



provincial treasury

Department:
Provincial Treasury
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PROVINCIAL BUDGET SPEECH

2026 - 2027



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**MS. KENETSWE MOSENOGI
MEC FOR FINANCE**

12 MARCH 2026

**TABLING OF THE 2026/27 PROVINCIAL BUDGET IN THE NORTH WEST
PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE BY MEC KENETSWE MOSENOGI ON 12TH MARCH
2026**

**Honourable Speaker, Dr. Desbo Sebonta Mohono;
Honourable Deputy Speaker, Mr. Collen Mokone Maine;
Honourable Premier, Mr. Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi;
Honourable Members of the Executive Council;
Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature;
Chairperson of the Provincial House of Traditional and KhoiSan Leaders, Kgosi
Thari Maotwe II;
Ladies and Gentlemen;
Bagaetsho, Dumelang.**

Honourable Speaker, thirty years ago the founding father of our democratic nation Nelson Mandela, signed into law the country's democratic Constitution marking a turning point in our socio-economic and political trajectory.

This historic and symbolic moment held in Kliptown in 1996, affirmed the long-standing resolve of our forebears who in 1955 proclaimed that **"South Africa belongs to all who live in it Black and White."**

This bold pronouncement taken under the harsh conditions of minority rule and racial exclusion culminated in the establishment of a society based on democratic values, social justice, and fundamental human rights to provide equal rights and opportunities to all people.

It is the strength, sweat and blood of the 1956 August Women's March as well as the 1976 June 16 activists which continues to nourish our democratic gains.

These acts of resilience have laid a firm foundation in our continued endeavours to unite our people by creating conditions that will make women and young people in particular to witness the full realization of our national democratic project.

This important milestone, which also coincides with Human Rights Month held under the theme: **“Bill of Rights at 30: Making Human Dignity Real”** impresses upon us not to relent on our ongoing efforts, of ensuring that the poor and economically marginalised benefits from the promises of our Constitutional Democracy in every practical sense and measurable way.

The values of dignity, equality, and social justice, as espoused in the preamble of the Constitution, must energise our revolutionary conscience and serve as a moral compass for how we allocate resources.

Honourable Speaker, guided by the country’s national priorities, this Budget is designed to translate our constitutional rights into the lived realities of our people whose dreams and aspirations remain etched in our National Democratic Revolution.

This commitment, as explained by Premier Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi during the State of the Nation Address debate, **“....is not merely about catchphrases and how revolutionary we sound to sway public opinion. But to turn the tide against challenges of unemployment and poverty afflicting our communities”**.

Hon Speaker, through targeted investments in education, healthcare, infrastructure development, economic revitalisation, empowerment of women, youth, and people living with disability, we are making deliberate fiscal choices to advance and consolidate our developmental trajectory.

This includes inclusive growth, job creation, poverty alleviation as well as strengthening the capability of the state to reverse past injustices by creating a better life for all.

The Mid-year Population Estimates of 2025 report by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) highlighted that the North West Province has a population of about 4.18 million which constitutes 6.6 per cent of the South African population.

About half of the residents of the province are living in poverty and depend on government interventions and remittance for their livelihood.

Therefore, the budget proposals being tabled today are primarily aimed at finding lasting solutions to these challenges with municipalities playing a central role in bettering the lives of our people through the transformation of our economy.

Mmusu-Kgotla, ka jalo tekanyetsokabo eno e itshetlegile thata ka ditshweetso tse di tshotsweng ke khuduthamaga ya porofense ka nako ya fa e ne e ithuna dinta kwa kgotha-kgotheng ya porofense ya dipusoselegae go tokafatsa dimasepala le mats'helo a baagi ba rona.

Honourable Speaker, therefore, this budget is firmly anchored on the provincial government's position to fix local government and transform the economy as articulated by the Honourable Premier Lazarus Kagiso Mokgosi during the 2026 State of the Province Address.

The budget proposals being tabled have been deliberately crafted to translate those resolutions into action and measurable outcomes for the people of the North West.

Honourable Speaker, the budget we are tabling today for the North West Province totals R179.3 billion over the medium term.

This reflects an average annual growth rate of 2.1 per cent, with allocations rising from R58.5 billion in 2026/27 to R59.6 billion in 2027/28 and concluding at R61.2 billion in the final year of the MTEF period.

This budget is presented against the backdrop of a significant R3.6 billion reduction, which was implemented over the 2025 MTEF.

These reductions stem from data updates on the Provincial Equitable Share (PES) formula, which has negatively affected our province's baseline allocation and consequently, our capacity to fully address core provincial priorities.

