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Sungrow Powers Sub-Saharan Africa's Largest Renewable Energy Project in Collaboration with WBHO

Sungrow, the global leading inverter and energy storage system provider, is proud to announce its pivotal role in sub-Saharan Africa's largest renewable energy project. Partnering with WBHO, a major South African construction group, Sungrow's advanced technology will drive regional environmental and socio-economic progress.

Located in Welkom, Free State Province, this landmark initiative comprises two groundbreaking solar PV wheeling projects totalling 500MWp. Owned by NOA Group and powered by Sungrow's

1+X Modular Inverter (SG4400UD-MV-20) and PVS-16MH energy storage systems, the installation features 712,000 bifacial solar modules mounted on single-axis trackers at the Khauta West and South sites.

As NOA Group's first utility-scale solar venture, this project marks a major milestone in Africa's sustainable energy transition. It solidifies NOA's role as an energy aggregator capable of generating, wheeling, and supplying clean electricity nationwide to decarbonize corporate operations.

"Sungrow is honoured to partner with WBHO in advancing Africa's renewable energy revolution," said Eric Song, Director of Sub-Saharan Africa at Sungrow. "Our 1+X modular inverter and PVS-16MH solutions ensure seamless integration and peak performance, making this transformative project a reality."

As Africa's tier-1 renewable energy solutions provider, Sungrow remains committed to accelerating global clean energy adoption through innovation

and collaboration, empowering businesses and communities with reliable, efficient, and sustainable power.

1. Sub-Saharan Africa's largest corporate renewable energy Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with a private off-taker.

The region's largest renewable energy project under a Wheeling Agreement, showcasing the scalability of sustainable energy partnerships.

MINISTER MANTASHE'S VISIT TO VIRGINIA RENERGEN GAS PROJECT

By Dikeledi Ntsollane

The Minister of Mineral Resources and Petroleum, Gwede Mantashe, recently visited the Virginia Renergen gas project. During this significant meeting, he was accompanied by Cllr Thanduxolo Khalipa, the Executive Mayor of Matjhabeng Local Municipality, Cllr Veronica Ntakumbana, the Executive Mayor of Lejweleputswa District Municipality, Mr. Stefano Marani, the Chief Executive Officer of Renergen, and Mr. Nick Mitchell, the Chief Operating Officer of Renergen. The minister's visit aimed to assess the progress of South Africa's first onshore natural gas exploration and helium liquefaction operation. This project is crucial in enhancing South Africa's energy landscape and supports industrial growth and energy security.

During the visit, attendees had the opportunity to observe the advancements and potential of the project up close. They undertook a site visit, which included an overview of current wells, new drilling locations, and the LNG processing unit.

Cllr Khalipa emphasized the importance of promoting regional economic development to national leadership and reiterated the municipality's commitment to becoming a key investment destination. During a media briefing, he highlighted the

transformative impact of the gas project in Matjhabeng, addressing its role in energy generation, local small and medium-sized enterprise (SMME) growth, job creation, and infrastructure development. The mayor also invited the president of the republic to visit Matjhabeng, in support of the municipality's expanding investment program.

Gas Minister Mantashe remarked, "Helium is magic that can change the world," noting its potential to enhance South Africa's energy independence, create new opportunities for growth and investment, and promote local development and job creation. During the visit, Mr. Stefano Marani discussed Renergen's vision, strategy, and progress on the Virginia Gas Project, highlighting the company's innovative contributions to South Africa's energy sector. Meanwhile, Nick Mitchell addressed the project's operational components, focusing on overcoming logistical and technical challenges and the advantages these bring to both the business and the community.

In an introductory session, Mr. John Mokoena, Renergen's Health and Safety Officer, stressed the importance of understanding safety hazards in the mine and the established safety protocols. Cllr Ntakumbana, the Executive Mayor of Lejweleputswa

District Municipality, expressed gratitude to Minister Mantashe for his involvement. He underscored the importance of monitoring the region and utilizing essential natural resources

for the country's benefit. "We are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate and pursue a more promising energy future for South Africa," said Cllr Ntakumbana.





