



LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Thari Ya Tsela le Tšhireletso Ya Setšhaba

Official **NEWSFLASH** of the Limpopo Department of Transport & Community Safety

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2026 COMMUNITY SAFETY DEBATE COMPETITION

YOUNG VOICES REWRITE THE SAFETY CONVERSATION IN LIMPOPO



Deputy Minister of Police, Dr. Polly Boshielo giving keynote address.

Matome Taueatsoala

Polokwane - On Saturday, 15 August 2026, the ballroom at The Ranch Hotel in Polokwane felt less like a competition venue and more like a parliament of young minds. Learners from all five districts of Limpopo gathered for the 2026 Provincial Community Safety Debates, and for one night the province's safety challenges were handed over to the people who will inherit them.

The purpose, as outlined by the HOD, was simple but deliberate: to give learners a meaningful platform to contribute their ideas, perspectives and solutions to strengthening community safety. Not through policy documents, but through voice.

That message was driven home by Deputy Minister for Police, Dr. Polly Boshielo, who opened her address by shifting the spotlight off the podium.

"Tonight belongs to our learners. It belongs to the young people who have been given an opportunity to look at the safety challenges confronting our communities through their own eyes and to tell us what they believe can be done differently," Dr. Boshielo said.

She spoke of children walking to school without fear, families feeling safe in their homes, and public infrastructure protected from vandalism. More than that, she framed the debates as something bigger than a contest.

"Let this not be viewed merely as a competition to determine which team debates better. Let it be viewed as a community safety think tank led by our young people. A platform where ideas are exchanged, assumptions are challenged and solutions emerge."

Her challenge to government and stakeholders was direct: listen, learn, and have the courage to act when learners offer better ways. The MEC Mathye echoed the call for shared responsibility in her keynote. Community safety, she said, cannot rest with government and law enforcement alone. It requires families, schools, businesses, civil society, and young people themselves. She urged learners to question what works, what doesn't, and what should change.

"Some of the solutions we are looking for may very well emerge from the ideas expressed in this debate today," she told the hall. "It was not my day. It was the day for the debaters."



MEC Violet Mathye during the prize-giving ceremony.



HOD Stephen Matjena during the prize-giving ceremony.

And the debaters did not hold back. Across rounds they tackled cyberbullying, GBV, child abuse and human trafficking, proposing solutions drawn from their own communities. The adjudicators noted a strong grasp of issues and clear logical structure, but also flagged gaps.

Many arguments lacked full research data, and few learners engaged effectively with Points of Information. They were urged to return to their schools and sharpen voice projection, confidence and audience engagement. The closing message to them was one of persistence: use the feedback, keep questioning, and be the change.

The night ended with results that reflected both talent and effort across the province. Waterberg and Vhembe dominated the top spots, while special schools also had their champions recognized.

2026 FINAL RESULTS

MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS

Position	Name of the Learner	Name of the School	District
1	Mdlakaze Mika	Mabalane Seleka Technical High School	Waterberg
2	Khakhu Funanani	Thengwe Secondary School	Vhembe
3	Mathonsi Risima	E.P. Mhinga Secondary School	Vhembe
4	Sethakgwe Ofentse	Kgakoa Secondary School	Capricorn
5	Nenzhelele Orifuna	Thengwe Secondary School	Vhembe
6	Khaas Ronald	Mabalane Seleka Technical High School	Waterberg

SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Position	Name of the Learner	Name of the School	District
1	Letago Kgoete	Setotolwane Special School	Capricorn
2	Phathutshedzo Phepho	Rivoni School for the Blind	Vhembe
3	Phindulo Doboro	Rivoni School for the Blind	Vhembe

2026 PROVINCIAL COMMUNITY SAFETY WINNERS



Top 6 winners from different mainstream schools during the awards presentation.



Top 3 winners from different special schools during the awards presentation.