The province engaged National Treasury through both the Technical Committee on Finance and the Budget Council to explain the negative implications of these reductions on the ability of the province to fulfil its mandate.

Honourable Speaker, as a result of our robust engagements, the province has received an additional amount of R1.8 billion as a cushion to mitigate the impact of these reductions.

The additional allocation was distributed during the adjustment budgets and over the MTEF.

As such, we will ensure that money is spent wisely to achieve the intended objectives of government of expediting provision of services in our municipalities while advocating for good ethical practices.

In this regard we are encouraged by the 2024/25 municipal audit outcomes, that while challenges in local government remain, the trajectory of reform is shifting.

Over the past five financial years, the province has recorded a significant reduction in disclaimer audit opinions, declining from nine (9) in 2020/21 to one (1) in 2024/25.

In addition, the number of municipalities receiving unqualified with findings opinions increased to six (6) in 2024/25, compared to three (3) in previous years.

Notably, Mamusa Local Municipality improved significantly from seven (7) disclaimer audit opinions in a row, followed by an adverse audit opinion for 2023/24 to a qualified opinion for the 2024/25 financial year.

This performance reflects a meaningful and measurable shift in the municipality.

Honourable Speaker, in 2021/22 financial year, only five (5) municipalities in this province adopted funded budgets in full compliance with Section 18 of the MFMA. The number has increased to nine (9) funded budgets in the 2025/26 financial year.

These encouraging signs are further bolstered by the implementation of various legislations by the provincial government to make municipalities workable and position them as organs that will reincarnate economic activities and create jobs.

Honourable Speaker, our efforts in striving towards good governance practices in the provincial government is also gaining traction at a faster pace.

The provincial departments audit outcomes for the financial year which ended 31st of March 2025 saw ten (10) provincial departments and the legislature receiving unqualified audit opinions, whilst there were two (2) qualified audit opinions.

It is worth noting that the Provincial Treasury, Arts, Culture, Sports and Recreation and Northwest Provincial Legislature maintained their clean audit opinions.

The public entities audit outcomes saw six (6) entities receive unqualified audit opinions with no material findings, that is clean audit opinions.

They are Kgama Wildlife, Agribank, Youth Entrepreneurial Services (YES) Klein Marico Recreation Center, Donkervliet Recreation Center and North West Gambling Board.

Two (2) entities received unqualified audit opinions, while two (2) entities received qualified opinions and four (4) entities received disclaimer audit opinions.

Honourable Speaker, the announcement by Minister of Finance, Enoch Godongwana of an estimated 1.6 percent growth rate this year, supported by investments due to competitive interest rates and reliable electricity supply gives credence to our assertion that indeed the tide is turning.

This is exemplified by the seventy-eight thousand jobs created in quarter three and four of 2025.

This upward trajectory which marked the reduction of the official unemployment rate by over six percent in the province strengthens our position to direct our resources to infrastructure projects to attract investments and create much needed jobs.

During the State of the Nation Address, His Excellency President Cyril Ramphosa made a similar observation when he said **“Our economy is growing again, and this growth is gathering pace. As the economy grows the rate of unemployment is starting to decline”**

Over the medium term, National Treasury projects growth to average 1.8 per cent, reaching 2 per cent by 2028.

We are however, concerned about the current geo-political conflict between the United States and Iran, which has the potential to result in a surge of oil prices. This will have spillover effects in global food prices, inflation rates and currency fluctuations.

But all is not lost as the increase in the demand for platinum and gold will bring positive spin-offs and a multiplier effect that will contribute immensely to our job creation initiatives.

Honourable Speaker, following the approval of the accrual strategy by the Executive Council, which its implementation is mandatory, non-cash backed accruals from previous financial years will be addressed separately and will not form part of allocations of the current financial year.

Furthermore, to address spending agencies over-committing beyond the monthly cash flow projections approved by the Provincial Treasury, it has been agreed with the respective Accounting Officers that henceforth departments will have to strictly adhere to the approved monthly cash flow projections in line with the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) provisions and Treasury Regulations.

REVENUE OUTLOOK

Honourable Speaker, the compilation of the Provincial Revenue Enhancement Strategy is at an advanced stage and is expected to be finalised once all the departmental inputs have been received and all relevant parties are consulted. Key interventions to improve the provincial revenue enhancement will include:

- **Optimising own revenue sources** by implementing market-related tariffs, updating fee structures and improving billing and debt collection systems;
- **Enhancing compliance and enforcement** through stronger debt recovery and stricter penalties;
- **Leveraging state assets** by commercialising underutilised properties, conducting asset audits and pursuing public-private partnerships (PPP's) and
- **Expanding the revenue base** through innovative measures such as digital platforms and sustainable green projects.

