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Media Statement All Media Houses

Date: 09 April 2025

For Immediate Release

Subject: Response to concerns raised by Small Bus Operators regarding scholar transport payments

The Mpumalanga Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport acknowledges the concerns raised by Small Bus Operators contracted for scholar transport operations regarding the non-payment of outstanding invoices. We understand the importance of timely payments and are committed to resolving this issue as expeditiously as possible.

We wish to clarify that there are outstanding payments due to the cut-off date of the financial year, which concluded in March 2025. We appreciate the operators' patience during this transition period as we implement new financial systems. We assure all service providers that payments are being processed as the new systems are already started running as from yesterday, 08 April 2025.

We implore our service providers not to neglect the learners who rely on these essential transport services. Any disruption in the scholar transport service poses significant risks to the safety of our children, who depend on these services to attend school and return home safely.

The Department is prioritizing the settlement of outstanding payments and is actively working to ensure that these issues are resolved promptly. We appreciate the dedication and commitment of our service providers during this time, and we urge them to continue to fulfil their responsibilities, prioritizing the safety and well-being of the learners in their care.

Ends.

For more information please contact Mr Bongani Dhlamini on 079 293 6515

