

**BUDGET STATEMENT
2003/04**

AND

**MEDIUM TERM EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK
2004/05 – 2005/06**

OF THE

**NORTHERN CAPE
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT**



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FOREWORD

BY

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This Budget balances our policy priorities carefully to achieve, social justice, equity and a better life for all. It responds and acknowledges the challenges we are faced with in the coming year - to further confront the issue of poverty, affordable housing, access to health care, investing in learning and skill development, investing in infrastructure and thus contributing in job creation while preserving the social programmes that our people have come to rely on.

The budget sets out our three-year plan and details how we intend to prioritise expenditure. This Budget Statement, therefore, outlines our spending plans in some detail in both narrative, financial and non-financial terms. A significant departure from 2002 Budget Statement is that the 2003 Budget Statement contains important information such as the service delivery measures per programme, detailed infrastructure data, lists on transfers to municipalities and public entities. Apart from the 2003 Budget being tabled in the Provincial Legislature, each department will also table its Strategic Plan.

This budget sees increased allocations to all votes, but specifically targets infrastructure to stimulate our economic activities, social services, such as education, health and social development, economic services as well as HIV/Aids related programmes and poverty relief programmes.

These matters are elaborated on in this document which is aimed at enhancing understanding and stimulating debate on the Provincial Budget.

People expect accountability and transparency from their government, they want respect, they want to know what they are paying for and to get what they are paying for. They want results and thus get value for their money. Based on these expectations we remain committed to the building of an effective and efficient administration for accountable and transparent government.



CONTENTS

BUDGET STATEMENT NUMBER 1	1
♦ BUDGET OVERVIEW	
 BUDGET STATEMENT NUMBER 2	 35
♦ DEPARTMENTAL ESTIMATES	
 1. Premier	 39
2. Legislature	52
3. Provincial Safety and Liaison	64
4. Education	74
5. Transport, Roads and Works	109
6. Economic Affairs and Tourism	134
7. Sport, Arts and Culture	151
8. Finance	167
9. Housing and Local Government	189
10. Health	219
11. Social Service and Population Development	246
12. Agriculture, Nature Conservation and Environmental Affairs	271
 Annexure A: Definitions	 307
Annexure B: Glossary	308