Honourable Speaker, the constrained fiscal envelope continues to exert pressure on the 2026 Medium-Term Expenditure Framework. As a result, the maximisation of own revenue has become a critical strategy for our province. To ensure optimal collection against approved revenue budgets, Provincial Treasury will enforce stricter accountability measures. Where departments are under-collecting revenue without justifiable reasons, the shortfall will be recovered from the first tranche of their budget transfer.

This measure will compel departments to implement credible and effective revenue enhancement strategies and prevent the recurrence of under-collection. These interventions are necessary to avoid unfunded budgets, protect fiscal discipline and to safeguard service delivery in the province.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE PAST TWO FINANCIAL YEARS

Honourable Speaker, the province was allocated over R100 billion since the inception of the 7th Administration. The administration hit the ground running and achieved various key milestones.

The province in its quest to tackle the triple challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality has in the past two years taken a deliberate effort to focus on programmes that empower designated groups and others that seek to improve socio-economic conditions of our people. The following key milestones have been achieved over the two years while others are continuing well into the 2026/27 financial year and onwards.

Preservation of Heritage, Promotion of Arts, Culture and Sports in the province

- The repatriation of the remains of our struggle stalwarts who died in exile is a solemn and necessary act of national restoration. By bringing them home, we honour their courage, restore their rightful place in the history of our nation and give their families and communities the dignity of closure.
- It is in this regard that the provincial government undertook the repatriation and reburial of human remains of our fallen liberation stalwarts Mr. Aaron Tiro from Zimbabwe and Mr. Mabe Klaas Bogosing from Zambia. They were both reburied in Lekubu village outside Zeerust in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District on the 07th December 2024.
- In an endeavour to empower and upskill military veterans, the provincial government has trained over thirty (30) Military Veterans on manuscript writing in Vryburg in the Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality.
- Five **(5)** libraries have been built in rural communities of Migdol in Mamusa Local Municipality, Uitkyk and Madibe-a-Makgabane Community Libraries in Mahikeng Local Municipality, Mmatau Village in Moses Kotane Local Municipality and Redirile in Kgetleng-Rivier Local Municipality in Derby and are ready for use.
- Another community library in Maquassie Hills Local Municipality is on practical completion and will be finalised and ready for occupation in the 2026/27 financial year. One (1) Sports complex has been completed and functional in Manthe Village in Greater Taung as well as a cultural village in Dinokana in Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality.
- The libraries and sports facilities will assist our rural communities to promote a culture of reading as well as prevent the community members especially scholars from travelling long distances to access these facilities.

Procurement biased towards designated groups

- An amount of R5.1 billion (43 per cent) and R1.9 billion (17 per cent) of the provincial procurement spent on women and youth owned businesses for the 2024/25 financial year for the benefit of three thousand one hundred and twenty-nine (3129) women-owned and two thousand six hundred and eight (2608) youth-owned enterprises.

- For the 2025/26 financial year, we are confident that the R4.2 billion (43 per cent) and R1.7 billion (17 per cent) that had already been spent on two thousand five hundred and eighty one (2 581) women-owned and two thousand one hundred and ten (2 110) youth-owned businesses by the end December 2025 would have significantly increased by year end.
- Through the ***Department of Agriculture and Rural Development***, an amount of R148.168 million has proportionally being shared among women, youth and people with disabilities for infrastructure production inputs, training, capacity building as well as Kaonofatso Ya Dikgomo over the 2025 MTEF period.

Job creation and economic empowerment initiatives

- The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development has created 292 jobs in 2024/25 financial year and is targeting creation of 356 jobs as part of the accelerated growth of strategic industrial and labour-intensive sectors.
- Through the Empowerment Fund, the Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism (DEDECT) supported nine (9) businesses in 2024/25 and eleven (11) businesses in the third quarter of 2025/26, aimed at supporting small businesses with production machinery and equipment to sustain and grow the economy such as sewing and embroidery machines, water purification equipment, brick making equipment, catering equipment and computers.
- To promote the Township and Rural Businesses, Informal and Social Economy Program (Bakeries, Smart Tuck-shops and Mobile Kitchens) twenty-seven (27) informal traders were supported with various interventions.
- The programme supports the stimulation of socio-economic development through the support of informal traders, co-operatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME's).
- During 2024/25 financial year thirty (30) MSME's were incubated successfully with another thirty (30) to be incubated during the fourth quarter in 2025/26 with an allocation of R4.317 million. The Incubation programme is a collaborative effort between the DEDECT, Young African Entrepreneurs Institute, the North West University and other stakeholders to drive youth entrepreneurship.

