the Department is currently standing at 40 percent on women representation in Senior Management Service (SMS) and that is in terms of the Employment Equity Plan.

We are convinced that the national target of 50 percent gender representation is within our reach. We have also attained 2.8% of employment of people with disabilities at all levels. Furthermore, as part of strengthening compliance and working towards improving audit outcomes, the Department will fully implement recommendations made by the Audit Committee and the Risk and Ethics Committee.

### **Programme 2: Civilian Secretariat for Police Service**

The programme has been allocated an amount of **One Hundred and Twenty Million, Four Hundred and Twenty-Nine Thousand Rand (R 120 429 000)** for the current financial year.

We wish to report that in the 2024/25 financial, the Department implemented various programmes to enhance safety of communities while mobilizing them in the fight against crime. These include:

- 45 Educational awareness campaigns,
- Four integrated crime prevention initiatives,
- The 365 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children was implemented,
- Community Outreach and Public Participation in three regions.

In line with the Constitutional Imperative to monitor and oversee SAPS, we monitored 63 police stations on policy compliance. Sixty (60) police stations were also monitored on compliance to the provisions of the Domestic Violence Act.

We are realigning the organizational structure in accordance with the structure of the Civilian Secretariat for Police Service. Once the structure is approved and fully funded, we will work towards filling vacant posts.

We have reconfigured personnel allocation within Monitoring and Evaluation to enhance monitoring and evaluation of police stations in the current financial year. This will ensure that all the 90 police stations in the province are monitored effectively.

The budget allocated will go towards providing tools of trade and support to CPWs and Community Police Forums (CPFs) and Community Safety Forums (CSFs). The allocation will also fund social crime and educational awareness programmes in various communities across the province.

Honourable members, we will, on the other hand, continue to implement various programmes to enhance safety in schools through the Integrated School Safety Strategy, awareness campaigns and random search and seizures in various identified schools across the province.

Over the last financial year, many weapons and unwanted items were seized from the schooling environment. We also believe that, with our efforts to fight and prevent crime,

a positive impact will be made towards enhancing the culture of learning and teaching in our schools.

Honourable members, the Provincial Crime Prevention Strategy was approved by the Executive Council in December 2024. The strategy will serve as a guiding document and a framework for the integrated approach to combating crime in collaboration with all stakeholders and role players. The strategy also includes protocols for supporting victims of GBVF.

Madam Speaker, as part of enhancing service delivery within the SAPS, we will conduct a survey to assess the public perception of SAPS's service delivery and monitor police conduct in the current financial year.

Honourable Members, in order strengthen the safety of people who visit the place of the rising sun, we wish to indicate that the recruitment of 400 Tourist Safety Monitors (TSMs) is at an advanced stage and will be completed soon.

In the current financial year, we will implement three GBVF campaigns, three social crime prevention programmes, and several other educational and awareness campaigns. In our efforts to strengthen the integrated approach at a local sphere in the fight against crime, we will monitor and support 20 CSFs in the various municipalities.

### **Programme 3: Transport Regulation**

The programme has been apportioned **Eight Hundred Sixty-Six Million, Five Hundred and Ninety-Three Thousand Rand (R866 593 000)**.

Honourable Members, we are happy to report that the transfer of registration and licensing functions from Emalahleni and Steve Tshwete Local Municipalities was finalized between May and July 2024.

This year, again, we have successfully transferred the same functions from Thembisile Hani and Pixley Ka Isaka Seme local municipalities. We are currently in the process of taking over registration and licensing functions from Bushbuckridge, Dr JS Moroka and Dipaleseng Local Municipalities. Over R91 million will be required for taking over registration and licensing functions from these municipalities. The cost for transferring employees from local municipalities is included in the allocation of the budget by the Provincial Treasury. However, the allocation does not include operational costs.

As we have previously indicated when I registration and licensing functions are fully by the province, revenue collection and compliance improves.

Last year we introduced a groundbreaking initiative where we invited vehicle owners who have outstanding licensing fees to come forward to arrange for the repayments of outstanding fees monthly. We made this call in August 2024 and by 30 June 2025, over R15 million in outstanding license fees were paid.

We have also been able to curb corruption within vehicle registration and licensing by enhancing security measures and improving security features that individual employees used to access the National Traffic Information system (NaTIS).

The province experienced a number of fraudulent transactions carried out in a number of licensing centers. These transactions involved the licensing of motor vehicles with outstanding license fees.

Upon detection, the province took corrective measures by cancelling and reversing the transactions, as well as placing administrative marks on all affected vehicles. This action ensures that revenue lost due to irregular licensing will be recovered. Vehicle owners are required to pay all outstanding license fees, penalties, and arrears when their vehicles are due for renewal the following year.

Honourable Speaker, we can report to this house that Mpumalanga is the first province in the country to detect these fraudulent activities in the licensing system.