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INVITATION FOR COMMENTS & SUBMISSIONS

DIVISION OF REVENUE BILL [B15-2025]



Hon. M.A. Dikwana
Speaker of the Free State Legislature



Hon. M. D. Khoabane
Chairperson: Portfolio Committee Public Accounts & Finance

The Portfolio Committee on Public Accounts and Finance led by Hon. M. D. Khoabane, invites inputs from members of the public and stakeholders to comment or make written submissions on the public hearing scheduled as follows:

Date	Time	Platform
Wednesday, 2 July 2025	09h00	Microsoft Teams Virtual Platform

The objective of the Bill is:
To provide for the equitable division of revenue raised nationally among the national, provincial, and local spheres of government for the 2025/26 financial year; the determination of each province's equitable share; allocations to provinces, local government, and municipalities from national government's equitable share; the responsibilities of all three spheres pursuant to such division and allocations; and to provide for matters connected therewith.

The Free State Legislature and Public Accounts and Finance Portfolio Committee, invites all stakeholders in particular communities, institutions of higher learning, non-profit organisations, civil servants' organisations and interested parties to submit written and/or oral submissions on the aforementioned Bill by no later than **Tuesday, 1 July 2025**.

The stakeholders that are interested to present their submissions virtually, can contact Committee Coordinators for further details.

Please submit to:
Ms Jacqui Tsikoe or Mr. Stephen Morometsi
Committee Coordinators
Cell: 074 360 0698 or 072 382 3204
Office: (051) 407 1249 / (051) 407 1176
E-mail: JacquiT@fsl.gov.za or StephenM@fsl.gov.za

For Further enquiries, contact: Mr. Jongi Ndakana, Spokesperson
Free State Legislature, Tel: (051) 407 1100 or Cell: 062 484 5682





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Printed by Paarl Coldset

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LEGAL CORNER

The Legal Framework for Addressing Harassment in South Africa

By Advocate Sephiri Moshodi Executive Director: Justice Equality Foundation

The majority of readers of this article are likely to be familiar with the issue of harassment. Every one of us has experienced harassment in one way or another at some point in our lives, whether directly or indirectly, and when it occurs, it can be challenging to deal with. A victim of harassment could not be aware that they are being harassed, or they may just be too scared to defend their constitutional rights. The rights that are being violated when someone is harassed are, for the sake of this discussion, the rights to privacy, physical integrity, or both.

The Harassment Act 17 of 2011, often known as "the Act," is the law that governs harassment. This Act defines harassment precisely, lays out the procedure for the complainant to file a complaint, and, last, supports the court's authority to enforce the Act's requirements. How does one define harassment? According to Section 1 of the Act: "The term "harassment" refers to any direct or indirect behaviour that the responder knows or should know— (a) results in injury or gives rise to a reasonable suspicion that harm may be inflicted on the complainant or a related individual by unreasonably— following, observing, pursuing, or harassing the complainant or a related person, or loitering outside or close to the building or location where the complainant or a related person lives,

works, conducts business, studies, or happens to be; (ii) engaging in verbal, electronic, or any other communication directed at the complainant or a related person, regardless of whether a conversation follows.

First, as can be seen from the Act's wording above, a fairly broad definition of harassment is provided. Harassment can occur directly by an act or omission, indirectly through another medium, or indirectly through situational manipulation. Second, the behaviour should not be harmful; for example, greeting your next-door neighbour or sending a single Whatsapp message won't be considered harassment.

A fact is not anything that is only claimed to exist. The standard is the same whether the protection order application is resolved on papers or in open court based on the balance of probabilities, especially when there is a factual dispute in the documents. When a protection order is requested to prevent harassment, it is crucial that the applicant provides sufficient evidence to support their claims. This is necessary so that the court, after evaluating the objective evidence, can be convinced that there is a reasonable risk of harm or fear. As the court stated in Scott and others v. Scott (2018), the mere expression of threat is insufficient.

"It is my opinion that the interim protection order under 871/2015 is hereby set aside in its entirety because her claims of fears are insufficient."

Conclusion:

It is crucial that applicants refrain from abusing the protection provided by the Act to further personal grudges or trying to scare a respondent by

making baseless accusations, as this could lead to the applicant receiving a cost order. The court notes in the aforementioned case that: The costs order is no different. The court can only sanction costs against a party under section 16 of the Act if it is convinced that the party in question has acted frivolously, vexatiously, or unreasonably.