Health Care

- In 2024/25 the Department of Health invested in high-end capital equipment to strengthen oncology and surgical services. Mammography machines were procured for Joe Morolong, Job Shimankane Tabane and Potchefstroom Hospitals at a cost of R16.4 million.
- A Brachytherapy unit was installed at a cost of R15 million, enabling precise radiation treatment for cervical and prostate cancers with minimal discomfort and as part of the modernization of Tertiary Health Care Services.
- The Phokeng Forensic Mortuary was successfully completed and officially opened for operations on 5 February 2025 with the total cost of R44.6 million.
- The Department of Health acquired twenty-five (25) Ambulances in 2023/24, followed by thirty-five (35) Ambulances in 2024/25 and increased with additional sixty (60) Ambulances in 2025/26. Furthermore, the Planned Patient Transport vehicles have increased with thirty-nine (39) additional vehicles to ensure rapid response and transport for critically ill patients.
- The Department of Education spent R11.427 million to provide ninety-two thousand three hundred and forty-four (92 344) girl learners in quintiles 1-3 and special schools with sanitary dignity towels.
- Furthermore, the department has provided seven hundred fifty thousand two hundred and nineteen (750 219) learners with free education through no fee schools policy and will continue to do the same in the next financial year by increasing the number to seven hundred and fifty-four thousand and two hundred and seventy-two (754 272) learners.
- In addition, forty-six thousand eight hundred and forty (46 840) children have accessed the ECD centres in 2024/25 and targeting fifty thousand (50 000) children in the current financial year with an aggregated budget of R480.998 million.
- In the 2024/25 financial year, the Department of Social Development funded three hundred and two (302) NPO's to the tune of R241 million. Resultantly, the department created one thousand four hundred and twenty-one (1,421) work opportunities.

- Fourteen thousand three hundred and five (14,305) food parcels were provided to insecure households and individuals experiencing distress, undue hardships and those affected by disasters.
- Eight thousand three hundred and thirty-five (8,335) indigent learners and women benefitted from the departmental provision of sanitary dignity packs in 2024/25 financial year
- In the last 2024/25 financial year, the department funded one hundred and thirty-three (133) service clubs reaching eight thousand one hundred and ninety (8,190) older persons.

Safety and Security

- The Department of Community Safety and Transport Management spent R447 million in 2024/25 and R459 million in 2025/26 in providing Scholar Transport benefitting fifty-one thousand seven hundred and fifty eight (51 758) and sixty-four thousand six hundred and sixty-five (64 665) learners, respectively.

Infrastructure delivery in the province

Honourable Speaker, since the 2024/25 financial year to the end of the 2025/26 financial year, the provincial government has continued to prioritise investment in transport infrastructure as a catalyst for economic development, improved mobility, and job creation.

The province has completed road infrastructure projects across our municipalities which collectively generated four hundred and one (401) work opportunities for our communities. The combined contract value of these projects amounts to approximately R939 million, demonstrating the province's continued commitment to improving the condition of our road network. Among the most significant projects delivered during this period are:

- The upgrading of Road D201 from Pampierstad to Matlapeng, covering approximately 24 kilometres, with an investment of about R168.8 million.
- The special maintenance of Road P152/1 between Setlagole and Delareyville, covering 28 kilometres, valued at approximately R168.7 million.
- The upgrade of Road Z374 from Austrey to Goodwood, a twenty-four (24) kilometre project valued at nearly R130 million.

- The rehabilitation of the Bethanie–Brits corridor on Roads D109 and D519, spanning approximately twenty-three (23) kilometres, with a contract value of over R106 million.
- And the special maintenance of Road P47/2 in the Koster area, valued at over R103 million, improving access and mobility for surrounding communities.

These projects represent safer roads, improved connectivity for rural communities, better access to economic opportunities and strengthened regional transport corridors.

ALLOCATIONS AND PLANS FOR 2026/27 AND BEYOND

Governance Cluster

Honourable Speaker, guided by the Programme of Action for the 2026/27 Financial Year, these budget proposals support the implementation of the service delivery action plan adopted by all municipalities and provincial departments to address service delivery backlogs and restore public confidence in local government in line with both the National Indaba and the Provincial Kgothakgothe.

