



# EMAKHAZENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

## NCOP VISIT IN EMAKHAZENI

### NCOP OVERSIGHT VISITS TO EMAKHAZENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

#### Background

As required by the constitution, the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) is responsible for making sure that provincial interests are considered at the national level of government. This is accomplished by offering a national forum for the discussion of matters impacting provinces and by taking part in the national legislative process. Additionally, the NCOP has a special role in advancing the concepts of intergovernmental relations and cooperative government. It guarantees that the three branches of government cooperate to carry out their distinct roles as stipulated by the Constitution and that they do not infringe upon one another's jurisdiction. Against the aforementioned backdrop, NCOP conducted oversight visit within the jurisdiction of Emakhazeni local municipality from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2025.

#### Introduction

The Mpumalanga delegation of permanent delegates to the National Council of Provinces accompanied by Members of the Mpumalanga Legislature, Nkangala District Executive Mayor and local councillors had a special visit to Emakhazeni Local Municipality. The delegation conducted assessment of various infrastructure projects funded and implemented by various sector departments and agents such as SANRAL, Department of Culture, Sports and Recreation, Public Works, Roads and Transport and



**Hon. Executive Mayor:  
Cllr N.A Mashele ELM**

Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Administration.

**Site visits:** The five days visit which commenced on 17 until 21 November 2025 unfolded as follows.

**Day One – 17 November 2025:** Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2025 was a day for the arrival of the members and receipt of comprehensive briefing on the overview of the week-long planned activities. The briefing gave profiles of all projects to be visited as part of oversight. Permanent members of the NCOP gathered at the Dr. Beyers Naude Hall together with delegates from the Mpumalanga provincial legislature, the Auditor General of SA and SANRAL. The AG presence sought to assist on areas requiring accountability as members conduct oversight, assessing progress on delivery of basic services and fully engaging in the substantive work that informs policy, allocation of resources, ensuring accountability and promoting effective service delivery. The 2025 NCOP visit was rolled



#### MISSION

"Emakhazeni Local Municipality Exists To Improve The Quality Of Life Of Its Citizens By Providing Accelerated Services And Creation Of Conducive Environment For Economic Growth Through Good Governance, Innovation And Integrated Planning".

#### VISION

"A Developmental Local Municipality Striving To Accelerate Provision Of Quality Services To The Satisfaction Of Community"

#### MOTTO

**Kumnyama  
Kubomvu  
Siyanqoba**

out under the theme “building viable municipalities for enhanced delivery of basic services to communities”. In line with the theme, the NCOP aimed to put in place a renewed commitment to strengthening local governance and ensuring that provincial needs are meaningfully elevated to the national sphere.

#### **Day Two – 18 November 2025**

**Presentation by MEC CoGHSta & AGSA:** The MEC of CoGHSta Mr. Speedy Mashilo the leader of government business presented measures to improve the state of municipalities in the Mpumalanga Province. He touched on provincial interests and matters to be raised with National Government through NCOP. These matters were electricity supply, Eskom/Rand Water debt, sewer spillages, energy, high unemployment rate, poor roads infrastructure, sluggish economic growth, aging infrastructure and inadequate access to clean and reliable water. He mentioned assistance given to municipalities such as revenue enhancement strategies to address Eskom, DWS and Rand Water debt, development of credible payment plans on owed amounts and resolution of disputes through IGRA mechanism as opposed to the courts.

He further mentioned the implementation of long-term sector plans such as MIMP, MEGDP which will guide provincial interventions to reduce unemployment. Other areas mentioned which have a potential to stimulate economic growth are agriculture, agro-processing, manufacturing and tourism. The AGs inputs was on the improvement of internal controls and effective use of consultants for better audit outcomes. The municipality received a qualified audit opinion for the 2023/2024 financial year. The issue of collecting all revenue due to the municipality and prudent spending was emphasized by the AG to create a liquid and sustainable municipality.

#### **Belfast Hospital**

The first oversight visit by the delegation was at HA Grove Hospital in Belfast after members got a briefing on the operations of the hospital. The MEC for Health in Mpumalanga Ms. Sasekani Manzini who led the delegation stated that the hospital was built in 1968 as a 24hour community health care centre.