The writer is the Executive Director of Justice Equality Foundation.



**JUSTICE EQUALITY
FOUNDATION**
NPC Reg No: 2021/860365/08

**Executive Director
Advocate Sephiri Moshodi**

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& DISTRIBUTION OPPORTUNITIES



MATJHABENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY COMPRISES OF THE FOLLOWING TOWNS:

Welkom; Virginia; Odendaalsrus; Allanridge; Hennenman and Ventersburg. Matjhabeng Local Municipality subscribes to the principles of affirmative action and all accompanying regulations that seek to address the imbalances of the past.

The administrative offices of the municipality are situated at Welkom, which is 225.8 km's south of Johannesburg and 152.8 North of Bloemfontein.

Matjhabeng Local Municipality invites suitably qualified and experienced candidates to apply for the following position.

JOB ADVERTISEMENT									
JOB TITLE	MUNICIPAL MANAGER								
TERM OF APPOINTMENT	2 years fixed term performance-based contract (To be appointed in terms of Section 56 and 57 of Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000)								
PLACE TO BE STATIONED	Welkom								
REMUNERATION PACKAGE	(As determined by notice No: 4897 of 30 May 2024 on Upper Limits of Total Remuneration Packages Payable to Municipal Managers and Managers Directly Accountable to Municipal Managers for a Category 6 Municipality). The pay scale will be determined by competence-based assessment outcome, experience and qualifications. <table><tr><td>MINIMUM</td><td>MIDPOINT</td><td>MAXIMUM</td></tr><tr><td>R 1 581 405</td><td>R 1 842 312</td><td>R 2 146 294</td></tr></table>			MINIMUM	MIDPOINT	MAXIMUM	R 1 581 405	R 1 842 312	R 2 146 294
MINIMUM	MIDPOINT	MAXIMUM							
R 1 581 405	R 1 842 312	R 2 146 294							
REQUIREMENTS	B. Degree in Public Administration/ Political Science/ Social Sciences/ Law or equivalent* Compliance with the minimum competency levels as prescribed by the Government Gazette No. 29967 of 15 June 2007 is essential*. Valid driver's license.								
EXPERIENCE	A minimum of five (5) years' experience at senior management level, preferably in Local Government* Extensive experience in financial management, policy development and management, strategic planning and implementation, project management, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting on service delivery								
KNOWLEDGE	Extensive practical knowledge of legislation governing local government and other related legislation* Advanced understanding and experience in institutional governance systems and performance management (preferably in local government)* Advanced understanding of Council operations and system of delegation of powers* Understanding of good governance practices, namely internal audit, risk management establishment and functionality, * Budget and Finance management,* Experience in community facilitation and networking.								
PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES	Integrity, honesty, maturity and courtesy * Diplomacy and commitment to providing progressive democratic and accountable government* Strategist and excellent corporate planner*Excellent communication and motivational skills*Customer focused * Advanced negotiation skills * Analytical thinker * Diversity management skills.								
KEY PERFORMANCE AREAS	Carry out the duties of the Municipal Manager as contained in section 55 of the Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 * Implement the municipality's integrated development plan and monitor its progress in terms of implementation * Responsible for the formation and development of an economic, effective, efficient and accountable administration * Manage the municipality's administration in accordance with the Municipal Systems Act (MSA) and other applicable legislation * Manage the provision of services to the local community in a sustainable and equitable manner * Appoint staff other than those referred to in terms of section 56 of the MSA, subject to the Employment Equity Act 55 of 1998 * Ensure effective utilization, training and discipline of staff * Provide sound and strategic advice to political structures and political office-bearers of the municipality*Manage communication between the municipality's administration and its political structures * Exercise any powers and duties delegated by the municipal council, or sub-delegated by other delegating authorities of the municipality, to the Municipal Manager * Ensure the implementation of national and provincial legislation applicable to the municipality * Perform any other function that may be assigned by the Municipal Council.								
APPLICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Only SA citizens or permanent residents are eligible to apply. Interested applicants must submit the official application form (Annexure C of the Local Government: Regulations on Appointment and Conditions of Employment of Senior Managers, Government Notice No. 21, Gazette 37245 of 17 January 2014) which can be downloaded directly from www.gpwonline.co.za or municipal website www.matjhabengmunicipality.co.za, together with their CV containing at least three contactable references (telephonically and by e-mail) and originally certified copies (not older than 3 months) of qualifications, ID/ proof of permanent residency, driver's license to: The Executive Mayor: Cllr T Khalipha; Private Bag X707; Welkom; 9460 .No Applications will be considered if it is not on the Official Application Form,NOTE: No faxed or emailed applications will be accepted.(It is the applicant's responsibility to have foreign qualifications evaluated by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) and to attach proof thereof)Short-listed candidates will be subjected to reference checks, criminal record check and signing of indemnity forms.The applicant gives consent that their personal information may be accessed for verification purposes either by the municipality or agent appointed to represent the municipality in adherence to the POPI Act. (attach consent letter);Recommended candidates will be subjected to a competency based assessment over 2 day's prior appointment in terms of Annexure A (Competency framework for Senior Managers) of Notice No.21 of Government Gazette No. 37245 of 17 January 2014;The successful candidate will be required to sign an Employment Contract before assumption of duty, a Performance Agreement within 60 days of appointment and the necessary Disclosure of Financial Interest Forms as well as undergoing the necessary Security Vetting Processes.The incumbent will be stationed at Matjhabeng Local Municipality's head office situated in Welkom but may be deployed anywhere within the municipality depending on the operational requirements.Due to the large number of applicants, correspondence will be limited to the short-listed candidates only. If you have not been contacted within a period of 30 Days after the closing date of the advertisement, kindly accept that your application has been unsuccessful.Direct or indirect canvassing for preferential treatment will result in automatic disqualification of affected candidate.Fraudulent qualifications, information or documents will disqualify any applicantApplications must be directed to: The Executive Mayor: Cllr T Khalipha, Matjhabeng Local Municipality Private Bag X707; Welkom; 9460, or hand-delivered at the office.Applicants who previously applied must re-apply								
CONTACT PERSON FOR ENQUIRIES	Dr. Vuyo Adonis: Executive Director: Corporate Services: Tel: 057 391 3911								
CLOSING DATE OF APPLICATIONS	CLOSING DATE: 9 JULY 2025								

