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“EZESIFUNDA SENTUTHUKO”

External Newsletter / July – November 2025 Edition

 Amajuba District Municipality

 AmajubaDistrictMunicipality

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VISION OF THE AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

Amajuba District Municipality vision provides insight on what the municipality aims to achieve in terms of its medium and long term developmental goals.

The vision of the municipality is as follows: By 2035 Amajuba will be a leading and pioneering District characterized by sustainable development and quality services

MISSION OF THE AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

The Amajuba District Municipality will champion in good governance through:

- Effective public participation
- Vibrant local economic development
 - Integrated Service Delivery
 - Intergovernmental Relations



Acting Municipal Manager, Mr T. Buthelezi, and Hon. Mayor, Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu, at the official handover of offices to the South African Red Cross Society (SARCS).



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, with a SARCS representative photographed in the newly handed-over office.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, unlocking the office allocated to SARCS.

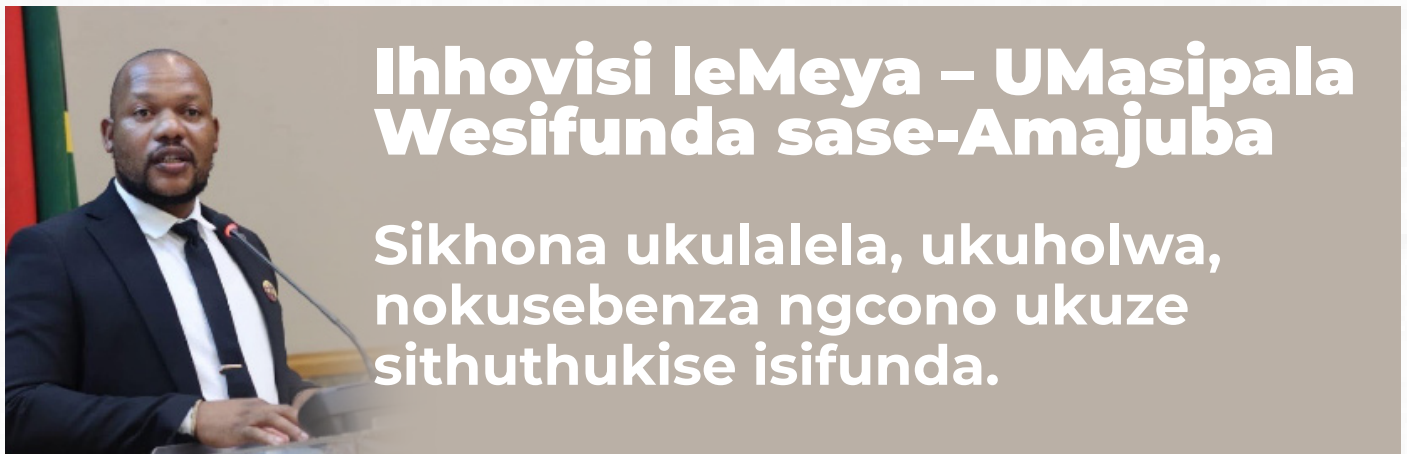
RED CROSS FOUNDATION FINDS A NEW HOME IN AMAJUBA DISTRICT

In coordinated efforts to boost disaster preparedness and strengthen emergency response, Amajuba District Municipality officially welcomed the Red Cross Foundation into its fully functional Disaster Management Centre. On 17 July 2025, His Worship the Honourable Mayor Councillor T.E. Thembelihle Mthembu, together with Acting Municipal Manager Mr Thubelihle Buthelezi, handed over a newly designated storage facility and office space to the organisation.

The move forms part of the municipality's commitment to ensuring that all critical emergency and humanitarian services operate from one central location. By housing the Red Cross Foundation within the Disaster Management Centre, the district has strengthened its ability to coordinate rapid, efficient and unified responses during emergencies.

Moreover, the newly allocated storage facility will serve as a central point for the safekeeping and rapid deployment of essential relief supplies. From this facility, items such as food parcels, blankets, hygiene packs and emergency equipment can be distributed swiftly to communities affected by disasters.

Speaking at the handover, the Hon Mayor, Cllr Mthembu emphasised that incorporating the Red Cross Foundation into the centre enhances the district's disaster readiness. He further noted that having key partners working side by side improves communication, accelerates decision making and ensures that support reaches vulnerable communities without delay.



HONOURABLE MAYOR COUNCILLOR T.E. MTHEMBU LEADS COMMUNITY JOJO TANK DELIVERY TO IMPROVE WATER RELIABILITY IN AMAJUBA DISTRICT

18 July 2025

In a continued effort to improve water reliability across the Amajuba region, the Honourable Mayor Councillor T.E. Mthembu, supported by Acting Municipal Manager Mr T. Buthelezi, delivered community Jojo tanks to the areas of Flint 3, Mooi and Puna under the Dannhauser Local Municipality.

The intervention follows a recent community engagement where residents raised longstanding concerns about water shortages affecting daily living. Responding promptly, Mayor Mthembu ensured that large 5 000-litre community Jojo tanks were placed at strategic and accessible points, allowing all residents to collect clean water closer to their homes.

These tanks form part of the municipality's broader approach to improving communal access to water, easing pressure on tanker deliveries, and ensuring more reliable supply options for communities facing ongoing water challenges. Positioned in centralised locations, the Jojo tanks will provide consistent relief while the municipality continues working on long-term water infrastructure solutions.

Residents welcomed the mayor's swift delivery, describing it as a clear demonstration of a responsive government. Additionally, the installation of these community tanks aims to reduce the burden of travelling long distances for water and brings immediate stability to households affected by water scarcity.

The Hon Mayor, Cllr Mthembu highlighted that improving water security remains a key priority for the municipality. He further pointed that direct engagement with communities is essential to understanding their needs and delivering interventions that have real impact.



Honourable Mayor of Amajuba District Municipality, Cllr T.E Mthembu



Hon. Mayor, Cllr T.E Mthembu with community members of Puna, Flint 3, and Mooi under Dannhauser Local Municipality



Hon. Mayor, Thembelihle Mthembu during the handover of community Jojo tanks at Puna, Flint 3, and Mooi areas

“SAVE WATER, SECURE THE FUTURE”

REPORT BURST PIPES & WATER LEAKS TO THE MUNICIPAL WATER & SANITATION CALL CENTRE ON:

034 329 7400

DISASTER RISK ASSESSMENT STRENGTHENED KZN'S DISASTER PREPAREDNESS IN AMAJUBA

Amajuba District Municipality in partnership with the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs took a significant step toward bolstering disaster preparedness across the province. On 23 July 2025 stakeholders gathered at the Osizweni Community Hall for a comprehensive disaster risk assessment session led by the Community Services Department of Amajuba District Municipality.