The hospital has various facilities such as maternity wards, pharmacy, casualty department, Xray, dental outpatient department and allied health units. The hospital also accommodates the Belfast Gate Clinic, and services the following: Siyathuthuka Clinic, Sakhelwe clinic, Wonderfontein Clinic and Belfast Mobile. Due to the size of the health

establishment, limited services compared to the norms and standards of District hospitals are offered. This includes casualty and trauma services, general outpatient/ambulatory services, maternity services (excluding caesarian section). Male medical circumcision, surgical minor procedures, inpatient services, wellness services (provision of ARVs), dental health services, social work services etc. The hospital has complied with the health status from the Office of Health Standard Compliance (OHSC).

#### **Day Three – 19 November 2025**

##### **Upgrading of R540 road**

The R540 road which has been rehabilitated by SANRAL was visited by the delegation. This road cuts across Belfast and Dullstroom and is a gateway to the panorama region and Kruger National Park which are tourist's destinations in Mpumalanga Province. SANRAL appointed contractors to patch potholes to create a safe and drivable road to amongst other things boost tourism. During engagements on site, consensus was reached to have sleep ways constructed on steep areas of the road with grading done on gravel roads on farms to enhance food security and easy transportation of stock by farmers. There was however a request for more budget to be allocated to Mpumalanga based roads projects, considering many good things that the province has to offer.

##### **Incomplete RDP project**

The incomplete RDP project in Ext 7 Siyathuthuka Belfast where 40 houses were built instead of 240 was also visited. Three different contractors were appointed to execute the project however all of them failed resulting in the termination of their contracts. A new contractor called T&Z was appointed by CoGHSta to construct additional 42 houses with the project set to start early in December 2025. The remaining houses will be constructed in Ext 13 Siyathuthuka once funding has been allocated.

##### **Farming project**

The farming project where 940 hectares of land was allocated to 6 beneficiaries of which five of whom are females was visited. The farm was acquired through a renewable five-year lease agreement from the local municipality in 2019. The farm has three hectares of cabbage interchanging with potatoes. It has sixteen cattle, thirty-one boer goats over the past three years. The Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land and Environmental Affairs help beneficiaries on vegetable production, animal feed, medication and training on marketing, financial management, veterinary and agribusiness services and so forth. The delegation was impressed to see the farm

operational with livestock grazing on the allocated land and with raw honey produced on site for the markets.

#### **Day Four – 20 November 2025**

The infrastructure projects aimed at supporting the upcoming international High-Altitude Sports Academy in the municipality were visited.

##### **Water reservoir & sewer plant infrastructure (Phase One & Two)**

The seven megalitre concrete reservoir a phase one project which is 90% complete was visited including the new sewer treatment plant (7M) and sewer pump station which are phase two projects. These infrastructure projects are aimed at ensuring clean water supply, provision of adequate sewer management capacity once construction of the sports academy is constructed. These projects will also link with the existing municipal infrastructure thus benefitting the local community. The projects are multi-year funded by DCSR at an estimated cost of R540 with DPWRT being an implementing agent. The project expenditure is standing at 39%.

##### **Phase Three**

The phase three of the project which includes construction of the sports academy, hotel, sports facilities and other amenities will be done through a Public, Private Partnership (PPP) initiative once the above-mentioned projects are completed and this could take few years.



## Community & Stakeholder Engagement

A community and stakeholder engagement meeting took place at Sakhelwe Community Hall in Dullstroom. Present in the meeting were members of the community, ward committee members, business organisations and labour organisations. The main agenda items were service delivery related which were provision of electricity, water, refuse removal, roads and sanitation. Despite these items having gained traction as the meeting unfolded, the topical issue became unemployment. Various speakers requested the delegates to address this challenge since it affects many aspects of their lives and the inability of the community to afford paying municipal rates on a monthly basis.

### Day Five – 21 November 2025

Dominating the last day of the visit was a report back meeting on issues raised by community members and various stakeholders. The meeting was held at Dr. Beyers Naude Community Hall in Belfast. A consolidated Draft report on visits undertaken on infrastructure projects was presented and it reflected discussions held on visited sites. Consensus was reached to have the report noted with inputs to be later made by the NCOP delegates. The speaker of the Municipal Council Cllr. L. Ndinisa expressed his gratitude to both NCOP and MPLS for the visit and to all stakeholders for the issues raised. He requested the delegation to discuss and escalate the upgrading of the municipal Grade from 2 to 3 for attraction of scarce skills. He further requested intervention on the reestablishment of additional section 79 committees at least by February 2026 to improve council oversight. Some of the committees were disestablished as per the CoghSta directive in 2024.