This budget gives concrete expression of our collective commitment to rebuild capable, responsive and accountable local government.

Honourable Speaker, the allocation of R712.6 million in respect of ***Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs*** proposed seeks to enable the department to continue providing support to municipalities and traditional councils. An amount of R25 million over the MTEF has been earmarked for support Traditional Councils for construction of new offices, R10 million in 2026/27 and R5 million in 2027/28 financial years for maintenance of offices.

The allocation will also be used to procure vehicles for traditional leaders whereby R14 million is set aside for that purpose as well as to implement phase three of the Municipal Monitoring System Dashboard.

The **Provincial Treasury** is allocated R659.1 million, R643.2 million and R636.6 million over the MTEF. The Department will use R15 million thereof to implement section 18 of the Public Finance Management Act, 1 of 1999, in the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management towards Scholar Transport.

An amount of R15 million has been set aside for operationalisation of the Development Fund while R10 million in each of the first two years is set aside for capacity assistance programme to municipalities.

Office of the Premier is allocated R633.7 million, R647 million and R615.5 million over the MTEF to support and conduct oversight on government institutions within the province. Following the approval of SMARTGOV by the Executive Council, an amount of R110 million has been allocated for this initiative in the first two years of the MTEF.

The Provincial Legislature receives R549.6 million to execute its programmes. The allocation considers a baseline adjustment of R10 million in 2026/27 and 2027/28 financial years, that will also address budget pressures on Political Party funding, Constituency Allowance, Committee work, Public Hearings, Salaries and other related Legislature activities critical expenditure item.

The budget for Scholar Transport within the **Department of Community Safety and Transport Management** has been increased by R50 million in 2026/27 and R20 million in 2027/28 mainly to deal with accruals, and therefore the budget for this programme amounts to R500 million and R490 million in those financial years respectively and increases to R484.9 million in the outer year.

An amount of R2.3 billion is allocated over the MTEF for Community Bus Subsidies. The total budget of this department is therefore R2.6 billion in 2026/27, R2.6 billion in 2027/28 and R2.7 billion in 2028/29 financial years.

Economic Cluster

Honourable Speaker, the successful implementation of the interventions to improve governance will not only stabilise local government but will also serve as a catalyst for economic renewal across our province.

When municipalities function effectively, infrastructure projects move from plans on paper to construction sites that create jobs, stimulate local enterprise, attract and unlock investment opportunities.

An amount of R1 billion is allocated to the ***Department of Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism***. This will enable the department to implement programmes to scale-up and coordinate support of MSME's, co-operatives and increase the number of competitive small enterprises by intensifying support intervention to focus on women, youth and people with disabilities.

The department will further strengthen support infrastructure by establishing seven Enterprise Support Centres over the 2026 MTEF. To date six (6) Enterprise Information Centres (EIC) were sustained with a total of eleven (11) jobs created (youth and women) for performing business development and support services to enterprises and communities.

As was articulated by Premier Mokgosi at the SOPA debate, R40 million has been made available to fund the SEZ of which amount, R20 million will assist with the project preparation which includes professional services and relevant studies as well as project designs.

Honourable Speaker, the Financial Viability Assessment conducted for North West Development Corporation has been finalized. The Implementation is under way, and the transformation will require sustained commitment, adequate resources and strong leadership. The successful implementation will create a financially sustainable and developmentally impactful organization that effectively fulfils its mandate.

This programme will be rolled out to other public entities which process will be done in a phased-in approach.

Mmusakgotla, mo dikgweding di le mmalwa tse di fetileng, naga ya rona e itemogetse leroborobo la bolwetsi jwa diruiwa jwa molomo le tlhakwana jo bo garaswantseng diruiwa. Seno se amile thekiso ya nama e khibidu mo bagwebing ba prorofense.

Go fitlha Tlhakole a phirima, Lefapha la Temothuo le Tlhabololo Ya Metsemagae le tsibogetse dikgetse di ka nna lekgolo, masome a matlhano le borobedi (158).

In response to this epidemic, South Africa received 2.5 million (two million five hundred thousand vaccines) vaccines from Turkey and North West Province received a share of 100 000 (**one-hundred thousand**) vaccines, which is extremely far less than the demand. The department had set aside R12.3 million over the 2026 MTEF period to augment what is being availed by national sphere.

To provide producer support services for sustainable agricultural development in line with the National Policy on Comprehensive Producer Development Support, **the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development** has supported eighteen (18) beneficiaries in the Red Meat Commodity in 2024/25 financial year. To ensure continuity across the agriculture value chain and participation of the province in the red meat export market, the department has set aside R157.6 million over the 2026 MTEF period.

