

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

11 February 2026

#### Premier Dr Ramathuba's Intervention Paves the Way for Water Solutions in Polokwane

The Premier of Limpopo, Dr Phophi Ramathuba, has taken significant steps to address the ongoing water crisis in Polokwane through decisive intervention and strong leadership. Following an urgent meeting of the Polokwane Water War Room convened on 11 February 2026, Premier Dr Ramathuba has secured a renewed commitment from both the Polokwane Municipality and the Lepelle Northern Water Board to collaborate effectively in overcoming the water challenges facing the community.

Premier Ramathuba expressed satisfaction with the outcomes of the meeting, emphasising the critical importance of prioritising water delivery to the residents of Polokwane. "We are pleased with the outcome of the meeting which had both parties commit to ensuring that the priority will be to get water to the residents of Polokwane," said Premier Dr Ramathuba.

The Premier further underscored the expectation that technical teams from both entities will work diligently and tirelessly to resolve the ongoing water shortages in the city. "Where challenges are unavoidable, both parties should jointly communicate with the public to keep them informed on the extent and duration of such inconveniences, as well as potential alternatives," added Dr Ramathuba, showcasing the government's commitment to transparency and accountability during this crisis.

In recent months, the City of Polokwane experienced a brief period of consistent water supply, demonstrating that stable delivery is achievable when systems function effectively. However, since January 2026, severe water shortages have emerged, with the municipality requiring 174 million litres daily to meet the community's needs, yet only able to supply 118.5 million litres.

Premier Dr Ramathuba concluded by asserting that the Limpopo Provincial Government envisions a future where development in the City of Polokwane is not hindered by water challenges. "We are confident that with the leadership of Executive Mayor Cllr John Mpe we will propel the City of Polokwane towards the metro status it deserves. Equally, we urge Lepelle Northern water to keep this dream alive by ensuring a consistent bulk supply to the city" she stated, underscoring the government's unwavering commitment to transformative change for the residents of Polokwane.

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