We have implemented various road safety initiatives in the previous year in collaboration with various stakeholders and these include 167 companies who mostly sponsored road safety education campaigns such as Road Safety Debates, and Participatory Education Techniques (PET).

We would like to thank our sponsors who donated prizes and transported participants to the Road Safety Education finals that were held in Mangaung in September last year.

Other companies also sponsored equipment and tools of trade for Traffic Law Enforcement among others. We remain truly grateful to these companies, individuals and entities who choose to become responsible corporate citizens by giving back to communities and partnering with us in promoting road safety.

Honourable Members, road crashes remain a challenge for the province and the country. In the last financial year, road accidents increased by 50 because the province recorded 5 951 crashes as compared to 5 901 crashes in the 2023/24 financial year. We also recorded 1 047 deaths for the 2024/25 financial year, while 1 007 people lost their lives due to road crashes in the 2023/24 financial year. This represented a decrease of about 40 cases.

The decrease could be attributed to the collaboration of most law enforcement structures including municipalities and private sector companies. In December 2024 I convened a MUNIMEC meeting at Nkangala region to sponsor a view to our municipalities to join forces with the provincial government in ensuring a safer festive season in our roads.



To this end, I want to thank all the Executive Mayors in our province who ensured that our agreement is implemented. I hope that we will continue with this collaboration to create safer and crash free roads in Mpumalanga.

Honourable Speaker, I also wish to extend great words of appreciation to the Premier of our province Mr. Mandla Ndlovu who supported our plea as the department. The Department managed to augment an additional of 84 vehicles. These vehicles played a significant role in enhancing law enforcement visibility in our roads.

In the current financial year, we will continue to enforce traffic law enforcement and Road Safety Education programmes. These include the following:

- 2 308 Speed operations,
- 42 K78 Road Blocks,
- Stopping and checking 604 446 vehicles,
- Road Safety Debates and Rest Stops among others.

We are constantly monitoring routes which contribute highly to road accidents and implement various programmes such as block patrols and static road blocks on certain routes.

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

Security Management has been allocated an amount of **Nine Hundred and Sixty-One Million, Nine Hundred and Eighty-Four Thousand Rand (R 961 984 000)**.

As part of dealing with corruption, the Department conducts Security Awareness and Vetting of employees.

## **BUDGET ALLOCATION**

Honourable Members, the budget for the 2025/26 financial year has been allocated as follows:

### **Programme 1: Administration**

Programme 1 has been allocated an amount of **One Hundred and Ninety-Five Million, Two Hundred and Fifty-Four Thousand Rand (R195 254 000)**.

### **Programme 2: Provincial Civilian Secretariat for Police Service**

Programme 2 has been allocated amount of **One Hundred and Twenty Million, Four Hundred and Twenty-Nine Thousand Rand (R 120 429 000)**

### **Programme 3: Transport Regulation**

Programme 3 has been allocated an amount of **Eight Hundred Sixty-Six Million, Five Hundred and Ninety-Three Thousand Rand (R866 593 000)**.

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

Programme 4 has been allocated an amount of **Nine Hundred and Sixty-One Million, Nine Hundred and Eighty-Four Thousand Rand (R 961 984 000)**.

Madam Speaker, with your permission, we now present the total budget for the financial year 2025/26 as: **Two Billion One Hundred and Forty-Four Million, and Two Hundred and Sixty Thousand Rand (R2, 144, 260 000)**.

## **CONCLUSION**

Madam Speaker, in realizing the strategic objectives and priorities set by this Policy Budget Vote, we promise the people of Mpumalanga that we will undertake the tasks bestowed upon us with dedication, humility and with a remarkable degree of excellence.

We draw inspiration from an ancient Greek Philosopher, Aristotle, when he posits that: "Excellence is never an accident. It is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, and intelligent execution; it represents the wise choice of many alternatives – choice, not chance, determines your destiny".

In conclusion, I would like to express my gratitude to the Honourable Premier Mandla Ndlovu, the Executive Council, the Portfolio Committee on Community Safety , the African National Congress, the-Justice Crime Prevention and Security (JCPS) Cluster , the Head of Department, Ms. Gloria Mazibuko, the Acting Provincial Commissioner of the SAPS, Major General (Dr) Zeph Mkhwanazi, the management as well as all the team members in the Department for Community Safety, Security and Liaison and the SAPS for the guidance, support and commitment towards ensuring that one day we will have a crime and road-crash free province.

I would also like to reaffirm my commitment to working harder to contribute towards making Mpumalanga a crime and road-accident-free province. Our people deserve better. Women, children, and the elderly must be protected by all.

We **will** take the war back to criminals and they should not be allowed to thrive. They should, instead, be donated to correctional facilities if they are not prepared to coexist peacefully with other people.

I thank you.