The session formed part of the province's initiative to update the Provincial Disaster Management Plan and refine the Provincial Risk Profile. This work was especially important in Amajuba a district historically prone to both natural and human-induced disasters. The assessment aimed to identify what hazards existed, where the highest vulnerabilities were located, who was most at risk why these risks persisted and how provincial and district structures could respond more effectively.

Community members from all three local municipalities attended the session ensuring that the experiences and concerns of residents who often faced the direct impact of disasters were incorporated into the assessment. Their contributions provided valuable insight into localised risks, past incidents and community-level challenges that needed to be addressed in future planning.

Moreover, the process also drew on input from various government departments NGOs and technical specialists reinforcing a strong multi-stakeholder approach. Drawing on this diverse expertise helped ensure that the updated Provincial Disaster Management Plan would be comprehensive practical and aligned with on the ground realities.



Amajuba District residents gathered at Osizweni Community Hall for a disaster risk assessment session.



Amajuba District Municipality Community Services Director, Mr Thabo Xaba.



Ndunankulu Mkhwanazi from Gule Traditional 3 attending the disaster risk assessment session.



Empowering SMMEs – Visit the LED Unit Today!

The Amajuba District Municipality's Local Economic Development (LED) Unit is here to support your small business journey.

Visit the municipality and take advantage of the opportunities available to grow your business.

Learn more at: www.amajuba.gov.za

HONOURABLE MAYOR COUNCILLOR T.E. MTHEMBU LAUNCHED PROJECT MANAGEMENT LEARNERSHIP PROGRAMME IN AMAJUBA

On 25 July 2025, the Honourable Mayor Councillor T.E. Mthembu officially launched the Project Management Learnership Programme (NQF Level 5), welcoming 100 learners from across the Amajuba District. The programme formed part of the municipality's initiatives aimed at addressing youth unemployment and strengthening local capacity through structured accredited training.

Fully funded by Services SETA, the 18-month programme was designed to build critical project management skills, with each learner receiving a monthly stipend of R5,000. The programme combined training with practical industry-aligned experience to prepare learners for meaningful career advancement.

Representatives from PDevine were present at the launch as the training partner and delivered a comprehensive curriculum guiding learners through both theoretical knowledge and practical application.

During the launch, the Honourable Mayor Councillor T.E. Mthembu addressed the learners, emphasising the municipality's commitment to skills development and calling on participants to take full advantage of the opportunities provided by the programme.

The second session of the learnership focused on induction and implementation. Learners were oriented to the full scope of the programme, including roles and responsibilities. The lead trainer from PDevine provided a detailed overview of the curriculum, covering key learning outcomes and the assessment process. Participants were also briefed on essential criteria for successful completion, including consistent attendance, active participation, timely submission of assessments, and the development of workplace evidence tied to practical experience.

Furthermore, Ms Dudu Ngobese, Skills Development Facilitator from Amajuba District Municipality, provided a clear explanation of the programme's rollout plan, administrative procedures, and the learner support that was available throughout the 18-month programme.



From left: Acting Municipal Manager, Mr T. Buthelezi, and Honourable Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, attending the launch of the Project Management Learnership Programme.



From left: Hon. Deputy Mayor, Cllr I.S. Sithole, Cllr Ndlovu, and Inkosi Khumalo.



Beneficiaries of the Project Management Learnership Programme.



Beneficiaries of the Programme photographed at the launch.

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY MAYOR WELCOMED KZN PREMIER AND MEC OF EDUCATION FOR THE OFFICIAL HANDOVER OF TWO SCHOOLS

The Honourable Mayor of Amajuba District Municipality, Councillor Thembelihle Mthembu, welcomed the Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Honourable Thami Ntuli, and the KZN MEC of Education, Honourable Siphon Hlomuka, for the official handover of two schools.

The initiative, which took place on 1 August 2025, began with the unveiling of a newly built school situated in one of the rural areas of the district. The Premier, MEC, and Mayor were briefed by the school principal on the institution's history and vision, before touring the modern facilities designed to provide learners in remote communities with a safe and conducive environment for learning. The new school is set to improve access to quality education for learners who previously faced challenges due to limited educational resources in rural areas.

The event continued with the official opening of YWCA Special School in Madadeni, a school dedicated to learners with special education needs. The Premier, MEC, and Mayor unveiled a commemorative plaque to mark the occasion, reinforcing the provincial government's commitment to inclusive education and equal access for all learners. YWCA Special School provides tailored learning programmes and specialised support to ensure children with different abilities have opportunities to thrive academically and socially.

Speaking at the event, Mayor Mthembu highlighted the district's focus on inclusive education, stating, "An education system must be built where access, dignity and opportunity are not determined by a learner's background or ability, but by a shared commitment to equity and excellence."



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, and KZN Premier, Hon. Thami Ntuli.



KZN Premier, Hon. Thami Ntuli, and MEC for Education, Hon. Siphon Hlomuka, unveiling the commemorative plaque at YWCA Special School.



Hon Cllr Khoza at YWCA Special School attending the Official Handover of Schools programme led by the KZN Premier and MEC for Education



Residents attending the handover of YWCA Special School programme

AMAJUBA DISTRICT LAUNCHED 3-DAY INTEGRATED DISASTER MANAGEMENT AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Amajuba District Municipality, under the leadership of His Worship, the Honourable Mayor Councillor T.E. Mthembu, launched a series of Integrated Community Disaster Management Awareness events held over three days from 5 to 7 August 2025.

The campaign, conducted in partnership with the Provincial Disaster Management Centre, the Red Cross Foundation, and local stakeholders, aimed to equip communities with critical knowledge on disaster risk reduction, fire safety, climate change, wetlands protection, and emergency response protocols.

The event spread across the district, covering Newcastle, eMadlangeni, and Dannhauser Local Municipalities. The first activation took place at Inverness Primary School, where residents participated in educational sessions, practical demonstrations, and interactive activities designed to enhance their understanding of potential hazards and the steps they could take to protect themselves and their communities.