### Conclusion

The visit by the NCOP and MPLS delegates underscored the spirit of cooperative governance as outlined in the Constitution. The assessment of infrastructure projects, the community and stakeholder engagement in Sakhelwe provided useful insight to the delegates on issues which affect the province on governance and resources. The visit has also amplified the need for joint planning and development by the three spheres of government to improve service delivery in line with the Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act 13 of 2005.



## IDP COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The aim of the NDM outreach program was to engage residents of Emakhazeni Local Municipality and foster participatory governance as part of the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) process. The Acting Executive Mayor, Cllr Taylor Pookgoadi, of Nkangala District Municipality presented the service report on implemented and planned projects for the 2025/2026 financial year, highlighting the municipality's focus on development, modernization, and regional connectivity.

Technical Infrastructure Projects included the Belfast Bookshop Road Construction, Rural Road Asset Management Programme, Smart Electricity Meter Installation, and Jet Patcher Material Project (Cross-Boundary Roads). Municipal Initiatives comprised disaster relief and health services, awareness campaigns, job creation via EPWP learnerships, support for SMMEs, and refurbishment of Emakhazeni Brick Plant, expected to create about ten job opportunities. Sector departments delivered upgrades to schools, care centres, food security initiatives, and township development. The NYDA offered youth grants, training, and tourism fund support, contributing to government's efforts to improve service delivery and infrastructure in Emakhazeni.

### #PublicParticipation

### #ServiceDelivery



# MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY

Mandela Month & International Day Celebrations – Emakhazeni (July 2025)

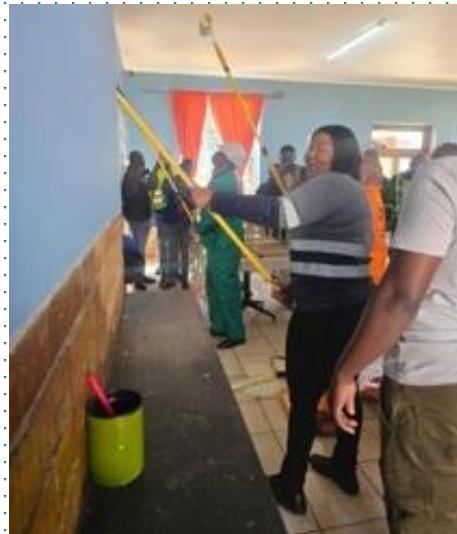
Mandela Month was held at the Emgwanya Centre on 25 July 2025. Sappi Ngodwana donated wheelchairs and funded renovations, creating a safer, more accessible space for seniors. The khayalami centre kept the elderly active with drum-majoring, dancing and other health-boosting activities. Executive Mayor Cllr N.A Mshele, Speaker of Council Cllr L Ndinisa and the Health Management team attended and praised the effort. Organisers thanked participants, volunteers and sponsors for a memorable tribute to Nelson Mandela's legacy.

On 18 July 2025, Emakhazeni Local Municipality celebrated Mandela International Day in Dullstroom for people with epilepsy. Under the leadership of Mayor Cllr N.A Mshele and MEC Speedy Mashilo (CoGHSTA), with support from Exxaro, Ndalambo Mines and other stakeholders, the event featured:

- a house handed to an elderly woman (u-Gogo) from eSakhelwe;
- furniture donated by the mines;
- a 67-minute community-service session with painting activities;
- cake cutting, a stage play and a song;
- blankets, mattresses, Jojo-tank paint, food parcels, groceries and agricultural seeds donated by various partners.

Mandela Month was celebrated throughout Emakhazeni, including at Silica Mine where u-Gogo Shoba received a Jojo tank donated by Universal Mine.

These events wrapped up the month-long celebrations, honouring Mandela's legacy and strengthening community ties across the district.



