

RISK CHAMPIONS CHARTER 2025/2026



public works & roads

Department:
Public Works and Roads
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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1. Constitution

Risk Champions are appointed in accordance with Chapter 17 of the North West Provincial Risk Management Framework.

This framework has been developed in terms of, and should be read in conjunction with, Sections 38(1)(a)(i) and 51(1)(a)(i) of the PFMA, which require Accounting Officers to ensure that their institutions have and maintain effective, efficient, and transparent risk management systems.

Risk Management Champions are appointed by the Accounting Officer to support and promote specific aspects of the risk management processes. A Risk Champion is an official with the necessary skills, knowledge, leadership qualities, and authority to effectively champion particular aspects of risk management.

2. Legislative background

- Section 38(1)(a)(i) of the Public Finance Management Act, Act No. 1 of 1999, as amended;
- The Public Sector Risk Management Framework, 2012;
- Section 3.2.1 of the Treasury Regulations;
- The King IV Report on Corporate Governance for South Africa, 2016;
- The COSO (Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission) Enterprise Risk Management Framework;
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO 31000).

3. Composition

3.1 Knowledge and capacity

- The nominated officials should possess knowledge of the office and be familiar with the concepts, principles, and practices of risk management, enabling them to contribute effectively to the advancement of risk management within the department.
- The Provincial Risk Management Framework further outlines that Risk Champions should possess the following qualities in order to fulfill their functions:
 - A strong understanding of risk management concepts, principles, and processes;
 - Strong analytical skills;
 - Expert authority (power);
 - Leadership and motivational qualities; and



- Effective communication skills.

3.2 Level of Risk Champions

A Risk Champion is defined, in line with the Public Sector Risk Management Framework, as:

"A person who, by virtue of their expertise or authority, champions a particular aspect of the risk management process but is not the risk owner."

A Risk Champion is typically a senior management member within the department. However, individuals from other levels may also be nominated, provided they possess the required qualities.

The Accounting Officer is responsible for appointing officials across the department with the necessary skills, leadership, and qualities to champion aspects of risk management, including the resolution of risk-related challenges.

3.3 Authority of Risk Champions

By virtue of their seniority within the organizational structure, Risk Champions are expected to influence a high-level enterprise risk management culture. This includes ensuring adequate support for the effectiveness and efficiency of risk management systems.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

The Risk Champions shall be responsible for the following functions:

- Intervening in situations where risk management efforts are hindered, such as by a lack of cooperation from management and other officials, or by insufficient institutional skills and expertise;
- Assisting in coordinating risk management awareness sessions at the programme, district, or unit level;
- Serving as the first point of contact for risk management issues within the programme, district, or unit;
- Intervening to resolve escalated challenges related to risk management and associated processes within the programme, district, or unit;
- Supporting the success and credibility of periodic risk reviews (operational, strategic, fraud risks) and risk assessment sessions, conducted by both the Risk Management sub-directorate and all assurance providers (e.g., internal/external auditors);
- Advocating strongly for ethical practices by driving the department's ethics management programme and ensuring it maintains momentum;



- Obtaining assurance on the management of ethics, fraud, and corruption risks within the department;
- Collecting and verifying Points of Evidence (POEs) in consultation with programme management, prior to submission to the Directorate: Risk Management and Internal Control;
- Ensuring that Programme Managers sign off on monthly and quarterly reports before submission or uploading;
- Coordinating and integrating the department's risk and ethics initiatives with other related programmes (e.g., anti-corruption policy); and
- Ensuring that procedures are in place to investigate misconduct.

5. Training and Development

The Risk Champions shall undergo training and development through both internal and external mechanisms to ensure the effective implementation of risk management systems.

6. Term of Appointment



- The term of appointment of the Risk Champions shall be aligned with the term of their employment contract or shall cease upon instruction from the Accounting Officer.
- In the event of resignation, termination of the employment contract, or vacation of the position for any reason, the Accounting Officer shall appoint another official to take on the role of Risk Champion.

7. Reporting

- The Risk Champions shall report to the Accounting Officer when requested, providing a report as required.
- The Risk Champions shall also provide feedback on risk management issues escalated by the Chief Risk Officer that require their intervention and/or expert advice.

8. Review of the charter

The Risk Champions Charter shall be reviewed on an annual basis.

DESIGNATION	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
RECOMMENDATION			
Risk Management Committee Chairperson	Mr. M.I. Buwa		19 March 2025
Approval			
Head Of Department	Mr. M.I. Kgantsi		18/03/25