Cllr. T Khalipha - Executive Mayor - Matjhabeng Local Municipality

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SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE REVIVAL: MATJHABENG CELEBRATES PUMP STATION HANDOVERS

In a major step toward fixing long-standing sewer problems, Matjhabeng Local Municipality Executive Mayor Cllr. Thanduxolo Khalipha officially handed over four refurbished sewer pump stations on Wednesday, June 26, 2025.

The handovers for Vida, Western, Old Traffic, and Power Road Pump Stations mark real progress in the Municipality's mission to restore essential sanitation services to residents in Welkom and Riebeeckstad.

This effort forms part of a broader emergency response that began when the Council declared Matjhabeng a disaster area due to collapsed sewer infrastructure and ongoing sewage overflows.

The national Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) stepped in, committing over R3 billion to help turn the situation around. This intervention began under former Minister Senzo Mchunu and is now being continued with full support under the leadership of the current Minister, Pemmy Majodina, with Vaal Central Water as the implementing agent.

"Today is not just about handing over infrastructure, it's about restoring dignity, protecting public health, and building a cleaner, safer future," said Executive Mayor Khalipha during the ceremony.

"This is proof that when all spheres of government work together, we can deliver real change."

The four pump stations that were handed over have all undergone major upgrades to ensure better performance and durability. The work included improvements to civil structures like access roads, roofs, flood protection, and fencing. Mechanical upgrades involved installing new high-capacity pumps, while electrical work included new lighting, motor control panels, diesel backup generators, and, in some cases, solar-powered systems. Enhanced security measures such as CCTV, facial and fingerprint access, and 24/7 off-site monitoring were also installed to protect these critical assets from theft and vandalism.

While these pump stations are now fully functional, contractors have

also been appointed to refurbish additional pump stations across Matjhabeng. Others are still on-site and undergoing critical repairs, including work at several wastewater treatment Plants. This forms part of a sustained infrastructure revival programme that aims to restore the entire sewer network.