Subsequent sessions in Ward 9, under eMadlangeni Local Municipality focused on community risk mitigation, emergency preparedness, and fire safety. Presentations were delivered by disaster management practitioners, environmental officers, and emergency services personnel, addressing risks specific to the area's geography, climate patterns, and traditional settlement layout. The final leg took place at Dorothy Nyembe Hall in Dannhauser, completing the district-wide campaign.

Participants were informed about the specific risks faced by Amajuba District, which is prone to seasonal floods, storms, and other climate-related hazards affecting both urban and rural communities. The programme emphasised proactive measures, community resilience, and the importance of local involvement in disaster preparedness.

In the context of a district that had experienced repeated extreme weather events in recent years, including flooding and storms that damaged infrastructure and disrupted services, such initiatives became key. They addressed not only immediate hazards but also underlying factors that increased vulnerability, such as environmental degradation and climate change impacts, while strengthening community knowledge, readiness, and response capacity.



Osizweni residents attending the Integrated Disaster Management Workshop at Inverness Primary School.



Emadlangeni Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr M.L. Buthelezi, and Cllr Khoza attending the Integrated Disaster Management Workshop in Ward 9.



Utrecht residents attending the Integrated Disaster Management Workshop in Ward 9.

Abamabhizinisi amancane, ikusasa lenu liqala lapha!

UMnyango wakwa-LED kuMasipala Wesifunda sase-Amajuba ikulungele ukusiza ama-SMME ukuthi akhule futhi aphumelele.

Xhumana nathi — sikhona ukukweseka.

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AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY MAYOR BACKS 2025 YOUTH BUSINESS EXPO TO BOOST LOCAL ECONOMY

The Honourable Mayor of Amajuba District Municipality, Councillor T.E. Mthembu, actively supported the 2025 Youth Business Expo, hosted by Newcastle Municipality in partnership with ABSA and the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA). The event took place on 7 August 2025 at the NATO Centre in Madadeni and formed part of the district's broader local economic development initiatives.

The expo provided a platform for young entrepreneurs and SMMEs to showcase their business ideas, gain practical guidance, and access immediate funding to grow their ventures. Exciting prizes were awarded, including R10,000 for the best pitch, and a total of R150,000 was distributed to support various winning projects. In addition, the NYDA committed R100,000 to further support these entrepreneurial initiatives, providing vital financial resources for young business owners.

The Hon. Mayor, Councillor T.E. Mthembu emphasised the critical role of district and local municipalities in fostering economic growth. He highlighted how the Amajuba District, working in close coordination with local municipalities such as Newcastle, acts as a strategic enabler for enterprise development, providing young entrepreneurs with access to resources, mentorship, and markets. Moreover, these interventions ensure that small businesses and start-ups can develop sustainably, contribute to job creation, and strengthen the local economy.

Additionally, the Hon Mayor also noted the strategic location of Amajuba District as a key gateway for trade and innovation in northern KwaZulu-Natal, which positions local businesses to expand their reach and participate in wider economic networks. By supporting initiatives like the Youth Business Expo, both district and local municipalities demonstrated their commitment to creating a conducive environment for youth-led enterprises, promoting innovation, and enhancing the competitiveness of the local business sector.



From left: Amajuba Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu; Newcastle Municipality Council Speaker, uMntwana Thengamehlo Zulu; and Amajuba District Whip of Council, Cllr A.T. Nkosi.



Newcastle Municipality Mayor, Cllr D.X. Dube, and Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, presenting a cheque at the Youth Business Expo.



Local entrepreneurs attending the Youth Business Expo.



“Say NO to corruption”

Report any fraudulent activity or misconduct anonymously at mpimpahotline@amajuba.gov.za

LAW ENFORCEMENT IN AMAJUBA DISTRICT HONOURS WOMEN DURING WOMEN’S MONTH



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, with district law enforcement during the Operation Basadi Roadblock launch in Newcastle.

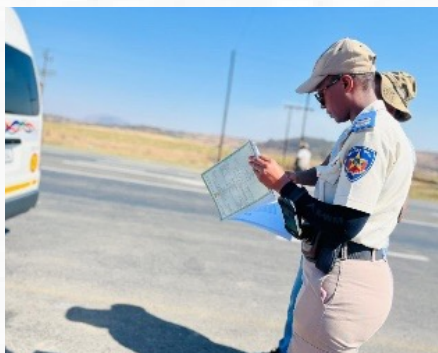
Law enforcement agencies across Amajuba District came together in a series of activities to commemorate Women’s Month, highlighting the courage, dedication, and leadership of women officers who play a critical role in ensuring community safety.

The events began on 13 August 2025 with a precision drill and ceremonial parade through Newcastle, attended by the Honourable Mayor of Amajuba District Municipality, Councillor T.E. Mthembu. Following the parade, women officers from the district SAPS, Traffic Department, and Correctional Services deployed to the N11 and Ingogo for a high-visibility Operation Basadi roadblock.

The operation focused on enhancing law enforcement presence, conducting stop-and-search actions, issuing fines for Road Traffic Act contraventions, and effecting arrests for serious offences. Aligned with Women’s Month, the operation showcased the leadership, professionalism, and dedication of women officers, demonstrating their invaluable contribution to safety and security across the district.

The following day, on 14 August 2025, law enforcement officers gathered at Fairleigh Hall for a prayer session in observance of Women’s Month. The session recognised the achievements and resilience of women officers in high-risk and demanding roles. It also provided a platform for mutual inspiration and support, allowing participants to share experiences, encourage one another, and strengthen collaboration across agencies.

Speaking at the SAPS Women’s Network Prayer session, Councillor T.E. Mthembu acknowledged the vital role of women officers in safeguarding Amajuba communities, particularly amid rising challenges from gangsterism and gender-based violence and femicide. He emphasised that their protection must extend beyond the home to all spaces where they serve and lead, including the workplace. Additionally, the Hon Mayor called for a united front against crime and violence, reaffirming the district leadership’s commitment to supporting women officers and law enforcement agencies at every level.



Newcastle Traffic Officer during the Operation Basadi Roadblock on the N11.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu.



Amajuba District SAPS General Alexander.

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL EXPLORED MINING OPPORTUNITIES AND ENGAGED AMAKHOSI ON MINERAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT BILL

On 26 August 2025, Amajuba District Municipality held a hybrid Council meeting at Emphelandaba Council Chamber, combining critical governance, economic planning, and stakeholder engagement in a single, comprehensive event.

