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The Limpopo Provincial Treasury



Limpopo provincial Treasury

**A LIMPOPO
THAT WORKS** FOR ALL



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Editor's note

“ This designation is not merely symbolic, it is a call to action for renewed accountability, responsiveness and innovation at the local level.”



Editor
Mr C. J. Malebati

As we mark 2026 as the Year of Local Government elections in South Africa, the focus sharpens on the institutions closest to the people - municipalities which are tasked with delivering essential services, strengthening communities and driving local development. Limpopo Provincial Treasury in collaboration with other departments remain committed towards supporting them for sustainability and improving issues of governance.

At the same time, it is important to reaffirm that government's constitutional mandate remains constant. Service delivery, infrastructure development, public participation and good governance are ongoing responsibilities that do not pause for thematic observances. The work must continue consistently, transparently and in the best interest of all citizens.

For Rifhumo, as a government publication, this year presents both an opportunity and a responsibility. Our role is to communicate the work of government clearly and accurately, ensuring that communities are informed about programmes, progress and challenges. This must always be done in a manner that is factual, balanced and free from partisan bias.

In highlighting local government initiatives throughout the year, we remain guided by the principles of fairness, inclusivity and integrity. Our commitment is to reflect the realities on the ground, amplify community voices and support an informed public discourse.

The Year of Local Government should ultimately be measured not by messaging, but by meaningful impact on people's daily lives.

Happy reading....

2026/2027 Municipal budget engagements



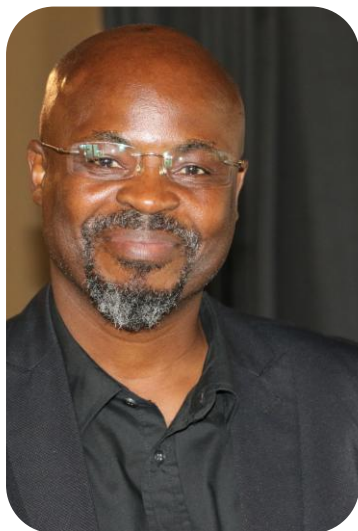
The Limpopo Provincial Treasury held month-long 2026/2027 Municipal Budget engagements from April to May 2026. The primary objective of these district wide engagements was to ensure legislative compliance, promote fiscal sustainability and align municipal budgets with both Provincial and National priorities as pronounced by the President of the Country, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa and also outlined in the State of the Province Address by Limpopo Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba.

These engagements play a critical role in ensuring that annual budgets are credible, fully funded and legally compliant before they are finalized and adopted by municipal councils. They took place at a period municipality were doing public participation on draft Integrated Development Plan (IDP) to finalise their service delivery road map. In the same breath, this annual technical meetings, take place when local government elections are around the corner, underscoring the importance of sound financial planning and accountability.

Furthermore, the sessions assess adherence to Section 18 of the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) No. 56 of 2003, which requires municipalities to fund the budget from realistically anticipated revenues to be collected and cash backed accumulated funds. Compliance with this provision is essential in strengthening financial management and ultimately enhancing service delivery.

They are close-door technical meetings between Limpopo Provincial Treasury officials, joined by the Department of Cooperative Governance,

Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) and municipal management. Furthermore, the meetings discussed issues raised during the mid-year budget assessment performance and track progress on the implementation of resolutions.



Among issues raised were the management of land use, revenue generation mechanisms, curbing either irregular or fruitless expenditure patterns and improvement on the Municipal Infrastructure Grant to improve quality projects that are weather resilient, dealing with unfunded budgets.





Honouring our past, protecting our future

As part of honoring our past, Limpopo Government celebrated Freedom Day on the 27 April 2026 at Saselamani Sports Ground, located in Collins Chabane Local Municipality within Vhembe District Municipality, under the theme: *"Freedom and the Rule of Law: Thirty Years of Democratic Citizenship."*



This year's celebration marked 32 years since South Africa's first democratic elections in 1994 and 30 years since the adoption of the Constitution. The day commemorates the historic 1994 elections, the first non-racial elections in the country which signaled the end of apartheid. It honours South Africa's transition to a constitutional democracy where all citizens gained equal voting rights.