Mmusakgotla, phiri o rile ga bose gangwe, masa ke masamasa. Ka go rialo re a tlhaloganya gore moso o a beelwa. The Department has refurbished a fifty thousand tons of Grain Storage Facility in Springbokpan.

The facility is aimed at providing storage for the provincial farming community that cultivates hectares in the vicinity of the silo. The department had set aside an amount of R23. million for both 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years for completion of electrical fence.

Furthermore, the department has set aside R31.2 million over the 2026 MTEF period for execution of civil and structural work in efforts of operationalising the silo. Therefore, the **Department of Agriculture and Rural Development** receives R1.2 billion for the 2026/27, R1.3 billion for 2027/28 and R1.3 billion for 2028/29 financial year.

Honourable Speaker, the Department of Public Works and Roads is allocated R4 billion in 2026/27, R3.6 billion in 2027/28 and R3.8 billion in 2028/29. Included in the 2026/27 allocation is an amount R115 million for roads maintenance, contractor development and procurement of pothole patching equipment.

An amount of R277.4 million has been set aside in 2026/27 financial year for rural roads and increases to R298.9 million in the outer year. The high unemployment rate remains a provincial challenge, and it plays a major role in poverty and weakening economy.

The government will sustain its job creation initiatives through the EPWP grant by setting aside R55.4 million in 2026/27 financial year to create twenty thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine (20 859) jobs throughout the province.

Social Cluster

Social transformation remains at the heart of building a caring, inclusive and capable society. Through targeted investments in Health, Education, Social Development and Human Settlements, the budget reaffirms the provincial government's determination to improve the quality of lives of our people ensuring that no community is left behind.

Honourable Speaker, the Department of Education receives R24.2 billion in 2026/27 financial year, increased to R24.9 billion and R25.6 billion in the outer two years of the MTEF period. This allocation is made to ensure that learners have access to quality education as well as pro-poor initiatives like provision of school meals and the implementation of the no-fee school policy. Therefore, the allocated budget will be used to provide meals to learners across the four districts of the province with an amount of R746.983 million in 2026/27.

Ensuring that girl learners receive uninterrupted education amounts of R21.1 million, R22 million and R22.7 million annually over the MTEF will be used to procure Sanitary Dignity Towels.

Early Childhood Development is a foundation for future skills development and securing future economic participation and growth. This allocation makes provision of R1.2 billion in respect of Early Childhood Development to cater for both centre-based and non-centre based ECD centres.

The allocation sustains the subsidy increase from R17 to R24 for centre-based programmes and from R6 to R9 for non-centre-based programmes as pronounced in the 2025 budget. We however acknowledge, that not all children in the province are accessing this service and we call upon the department to ensure that it develops a strategy to ensure that all children have access to ECD programmes as required by the Basic Education Laws Amendment Act.

An amount of R221.6 million in 2026/27, R230.8 million in 2027/28 and R237.1 million for 2028/29 is allocated to the Department of Education to address spending pressures on Compensation of Employees. In addition, an amount of R21.3 million has been provided in 2026/27 towards the Teacher Assistants Programme based on the Presidential Employment Stimulus.

Honourable Speaker, the **Department of Human Settlements** receives R1.7 billion in 2026/27, R1.7 billion in 2027/28 and R1.8 billion in 2028/29 financial years.

This allocation will assist the department to render much needed services in terms of construction of habitable houses, upgrading of informal settlements, issuing of title deeds and assisting those who cannot afford housing bonds to participate in the First Home Finance scheme.

The allocation of the department will also be used to eradicate mud houses and remove asbestos roofs in old townships. The target for both Human Settlements Development Grant (HSDG) and Informal Settlement Upgrading Partnership Grant (ISUP) is three thousand two hundred sixty-nine (3 269) serviced sites and three thousand seven hundred ninety-three (3 793) housing units.

An amount of R18.2 billion is allocated to the **Department of Health** in 2026/27 financial year, R18.6 billion for 2027/28 and R19.1 billion for 2028/29 financial year. The department maintain the employment of health professionals through an additional amount of R123.3 million. Allocations of R274.9 million and R82.9 million have also been sustained over the MTEF in respect of Community Health Workers and payments for accruals respectively.

Emergency Medical and Rescue Services allocations over the MTEF is R546.6 million in 2026/27, R549.7 million in 2027/28 and R574.5 million in 2028/29.

