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



MOPALAMI

2023 Volume 1 of 12

Department of Community Safety and Transport Management

VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS PRIORITIZED FOR PROTECTION



- **Advanced driving workshop for public transport drivers**
- **Animal drawn carts- a mode of transport in rural areas**
- **North West Police awarded for excellence**

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Editorial Comment



Director Communication

Mr. Thabo Sematle

The 2022 Festive Seasons is starting in earnest, the first festive season ever in close to 32 months, with covid-19 and its regulations, protocols and restricted movement having been lifted. A normal festive season you could say, albeit rumours and mayhem that the deadly virus is seemingly resuming its spread in East Asia again in a different type, form and effect.

The disadvantage of the normal living and lifestyle being that care and restraint may not be observed as we did during covid-19 pandemic. Our movements and travelling patterns as well as our home and shopping security measures may be relaxed much to the delight of criminals who may take advantage of the communities, motorists and households.

Hence as the department of Community Safety and Transport Management led by MEC Jonas Sello Lehari embarked on various, focused and aggressive festive season program on all our major roads, hotspots as well as undertaken community-based anti-Gender-Based violence and Femicide programs. This was deliberately done in order observe the

annual 16 Day of Activism Program of the 25 November to 10 December and heighten awareness programs, combat movement of crime on our roads as well as enhance safety and security during the 2022 Festive Period.

Just to illustrate but just a few; some selected elderly persons houses and child-headed household who are vulnerable to crime in various rural communities and informal settlements benefitted from this intensive intervention programs conducted and thereby received donation of 'memeza' safety gadget which were installed at their respective homes.

The Taxi Associations were supported in their empowerment program held and so was the Transport Forum held with respective municipalities and stakeholders. Meanwhile MEC Lehari went on to award deserving SAPS members with trophies for the excellent duty they continue to perform in safe-keeping our society in general. Animal-drawn carts were distributed to deserving community as a way to enhance mobility in the farming homestead villages that are inaccessible to public transport and their road infrastructure is unsuitable for Vehicles largely. Bicycles were donated to school kids as a way to ensure halving of distance to school and ensuring learning continues without hiccups of walking fatigues, school bunking and late-coming.

Trans-Kalahari-Corridor program saw member states, Namibia, Botswana and South Africa descending to North West and camping at the busy N4, Rustenburg, to conduct road safety roadblocks, observe trucking transportation travelling pattern, share best practices and embark on measures to combat transportation crimes, exchange ideas on how to reduce road fatalities as well as conduct Joint-Law-Enforcement Operations during a week-long operation.

Crime clampdown, roadblocks saw arrest of stock-theft suspects and public-transport offenders.



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Memeza safety gadgets installed in vulnerable households



The South African law contains provisions to promote the rights of vulnerable groups, leading to different government departments in carrying out responsibilities to ensure that everyone has the right to have their human dignity, respect and live their life free from abuse and neglect.

Following the continuous crime statistics that are released on quarterly basis by the National Police Minister, gender based violence and femicide (GBVF) as well as sexual offenses are rising in certain areas of the province and country at large.

Most of these criminal elements victimize the vulnerable, now requiring government to apply different systems to protect all those that are categorized as such (women, children, elderly and people living with disability).

In carrying out its responsibility of creating a safer environment for the citizens of the Province, the North West Department of

Community Safety and Transport Management continues to work in an integrated manner with key stakeholders within the Justice Crime Prevention and Security Cluster (JCPSC), Community Policing Forums (CPF's) and communities at large.

The Department further continues to strengthen its fight against crime, with more focus to protect the vulnerable households (elderly, child headed and disability headed families), by installing Memeza household safety gadgets.

For the 2022/23 financial year, so far the department has installed gadgets to the communities of Klipgat in the Moretele Municipal area, Unit 2 Mmabatho in the Mahikeng Municipal area and Zakhele informal settlements in JB Marks Municipality.

Recently installing the gadgets in Zakhele Informal Settlement, MEC, Sello Lehari says gender based violence and sexual offences are

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some of the offences emanating from alcohol and drug abuse. He said the gadgets are easy to use and work the same way as a normal household alarm with panic buttons and use rechargeable batteries.

“The battery can last up to eight hours and the device itself is linked to the nearest police station.”

“All these efforts are short term plans to end this repugnant act. We must find a way to change the mindset of our people and ensure that in the long term gender based violence ends. We must restore family values. The moral ethos that guided us that denigrating a fellow human being is not a sign of strength but of weakness. That as men we must defend the defenseless, protect the weak and not humiliate the vulnerable and disgrace culture,” said MEC Lehari, in his address during the recent installation of gadgets in Zakhele, that was collaborated with the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence and Femicide.

