

MEDIA RELEASE

11 July 2025

TO ALL MEDIA

**RE: LIMPOPO PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT INTERVENES ON IMPASSE BETWEEN MUNICIPALITIES AND LEPELLE-NORTHERN WATER BOARD**

The Limpopo Provincial Government is committed to resolving the ongoing impasse between several municipalities and the Lepelle-Northern Water Board. This situation has arisen following the National Treasury's decision to withhold disbursement of equitable shares and certain Municipal Infrastructure Grant allocations intended for municipalities this quarter. The withdrawal is due to outstanding payments owed by the Vhembe District, Sekhukhune District, Mopani District and Letaba Local Municipalities for bulk water supply.

Considering these developments, Premier Dr Phophi Ramathuba has taken proactive measures by convening discussions with the Departments of Provincial Treasury and Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, alongside representatives from the affected municipalities and the Lepelle-Northern Water Board.

Premier Ramathuba stated: "The withdrawal of funds will have a catastrophic impact on the residents of Limpopo, particularly in rural municipalities like Greater Letaba, which lack targeted revenue streams to sustain their operations. This is why immediate intervention was necessary to prevent adverse consequences stemming from National Treasury's decision."

During the meetings, it was emphasised that the financial viability of municipalities is a critical priority for the Limpopo Province. To this end, the province remains dedicated to providing support in situations involving payment disputes and adherence to financial agreements between municipalities and water boards.

It has been agreed that specific payment plans and responsibilities will be formalised in signed agreements today and subsequently submitted to National Treasury, demonstrating the municipalities' commitment to settling their utility payment obligations.

Concluded Premier Dr Ramathuba: "We are confident that the interventions made today will lead to amicable solutions. We believe that by next week, this matter will be resolved, ensuring that municipalities adhere to the commitments outlined in the agreements signed."

END

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