# PROJECTS AROUND EMAKHAZENI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

The following capital projects, which were carried over from the previous financial year are ongoing with some having reached a completion stage. The work included: •Refurbishment of Glisa pump stations •Mandela sewer pump station •Upgrading the Roman raising main •Ground reservoir and water raising •Electrification in Gugulethu •Reconstruction of storm-water and roads. These achievements wrap up the initiatives started last year and set the stage for the next set of projects planned for the remainder of the financial year.

## SAKHELWE STADIUM UPDATE

The phase two of the Sakhelwe Stadium project is 75 % complete and has created 16 jobs. Phase 1 delivered the netball pitch, while Phase 2 is now adding the grandstands and grassed soccer pitch. The project started in 2023 and its overall value remains R 10 million and is funded by Department of Culture Sports and Recreation in MPU.



## GLISA SEWER PLANT PUMP-STATION – PRACTICAL COMPLETION

The Glisa Sewer Plant Pump-Station, a multi-year initiative launched in 2024, has reached practical completion with phase 2 finished. The work, initially budgeted at R 285 000, was expanded to R 480 000. Dzala Properties served as the main contractor, while G Seal provided consulting engineering services. Since its start, the project has created six local jobs, underscoring the municipality's commitment to upgrading wastewater infrastructure.



## OLD MANDELA PUMP STATION SIYATHUTHUKA PRACTICAL COMPLETION

The Old Mandela Pump Station in Siyathuthuka has reached practical completion. The multi-year initiative began in 2024 with a budget of R 2.2 million and was finalized at R 5 270 541.29. To date, the project has created 10 local jobs, underscoring the municipality's commitment to improving wastewater infrastructure.



## ROMAN RISING MAIN PROJECT – 95 % COMPLETE

The Roman Rising Main project in Siyathuthuka began later than planned, with work starting in July 2024. It is now 95 % complete. The original contract value was R 3.2 million, which has increased to R 5 662 736.20. The project has generated 14 local employment opportunities.



## Refurbishment and Upgrading of Machadodorp WTW, Ground Reservoir and Water Rising Main Practical Completion

The refurbishment and upgrading of the Machadodorp Water Treatment Works, ground reservoir and associated water rising main has reached practical completion. Work began in July 2024 and, since then, the project has created nine local jobs. The total value of the project was R 7 million.



## Electrification of 100 Houses in Gugulethu – Waterval Boven

The electrification project covering 100 homes in Gugulethu, Waterval Boven, is 98 % complete. The total value of the project is R 2 000 000.00 and it has created 11 local jobs.



## RECONSTRUCTION OF ROAD AND STORM WATER AT EMGWENYA SLAHLÉ (EMGWENYA)

- Status: 98 % complete
- Project value: R 16,000,000.00
- Jobs created: 12



## MONGWE RING ROAD PROJECT

The construction of the Mongwe Ring Road in Siyathuthuka is now complete. The work began in July 2024 with an initial budget of R 2 307 570 and a planned duration of seven months, but the project took longer than anticipated. Although only eight jobs were expected at the outset, the project ultimately generated 16 local jobs. The final contract value settled at R 4 009 372.55.



# GRAND OPENING OF SHOPRITE

The grand opening of Shoprite U Save at eNtokozweni (formerly known as Machadodorp) on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025 marks a significant development for the local community. This project is a result of a partnership between Emakhazeni Local Municipality and Group 187, a commercial, retail, and residential property developer.

Partnership Details Emakhazeni Local Municipality: Led by Executive Mayor Cllr N.A Mashele, who was accompanied by fellow Councillors:

- ❖ Chief Whip Cllr T. Lukhele
- ❖ MMC's Cllr N. Nkosi
- ❖ Cllr J. Mabila
- ❖ Cllr C. Mmola
- ❖ Group 187, CEO Mr. Themba "Fizzy" Sithole.