MEC Lehari says restoration of family values and moral ethos is the best tool to fight GBV.

“In the long term we must also look at how we raise our children. If we all guide them properly at a young age, they will grow up knowing that their rights come with responsibilities.

“They will learn from young age that there are other ways to resolve conflicts than violence. We were brought up to be respectful and taught never to dishonour the name of our fathers by subjugating our mothers. We were taught that the first right of a free person in a democracy is safety and not to live in fear. That the base of a free society is to respect the rights of everyone

and never to misuse the physical power Mother Nature bestowed on us as men by beating women”, said MEC Lehari.

The Acting Head of Department, Mr Molefi Morule said communities also play an important role in fighting the scourge. “We cannot go on forever preaching the same sermon with no one showing any sign of change. The time to change is now and the people we must change is us,” said HoD Morule.

The victims of gender based violence are encouraged to use the Department's Civilian Secretariat for Police within the Department if cases reported remain unresolved for long time.

The event started with the 16 Days of Activism Awareness Campaign March taken to the streets of Potchefstroom in Ikageng JB Marks Municipality, under the theme "Socio-Economic Rights and Empowerment to build women's resilience against Gender Based Violence and Femicide: Connect, Collaboration, Contact ".



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Taxi association welcomes driver empowerment programme



The Bophirima Local and Long Distance Taxi Association (BOLLDTA) has commended the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management for the effective implementation of the Advanced Defensive Driving Training.

The programme is an annual activity spearheaded by the Directorate Road Safety Management together with its relevant stakeholders. The training offers taxi operators, bus and truck drivers with much needed knowledge and skills to become better drivers.

"As a department we are guided by the pillars under Decade of Action for Road Safety 2030, which prompt us to promote road safety in different dimensions for the overall purpose of reducing fatalities caused on the road and ultimately saving lives," said the Director for Road Safety Ms Motshabi Tshukudu.

Nthutang Kgarane who is the BOLLDTA Public Relations Officer says the department's training programme is significant for the creation of a healthy relationship between stakeholders in the transport sector.

"The department has opened doors for us to engage as motorists, regulators and others to learn about current trends in the industry and most importantly to empower us as drivers to continue being responsible on the road", said Kgarane while addressing attendees of the workshop.

Trends, policy and legislation continue to change. For that reason, driver education remains a critical tool to keep track of any changes that affect driver behaviour and performance.

"Distraction while driving caused by using a cellphone has now become a global concern.

"It is important that we educate people about the dangers associated with that and encourage driver behaviour that doesn't involve driving while distracted, fatigued or under the influence of alcohol and drugs," said Mangi Mazibuko from Dynamic Road Safety (DRS) who conducted the workshop.



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Animal drawn carts, a reliable mode of transport



An animal drawn cart remains a reliable mode of transport in many rural areas in the North West province. In some remote villages, accessing basic services such as healthcare, education, business etc requires a significant amount of travelling. This can be largely attributed to the spatial planning of what was previously known as "homelands."

According to a National Household Travel survey conducted by Statistics South Africa in 2020, while many people in urban areas rely on public and private transport, those in rural areas also opt to walk to various destinations including school and work, as a result of high cost of travelling. Given the cost and limited travel time, non- motorised transportation has become particularly useful in rural areas.

The Department of Community Safety and Transport bridges the gap by providing the most disadvantaged communities with animal drawn

carts through the Non- Motorised Transport (NMT) programme.

The programme involves a number of role players such as the local municipality, traditional authorities and community leaders for optimal implementation.

"The programme is derived from the National Rural Transport Strategy that was developed in 2007. This strategy guides the department to intervene and make it easier for rural communities to meet their needs.

"A feasibility study is conducted, as part of a scoping exercise to determine whether animal drawn carts are the preferred mode of transport. This includes assessing the previous usage and whether communities have the donkeys to make use of the carts," said the Chief Director for Transport Operations Mmaserame Dayel.

In rural areas of the province, such as Tshidlilamolomo, Makgobistadt and Leporung,



people rely on animals such as donkeys to plough and carts for transportation of their farming products. This contributes to their economic participation and ultimately secures their well- being.

In the villages of Mmanawana and Dibono, people prefer using them especially for transporting learners to school and travelling to town and nearby villages.