Hosi Maluleka welcomed guests and emphasized the importance of linking Freedom Day to tangible service delivery. He challenged the provincial government to intensify efforts to deliver meaningful services to communities. He also noted that Saselamani is home to the late Minister of Public Service and Administration, Mr Collins Chabane, as well as Cllr Moses Maluleke, who previously served as the municipality's mayor before his tragic murder.

Limpopo Premier, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, delivered the keynote address, emphasising the meaning of freedom in today's context. She highlighted that true freedom is measured by access to basic services such as clean water, electricity, quality education, and healthcare.

In her address, the Premier Dr Ramathuba reminded citizens to value the hard-won freedom, noting that many people lost their lives, while others went into exile and never returned. She stressed that freedom is not only about the ability to move freely, but also about improving people's living conditions.



She further reflected on key provincial development projects, including the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) Giyani Campus, the development of the Central Academic Hospital and Lemana College. The Central Academic Hospital project is expected to reduce the need to refer patients to healthcare facilities outside the province.

The Premier acknowledged that although South Africa has made significant progress since 1994, there is still work to be done. She emphasized the importance of leadership remaining visible and accountable in addressing the unfinished business of democracy.

Limpopo Premier also highlighted the impact of recent natural disasters that devastated parts of the province, destroying roads and bridges and noted the challenges these setbacks pose to development.

It was reiterated that it is the government's responsibility to ensure that citizens experience the benefits of freedom in their daily lives through improved service delivery, access to healthcare, education and basic infrastructure.

The Saselamani Stadium came alive with a variety of activities, including traditional dances, brass band performances, poetry and speeches, all forming part of the Freedom Day celebrations.

The event was attended by Members of the Executive Council, Members of the Provincial Legislature, municipal and traditional leaders, as well as other dignitaries.



Driving accountability and excellence: Limpopo municipalities prepare for 2025/2026 audits



Limpopo Province recently hosted a 2025/26 Municipal Audit Readiness Session aimed at ensuring that municipalities begin preparations early and submit their annual financial statements by the end of August 2026. Addressing the session, Limpopo Provincial Treasury, Head of Department Mr Gavin Pratt, emphasized that successful audit outcomes begin with a funded and credible budget.

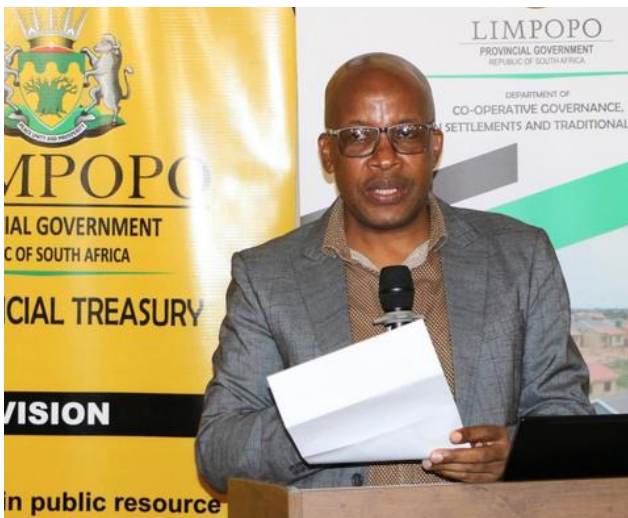
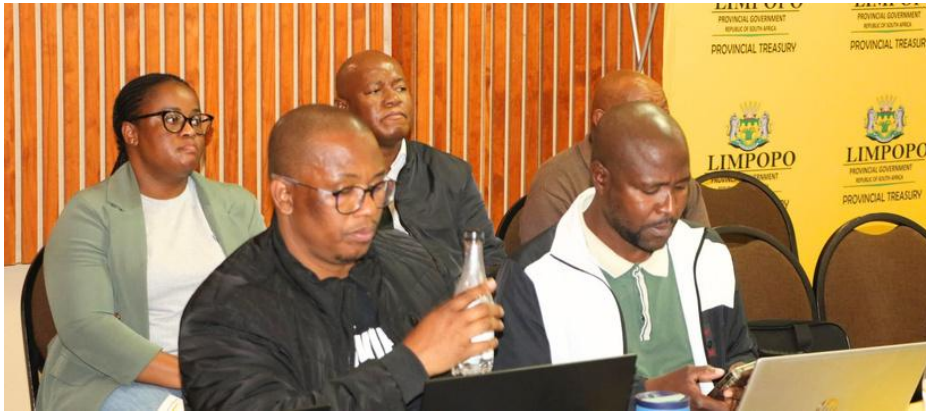
He stressed that sound financial planning and budgeting are critical foundations for effective financial management and accountability. The session was attended by representatives from the Limpopo Provincial Treasury, the Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), and the Auditor-General of South Africa (AGSA).