A key focus of the meeting was a presentation by the Department of Mineral Resources and Petroleum on renewed interest in mining within the district. With existing operations such as Uitkemist Coal Mine and Ikhwezi Mining, the Council examined the potential of the sector to stimulate local economic activity, create sustainable employment, and improve socio-economic outcomes for communities across Amajuba. The discussions aimed to integrate mining opportunities into robust local economic planning, attract responsible investment, and ensure that benefits from mining initiatives translated into skills development, community upliftment, and measurable improvements in livelihoods. Council members emphasised that mining, when managed responsibly, could play a pivotal role in addressing local unemployment and enhancing the district's overall economic resilience.

The Honourable Mayor, Councillor T.E. Mthembu, welcomed the announcement that the Department would embark on a series of public engagement sessions. These sessions were intended to provide a formal platform for communities and stakeholders to offer input on proposed revisions to mining legislation and policy.

Building on the Council deliberations, the Department convened a consultation session with Amakhosi at the Amajuba District Disaster Management Centre on the same day. This engagement formed part of the national consultation process on the Mineral Resources Development Bill, 2025, aiming to ensure that traditional leadership structures had a direct role in shaping legislation governing the mining and petroleum sector.

Key issues discussed during the session included:

- Addressing illegal mining and artisanal or small-scale operations
- Strengthening environmental authorisation and enforcement
- Ensuring community consultation as a legal requirement
- Creating local procurement opportunities for SMMEs and entrepreneurs
- Social and Labour Plan contributions to upliftment projects
- Community empowerment and skills development initiatives

Notably in attendance was the mayor of eMadlangeni Local Municipality, Councillor M.L. Buthelezi, whose participation underscored the government's recognition of traditional leadership as valuable partners in advancing service delivery and driving development across the district.



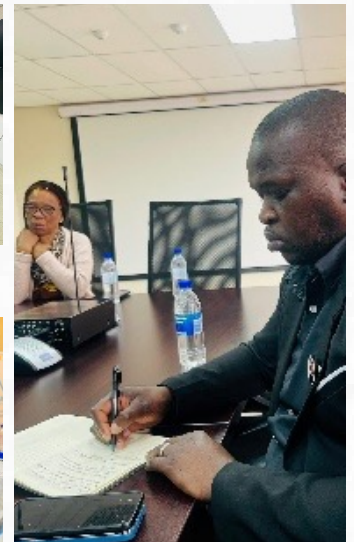
DMRE engagement with Amakhosi on the Mineral Resources Development Bill 2025.



DMRE engagement with Amakhosi on the Mineral Resources Development Bill 2025 hosted at the Disaster Management Centre.



From left: Council Speaker, Cllr uMntwana S.O. Zulu, and Honourable Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, during a hybrid council meeting with DMRE.



Emadlangeni Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr M.L. Buthelezi, attending the DMRE engagement with Amakhosi on the Mineral Resources Development Bill 2025.

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY FUN WALK CELEBRATES WOMEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE

Councillors and the female workforce of Amajuba District Municipality, joined by their male colleagues, came together for a vibrant Fun Walk through Madadeni Section 2 as part of the closing celebrations of Women’s Month. The initiative sought to highlight the municipality’s recognition of the critical role women play in public service, and whose dedication continues to strengthen service delivery and promote development across the district.

Endorsed by the Honourable Mayor, Councillor T.E. Mthembu, the Fun Walk served as a public demonstration of solidarity, appreciation, and support for women employees. It also offered an opportunity for participants to engage with one another outside the formal workplace setting, fostering camaraderie and a sense of community within the municipal workforce.

Following the walk, participants joined an aerobics session at the Amajuba District Disaster Management Centre. The session combined physical wellness with a message of empowerment, emphasising the importance of health, mental well-being, and work-life balance for public servants. Through this initiative, the municipality not only celebrated women’s contributions but also encouraged a culture of wellness, resilience, and personal growth.

Moreover, the event formed part of broader Women’s Month activities within the district, reflecting Amajuba District Municipality’s ongoing commitment to gender equity, employee recognition, and inclusive professional development.



Amajuba District Municipality female staff at the fun walk celebrating women in public service.



Amajuba District female staff participating in the fun walk around Section 2.



Female staff participating in aerobic exercises to promote physical wellbeing.



Female staff participating in the aerobic exercise session to promote physical wellbeing.



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AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY HOSTS SUCCESSFUL DISTRICT AIDS COUNCIL MEETING

The Amajuba District Council on AIDS (DAC), chaired by the Honourable Mayor, Councillor T.E. Mthembu, convened on 16 September 2025, bringing together government representatives, civil society partners, and sector stakeholders to review progress and strengthen coordination in the district's response to HIV, TB, and STIs.

The meeting provided an opportunity to take stock of achievements, identify gaps, and align district-level interventions with provincial and national strategic priorities. Discussions focused on improving the effectiveness of prevention campaigns, enhancing treatment and care programmes, and mobilising communities to actively participate in health initiatives.

A key outcome of the meeting was the commitment by the Office of the Premier to support the strengthening of the Civil Society Forum in Amajuba. This decision reinforced the district's alignment with provincial initiatives and highlighted the importance of ensuring that local interventions complement the strategic priorities set by the Provincial Council on AIDS (PCA). It also emphasised the need for a coordinated, inclusive, and community-driven response that empowers residents to take an active role in safeguarding their health.

The meeting further highlighted the critical role of functional local structures, including Civil Society Forums and Local AIDS Councils, in promoting accountability, sustaining community mobilisation, and advancing strategic campaigns such as Close the Gap. Participants discussed innovative approaches to increase awareness, improve access to testing and treatment services, and support vulnerable groups, including women, youth, and key populations most affected by HIV and TB.

The Honourable Mayor, Cllr Mthembu commended the collaborative spirit of all attendees, noting that strong partnerships between government departments, civil society, and community leaders are essential for achieving measurable improvements in public health outcomes. He reiterated the municipality's commitment to creating a supportive environment where prevention, treatment, and care efforts are accessible to all residents.



Members of the District AIDS Council (DAC).



Special Programmes Manager, Mrs Pinky Mabele.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu.



Department of Education representative from the Amajuba District Head Office.

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY MAYOR, COUNCILLOR T.E. MTHEMBU HANDS OVER R167,000 WORTH OF RAW MATERIALS TO LOCAL CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS

On 23 September 2025, His Worship the Mayor of Amajuba District Municipality, Councillor T.E. Mthembu, officially handed over R167,000 worth of raw materials to 20 small-scale manufacturers of detergents at the Amajuba Chemical Hub in Madadeni.