Neo van Wyk is a 30-year-old woman from Mmanawana village and is amongst those who recently benefitted from the department's programme. She believes that making use of the cart is no longer perceived to be a man only job.

"Life is hard and I need to do what I can for my

family to survive. I rely on the cart to transport my children to and from school. I don't want them to fall behind on their studies because their success will ultimately change our situation for us at home.

"I fetch water and wood as well with the cart, because that is how we live here in the village.

Females can also make use of them just as much as men because in this economy we all have to put something on the table", she added.

In the 2022/23 financial year, 20 households from Dibono and Mmanawana were selected and received, animal drawn carts. This came with a three year maintenance plan at no cost to the community.



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North West Police awarded for excellence



Creating safer environment for our communities requires an integrated approach, hard work and commitment, especially from the members of the South African Police Service who are enshrined with the responsibilities to combat and investigate crime and maintain public order.

With the current situation in the country, where different elements of crime takes place from time to time, the lives of these men and women in blue turn to be at risks on daily basis. However, this courageous workforce continues to put their lives on the line to protect inhabitation of the country.

While executing their duties, amongst them, there are those who go beyond the call of duty and deliver with excellence.

As a result of these men and women hard work to fight crime and create safer environments for the citizens, this led to recognition and salutes their efforts by means of Excellent Awards. This year, marking the 10th year of Annual

South African Police Service Excellence Awards, men and women came dressed up, and for a change not in their uniform, to receive, witness and celebrate their individuals' and teams successes.

The awards, that are intended to express gratitude to the members who have committed themselves to 'serving and protecting' their communities and doing so by going beyond their call of duty.

Awarded by the North West MEC for Community Safety and Transport Management, Sello Lehari and the SAPS Provincial Commissioner Lieutenant General Sello Kwenza, the members were appreciated for the work well done for sacrifice, some for putting their lives at risk while on the line of duty.

Speakers during the ceremony, MEC Lehari encouraged members in blue to always remember the SAPS Code of Conduct as a core value when they serve communities.



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“Don't get discouraged by those who count your mistakes. Be inspired by those who remember your good deeds. Your discipline is driven by the code of conduct and you have all become an embodiment of that code of conduct.

Through these awards we celebrate you and say continue to advocate for excellence in the work that you do,” said Lehari.

The Provincial Community Policing Forum Chairperson Mr Dickson Ngamlane said the police have contributed immensely towards saving people's lives.

“Thank you for the success of policing in the Province.”

One of the award winners in the senior category – Operational Manager of the year, Brigadier Mamotsamai Ntoagae said the award came as a surprise to her, however, it is as a result of good team work, dedication and commitment.

“We shall continue working hard to protect the lives of our people and create safer environment for our communities in general,” said Brigadier Ntoagae.



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TKC embarks on first assembly three years post COVID-19



Three years after the difficulties of what was referred as the 'new normal' way of doing life. The Three Member States have finally gathered in one hosting Country, South Africa to reinforce the initial mandate of the Trans Kalahari Corridor Management Committee Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which intends to harmonise cross border transactions and customs procedures.

'The new normal' way of doing things, brought strains and negatively affected the daily operations at the corridor, especially the seamless movement of passengers and goods.

With more than 200 delegates from the Three Member States, Botswana, Namibia and South Africa gathered in Rustenburg, North West of South Africa, this Joint Law Enforcement Operation promises to set a new standard and be the biggest held within the Trans Kalahari Corridor.

In his welcoming remarks, the South African

TKCMC Co-Chair Mr Segodi Mogotsi sends his gratitude to the Three Member States delegates for making it to the 11th JLEO hosted in South Africa.

He said trade volumes have started to increase tremendously along the corridor and there is a need to achieve the transport and trade facilitation objectives and deeper regional integration as espoused by Southern African Customs Union (SACU), Southern African Development Community (SADC) and New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

The Namibian Co-Chair, Dr Cedric Limbo said transportation is key to economic development and it is the backbone of any economy. "You may have your industry, but you need transport to get the products to the factories and markets."

He called upon Member States to ensure that the Trans Kalahari Corridor is not only a transport corridor but upgraded to a



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developmental and economic corridor.

Speaking on behalf of the Botswana delegation, Mr Omphemetse Mashiqqa also thanked South African for chairing and hosting the first JLEO after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Trans Kalahari Corridor Secretariat (TKCS) Executive Director Mr Leslie Mpofu said there are a number of resolutions that have been adopted and some have already been implemented since the signing of the MoU.