The Department of Health receives R481.2 million in 2026/27, R493.8 million in 2027/28 and R507.3 million in 2028/29 to fund compensation of employees' costs, shortfalls on goods and services expenditure and for the employment of medical doctors.

Included in this budget provision is an amount of R38 million in the 2026/27 financial year for the acquisition of a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Scan for the modernization of Tertiary Health Care Services for Mahikeng Provincial Hospital, thus expanding tertiary services in the capital of the province.

The Department will improve its capacity to provide mental health services to the people of North West through the allocation of the National Health Insurance (NHI) Grant. The funding of this service is R34.1 million in 2026/27, R35.6 million in 2027/28 and R36.8 million in 2028/29 financial years.

The Provincial Tshela Ka Itsekanelo campaign, integrated into World AIDS Day and other community outreach programmes like Thuntsha Lerole, promotes health education, physical activity and preventative health screening.

To enable the department to continue and implement effective awareness and response to HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria and cervical cancer, the department receives an allocation of R1.9 billion in 2026/27, R2 billion in 2027/28 and R2.1 billion on 2028/29 for the District Health Programmes Grant.

Honourable Speaker, the ***Department of Arts, Culture, Sports and Recreation*** is allocated R860.2 million in 2026/27 financial year to carry out the fundamental mandate to build an active, winning, creative, and socially cohesive society, where all residents of our province can thrive through arts, culture, heritage, language, sport, and recreation.

The department further receives R876.1 million for 2027/28 and R854.7 million for 2028/29 financial years. Included in this allocation is an additional amount of R50 million for first two years of the MTEF to support sports, arts and culture activities, among others support to artists, mega events, federations, disability sports development, rural games and film development.

The department will continue to focus on the provision of sustainable mass participation opportunities across the age spectrum to promote physically active lifestyles, whilst providing support to institutions and infrastructure that increases participation and excellence in sports.

The budget for Sports and Recreation programme amounts to R187.2 million in 2026/27, R195.3 million for the 2027/28 and R183.2 million allocated in 2028/29 financial years. These allocations include the additional amount of R20 million over the MTEF to support athletes and federations.

Honourable speaker, the ***Department of Social Development*** receives R1.9 billion in 2026/27 which is inclusive of an additional R50 million for compensation of employees and goods and services. The department will further be allocated R 2.0 billion for each of the last two years of MTEF.

The department is continuously engaging with NPO's with the focus on empowering and capacitating both funded and unfunded NPO's on compliance matters and programme specific norms and standards. To fund NPO's, over the MTEF the budget sets aside R239.1 million for 2026/27, R245.3 million for 2027/28 and R256.3 million for 2028/29 financial years.

In an endeavour to rid the scourge of gender-based violence within the province, the department will implement community outreach prevention programmes, in partnership with twenty (20) NPO's that are spread across the four (4) districts. The allocation for Victim Empowerment that caters for the needs of victims of GBV amounts to R21.3 million in 2026/27, R22.3 million in 2027/28 and R23.3 million in 2028/29 financial years.

Honourable Speaker, on substance abuse matters, the department works closely with the Department of Health to provide detoxification services to ensure that all users receive comprehensive and quality services. To sustain the treatment for substance, use disorders, R87.4 million has been set aside in 2026/27, R93.2 million in 2027/28 and R97.4 million in 2028/29 financial years.

This budget also provides for behavioural rehabilitative intervention through provision of accredited therapeutic and developmental diversion through crime prevention programmes. The related funding thereof amounts to R137.1 million in 2026/27, R141.6 million in 2027/28 and R143.2 million in the 2028/29 financial years.

Honourable Speaker, through the national grant system, an estimated R2.9 billion has been allocated directly to the municipalities in the province for water services infrastructure. This includes the R897 million 'B' component of the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG), which is ring-fenced for water service provision in municipalities.

Accordingly, the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs must ensure that sufficient portions of their MIG is allocated towards water services. This will help ensure that we avert the need for provincial intervention and, most importantly, secure reliable water services for our communities.

In respect of the Early Retirement and Voluntary Exit Programmes (ER&VEP) for employees with ten or more years in public service, National Treasury has approved four hundred and eighty-nine (489) applications to the value of R217.5 million which will be distributed in 2026/27 to the affected Departments.

The programme will fund the cost of the pension penalty waiver to the Government Employee Pension Funds, cost associated with additional financial incentive for employees aged 55 to 59 years, 60 to 63 years.