This strategic intervention, driven by the municipality's Local Economic Development Unit in partnership with the Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs Department (EDTEA) and Ithala, aimed to strengthen the district's growing chemical industry by increasing production capacity and enhancing the competitiveness of small-scale chemical businesses. The initiative formed part of a broader effort to stimulate local economic growth, create sustainable employment, and support the development of entrepreneurship in Amajuba District.

The handover demonstrated tangible impacts on the local economy, with one beneficiary company already having created 15 job opportunities. By providing raw materials, the municipality enabled these small-scale enterprises to scale up production, improve product quality, and expand their market reach, ultimately contributing to household income generation and community upliftment.

Through this initiative, the mayor actively supported small-scale chemical manufacturers by expanding the Hub's laboratory services and offering technical and compliance assistance to producers of detergents, perfumes, paints, and other related chemical products. The intervention also reinforced skills development, as entrepreneurs received guidance on best practices, quality standards, and production efficiency, equipping them with the tools to sustainably grow their businesses.

Councillor T.E. Mthembu emphasised that the programme formed part of the municipality's broader strategy to position Amajuba as a key centre for chemical sector growth. He highlighted that supporting small-scale manufacturers not only strengthened local industries but also promoted inclusive economic development, enabling residents to benefit directly from municipal and provincial economic interventions.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, and LED Manager, Mr Mondli Mlangeni, photographed with beneficiaries.



Raw material handed over to small-scale manufacturers of detergents.



AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY HAS A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY AGAINST FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

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AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY MAYOR CELEBRATES SENIOR CITIZENS' SUCCESS AT THE 2025 GOLDEN GAMES

On 29 September 2025, His Worship, the Mayor of Amajuba District Municipality, Councillor T.E. Mthembu, officially welcomed back the senior citizens of the district at a formal ceremony held in the Council Chambers. The event celebrated the outstanding achievements of Amajuba's senior athletes at the 2025 Golden Games.

Competing across a variety of sporting codes against representatives from 11 districts in KwaZulu-Natal, Amajuba District's senior athletes secured an impressive second-place finish. The team proudly presented their trophy to the Honourable Mayor, marking a moment of pride and recognition for the district.

The athletes' exceptional performance also earned them the opportunity to represent KwaZulu-Natal at the National Golden Games which was scheduled for October 2025 in the Western Cape Province. This milestone provided the senior athletes with a platform to showcase Amajuba District's vibrant sporting spirit and the dedication of its older citizens on a national stage.

During the ceremony, Mayor Mthembu extended heartfelt congratulations to each athlete, praising their commitment, perseverance, and discipline. He emphasised that their achievements reflected the district's strong culture of promoting active lifestyles among senior citizens and encouraged them to continue inspiring their peers through sports and community involvement.

The Mayor further highlighted the role of structured recreational programmes, like the Golden Games, in fostering social cohesion, improving physical and mental well-being, and celebrating the contributions of older citizens to the district. He reaffirmed the municipality's commitment to supporting senior citizen initiatives and ensuring that they remain active, engaged, and empowered in all aspects of community life.

The ceremony concluded with a group photo and a round of applause, honouring the athletes for their remarkable accomplishments and wishing them success as they prepared to compete at the national level, carrying Amajuba District's flag with pride and distinction.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, celebrating the district's Senior Citizens team win at the 2025 Golden Games.



Amajuba District Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, photographed with the district Senior Citizens team.

CLIMATE ACTION: SMALL ACTIONS FOR A BIG IMPACT!

Conserve water | Plant Trees |
Save Energy | Reduce Waste



AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY CELEBRATED HERITAGE MONTH

In keeping with the national theme for 2025, “Reimagine our heritage institutions for a new era,” Amajuba District Municipality commemorated the nation’s diverse cultural heritage with a vibrant display of unity to wrap up Heritage Month.

Drawing on the theme, which emphasised the importance of relying on our heritage as a strong foundation to build a future that was dynamic, socially responsive, technologically innovative and economically inclusive, Amajuba District Municipality reflected on how its heritage continued to guide service delivery and community development.

This commitment was brought to life through a bring-and-share session where employees showcased traditional foods, attire and other cultural expressions that highlighted the diversity within the institution. The celebration served as a reminder that unity in diversity was a source of strength for both the workplace and the broader community.

Speaking at the event, the Honourable Mayor, Councillor T.E. Mthembu, reaffirmed the municipality’s commitment to the quality provision of essential services such as water and sanitation, ensuring that service delivery remained rooted in values of inclusivity, respect and heritage.

Adding to the Mayor’s words, the Acting Municipal Manager, Mrs A.N. Dlamini, emphasised that the celebration was not only about honouring traditions but also about recognising the role of heritage in shaping responsive governance. She highlighted that the Municipality’s workforce embodied the values of resilience, inclusivity and respect, which are critical in building stronger communities.



Acting Municipal Manager, Mrs A.N. Dlamini, attending the Heritage Day celebrations of Amajuba District Municipality.



Staff embracing different cultural traditions at the Heritage Day celebrations.



Planning and Development admin officer, Ms Thembi Nkomo, and Director, Mr Thubelihle Buthelezi.



Planning and Development Team showcasing the diverse cultures within the institution.

Be Prepared, Stay Safe! Report Floods, Fires, & related Emergencies to the Disaster Management Call Centre at 034 329 7400



AMAJUBA DISTRICT CIVIL SOCIETY ELECTIONS OFFICIALLY CONCLUDED WITH SUCCESS

The Amajuba District Civil Society Elections have successfully concluded, marking a significant step in strengthening participatory governance while fostering effective collaboration between local government and civil society across the district.

Following a two-day process held on 2 and 3 October 2025, an interim representative leadership collective comprising the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Resource Mobiliser and Organiser was elected. This outcome establishes a structured and inclusive interim platform through which civil society can engage constructively in advancing development priorities throughout Amajuba.