According to the Executive Mayor, Cllr N.A Mashele, in her opening remarks, the development of Shoprite U Save is expected to have a positive impact on the local economy, providing:

- Job opportunities for local residents
- Convenience for residents, reducing the need to travel outside of town for basic food and groceries
- Stimulating local economic growth through increased food traffic and spending in the area
- Supporting local businesses and entrepreneurs through increased economic activity
- Increasing property values and attracting new investments to the area



## Additional Benefits

The Shoprite U Save will also provide a range of benefits to the local community, including:

- Access to affordable food and groceries
- Improved food security for local residents

# DAC LAUNCHES

The Nkangala District Aids Council (DAC) convened a meeting at Emakhazeni Council chamber on the 23rd of October 2025. The primary focus of this initiative was to track and re-engage individuals who previously tested HIV positive, encouraging them to resume and adhere to their antiretroviral treatment (ART). This proactive step is crucial for mitigating a potential HIV outbreak forecasted for 2030.

Following the meeting, a testing exercise was conducted at the Vusi Masango Community Hall in Emthonjeni, Machadodorp, **Emakhazeni Local Municipality** on the 24th October 2025 as a vital part of this effort. Community members were urged to know their HIV status and adopt measures to protect those around them.

This program is essential for controlling the spread of HIV and ensuring that infected individuals

receive the necessary care and support. The District Aids Council initiative is built upon three core objectives. The first is HIV Prevention, which encourages all individuals to know their status and adopt protective measures. The second objective is Treatment Adherence, providing robust support to individuals living with HIV to ensure strict adherence to their treatment plans. Finally, the third objective is Community Awareness, aimed at intensifying campaigns regarding the critical importance of HIV testing and treatment.

By addressing the needs of those living with HIV and promoting widespread community awareness, the Nkangala DAC Initiative aims to make a significant and lasting impact in the fight against HIV in the district.

**#NkangalaDACAtWork**

**#ResumeART**

**#KnowYourStatus #GetTested**

**#HIVPrevention**

**#ControlTheSpread**



## TEENAGE PREGNANCY AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE AWARENESS

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2025 in Emakhazeni Local Municipality, Khayalami Secondary School Nkangala District Municipality conducted a Teenage Pregnancy and Substance Abuse awareness campaign on 16 October 2025 at Emakhazeni Local Municipality, educating learners about the risks and consequences of these issues. The campaign emphasized making informed lifestyle choices, resisting peer pressure, and building a positive future, highlighting key messages to avoid teenage pregnancy, substance abuse, and early sexual engagement while promoting healthy lifestyles and positive relationships.

**#TeenagePregnancyAwareness**

**#CivicEducation #HealthyChoices**

**#EmpowerYouth #InformedDecisions**

**#ResponsibleLiving**



## WOMEN'S MONTH CELEBRATION

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 2025, Emakhazeni Local Municipality celebrated Women's Month with a gesture of goodwill and support for local initiatives. A washing machine was donated to a Belfast laundry, owned and operated by women, specifically Umama uMbhena's business, courtesy of Ingwenya Mineral Processing, which operates under NBC Coal.

The donation aims to support and empower women-led enterprises in the community. Sithembhiso Lukhuleni, Plant Manager at Ingwenya Mineral Processing, said the donation is a way of giving back to the black communities from which the company's profits are derived. He believes that every child from domestic workers, mine workers, and all backgrounds deserves access to quality education and opportunities.

In a related initiative, Ukhwezi Primary School received a photocopier machine, highlighting the commitment to supporting education in the area.

The ceremony coincided with a tribute to Principal Mr. Mahlangu of Ukhwezi Primary School, who received the Kader Asmal Lifetime Achievement Award for his dedication to education.

Executive Mayor Cllr N.A Mashele emphasized education's significance, launching the "Right to Learn" campaign to provide school uniforms to children in need, made possible through partnerships with local mines.



Chief Whip Cllr T Lukhele, Emakhazeni Circuit Manager Dept of Education Mr M. Sindane, Ukhwezi Primary School Principal Mr M. S. Mahlangu, Executive Mayor Cllr N.A Mashale and Speaker of Council Cllr L Ndinisa and Cllr J Mabila Ward councilor congratulating the Principal in receiving the photocopy machine



## 47 TABLETS FOR BAKWENA COMBINED SCHOOL

On the 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025, A group photo features Emakhazeni local Municipality representatives led by Executive Mayor Cllr N.A Mashele, with Chief Whip Cllr T Lukhele directing the proceedings, and also present are MMC Cllr Mabila and MMC Cllr Nkosi. The Executive Mayor offered encouraging words to students from Bakwena Combined School, emphasizing that 'education is the foundation to combat poverty, unemployment and inequality.' The event included representatives from the Emakhazeni education circuit led by circuit manager SM Sindane and Synthel representatives, led by Mr. Nxumalo, who sponsored 47 tablets, alongside Principal SM Manal of Bakwena Combined School and the receiving students.