CONGRATULATIONS

2026 Provincial Community Safety Debate Competition



Overall Winner

Mika Mdlakaze
Mabalane Seleka Technical Secondary
Waterberg District



1st

Mika Mdlakaze
Mabalane Seleka Technical Secondary
Waterberg District



2nd

Funanani Khakhu
Thengwe Secondary
Vhembe District



3rd

Risima Mathonsi
E.P.P Mhinga Secondary
Vhembe District



4th

Ofentse Sethakgwe
Kgakoa Secondary
Capricorn District



5th

Orifuna Nenzhelele
Thengwe Secondary
Vhembe District



6th

Ronald Khaas
Mabalane Seleka Technical
Waterberg District

Special Schools



1st

Letago Kgoete
Setotolwane Special School
Capricorn District



2nd

Phathutshedzo Phepho
Rivoni School for the Blind
Vhembe District



3rd

Phindulo Doboro
Rivoni School for the Blind
Vhembe District



SAFER SCHOOLS

YOUTH AGAINST CRIME

- ✓ ZERO tolerance to substance abuse and carrying of dangerous weapons to schools
- ✓ ZERO tolerance to bullying
- ✓ ZERO tolerance to youth gambling and gangsterism
- ✓ ZERO tolerance to underage drinking

MEC MATHYE HANDS OVER 34 BICYCLES TO LEARNERS IN JULESBURG



34 learners of Dumela Secondary School receiving bicycles from MEC Violet Mathye.

Dali Tshifhiwa

MEC for Transport and Community Safety, Violet Mathye handed over 34 bicycles to learners at Dumela Secondary School in Julesburg, Greater Tzaneen Municipality, Mopani District.

The occasion was attended by Acting District Director for Mopani West Education District, Cheryl Mboweni, Acting Mayor of Mopani District Municipality Cllr. Maggie Makwela and Acting Mayor of Greater Tzaneen Local Municipality Cllr. Thulani Shihangule, together with departmental stakeholders, school management and parents. The bicycle donation forms part of the Department's scholar transport intervention aimed at improving access to education for learners who travel long distances to school.

In her address, the MEC emphasized that the bicycles are intended to help learners get to school safely, on time, and with dignity. She urged parents to ensure the bicycles are used strictly for traveling to and from school. "If the bicycles are misused or not used for schooling purposes, the Department together



MEC Violet Mathye addressing learners.

with the school will have no option but to withdraw them," MEC Mathye warned.

The handover was well received by the school community. Stakeholders committed to monitoring the use of the bicycles. The Acting Mopani West Education District, Cheryl Mboweni encouraged learners to make the most of this opportunity to improve their attendance and performance.



34 learners of Dumela Secondary School receiving bycircles from MEC Violet Mathye.



Cllr. Maggie Makwela of Mopani District Municipality.



Cllr. Thulani Shihangule of Greater Tzaneen Local Municipality.



Cheryl Mboweni of Mopani Education District.



LDTCS Mopani District Director, Susan Maredi.

DEPARTMENT PROMOTES EMPLOYEE WELLNESS THROUGH VIBRANT WELLNESS DAY



Departmental employees during the health screening.



Departmental employees during the health screening.



Departmental employees during the health screening.



Departmental employees during the health screening.

Mary Raphela

Polokwane - The Limpopo Department of Transport and Community Safety put employees first last week Wednesday as it hosted a high-energy Departmental Wellness Day at Phamoko Towers, Head Office.

Held under the theme of employee health and well-being, the day focused on prevention, care, and building a stronger, healthier team that keeps Limpopo moving safely.

In partnership with Old Mutual, Sanlam, GEMS, the Department of Optometry, and the Department of Human Nutrition and Dietetics, employees had one-stop access to General health screening for

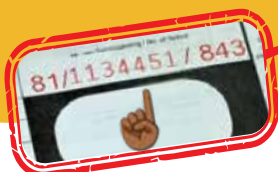
Blood pressure, cholesterol, blood sugar & BMI checks, Voluntary HIV Counselling and Testing, TB and STI screening, Dietician consultations for healthier eating habits and Optometry services.

The Wellness Day forms part of the Department's ongoing commitment to the physical, mental and social well-being of its workforce. Because a healthy employee means safer roads, stronger communities, and better service to the people of Limpopo.

The Department encouraged all employees to prioritise their health, seek professional help when needed, and support each other in creating a healthy, respectful and productive working environment.

**THE LIMPOPO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY
CALLS ON ALL MOTORISTS TO SETTLE THEIR LIMPOPO TRAFFIC
INFRINGEMENT FINES PROMPTLY AND CORRECTLY!**

To ensure that payments are allocated to the right case, the reference on any EFT or ATM transaction must be the **summons number** printed at the **top right corner** of the traffic fine notice.