Departments are urged to ensure that other costs not covered by National Treasury, including leave gratuities and resettlements are provided within their baselines.

Honourable Speaker, to ensure compliance, transparency and accountability in the utilisation of public resources in line with section 217 (1) of the Constitution, Provincial Treasury will intensify measures already communicated through provincial and National Treasury PFMA Instruction Notes already issued regarding publication of bids awarded.

This will include disclosing in the North West Provincial Government website, particulars of received and awarded bids in response to all advertised tenders in addition to other platforms where provincial institutions would have been communicated in terms of treasury regulations.

The Provincial Treasury has prioritised the strengthening and capacitation of its Infrastructure Management Unit to oversee and monitor infrastructure projects in municipalities. A review of the current structure will be undertaken to ensure that the unit is able to extend oversight into infrastructure projects within municipalities as well. This will include the establishment of dedicated capacity within the unit to monitor municipal infrastructure performance, while keeping focus on provincial departments as well.

Honourable Speaker, the strengthening of accountability measures in the implementation of infrastructure projects is of paramount importance. The law provides adequate enabling provisions to pursue contractors who accept public projects but fail to perform according to their contractual obligations or wilfully engage in conduct that is prohibited by amongst others, the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Practices Act and the Competition Act.

Where necessary, we will invoke available legal provisions and take action against such contractors, including but not limited to blacklisting and instituting other recovery measures available in law, to ensure that public resources are safeguarded.

We further call on all accounting officers to strengthen project and contract management including monitoring within their institutions and to escalate challenges to the Provincial Treasury where necessary for purposes of further direction. This must include taking appropriate steps to recover funds from companies that are negligent or fail to meet their contractual responsibilities.

CONCLUSION

Honourable Speaker, as we adopt this Budget, we reaffirm our commitment to fiscal responsibility, accountable governance, and developmental impact. The allocations before this house reflect our determination to strengthen service delivery, stimulate economic growth, and build a resilient province.

Our commitment in forging ahead with these pronouncements must encapsulate the principles of Batho Pele as demonstrated by Lieutenant General Baile Motswenyane who served the South African Police Service with distinction for thirty-seven years.

As we mark the 70th year anniversary of 09 August 1956 Women's March, we are inspired by Lt. General Motswenyane who, from the dusty streets of Ikageng in Potchefstroom, defied the patriarchal barriers of our society to be one of the astute police officers in our country who specialised in gender based violence cases. Her dedication to public service and commitment to the safety of our communities leaves a lasting legacy in our province and the Free State Province. May her contribution continue to inspire us in the work of building a safer and more just society.

Hon Speaker, let me take this opportunity to acknowledge the leadership of the African National Congress under the guidance of Chairperson Cde Dumile Nono Maloyi, as well as the leadership of the African National Congress Youth League and the African National Congress Women's League. I also extend my sincere appreciation to all Mayors and Members of the Mayoral Committees present, high school learners, university students, and all distinguished guests gathered here today as we table this budget, committed to advancing our shared vision of a better life for all.

To the beloved people of North West, we commit before you today that this budget is a roadmap to a province where human dignity is not an aspiration but a reality.

Through accountable governance, measurable achievements and relentless focus on our people, we commit to delivering schools that inspire, clinics that heal, jobs that empower and infrastructure that connects.

I hereby table the following for the consideration of this August House:

- The Appropriation Bill, 2026
- The Estimates of Provincial Revenue and Expenditure;
- The 2026 Budget Speech; and
- The Socio-Economic Review and Outlook

I thank you.

Department	2026 Medium Term Allocation		
	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
Office of the Premier	633 669	647 014	615 529
Provincial Legislature	549 590	567 407	574 727
Health	18 227 068	18 634 127	19 184 585
Arts ,Culture, Sports & Recreation	860 245	876 076	854 703
Community Safety and Transport Management	2 603 981	2 658 503	2 726 813
Economic Development, Environment, Conservation & Tourism	1 056 003	1 085 427	1 121 891
Provincial Treasury	659 107	643 172	636 646
Education	24 173 016	24 900 129	25 646 760
Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs	712 621	723 588	740 876
Public Works and Roads	4 075 237	3 686 352	3 801 596
Social Development	1 996 171	2 054 764	2 056 631
Agriculture and Rural Development	1 293 755	1 338 815	1 381 679
Human Settlements	1 708 703	1 778 886	1 813 641
Total Allocations	58 549 166	59 594 261	61 156 077

Notes

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North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



BUILDING A
NORTH WEST PROVINCE
THAT WORKS FOR ALL



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WE CARE



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