

FOREWORD

This budget statement outlines our spending plans for the various programmes and expenditure allocations to departments and other organs of the state. It is premised in the context of improved fiscal management, increasing benefits to the poor and continued growth in capital expenditure.

Over the past years, the province has witnessed remarkable economic growth resulting in a decline in the unemployment growth rate. The year 2000 saw the beginning of the increase in employment. This budget seeks to enhance the sustenance of these positive developments.

During this financial year as well as the Medium Term Expenditure Framework period, there is remarkable growth in both capital and social sector spending. This is another among an array of tools used to eradicate the scourge of poverty and position ours into an economically competitive province.

Mr Thaba Mufamadi
Member of Executive Council
For Finance, Economic Affairs, Tourism

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