The newly elected interim leadership is as follows:

- Chairperson: Nkosikhona Hlophe (Traditional Health Practitioners)
- Deputy Chairperson: Mbali Ndlela (Human Rights Sector)
- Secretary: Manqoba Mncwango (Research Sector)
- Deputy Secretary: Ntombi Mathabela (Higher Education Sector)
- Organiser: Vusi Kunene (Religious Sector)
- Resource Mobiliser: Katlego Mahlobo (LGBTQI Sector)

Notably, the elections were administered by the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) in accordance with established procedures. Additionally, the elections were supported by the Office of the Premier, thereby ensuring that the process was conducted with transparency, fairness, and integrity. Moreover, reflecting the municipality's ongoing support for civil society structures that facilitate inclusive participation and responsive governance, the proceedings were attended by the Deputy Mayor of Amajuba District Municipality, Councillor I.S. Sithole, and the Acting Municipal Manager, Mrs. Dlamini.

Amajuba District Municipality extended its best wishes to the newly elected interim leadership. Their role will be pivotal in consolidating efforts to combat HIV, TB, and sexually transmitted infections, while ensuring that communities remain at the centre of implementation in line with the National Strategic Plan, the Provincial Implementation Plan, and the Multi-Sectoral District Implementation Plan.



Newly elected leadership of the Amajuba District Civil Society Forum.



Members of the Amajuba District Civil Society Forum attending the forum elections.

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY MAYOR, COUNCILLOR T.E. MTHEMBU, SUPPORTED TRANSPORT MONTH CAMPAIGN

On 8 October 2025, His Worship, the Honourable Mayor of Amajuba District Municipality, Councillor T.E. Mthembu, joined by the Honourable Councillor Hlatshwayo, Portfolio Chairperson for Community Services at Newcastle Local Municipality, participated in a Transport Month roadblock operation held at Drycut along the P483 road.

The operation, led by Newcastle Municipality’s traffic officers, formed part of the ongoing Transport Month activities aimed at promoting road safety and ensuring that motorists complied with Road Traffic Inspectorate (RTI) regulations.

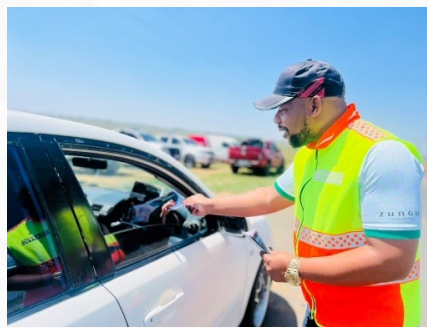
During the operation, officers conducted routine vehicle checks, driver’s licence verifications, and searches to ensure compliance with road safety standards. Additionally, traffic fines were issued for various violations, including unroadworthy vehicles, expired licence discs, and vehicle overloading.

Notably, this initiative came at a critical time when KwaZulu-Natal had seen a series of tragic scholar transport accidents, including recent incidents that claimed the lives of schoolchildren and left several others injured. This event sought to highlight the urgent need for safer transport practices and heightened vigilance on the roads.

His Worship, the Mayor, Councillor T.E. Mthembu, expressed the district leadership’s concern over the rising number of road accidents involving learners and emphasised the importance of collective responsibility in preventing such tragedies. He further urged all motorists, particularly those involved in scholar transport, to prioritise safety, maintain roadworthy vehicles, and adhere strictly to traffic laws.



Newcastle Traffic Enforcement during the Transport Month roadblock operation along the P483 road.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, participating in the roadblock operation as part of the district's Transport Month activations.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, photographed with Cllr Hlatshwayo at the roadblock along the P483 road.

**Disaster Emergency Numbers
Be Disaster Wise! Know Who to Call in Emergencies!**

Mshengu Otty Tshabalala	083 6041 904
Mzuwandile Xaba	071 7626 351
Muzi Zikalala	064 6745 764
Thulani Zwane (Supporting Newcastle Local Municipality)	076 8564 445
Thabo Mndebele (Supporting eMadlangeni Local Municipality)	083 2303 643
Bafana Nkosi (Supporting Dannhauser Local Municipality)	082 7775 880



AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY AND KZN COGTA STRENGTHENED COLLABORATION THROUGH SUCCESSFUL DDM WORKSHOP

As part of ongoing efforts to enhance service delivery and promote integrated development across the district, Amajuba District Municipality, in partnership with the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta), successfully hosted a District Development Model (DDM) Workshop.

The workshop served as a platform for key stakeholders to engage on critical issues related to the establishment and effective functioning of clusters and hubs, which formed a vital part of the DDM framework. Discussions focused on implementation strategies, clearly defined roles and responsibilities, and setting targets and deadlines to ensure improved coordination and accountability within the district.

A significant part of the programme included a presentation on the integration of Operation Sukuma Sakhe (OSS) and the District Development Model, highlighting the importance of aligning these two strategic initiatives to strengthen community development and responsive governance. The session drew strong participation from government departments, representatives from the business community, and public entities, underscoring a shared commitment to inclusive development and collaborative governance.

In her remarks, HOD Champion Mrs. Barbara Mgutshini outlined the objectives of the workshop and emphasized the need for collective effort in implementing the DDM.

Speaking at the workshop, District Champion and Mayor of Amajuba, His Worship Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu, called for action-oriented collaboration, stressing that the time had come to move beyond identifying challenges and to focus on implementing practical, sustainable solutions. He reaffirmed that the DDM was a vital mechanism for coordinated planning, resource optimization, and improved service delivery across all spheres of government.

Adding to the discussions, Mr. Thubelihle Buthelezi, Director for Amajuba District Planning and Development Services, presented the adopted Amajuba One Plan, which included catalytic projects designed to accelerate economic growth, infrastructure development, and social upliftment within the district.

Furthermore to a close, the Amajuba District Acting Municipal Manager, Mrs. A.N. Dlamini, used the platform and encouraged all participants to work together and have a shared vision to build the district. She emphasized that “Everyone has a role to play. In this way, the District Development Model (DDM) would grow and continue to deliver meaningful change.”

The workshop concluded successfully, with all participants reaffirming their commitment to strengthening intergovernmental cooperation and ensuring that the District Development Model continued to serve as a driving force for sustainable and people-centred development in Amajuba.



Ms Nonduduzo Mazibuko, a representative from the Department of COGTA, attended the Amajuba DDM workshop.



Different government departments attended the Amajuba DDM workshop.



Amajuba District Municipality Acting Municipal Manager, Mrs Nandi Dlamini, and His Worship the Mayor, Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu.

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY STRENGTHENED SERVICE DELIVERY THROUGH PROVINCIAL FORUM

The Provincial Service Delivery Forum, hosted from 9–10 October 2025 at the Emphelandaba Council Chamber in Amajuba District Municipality, officially concluded, following robust discussions aimed at enhancing the service delivery agenda throughout KwaZulu-Natal.

