

15 September 2016

Post EXCO Media Briefing

The Executive Council meeting took place on 14th September 2014. The Executive Council (EXCO) have noted the following:

The Departments applied for a total of R586 461 million roll-over, however only R574 694 million was approved by the National Treasury as follows:

- i) Education R17 467 million (Conditional Grants for payment of Service Providers and School Transfers amounting to R66 million.
- ii) Agriculture R304 million Conditional Grants
- iii) Health R32 million
- iv) Public Works R119 million
- v) CoGST R394 million
- vi) Sport, Arts and Culture R9.6 million

Heritage Day

Heritage Day Celebrations will be held at Samson Phophi Stadium in Vleifontein, Makhado Municipality on the 24 September 2016.

The Cleansing and Healing Ceremony will be held next to the N1 on Friday the 23 September 2016. Faith Based Organisations and Traditional Healers will take part in the ceremony.

Mapungubwe Jazz and Heritage Festival

The activities will take place between the 5th and the 17th December 2016, starting with the Memorial Lecture of on the 5th December 2016. The Mapungubwe District Build-up programme on competitions are starting today till the 10th October 2016. We are starting today at Nkowankowa Stadium in Greater Tzaneen Municipality.

The Executive Council have also approved the following Cluster Reports:

Economic Cluster

The Economic Cluster's 12 targets are progressing very well with the expectation of challenges of the Special Economic Zone of Tubatse, which is to attract potential investors to the area and slow response or reluctance from the mining industry to commit to the Mineral Beneficiation Programme.

Governance and Administration

Governance and Administration's 11 targets are progressing very well. The issue of closing the Housing Gap Market is facing challenges due to the fact that most of the identified applicants are failing to meet the National Credit Act requirements.

Social Cluster

Social Cluster's 9 out of 11 targets were met with the cluster performing very well on the National Nutrition Programme, Scholar Transport, No Fee Schooling and Health Turn-around Strategy.

Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster (JCPS)

The Justice, Crime Prevention and Security Cluster is also performing very well.

The Infrastructure Cluster

The Infrastructure Cluste is performing very well particularly on issues dealing with poor performance on Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG). However, the issues of addressing Water Reticulation to communities adjacent to Mega Projects affecting growth points remain a challenge.

Forensic Investigations

The Provincial Government has appointed Forensic Expects to investigate Procurements Processes for the following contracts:

1. Provision of Security Services for 5 Departments procured by Treasury during 2014/15 financial year.

- 2. Awarding of tenders for School Nutrition Programme by the Department of Education for 2014/15 financial year.
- 3. Tenders for Low Cost Housing for 2014/15 financial year

The Executive Council also took the following resolutions:

Thabazimbi Municipality

The Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs together with Treasury should work out an amount that should be allocated to Thabazimbi Municipality so as to provide immediate financial relief to the current distress prevailing in that municipality.

Drought

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development should utilise an amount not exceeding R10 million from their equitable share for drought relief interventions, which amount will be appropriated to the Department during the adjustment budget process.

Sports

The Executive Council resolved that the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture with the assistance of Provincial Treasury should prepare a submission to consideration to support the two PSL Soccer Clubs based in the province with a once-off payments.

Legal Matters

EXCO resolved that all Departments should seek Legal Opinions from the Office of the Premier before effecting Precautionary Suspensions.

Thank you.