## JOJO tanks DONATED

Mondi Holdings, a subcontractor of Exxaro, donated a 5,000-litre JoJo tank to the Mokoena family at Santa Estate Farm in Dullstroom. Acting Executive Mayor, Cllr Mabila, thanked Mondi for the generous gesture. The Ward 4 Councillor, Mr. S. Mthimunye, echoed the sentiment. The Council Whip, Cllr T. Lukhele, wrapped up the gathering and also commended the private sector for its contribution, noting that it will help minimise costs for the municipality.



# AMANONO AMAHLE



On the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2025, The Executive Mayor of Emakhazeni Local Municipality Cllr N.A Mashela, encouraged young girls to prioritize their purity and values before marriage, promoting a message of self-respect, empowerment, and responsible choices. "Let's support and uplift each other in our journeys! Amanono Amahle kaMaqwabe virgin cultural Camp". The purpose of the event was to empower young women with confidence, self-worth, and skills for personal growth. To create a supportive community of like-minded individuals who share similar values and experiences. To provide educational resources and workshops on topics such as relationships, health, and personal development.

To inspire young women to pursue their passions and make positive changes in their lives. To provide a fun and safe environment for socializing and building friendships.

**#AmanonoAmahle #VirginCulturalCamp**

# SOCIAL COHESION COMMUNITY DIALOGUE



MMC S Mthimunye warmly welcomed everyone to the Social Cohesion Community Dialogue, encouraging active participation and fostering an environment where attendees could freely share ideas and collaboratively develop tangible, workable solutions to address community challenges.

Mr. Lindelani Nkosi, Emakhazeni Local Municipality Youth Coordinator, played a pivotal role in facilitating the Social Cohesion Community Dialogue. This initiative fostered open discussions and collective action to address pressing social challenges. Key aspects emphasized included empowering youth through:

- Skills Development: Providing opportunities for young people to acquire skills and knowledge
- Community Activities: Engaging youth in activities that promote social cohesion and community development
- Entrepreneurship Initiatives: Supporting young entrepreneurs and promoting economic growth
- Education Support: The municipality covers registration fees for higher institutions, empowering eMakhazeni youth to pursue their educational goals.

Collaborations with organizations like Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator and the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) can further enhance these efforts, connecting youth to job opportunities, skills development, and entrepreneurial initiatives.

Participants of the social cohesion community dialogue included community members, local leaders, youth representatives, and stakeholders from various sectors, all working together to promote unity, understanding, and collective action to address social challenges and build a safer, more harmonious community.

A community engagement initiative, the Social Cohesion Community Dialogue, took place at Sakhelwe Community Hall on 21 August 2025, bringing together the Emakhazeni Local Municipality Youth Desk, Department of Culture, Sports and Recreation (DCSR), and other stakeholders.

The primary aim of the dialogue was to examine and address social challenges, including:

- Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

- Substance abuse

- Moral values

Practical Solutions

The following practical solutions were discussed:

1. Reporting Incidents: Community members were encouraged to report incidents or suspicious activities to the police.

2. Community-Police Collaboration: The community was urged to work with the police to report illegal activities, such as unlicensed liquor outlets.

3. Youth Empowerment\*: Youth were encouraged to:

- Participate in skills development programs and job opportunities.

- Engage in community activities, such as sports and cultural events.

- Support local businesses and entrepreneurship initiatives.

4. Addressing Substance Abuse: Community members were advised to:

- Support local initiatives that promote substance abuse prevention and rehabilitation.

- Report unlicensed liquor outlets and substance abuse hotspots to the authorities.

5. Supporting Justice\*: The community was advised to gather evidence and report incidents of coercion or bribery in cases.

6. Contacting Authorities\*: Community members were informed about the Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID) and the South African Police Service (SAPS) National Complaint Centre. Additional Support Mechanisms

To further support vulnerable community members, the following initiatives were proposed:

- Department of Social Development: Families affected by child abuse and poverty will be referred to the Department of Social Development for assistance.