“For example the development of operating standards, the harmonization of the alcohol limits, introduction of dangerous goods inspectorate and training on implementation of dangerous goods legislation,” said Mpofu who expressed his gratitude to South Africa for the period of chairing at which they guided the TKCS during their tenure.

South Africa has handed over the baton to Botswana as the chairpersonship rotates amongst the Three Member States for a term

of two years.

The operation continued with the 'Thank-A-Trucker' campaign which was set to appreciate the truck drivers for the role they play in the economies of the Three Member States and SADC countries at large. The campaign is further set to enhance road safety education along the corridor.

The Joint Law Enforcement Operations continues to improve safety on the 1900 km route that starts in South Africa to Namibia through Botswana. It resulted to the successful arrest of 20 illegal immigrants for failing to produce relevant documentation, 13 motorists charged for expired license discs, 27 traffic fines issued for non compliance on a number of vehicle defaults and 24 vehicles taken through fitness tests.

Speaking on the success, Segodi said the region will be a better place once people and goods move more freely.



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“This must be coupled by development along the corridor with transport as an inducer of development. We look forward to better coordinated and simplified processes along the corridor, harmonized legislation including the one dealing with Dangerous Goods, Economic participation of women on the corridor,” concluded Mogotsi.

In this 11th JLEO, more than 200 delegates from the Three Member States are fully participating with members from the South African Police Service, The Departments of Community Safety and Transport Management (NW), Department of Community Safety (GP), Road Traffic Management Cooperation, Road Traffic Infringement Agency, Cross Border Road Transport Agency, Road Accident Fund, Provincial and Local Traffic Authorities, Immigration including Road Safety Education, while the Botswana and Namibian delegations are led by Ministry of Works and Transport and include stakeholders from the Namibian, Botswana Police Service, Road Authorities,

Customs, Immigration and Motor Vehicle Accident Fund.

As part of the operation, the Road Accident Fund further rendered services of optometry screening to assess motorists' vision and ensure that their eyesight are perfect for driving as well issuing spectacles on the spot if there is a need. Other functions include a general health screening of blood pressure and diabetes.

This initiative is done to eliminate driver fatigue and encourage the maintenance of good health especially amongst drivers. The services come at no cost to the drivers.

The TKC is a road network spanning approximately 1900 kilometers across the territories of Botswana, Namibia and South Africa. The corridor is a conduit for economic growth and development for the entire region in fulfilling the objectives of the SADC Protocol and African Union Vision 2063.



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Provincial Transport Forum key to transport challenges in NW



The department of Community Safety and Transport Management recently held its third quarter Provincial Transport Forum in Wolmaranstaad, Maquassi Hills Local Municipality.

The purpose and objective of the Forum was to meet with all stakeholders within the province including the National Department of Transport (NDoT) to discuss challenges encountered by the province and come with recommendations and decisions to eliminate the challenges.

The recommendations from the forum will then be forwarded to relevant authorities for decisions making and implementations.

Transport as a heartbeat of the economy and it

must operate smoothly to deliver goods and commuters to different destinations, and it must be in a roadworthy condition to perform all this tasks.

Different stakeholders from all three spheres of government, National, Provincial and Local discussed transport issues they are facing in their respective work stations and listed recommendations that are in line with their districts transport mandate and regulations.

The next forum meeting is scheduled for early 2023 with participation of same stakeholders where they will report back to the meeting progress on implementation of recommendations.



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Ba diperetshitshwana ba amogela tshedimosetso ya pabalesego tseleng



Dikotsi di le mmalwa mo metsing le metsetoropo kgotsa mo ditseleng ka bophara di bakiwa ba tsamaya ka dinao le ba diperetshitshwana. Se e le ka ntlha ya fa ba ba tsamaya le go kgweetsa diperetshitshwana ba sa apara diaparo tsa mebala e bonagalang sentle bosigo.

Batlhankedi ba lekala la Pabalesego Tseleng mo lefapheng la Tshireletso ya Baagi le Tsamaiso ya Dipalangwa mo sedikeng sa Ngaka Ruth Segomotsi Mompoti, ba ile ba tswa letsholo le go etela motse wa Devondale o dikilometara di le masome a mabedi le borobongwe fa o tswa ka toropo ya Vryburg o lebile motse-moshate wa North West, Mahikeng.

Baagi ba Devondale ba ile ba tla ka bontsi go tla go itseela ka tsebe le go thabiwa malotsana malebana le 'Pabalesego tseleng ya ba diperetshitshwana'.

