



dcstm

Department:
Community Safety and Transport Management
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



100 DAYS IN OFFICE



**MEC
WESSELS MORWENG**



MEC WESSELS MORWENG'S 100 DAYS IN OFFICE



Post the country's general elections on the 29th May 2024, the same year of 30 years of democracy, the Seventh Administration was appointed, to lead government's service delivery to its citizens.

With appointments of Members of the Executive Council (MEC's) in the North West, a courageous and committed leader emerged from the Provincial Youth League to lead the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management. A portfolio that is responsible to provide effective and affordable transport system and further create a safer environment.

Upon his arrival, Morweng became known for his brazen statement of *'arrest, arrest, and more arrests,'* stating that criminals

cannot have leverage to torment communities as if government does not have powers and resources to arrest them and protect communities.

MEETING WITH DEPARTMENT'S EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

“Working together and supporting each other along the way, will be key in creating a functional department with strengthened capacity to effectively implement its constitutional mandate.”



MEC MORWENG MEETING WITH SAPS PROVINCIAL MANAGEMENT

In his first month of being in office, MEC Wessels Morweng met with the South African Police Service senior management in the Province. The management comprised of the Provincial Commissioner, Deputy Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners.

With them, he placed much emphasis on the fight against crime in creating a safer and secured environment for the communities of the Province.



MEET AND GREET WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS



Meet and greet with key stakeholders of the department, was an important engagement for the MEC, as he gave marching orders and strengthened working relations for improved service delivery to the communities.

Amongst the service providers that MEC managed to engaged with, were security companies that are contracted to guard departmental buildings across the province.

“I have a concern when it comes to the vandalism and damage to government property, because the repair costs derail our efforts to steer resources towards transforming the lives of our people.”



On his continuous engagements, MEC said it is important for the department to establish and strengthen working relations with bus commuter operators to ensure that all people in the Province are well serviced.

“My main interest is the level of service to our communities because I report to them. We will have to work hand in glove to assist one another to ensure effective and efficient service delivery.”

MORWENG HANDED OVER 207 SHOVA KALULA BICYCLES

So far the MEC has handed over more than 207 bicycles to learners in Lehurutshe, Biesisvlei, Morokwaneng and Mogogelo, who walk about 5km by foot to school. The project, Shova Kalula is a programme of the National Department of Transport, established in 2001.

"These bicycles still remain property of government, therefore should I see any parent using it, I'm going to take it back and arrest," MEC Morweng continued to highlight during the activities when he handover bicycles."

The aim of the project is to provide low cost mobility



solutions to the learners in order to enable them to access educational facilities mostly in remote locations.

"The other important aspect of these bicycles is for your health and fitness, hence they are called shova kalula, so look after them and they will take care of you," said Morweng.

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MEC MORWENG TABLES 2024/25 BUDGET VOTE



First time in his term of office, MEC Wessels Morweng tabled his portfolio's 2024/25 budget vote at the North West Provincial Legislature. In his speech, Morweng emphasized on bringing positive change on the lives of communities by ensuring that the budget allocated is spent accordingly.

"We are going to continue to mobilise communities to participate in the crime prevention initiatives in pursuit of creating a safer environment. With the allocated budget, we will promote relations between the police and communities by providing support to community structures in ensuring their participation in crime prevention initiatives."

He continued to commit to the North West Provincial Legislature that the department will pilot the first integrated

public transport system in the Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District.

"For now communities in this district will continue to access subsidised public transport through the current system until new contracts come into place."

MORWENG'S COMMITMENT TO FIGHT CRIME IN THE PROVINCE



The fight against crime appeared on the top of his agenda as the MEC responsible for Community Safety and Transport Management.

As part of strengthening the fight, MEC drew attention to an integrated approach which he believes it will make an impact on creating safer and secured environment.

“Our mission is to create a functional society where the safety and security of our people is not compromised. We therefore work together with other government institutions such as municipalities, Social Development, SAPS, Home Affairs and many others in order to come up with

sustainable ways to ensure that our people participate meaningfully the development and growth of the local economy. This is how we can ensure that we put a lid on the effects of unemployment and other social ills impeding the lives of our people,” said MEC Morweng at Lerome Crime Imbizo.

In his address to the multitude that assembled at the Community Policing Indaba, MEC Wessels Morweng emphasized the support required to assist the police and community based structures to fight crime.

“The values our forebears legacy to us is that as we say in Setswana; Letsema le kgonwa ka go tshwaraganelwa. We shall not and we will never defeat crime unless and until we begin to work together and report any kind of wrong doing to law enforcement. This country has laws and all of us are subjected to obeying those laws.”

“For Community Policing Forums (CPF) to be effective, we require support of our municipalities. We have to start educating our communities on the role of the CPF and how they, as ordinary citizens can play a role in reporting crime,” he said during Community Policing Indaba.



ANNOUNCED AND UNANNOUNCED POLICE STATION VISITS



Part of responsibilities as the MEC for the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management, Wessels Morweng is expected to keep an eye on the South African Police Service in the Province, through the Chief Directorate; Civilian Oversight for Police. On this programme of Monitoring and Oversight, MEC has to ensure that indeed the police serve people with diligence.

The MEC and staff complement within the Civilian Oversight for Police, continue to visit police stations on announced and unannounced visits.

“A gradual improvement has been noted on administrative and operational compliance,” said MEC in one of the unannounced police stations.

His visits to the police stations across the Province became an eye opener on realities of challenges faced by SAPS.

“Tools of trade for our members is a main challenge, and this leads to communities complains about poor service delivery by police. Our communities are complaining about police arriving late at the crime scenes, yet they (police), struggle with resources. The issue of personnel is also serious and must be addressed with Minister of Police through our MinMec platforms.”



MEC MORWENG LAUNCHES 14TH TKCJLEO

“It was against the spirit of collective purpose that South Africa, Botswana and Namibia signed this pact (Memorandum of Understanding – MoU), in 2003. Twenty one (21) years later, we are proudly and justifiably grateful for the enduring relationship we forged.”

The South African government in collaboration with the government of Botswana and of Namibia have since entered into a tripartite agreement to enhance trade and deepen social and economic integration between the three countries.



The Trans Kalahari Corridor (TKC) is a stretch of about 1900km linking with Botswana through Skilpadhek and Lobatse Border Posts through to Mamuno and Trans Kalahari Border in Namibia to the anchor port of Walvis Bay.

RELEASE OF CRIME STATS



“We are gathered here this morning to release the crime statistics as reported at all 85 police stations in the Province.”

MEC Wessels Morweng briefed the media on the official release of the crime statistics for the first quarter of the 2024/2025 financial year.

“In general, the crime figures in the Province have increased compared to the previous counting period. There is a 5% increase of reported crimes, with one thousand, one hundred and thirteen (1 113) more cases compared to the same reporting period the preceding year. Contact crime has increased by 8.8% whilst murder cases have increased by 20.3%.”

Through the Lens





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