- Community Policing Forum (CPF): The CPF will be utilized to facilitate community-police collaboration and address safety concerns. If a CPF is not available, efforts will be made to launch one with the help of the Local SAPS.

- Collaboration with Stakeholders: Relevant stakeholders, including local government departments and non-governmental organizations, will work together to provide support services to those in need.

Building a Safer Community

By working together and taking practical steps, the community aims to build a safer and more cohesive society.



# MPMALANGA TOURISM EXPO

Emakhazeni Local Municipality's Executive Mayor, Cllr N.A Mashele, is lending support to the Mpumalanga Tourism Expo, On the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at Riverside Mall in Nelspruit! This event showcases the best of Mpumalanga's tourism industry, and we're proud to be a part of it. Let's promote our beautiful province and boost local tourism! Come visit our stand and learn more about what Emakhazeni has to offer! **#MpumalangaTourism #Nelspruit #RiversideMall**



## CELEBRATING HERITAGE DAY

28 September 2025, Churches are celebrating the closing of South Africa's Heritage Month with vibrant services and dynamic events that acknowledge and celebrate cultural diversity. The Executive Mayor, Cllr N.A Mashele of Emakhazeni Local Municipality, joins TACSA Machado and congregation members in this joyous celebration!

## CLOSING OF CANCER MONTH

As we close Global Cancer Awareness Month, Emakhazeni Local Municipality stands in solidarity with cancer survivors and reaffirms our support for those affected by this devastating illness. On the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2025, we recognized the importance of raising awareness and promoting early detection, and we encourage our community to continue supporting cancer research and patient care initiatives. Together, we can make a difference in the fight against cancer. The municipality's commitment to cancer awareness is further demonstrated by the symbolic wearing of cancer awareness ribbons by employees. The Municipal Manager, Mr. W Shabangu (sited) led by example. This visual representation of solidarity serves as a powerful reminder of our collective support for those affected by cancer. An injury to one is an injury to ALL.



## VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT AT EMGWENYA

In celebration of Heritage Day a volleyball tournament was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2025 at Emgwunya. This event aimed at promoting sports development, community engagement, and healthy lifestyles while showcasing the rich cultural heritage of the community. The event was hosted and organized by Mr. Amos Mashaba



# FOOTBALL CLINIC

On the 24th of September 2025, Heritage Day, the Alfred Zwelibanzi Kids Football Clinics took place. An initiative driven by Imizamo Yamakhosikazi and supported by Emakhazeni Local Municipality. The aim of these clinics was to nurture young football talent in the jurisdiction of Emakhazeni Local Municipality. 90 kids were selected across Emakhazeni (Belfast, Dullstroom, Waterval Boven and Machardodorp). This initiative is in tribute of the late Mr. Alfred Zwelibanzi "Gubzen" Yingwane. Mr Yingwane was a well-known community Leader and played a crucial role in the development of football in Emakhazeni.

The event was a huge success and thanks goes out to the stakeholders that made meaningful and important contributions. Mekgopa Logistics, Samketsi Consultants, the Department of Health and other notable sponsors played an important role in the success of this wonderful initiative.

A special mention to the South African soccer household names namely Mr Lehlogonolo Majoro, former Amazulu, Kaizer Chiefs, Orlando Pirates, Cape Town City and Bafana Bafana Striker. Mr Reneilwe "Yeye" Letsholonyane, former Jomo Cosmos, Kaizer Chiefs, Supersport United and Bafana Bafana Midfielder, Mr Linda "Figo" Mntambo, current Sekhukhune United Captain and Ms Simphiwe Dladlu, former Banyana Banyana Captain. These Legends of South African Soccer interacted with the kids, coached them and motivated them serving as a wonderful inspiration to the kids. Also present were the local football coaches in Emakhazeni



The legends and the 100 kids had a good and fruitful experience. A message firmly spread by the Executive Mayor was that Emakhazeni Local Municipality would like to encourage the parents of these kids to continue supporting and keeping them off the streets and away from drugs and substances. Not only in football but also in other sporting codes and arts and culture activities.