AGSA Head of Portfolio, Mr Tlamelo Ramantsi, commended the Limpopo Provincial Treasury and CoGHSTA for their continued support to municipalities across the province. He described the audit readiness session as an important early warning system that enables municipalities to identify and address potential challenges ahead of the audit process, thereby improving audit outcomes.

Reflecting on the 2024/25 audit cycle, Limpopo recorded zero regression and no late submissions of annual financial statements by municipalities, marking a significant improvement from previous years. AGSA emphasized the importance of sustaining this momentum during the 2025/26 financial year and expressed confidence that municipalities can further improve their audit outcomes. The Auditor-General encouraged municipalities to work towards eliminating disclaimer audit opinions and strengthening accountability, governance, and financial management practices.



The engagement reinforced the importance of collaboration amongst others, financial management and service delivery throughout the province. Through continued cooperation and proactive intervention, stakeholders aim to support municipalities in achieving improved audit outcomes and maintaining a culture of sound financial governance.



Limpopo youth urged to shape the future

The future belongs to those who dare to dream, work hard and seize every opportunity placed before them. This was the powerful message delivered by Limpopo MEC for Public Works, Roads and Infrastructure, Mr Ernest Rachoene, during the launch of the Youth Month Programme at Bela-Bela Community Hall in the Bela-Bela Local Municipality, Waterberg District.

Addressing hundreds of young people while representing Limpopo Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba, MEC Rachoene encouraged the youth to take full advantage of government programmes designed to empower and develop them. He reminded them that success is not determined by where they come from or the challenges they face, but by how they respond to those challenges.



"Embrace your studies, your careers, your businesses and your communities," he said. "Do not allow circumstances to define your future. Instead, use every challenge as a stepping stone towards success."

His message resonated with the spirit of Youth Month, a time to reflect on the sacrifices of previous generations while inspiring today's youth to become active builders of a better tomorrow. He emphasized that government continues to create opportunities for young people, but those opportunities can only make a difference if young people are informed, prepared and willing to participate.



Beyond education and economic opportunities, MEC Rachoene also called on young people to play their role in strengthening democracy by registering and voting in the upcoming local government elections.

"As a nation, we have a commitment to the future and to defending the gains of our freedom. The youth of our province and the country at large must register to vote and exercise their democratic right," said MEC Rachoene.

The event was attended by several members of the Limpopo Executive Council, including MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Mr Jerry Maseko, MEC for Finance Mr Kgabo Mahoai, MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development Ms Nakedi Kekana, MEC for Health Ms Dieketseng Mashego, as well as mayors from across the province.

During the event, Finance MEC Mr Kgabo Mahoai visited the Limpopo Provincial Treasury exhibition stall, where he encouraged officials to continue taking Treasury services and information directly to communities. He emphasized the importance of ensuring that citizens, especially young people, are aware of the opportunities and support available through government programmes.

The launch served as a reminder that young people are not merely the leaders of tomorrow, they are today's change-makers. With determination, education, active citizenship and a willingness to embrace opportunities, Limpopo's youth have the power to transform their communities and shape a brighter future for generations to come.



LPT empowers local suppliers to access government procurement



The Limpopo Provincial Treasury (LPT) has intensified its efforts to ensure that local suppliers receive a fair share of the provincial budget. To support this objective, LPT's five Supply Chain Client Support Centres have strengthened their operations to assist Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in complying with government procurement requirements and related processes, enabling them to access opportunities within the public sector.

During the first quarter of the 2026/27 financial year, approximately nineteen (19) capacity-building workshops were conducted across the province's five districts.