Batlhankedi ba Pabalesego Tseleng mo sedikeng ba ile ba abela baagi ba ditlankana tsa

tshedimosetso ya pabalesego tseleng le dibonya-ponagalo gore e re ba tsamaya kgotsa ba kgweetsa diperetshitshwana bosigo ba bonagale sentle le go fokotsa dikotsi mo motsing.

Baagi ba motse o, ba dirisa thata dinao, diperetshitshwana, dikara tsa ditonki le dipitse go ya ditirong le mekgape ya bone e fatologaneng. Devondale ke motse o mogare ga dipolase di le mmalwa, mme bothoka tiro ke tlhoba boroko go basha le bagolo. Motse o na le sekolo se se potlana mme baithuti ba bona ditirelo tsa sepodise, tsa pholo, tsa katlatleelo ya loago le dikolo dikgolo ko Stella kgotsa Vryburg.

Lenaneo le la 'Tshedimosetso ya pabalesego tseleng go ba diperetshitshwana' ke nngwe ya metseletsele ya lekala la Pabalesego Tseleng mo lefapheng. Mme a tla tswela go didika tsothe tsa Porofense mo setheng se sa khunologo.



Stock theft continues to torment farmers



Stock theft remains to be a challenge especially in the deep rural and border areas, resulting in negative contribution of the country's economy and threatens the sustainability of livestock industry.

This influence on the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management, through its Directorate Crime Prevention Partnerships to lead and strengthen the fight against stock theft by way of leading in promoting co-operation and partnerships among different role players in implementing crime prevention initiatives in general.

The Department further continues to organise workshops and awareness campaigns on this worrying criminal act, however, it keeps remaining on a high rise.

This came into attention recently when police responded promptly and arrested seven suspects who loaded cattle on a truck and trailer, at the Zeekoeivallei Farm in Ottoshoop

outside Mahikeng.

Visiting the crime scene, the North West MEC of Department of Community Safety and Transport Management, Sello Lehari expressed profound gratitude to the South African Police Service for a swift response when called for stock theft.

"People often accuse the police of lackluster response and here we are with them having reacted with speed. The problem of stock theft in some parts of the Province is rife despite all our continuous efforts on stakeholders and community engagements," said Lehari.

The MEC appealed to the communities to play a role in fighting crime. He said often suspects are known and is only through support of the community members that criminality could be fought.

"Crime is not committed by people we do not know. The police promptly apprehended suspects because community members played a



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significant role,” he said.

According to the Zeekoeivallei Farm owner, Piet Tlhabanyane he was assisted by the close circuit cameras from his neighbouring game farm which exposed the criminality that was taking place.

“The owner of the game farm is part of the farming neighbourhood watch.”

“When we arrived we counted the cattle and realised 43 were missing but found 27 scattered

around the farm (so) we are still looking for 16. It appears the suspects entered by breaking the locks of the main gate,” said farm owner Pastor Piet Tlhababanyane.

The Department will continue and strengthen the fight against stock theft by engaging communities and all relevant stakeholders. The MEC pleads with farmers and communities to report stock theft cases and assist the police with information and evidence for proper investigation.



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Zero tolerance for reckless driving during festive season



The North West MEC for the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management, Sello Lehari has vowed that there will be no tolerance for driver deviancy and recklessness in the Province.

MEC Lehari said this during his address to the law enforcement officers at the Parade prior to the joint law enforcement operation on the N12 just outside Potchefstroom, as part of activating the October Transport Month.

He says there will be interminable stop and search operations until the middle of January next year. MEC said the Province wants to reduce road crashes significantly and that only be achieved by enforcing compliance with all traffic regulations.

"The reduction of crashes is not only dependant on law enforcement officers but also requires cooperation from motorists and all road users in general. However, we will do our best to ensure that there is compliance on our roads. Our traffic officers, police and every valuable stakeholder will play their part and you must also

come on board," Lehari pleaded with motorist.

The Department's law enforcement has scheduled a number of joint operations during this month with a specific focus on public transport.

The Transport Month Campaign is an annual feature on the calendar of the Department of Transport and is one of the platforms and vehicles through which the department engages directly with stakeholders. It influences the economy in many ways, through its impact on the efficiency of business operations and labour mobility and, for its citizens, the attractiveness of South Africa as a place in which to live and prosper.

The month was officially launched in October 2005, to raise awareness of the important role of transport in the economy, and to invite participation from civic society and business, in providing a safer, more affordable, accessible and reliable transport system for the community.



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