A significant number of local SMMEs were subcontracted during the course of these projects, providing much-needed economic opportunities and job creation for local communities. These developments help rebuild infrastructure and stimulate local development and skills transfer.

More handovers are expected in the coming months as the Municipality continues to roll out its sewer rehabilitation programme. The Executive Mayor expressed his deep appreciation to residents for their patience and resilience throughout this challenging period.

"We know what our communities have endured. These improvements are part of our commitment to fix the past and build a stronger, more reliable sanitation system in the future," he said.

As part of this ongoing effort, the Municipality calls on residents to help protect the infrastructure. Improper disposal of items such as nappies, sanitary pads, rags, and plastics into the sewer system remains a significant cause of blockages.

"We can build the best infrastructure, but it won't last if we don't take care of it," Khalipha warned. "Let's stop flushing things that don't belong in the sewer and report any acts of vandalism. This infrastructure belongs to the people, and we must all protect it."

With continued support from the national and provincial government and residents playing their part, the Municipality believes it can win the fight against sewer failures and provide reliable, dignified sanitation services to all communities.



MISS WINTER ANGELS SOUTH AFRICA FINALIST 2025

By Ntshebo Mhlambi

Miss Karabo Rakhalane has been selected as the finalist to represent the Free State province in the beauty pageant. Karabo, a 20-year-old student, was born and raised in Ward 14, Thabong, Welkom.

Her journey began in 2021 when she was crowned Miss Thabong, Miss Best Creative Wear, and Senior Miss Face of Welkom in 2024. She also founded a competition and care foundation that uplifts and empowers marginalized individuals facing daily challenges. This initiative spreads the importance of compassion, unity, and encouraging positive change in society. Currently, she is a finalist in Miss Winter Angels South Africa 2025.

The theme verse for this event is Jeremiah 29:11. To enter the competition, participants must be between 17 and 28, regardless of shape or size, from any province.

Karabo proudly represents her hometown and wishes to bring the title home. To achieve this, she needs support from her community


to purchase tickets. This will provide her with more opportunities to compete for the title, raise funds for the less fortunate, and foster growth in our community. The ticket fee is R350. Your support would be greatly appreciated in assisting her journey.

With this title, Karabo aims to compete nationally as a strong advocate for disability rights and against discrimination. She plans to use her platform to promote accessibility, challenge stereotypes and misconceptions, and create a more inclusive society. Her mission is to champion the rights and well-being of individuals with disabilities and to encourage their full participation and inclusion in society.

The crowning event will take place on July 5, 2025, at the Victory Theatre on Louis Botha Avenue, Johannesburg. This will be the seventh annual running of the pageant.

For inquiries, please contact 0812540504 or rakhalaanekarabo@gmail.com





NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT SCOPING REPORT FOR AN APPLICATION TO OBTAIN A WASTE MANAGEMENT LICENCE FOR THE PROPOSED LANDFILL AT VERKEERDEVLEI
DESTEA REFERENCE NUMBER: WML/EIA/25/01

Notice is hereby given in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA), as amended, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2017 as well as the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) (NEM: WA), as amended, of an application for a Waste Management Licence for the proposed development of a landfill at Verkeerdevlei within Masilonyana Local Municipality. The application will be submitted to the Free State Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs to authorise the following listed activities:-

GNR. 921		
Category	Activity	Description of the Activity
B	8	Disposal of waste on land: The disposal of general waste to land covering an area in excess of 200m ² and with a total capacity exceeding 25 000 tons
	9	Disposal of waste on land: The disposal of inert waste to land in excess of 25 000 tons, excluding the disposal of such waste for the purpose of levelling and building which has been authorised by or under other legislation.
	10	Construction of facilities and associated structures and infrastructure: The construction of a facility for a waste management activity listed in Category B of the Schedule (not in isolation to associated waste management activity).

Stakeholders, Interested and Affected Parties are notified in terms of Section 39 of the EIA Regulations that the Draft Environmental Scoping Reports for Waste Management Licence for the proposed development of a landfill at Verkeerdevlei within Masilonyana Local Municipality will be made available at public places listed below from **01 to 31 July 2025**.