The Executive Mayor expressed her gratitude and appreciation to the initiators of the Alfred Yingwane initiative to continue with the good work and called for similar initiatives that can benefit the local youngsters. The Executive Mayor thanked the sponsors and encouraged other local businesses to continue to support these initiatives. In attendance along-side the Executive Mayor were Cllr Mthimunye, Cllr Mmola, Cllr Nkosi, Cllr Lukhele, Mr Japhta Mosotho (Manager in the Speaker's office) and Mr Lindelani Nkosi (Youth Coordinator). Mr Japhta Mosotho and Mr Lindelani Nkosi formed part of the team that was involved in the planning of this initiative as representatives of the Municipality.

Also, present was a local renowned religious leader, Pastor Chris Ka Nkosi. Pastor Chris was joined by the ventures Football Club Legends. Ventures is the football team that was founded and coached by Mr Alfred Yingwane. The legend behind this wonderful initiative.

# EMAKHAZENI INDIGENTS RECEIVED CHRISTMAS FOOD PARCELS DURING DECEMBER

The Emakhazeni community, particularly the disadvantaged residents across all 4 units, received food parcels as a Christmas gift. These parcels contained basic groceries and were donated by various service providers, including:

- TANDZ Construction, courtesy of Managing Director Mr. G Ngomane
- Exxaro, in partnership with:
  - Dust-A-Side
  - Modi Mining
- Representatives:
  - Exxaro: Mathebe Molaotse
  - Dust-A-Side: Xolani Sibiya
  - Modi Mining: Thembeka Mathoba

The initiative followed consultations with the Executive Mayor ,Cllr NA Mashele and was supported by:

- Chief Whip, Cllr A.T Lukhele
- Speaker of Council Cllr L Ndinisa
- MPAC Chairperson Cllr Desmond Mahlangu
- MMC, Cllr J Mabila
- MMC, Cllr S Mthimunye
- Cllr Siyaphi Mthimunye

Nkangala District Municipality also donated blankets and food hampers, promoting sharing and giving during Christmas time added by Nkangala District Municipality Executive Mayor Cllr T D Ngwenya. A thoughtful gesture to Emakhazeni's indigents in need.



# Emakhazeni Local Municipality conducts an Employee Wellness Programme and Presents Long Service Awards.

On December 12, 2025, the Emakhazeni Local Municipality commemorated its Employee Wellness Programme and presented long service awards to honour employees for their dedication at Dr. Beyers Naudé Hall in Belfast. Staff members from the four municipal offices—Emakhazeni (Belfast), Dullstroom, Entokozweni, and Emgwenya—gathered to celebrate this event. The event was spearheaded by the Municipal Manager, who was ably supported by the MMC overseeing Corporate Services, Cllr NB Nkosi, in the role of Programme Director. In his opening address, the Municipal Manager pointed out that promoting staff wellness is a strategic necessity; by investing in employee health and well-being, the municipality can nurture a productive workplace that enhances productivity, raises staff morale through inclusivity, and aids in employee retention. Mr. Sukazi from Old Mutual also provided his services as a Motivational Speaker, focusing on the theme **"Life is a choice."**

The Executive Mayor, Cllr NA Mashele, who was present at the event, thanked the employees for their unwavering effort and commitment to delivering basic services to the community of Emakhazeni, even with the municipality's scarce resources. Additionally, she acknowledged the municipality's role in empowering young women by placing them in strategic and operational positions that are often viewed as male-dominated. The long service recognition acts as a celebration and also strengthens mutual trust and understanding, in addition to acknowledging exceptional service. The certificates were given by Cllr DM Mahlangu, Cllr JM Mabila, and Cllr SP Mthimunye. The

contributions of organized labour representatives, SAMWU and IMATU, in fostering positive relationships between employers and employees are acknowledged and commended. The municipality acknowledges the sustained assistance from our key external partners, specifically the Department of Health, SAMWU Med, FNB, Metropolitan, Old Mutual, LEMAS, and Shosholoza Finance. We believe that Employee Wellness is about investing in the physical, mental, financial, and career health of our employees.

As the Emakhazeni Local municipality we pride ourselves in **employee investment** and strive for employee growth, recognition and sustainability at all material times without fear, favour or prejudice.



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