The forum brought together representatives from the Office of the Premier, multiple departments, and local municipalities, inviting meaningful dialogue on strategies that could improve efficiency in government.

Notably, the discussions concentrated on developing an effective plan to improve coordination, address issues with service delivery, and strengthen systems for resolving public complaints.

Additionally, the two-day forum featured presentations highlighting progress made in key sectors, while also identifying areas that required specific attention to ensure government responsiveness in the delivery of basic services.

Moreover, the forum emphasised the importance of establishing practical mechanisms for managing public complaints, to prevent public dissatisfaction by improving turnaround times and accountability. Improved communication between departments and district municipalities was also highlighted as a key enabler of sustainable service delivery.

Acknowledging the progress achieved and the need for ongoing collaboration, the forum concluded that the Provincial Service Delivery Forum would henceforth convene on a quarterly basis. This decision was intended to support continuous monitoring, evaluation, and the sharing of best practices across the province.



Members of the newly established Provincial Service Delivery Forum attending the first meeting held at Emphalandaba Council Chamber.



Newcastle Municipality Customer Care Manager, Mr Mthandeni Myende.

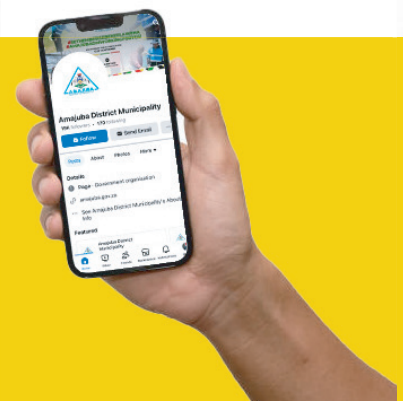


Amajuba District Municipality Speaker of Council, Cllr uMntwana S.O. Zulu, and officials from the Office of the Premier.

UMnyango wezokuXhumana (Communication) uMasipala Wesifunda sase-Amajuba

Siyigunya lezokuxhumana – siletha ulwazi oluthembekile, olunembile nolufinyeleleka emphakathini.

Xhumana nathi ukuze uhlale unolwazi ngezinhlelo kanye nemicimbi kamasipala.



AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY HOSTED WATER RESOURCE AWARENESS PROGRAMME AT DURNACOL COMBINED SCHOOL

In an effort to empower the youth with crucial knowledge about water and environmental conservation, and infrastructure safety, Amajuba District Municipality, in partnership with the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA), the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, and the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), hosted a Water Resource Awareness Programme at Durnacol Combined School. The event targeted Grade 8 and 9 learners and educators, equipping them with educational materials to support their learning.

The programme was also attended by the Amajuba District Municipality Deputy Mayor, Cllr Shaka Sithole, who is also the Engineering Portfolio Chairperson.

The day began with a warm welcome from the delegated school-teacher, followed by presentations and interactive discussions led by experts. During each session, learners were asked thought-provoking questions to test their understanding of the topic.

This educational initiative demonstrated the commitment of Amajuba District Municipality and its partners to inspire the district's youth to play an active role in conserving water and protecting the environment.



Ms Z. Makwabasa from the Department of Water and Sanitation did a "My Water is Your Water" presentation.



From the left: Mr T Shandu, Director of Engineering Services; Ms L Majola; Amajuba Deputy Cllr I. S Sithole; Ms S Simelane; and Mr S Zondo.



Ms N. Sibiya from the Department of EDTEA did an Environmental Empowerment Management Services presentation.

Office of the Speaker – Amajuba District Municipality

Committed to ensuring transparency, accountability, and active civic participation in governance.

Your voice matters in shaping a better community. For inquiries and assistance, please visit our office or contact us at 034 328 7400



AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NEWCASTLE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, HOSTED NSC 2025 EXAMINATION PRAYER

In a joint effort to inspire and motivate the Class of 2025, Amajuba District Municipality, in partnership with Newcastle Local Municipality, hosted a National Senior Certificate (NSC) Examination Prayer Session on 16 October 2025 at Siyamkela High School.

The event, led by His Worship the Honourable Mayor of Amajuba District Municipality, Councillor T.E. Mthembu, brought together more than 500 Grade 12 learners from schools across the Amajuba District. The event sought to provide spiritual and moral support as learners prepared to sit for their final examinations, which officially commenced on 20 October 2025.

Amajuba District has built a strong reputation for academic excellence, with a 2024 pass rate that placed it 10th in the country and 2nd in KwaZulu-Natal. This year's prayer session, led by prayers from local faith leaders, educators, and district leadership, encouraged learners to keep that momentum alive and reach new heights in the 2025 NSC exams.

Speaking at the event, Councillor Thembelihle Mthembu used the occasion to call on learners to value education as a powerful tool for transforming their lives and communities, echoing the wisdom of the late Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi, who consistently championed education as the foundation of progress and self-empowerment.

Sharing similar sentiments, the Acting Municipal Manager of Amajuba District Municipality, Mrs. A.N. Dlamini, encouraged learners to work diligently and dream boldly, noting that with hard work and perseverance, there were no limits to what they could achieve. She expressed hope that in the future, learners from the district would pursue studies at world-renowned institutions, including Ivy League universities such as Harvard University.

Amajuba District remained confident that the Class of 2025 would continue the district's tradition of academic excellence and represent the region with pride on the provincial and national stage.

The district further extended its best wishes to all learners as they prepared to sit for their final examinations, trusting that their hard work and dedication would yield outstanding results.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, photographed with Newcastle Municipality Council Speaker, Cllr uMntwana S.O. Zulu.



Siyamkela High School Headmaster pictured with councillors at the Class of 2025 Examination Prayer.



Municipal stakeholders attending the Class of 2025 Examination Prayer.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, giving key remarks at the Class of 2025 Examination Prayer.



Learners during the Class of 2025 Examination Prayer.

R2 MILLION ALLOCATED FOR THE DANNHAUSER COMMUNITY BOREHOLE WATER SUPPLY PROJECT AS AMAUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY MAYOR SIGNS MOA WITH IKWEZI MINE (PTY) LTD

His Worship, the Honourable Mayor of Amajuba District Municipality, Councillor T.E. Mthembu, officially signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Ikwezi Mine (Pty) Ltd for the installation of boreholes in Wards 4, 5, and 7 under Dannhauser Local Municipality. The project, executed by Ikwezi Mine, had a total budget allocation of R2 million and is set to be completed within 24 months upon approval.