- **Do not** use your vehicle registration number, name, or surname as the reference.
- **Payments with an incorrect or missing reference will be regarded as not paid**, and the infringement will remain outstanding on the National Traffic Contravention Management System (NTCMS).

If you have already made a payment with the wrong reference, please visit your nearest provincial traffic station with:

- Proof of payment (bank statement or receipt), and
- The original traffic summons.

Staff will update the system and clear the debt, preventing any future stops or enforcement actions for non payment.

By using the correct summons number, you help us keep records accurate, avoid unnecessary delays, and maintain smooth traffic law enforcement across the province.

**YOU CAN PAY A MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSING AND REGISTRATION
THROUGH DIRECT BANK DEPOSIT OR ELECTRONIC FUNDS
TRANSFER (EFT)**

Account Details

Bank: Standard Bank

Legal Entity Name: Limpopo Provincial Government

Name of Account Holder: LPG: PMG Transport and Community

Account Number: 061835072

Account Type: Business Current Account

Branch: Polokwane

Branch Code: 052548

Branch Code(electronic payments): 051001

Reference: Summons number (Printed on top right corner of the notice)

Send proof of payment to any of these email addresses:
Maluleket@dtcs.limpopo.gov.za / Masindie@dtcs.limpopo.gov.za

MEC HONOURS POLICE SUNDAY SPIRITUAL SERVICE



Cllr. Ngoako Tauetsoala, MEC Violet Mathye, Lt. Gen. Jan Scheepers, Maj Gen. Fredrinah Sebola

Matome Tauetsoala

Mokopane - The sanctuary at Celebration Church in Mokopane was filled on Sunday with prayer, gratitude, and purpose as the MEC for Transport and Community Safety, Violet Mathye joined hands with community leaders and South African Police Service (SAPS) to honour the men and women in blue.

She was joined by Mogalakwena Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr. Ngoako Tauetsoala, Provincial SAPS Commissioner, Lieutenant General Scheepers, and rank and file officers from across the SAPS Waterberg District.

The Sunday Spiritual Service was more than a gathering. Its heart was to pray for, honour, and uplift those who put their lives on the line daily so that our communities can sleep in peace.

In her address, MEC Mathye spoke with deep appreciation for the sacrifice behind the badge.

"We thank every SAPS member for the long nights, the missed family gatherings, and for running toward danger when others run away. You are not just officers of the law. You are guardians. You are protectors. You are fathers, mothers, sons and daughters of Limpopo."

She reminded the congregation that God sees and rewards service. "The Lord says in Proverbs 21:21 – 'Whoever pursues righteousness and love finds life, prosperity and honour.' Today we honour you, because your work is righteousness in action."

The MEC reaffirmed the Department's commitment to walk alongside SAPS - not only with words, but with support: tools to do the job, training to sharpen skills, and wellness programs to care for their minds and families. She also called on communities to respect the police and to partner with them, because "a safe community is built when those who serve and those who are served stand together."

In a significant moment, the MEC formally introduced Lieutenant General Scheepers to the Waterberg community as the new Provincial Commissioner of SAPS in Limpopo. She prayed for wisdom, strength and divine protection over his leadership as he takes up the mantle.

"We commit this new chapter into God's hands. May He order his steps, as Psalm 37:23 says, 'The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord.'"

The service closed with prayers for healing, courage, and safety for every officer on duty. It was a reminder that behind every uniform is a human being, and behind every community is a God who watches over both.

A PATH FORWARD FOR OUR CHILDREN

REFLECTIONS FROM THE SCHOLAR TRANSPORT ENQUIRY

Over the past few days at The Ranch Resort in Polokwane, I sat and listened. I listened to parents, operators, teachers, unions, and our children's representatives. We were there for one reason, to confront the truth about scholar transport in Limpopo and to commit to fixing it.



MEC Violet Mathye (right) and HOD Stephen Matjena (seated far left) listening attentively to the issues raised during the session.

MEC Violet Mathye

Polokwane - On Tuesday, 11 August 2026, I led the Department's delegation into Day 1 of the Public Enquiry convened by the Portfolio Committee on Transport and Community Safety under Chairperson, Kedibone Lebea. I was joined by the MEC for Treasury, Kgabo Mahoi, because we know this conversation is about both safety and resources. The room was full.

The Limpopo Scholar Transport Alliance, SANTACO, NTA, Public Transport Operators, Community Policing Forums, Road Safety Organisations, the South African Human Rights Commission, SADTU, NAPTOSA, SASCO and School Governing Bodies all came to the table. That alone told me how deeply this issue touches our province.