Application: Proposed development of Verkeerdevlei landfill site within Masilonyana Local Municipality.
Location: Verkeerdevlei Coordinates: 28°50'10"S 26°45'26"E
Proponent: Masilonyana Local Municipality

Nature of Activity: The proposed development involves the establishment of landfill site for the disposal of general domestic and non-hazardous waste within the designated area. The facility will be equipped with a barrier and containment system in accordance with the Waste Classification and the applicable National Norms and Standards, 2013.

Invitation to Register and Comment on the Draft Scoping Report
Members of the Public, Stakeholders and I&AP's who wish to formally register for the project are requested to provide their full contact details to the Escon & Tailor-Made JV using details outlined below. You are further invited to review and submit written comments to the Escon & Tailor-Made JV on the Draft Scoping Reports for the proposed establishment of a landfill at Verkeerdevlei. Comments must be submitted **on or before 31 July 2025**. The Draft Scoping Reports will be available at the following places:

- Masilonyana Municipality Offices
- Motati Public Library
- Kaps Community Hall
- Tshepong Clinic.

Contact Details: Chantelle: 073 364 0160 or Brave 060 973 6087
Email: tmukondeleli@esconsa.co.za / b.leballo@t-mrs.co.za / c.leballo@t-mrs.co.za
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PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Komiti ya Tshebetso ho tsa Metsi le Bohlweki

Ho latela maikemisetso a mantlha a Palamente a ho thusa setjhaba ho ba le seabo le ho kenya letsoho ditshebetsong tsa ketso ya melao, Komiti ya Tshebetso ho tsa Metsi le Bohlweki e o mema ho fana ka ditshwaelo tse ngotsweng le ho bontsha thahasello ya ho etsa tlhahiso ya molomo mabapi le Bili ya Phetolo ya Ejensi ya Naha ya Meralotheo ya Mehloodi ya Metsi ya Afrika Borwa SOC Limited (B 13 - 2025), jwalokaha e hlalisitswe ka hara Seboka sa Naha (bili ya karolo ya 75 e sisintsweng) hammoho le kakaretso ya Bili ena le tsebiso ya pele ya ho hlalishwa ha yona e phatlaladitsweng Koranteng ya Mmuso No. 52455 ya la 04 Mmesa 2025.

Bili ya Phetolo ya Ejensi ya Naha ya Meralotheo ya Mehloodi ya Metsi ya Afrika Borwa SOC Limited ya 2025 ("Bili"), e batla ho fetola Molao wa Ejensi ya Naha ya Meralotheo ya Mehloodi ya Metsi ya Afrika Borwa SOC Limited wa 2024 (Molao wa 34 wa 2024) ("Molao") ka ho tloswa ha karolo ya 3(2). Bili ena e batla ho fetola Molao wa Taolo ya Ditjhelete tsa Setjhaba wa 1999 (Molao wa 1 wa 1999) ("Molao wa Taolo ya Ditjhelete tsa Setjhaba") ka ho lokisetsa ho thathamiswa ha Ejensi Shejuleng ya 2 ho Molao wa Taolo ya Ditjhelete tsa Setjhaba. Bili ena e boetse e lokisetsa ho hlalolwa ha Bolaodi ba Trans-Caledon Tunnel ("TCTA") ho Shejule ya 2 ho Molao wa Taolo ya Ditjhelete tsa Setjhaba hang ha bo qhalwa ho latela karolo ya 37(2) ya Molao ona.

Ditlhahiso di ka imeilelwa ho Mongodi wa Komiti – Mof Nosipho Bavuma ho PCWS@parliament.gov.za pele ho la 15 Phupu 2025. Dipatlisiso di ka lebiswa ho Mongodi wa Komiti ho sele ena: [0605509892](tel:0605509892).

E hlalisitswe ke: Modulasetulo wa Komiti ya Tshebetso ho tsa Metsi le Bohlweki, Mohlomphehi Mong L Basson

Men's Wellness Day Ignites Hope and Healing for Men in Welkom

The Goldfields Game Ranch in Welkom hosted a fully booked and impactful Men's Wellness Day on 14 June 2025, bringing together men from across the region in a powerful show of unity, healing, and reflection ahead of Father's Day. The event, championed by **Mr. Joseph Mohlatsane**, a General Manager in the mining sector and respected community leader, marked a significant milestone in reshaping the narrative around men's health and wellness in South Africa. With over two decades of experience in the mining industry, Mr. Mohlatsane is also a passionate advocate for emotional, physical, and financial well-being among men.