These workshops were aimed at equipping MSMEs with the knowledge and skills needed to participate effectively in economic growth initiatives and government procurement opportunities, with a particular focus on previously marginalised groups. With more than 80 000 suppliers from Limpopo registered on the Central Supplier Database (CSD),



this initiative will help ensure that local businesses benefit from provincial expenditure, thereby promoting sustainability, economic inclusion and growth across the province.

The Supply Chain Client Support Centres remain committed to supporting suppliers by assisting them to navigate the CSD and Request for Quotation (RFQ) processes effectively. This support is intended to enhance suppliers' competitiveness and ensure fair participation in government bidding opportunities.

These interventions are expected to increase supplier participation in government procurement, strengthen local economic development and contribute to sustainable economic growth and job creation throughout the province.







Strengthening procurement through capacity building

In a continued effort to strengthen municipal procurement systems and curb irregular expenditure across municipalities, the Limpopo Provincial Treasury, has from 9 to 25 June 2026, successfully conducted Bid Committee Training for municipal officials across all five district municipalities.



The comprehensive district-based trainings aimed to enhance the capacity of officials serving on Bid Specification, Bid Evaluation, and Bid Adjudication Committees, ensuring they are well-equipped to execute their procurement responsibilities effectively. A key focus of the programme was addressing compliance gaps and findings raised by the Auditor-General of South Africa during municipal audits.

The training reinforced compliance with the legislative and regulatory frameworks governing municipal procurement and Supply Chain Management (SCM) processes. It also provided practical guidance on the appropriate application of SCM Regulation 36, which governs procurement deviations under exceptional circumstances.



Participants gained valuable knowledge and practical skills to navigate procurement challenges while upholding the principles of integrity, transparency, accountability, fairness and professionalism. The interactive sessions also provided a platform for municipal officials to raise implementation challenges and seek technical clarity on procurement prescripts.

The Deputy Director-General for Sustainable Resource Management, Ms Portia Semanya, commended the Limpopo Provincial Treasury team for delivering a high-quality training programme and for effectively responding to the technical questions raised by participants.



By investing in the continuous development of municipal officials, the Limpopo Provincial Treasury reaffirms its commitment to promoting good governance, strengthening ethical procurement practices, improving compliance, and enhancing efficient service delivery across municipalities.





Awareness posters

GROWING YOUR MONEY TIPS

By Ms Leande Petersen | Head: Sector Specialists at Standard Bank of South Africa

BUDGETING

CREATE A REALISTIC BUDGET

- Record all income, compare to monthly expenses.
- Spot unnecessary spending.

SAVING

PRIORITISE SAVING

- Set up automatic monthly transfers.
- Build discipline.

DEBT

REDUCE UNNECESSARY DEBT

- Pay more than minimum.
- Consolidate high-interest debt.

ESSENTIALS

BE DISCIPLINED ON ESSENTIAL EXPENSES

- Use supermarket discounts & bulk purchases.
- Turn off appliances.

IMPULSE

AVOID IMPULSE PURCHASES

- Wait 24 to 48 hours ("Cooling-off" period).
- Distinguish wants from needs.

GOAL

HAVE A REALISTIC SAVINGS GOAL

- Decide what you want: Education, Holiday, or Big Purchase.
- Start an Emergency Fund.

ACCOUNT

OPEN AN ACCOUNT THAT HELPS YOU SAVE

- Gives structure.
- Kickstart with R250 in a Notice Deposit Account.

START SMALL

ADD MONEY TO IT – THE SMALLEST AMOUNT WILL DO

- First step is hardest.
- Create a new habit.

AUTOMATE

SET IT AND FORGET IT

- Automate deposits to stay disciplined.
- Benefit from Compound Interest.

REFLECTION & BUDGETING HACKS

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- Are you spending less than you earn?
- Is saving part of your budget?
- Does your budget align with your financial goals (Financial security, Emergency fund, Insurance)?
- Are you happy with your choices?

BUDGETING TIPS

- Calculate your hourly rate.
- How many work hours for that item?
- Is it worth it?
- Adjust budget to align with goals.