What I heard on Day 1 was difficult, but it was honest. Operators spoke of vehicles that have

served for too long i.e Siyayas, Ventures, Condors, old minibuses and bakkies, now costing more to maintain than they earn, yet still the only option in many villages. They spoke of license applications submitted a year ago that are still pending. Parents and stakeholders spoke of overloading, of unroadworthy vehicles, and of the fear that comes with watching a child leave for school on a road with no other transport. The message came through clearly: scholar transport is not a favour. It is an essential service. It is the bridge between a child's home and their future, and without it, the right to education is compromised.

We did not come to defend. We came to understand. So on Wednesday, 12 August, MEC for Education, Mavhungu Lerule-Ramakhanya, and I returned to answer. We were joined by SAPS, Traffic Services, and Portfolio Committee leadership including Nkakareng Rakgoale, who helped outline the way forward in line with the programme of the enquiry. In answering, we made commitments.



The Portfolio Committee Chairperson, Kedibone Lebea.



MEC for Limpopo Provincial Treasury, Kgabo Mahoi.



Limpopo Scholar Transport Alliance Spokesperson, Thapedi Kgole.

From the Department of Transport and Community Safety, we will accelerate the licensing backlog so that compliant operators are not kept off the road. We will strengthen enforcement with SAPS and Traffic to deal decisively with illegal operators and vehicles that put learners at risk. We will work with Treasury and Education to explore a government-supported vehicle renewal programme, one that allows old vehicles to be scrapped and replaced with safer ones through subsidies and financing partnerships, so that operators who have served communities for years are not forced out simply because they cannot afford a new vehicle. We will also push for regular inspections, proper driver training, first aid and road safety training, and proper monitoring of routes, especially in deep rural areas, farm communities and places with poor infrastructure where alternatives do not exist.

With Education, we agreed that scholar transport must be treated as part of the education system itself. A learner who arrives late, or does not arrive at all, starts the day already behind. No child should miss school because transport is unavailable, unreliable, or unsafe.

This enquiry has reminded me that our operators are not just drivers. They are partners in education. Every morning they take responsibility for our most precious cargo. To them I say: those who comply will be supported with training, with opportunities, and with a direct relationship with our Departments. Those who operate illegally and unsafely will be dealt with, because they endanger lives and undermine those doing the right thing.

Chairperson Rakgoale has committed the Legislature to tracking progress. There will be follow-ups. This cannot be a talk-shop. Our people are asking for action they can see in their communities.

After the session at The Ranch, I carry hope. Hope that through stronger oversight, cooperation and investment, we can build a scholar transport system that is compliant, smooth operating, safe, reliable, accessible and dignified for every learner on their journey to and from school.

The future of Limpopo depends on the education of our children. And getting them to school safely is the first lesson we must get right. We heard you. We are answering. And we will deliver.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOLAR TRANSPORT OPERATING LICENCE

- Certified copy of ID/CK in case of a juristic person or company.
- Valid SARS Tax Clearance Certificate.
- Clear route description depicting pick up and drop off points.
- Timetable.
- List of learners (signed by parents) in a prescribed format (Copy attached).
- A prescribed fee of R627,66 subject to change.
- Fully completed Form 1B (Application form).
- Vehicle documents i.e. motor vehicle licence registration certificate and certificate of fitness (operator card) obtainable from licensing department.
*(*NB this is not compulsory at the application stage)*
- No criminal record relating to public transport operations.

An operator must follow below steps to apply for and obtain a scholar transport licence

1. Application is submitted personally to PRE helpdesk for capturing
2. Verification and capturing process begins to check the correctness of the application including checking the following: Status of SARS Tax compliance, Criminal record (SAPS 69). If compliant, the application is then registered on OLAS or NLTIS.
3. The PRE must notify Planning Authorities / Municipalities
4. The application is simultaneously published in the government gazette for possible objections if any. In addition to the government gazette, the application can also be published on the departmental website, district or Planning authorities notice boards
5. PRE meets for a hearing and or adjudication.
6. PRE then takes a decision
7. PRE grants operating licence and request the applicant to submit vehicle documents for upliftment.
- 8 (Optional) The operator may appeal the PRE decision to the Transport Appeal Tribunal (TAT) if does not favour him or her.



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