"Men are often expected to carry so much in silence," Mr. Mohlatsane said during his address. "This event created a space where we could talk honestly, grow together, and begin a journey of healing and transformation."

The day's programme featured thought-provoking sessions from esteemed professionals: **Dr. John Mbaya**, a veteran family physician from Northdale Hospital in Pietermaritzburg, opened the event with a session exploring wellness from a clinical perspective. Dr. Mbaya, who leads the hospital's Family Medicine

and TB/HIV programmes, brought over 25 years of experience to the discussion. **Mr. Nthuthuko Myaka**, a Central University of Technology counselling psychologist, addressed the need to redefine masculinity and break harmful generational patterns. **Ms. Cindy Mbaya**, a financial advisor, delivered a compelling talk titled *"The Power of Having No Financial Plan,"* challenging participants to rethink their financial behaviours and priorities. A standout moment came when three teenage boys called for a youth-focused version of the event, underscoring the need for early, open dialogue on identity, mental health, and life planning issues. Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive, with many describing the day as "transformative" and "long overdue." The event created a safe and supportive environment for open discussion and a movement toward sustained personal and community wellness. With plans underway for a youth edition of the event, the initiative aims to extend its reach and impact to the next generation. Mr. Mohlatsane, who also serves as a Council Member of the Association of Mine Managers of South Africa, remains dedicated to fostering leadership, family strength, and community resilience through continued wellness advocacy.





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SPORT

A New Netball Court is Up For Grabs Thanks to Netball Legend and PEP

As part of PEP's ongoing commitment to uplifting communities and empowering young girls through the PEP mini Netball programme, the brand reached out to Netball legend Dumisani Chauke to allow one lucky school to win a new netball court worth R200 000!

Dumisani Chauke, a former Proteas Assistant Coach and passionate youth mentor for the Netball Community, is thrilled. The PEP mini Netball programme is close to Dumisani's heart, as it has now grown to 40 festivals across all nine provinces in South Africa.

"Thanks to PEP, the festivals are not only tournaments that teach the fundamentals of netball, but the entire programme is built to uplift communities and create real spaces where girls can thrive," says Dumisani.

The Dumi's Choice competition, powered by PEP, is now open. Schools already participating in the PEP mini Netball programme are encouraged to enter.

How to enter:

1. Schools already participating in the PEP mini Netball programme can enter by sending a short motivation and photos of their current netball court in need of a makeover to PEPminiNetball@gmail.com
2. To complete the entry, teachers must post a photo of their netball team on Instagram using #PEPminiNetball, tag [@dumi6871](https://www.instagram.com/dumi6871) and [@pep_southafrica](https://www.instagram.com/pep_southafrica), and share their favourite moment from a PEP mini Netball festival or coaching session.
3. Submissions open in June 2025 and close on 31 August 2025, with the winning school announced by 10 September 2025.

The netball court makeover prize will include resurfacing, line marking, structural repairs, and coaching tools for the coach, such as bibs and balls. PEP is proud to partner with Dumisani to make a real difference in the community in developing the sport of mini netball.



Banyana Banyana Announce Final WAFCON Squad

Head coach Desiree Ellis has announced her final 26-woman squad for the Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON). After trimming her preliminary squad from 28 players, one notable absentee is star forward Thembi Kgatlana, considered one of the country's top players. While her absence may be disappointing, other players can step up. Banyana Banyana are preparing to defend their title from 2022. The African champions have been placed in Group B alongside Ghana, Mali, and Tanzania for the tournament, which runs from July 6 to July 27, 2025. They must approach each match with focus, starting with their critical opening

match against Ghana's powerful team. As defending champions, Banyana Banyana will undoubtedly feel the pressure, as other teams will be eager to dethrone them. However, the squad has been bonding well, and the primary goal remains to defend their title. Coach Ellis has worked diligently to assemble the best possible team, blending experienced players with young talent, including some who are being promoted from the junior ranks. The team recognises the importance of taking it one game at a time as they advance in the tournament.





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