Verify Your Details Check Your Registration

You can verify your details through:

Online Voter Registration Portal

WhatsApp "Hi" to 0600 88 0000

Contact Centre 0800 11 8000

SMS your ID number to 32810 (R1 per SMS)

GET UP SHOW UP VOTE 2026 IEC SOUTH AFRICA

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SARS MOBILE TAX UNITS

SARS Mobile Tax Unit and Pop-up Branch Schedule

SARS Mobile Tax Units and Pop-up branches assist with completion and submission of income tax returns on SARS MobiApp or eFiling, and general enquiries on Filing

SARS
At Your Service



GOVERNMENT RELEASES MUNICIPAL FUNDS TO PROTECT ESSENTIAL SERVICES

29 July 2026

- National Treasury will release the remaining withheld July 2026 Local Government Equitable Share funds from 31 July 2026. This will help municipalities continue providing essential services, particularly to poor and vulnerable communities.
- The release of these funds does not mean that affected municipalities have fully resolved their financial management and governance challenges. They remain responsible for meeting all legal and financial requirements.
- Government remains committed to strengthening financial accountability, improving governance and acting against unauthorised, irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure, financial misconduct and poor oversight.
- This decision balances the need to enforce sound financial management with the responsibility to prevent disruptions to essential municipal services.
- Municipal councils and officials must improve governance, finalise outstanding investigations, take disciplinary action where necessary and ensure that public funds are managed lawfully, transparently and responsibly.
- Government will continue supporting municipalities to strengthen financial management, while taking firm action where necessary to protect public funds and ensure sustainable service delivery ahead of the December 2026 and March 2027 Equitable Share assessments.

Conversation with Limpopo Provincial Treasury, Director for Supply Chain Management Client Support Services, Ms Lerato Msimeki. Mr Jimmy Malebati (JM), held the conversation.



JM: Ms Lerato Msimeki, thank you for affording Communication Services the opportunity to engage with you and the work you do in the department.

Answer: Thank you

JM: Ms Msimeki, kindly share with our readers the role your unit is responsible for?

Answer: The role of our unit is to capacitate existing and potential Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to conduct business with the state, focusing on previously disadvantaged designated groups, in order to ensure that they too participate in the economy.

JM: We have noticed that you conduct Central Suppliers Database (CSD) Request for Quotation (RFQ) capacity buildings throughout the province's five districts. How important is that and what are you hoping to achieve?

Answer: These capacity building sessions are highly important. Through them, we aim to overcome the barriers that local MSMEs face when conducting business with the state, such as non-compliance, access to funding and lack of knowledge when submitting bids and not just CSD RFQ functionality. Ultimately, we are hoping to increase the successful participation of local businesses especially for designated groups and to ensure that government spending benefits the communities where services are rendered.



JM: What prompted this? What has led to the training?

Answer: The training was prompted by the need to address common challenges affecting business participation within government procurement space, including CSD profile maintenance and bid requirements. We realized that many MSMEs miss out on government opportunities simply due to avoidable compliance issues.

We also realised that most MSMEs do not know about and how to access government procurement opportunities.

JM: What is the ultimate goal that you want to reach at the end of the financial year?

Answer: Our goal will be reached when we see a significant and sustained increase in the number of compliant, locally-based MSMEs actively and successfully securing state business.

We want to see the province meet and exceeding its procurement targets as set in the Limpopo Procurement Strategy, such as spending at least 75% on Limpopo-based suppliers.

JM: What is your message to potential suppliers reading this article?

Answer: Do not let lack of knowledge be the barrier that keeps your business from growing. Government procurement is an opportunity for you to thrive, but it requires you to be proactive, ensure your Central Supplier Database profile is always up to date and attend capacity-building sessions to understand the rules of engagement.



JM: Where can suppliers see upcoming training sessions in their area?

Answer: Suppliers can find out about upcoming schedules and webinar links by visiting the Limpopo Provincial Treasury District office, Website (www.limptreasury.gov.za) or following the official Limpopo Provincial Treasury Facebook Page (The Limpopo Provincial Treasury), where training dates, venues and Microsoft Teams links are regularly advertised.

JM: Thank you, Ms Msimeki, for your time.

Answer: You're very welcome.



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