The signing of the MoA addressed longstanding water infrastructure challenges in Dannhauser and established a strategic public-private partnership, leveraging private sector expertise and resources to improve water accessibility, reduce reliance on temporary water tanker services, and provide residents with a more reliable and sustainable water supply.

Ikwezi Mining proudly formalized a Memorandum of Understanding with Amajuba District Municipality to tackle water scarcity by delivering safe, clean drinking water to underserved areas such as Dannhauser. This partnership demonstrated how responsible mining could unlock shared value and transform communities. Speaking at the signing ceremony, the Honourable Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, emphasized that such partnerships were critical in realizing the goals of the District Development Model (DDM), which promotes integrated planning and cooperative governance. He noted that, together, such collaborations amplified the positive impact of mining on Sustainable Development Goal 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and Sustainable Development Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

In addition to this significant infrastructure investment, Ikwezi Mine donated soccer kits to the Amajuba District Sports Confederation through the Youth, Sports, and Culture Development Office, further demonstrating their commitment to community development and youth empowerment.



Management of Amajuba District Municipality, led by the Hon. Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, photographed with the executive team of Ikwezi Mine at the MOA signing ceremony.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu.



Amajuba District Municipality Acting Municipal Manager, Mrs A.N. Dlamini.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, with the CEO of Ikwezi Mine.

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL SPEAKER, CLLR UMNTWANA S.O. ZULU, ATTENDED MLAMLELI PRIMARY SCHOOL PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY

The Honourable Council Speaker of Amajuba District Municipality, Cllr uMntwana S.O. Zulu, attended the Mlamleli Primary School Academic Prize-Giving Ceremony on 4 November 2025.

As part of his support for the event, the Honourable Speaker sponsored several trophies and certificate frames to recognise learners' outstanding academic achievements.

This initiative followed the Class of 2025 NSC Examination Prayer Session hosted by the Municipality in October and further demonstrated the institution's continued commitment to promoting education and academic excellence within the district.

Moreover, the Honourable Speaker's participation reflected the leadership's dedication to advancing the value of education, in keeping with the legacy of the late uMntwana wakwaPhindangene, Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi, who championed education as a cornerstone of empowerment and progress.

During the ceremony, Cllr Zulu encouraged learners to continue striving for excellence, reminded them of the importance of discipline and perseverance, and highlighted the role of education in shaping their future opportunities. He also thanked educators and parents for their dedication to nurturing young minds and fostering a culture of learning within the school and the broader community.



Amajuba District Municipality Council Speaker, Cllr uMntwana S.O. Zulu, with the Headmaster of Mlamuleli Primary School.

MPAC MEMBERS AND MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT CONDUCTED SITE VISIT TO EMADLANGENI AND DANNHAUSER

The Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC), accompanied by the Municipal to MANCO, embarked on a two-day visit to eMadlangeni and Dannhauser, as part of their oversight responsibilities. The delegation concluded their site visit after inspecting the upgrades of four newly constructed booster pump stations, which are part of the Municipality's COVID-19 Intervention Project.

These projects aimed to enhance water supply reliability in Dannhauser and eMadlangeni areas. The upgrades included the installation of backup generators, the construction of new pump stations, the building of reservoirs, and the upgrading of water infrastructure.

Despite the progress made, the committee noted that challenges such as cable theft, infrastructure vandalism, and illegal connections persisted, threatening the integrity of the projects. These issues were noted as requiring urgent attention and collective action.

Additionally, the MPAC and municipal management expressed their commitment to addressing these challenges and ensuring the successful implementation of the projects. They also commended the efforts of the projects team and contractors for their work in improving water supply infrastructure in the area.

The visit served as an opportunity for the MPAC and TOP MANCO to engage with local stakeholders, assess the project's progress, and identify areas for improvement. The findings and recommendations from the visit will inform future interventions and ensure that the municipality's water supply infrastructure was robust, reliable, and met the needs of the community.



Amajuba District MPAC members during their site visits to Utrecht.



Cllr uMntwana Ndabezitha Zulu and Cllr Masondo, Director of Engineering Services, Mr T Shandu, explain the Braakfontein Reservoir and steps to be taken.



Amajuba District MPAC members and senior managers inspecting a valve.



AMAJUBA DISTRICT CELEBRATED WELLNESS AND UNITY THROUGH ISUKILE PROGRAMME

The Amajuba District Municipality recently supported the iSukile Programme at the Arbor Park Sports Field in Newcastle, with a focus on promoting holistic wellness and community engagement. The event, themed “Building an Active and Healthy KZN,” brought together locals to encourage healthy living, social unity, and community involvement.

Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu, welcomed the Member of the Executive Council (MEC) for Sport, Arts, and Culture, Mr. Mntomuhle Khawula, and emphasized the importance of collaboration in advancing the wellness agenda. MEC Khawula stressed the importance of joint efforts, stating, “We are committed to creating an environment that encourages communities to adopt healthy lifestyles. The iSukile Programme was a shining example of how government, communities, and stakeholders worked together to promote wellness and social cohesion.”

The event featured a range of sports and cultural activities, including rugby, football, netball, aerobics, and indigenous games, as well as a rainbow show and local food options. These activities promoted physical well-being, social interaction, and cultural exchange.

“We aimed to inspire a culture of wellness, unity, and social cohesion, which were crucial to the development of our district,” said Mayor Mthembu. MEC Khawula added, “The iSukile Programme demonstrated how collective efforts could promote wellness and social cohesion, ultimately creating a healthier and more united society.”



MEC for Sport, Mr Mtomuhle Khawula, dancing with an Isukile participant on stage.



MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture, Mtomuhle Khawula, and Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu, during a briefing prior to the main event.



Participants at the Isukile programme.



TOURISM SMMEs EMPOWERED THROUGH SUCCESSFUL HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING WORKSHOP

The Amajuba District Municipality, in collaboration with the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism, and Environmental Affairs (KZN EDTEA) and the Department of Tourism, successfully hosted a two-day workshop on Occupational Health and Safety Norms and Standards for Safe Tourism Operations. The event, which took place on 4–5 November 2025 at the Newcastle Inn Hotel, formed part of the Tourism Sector Recovery Plan (TSRP) initiatives aimed at empowering SMMEs within the tourism sector.

The workshop brought together SMMEs from across the district to equip them with critical knowledge and skills to ensure their tourism businesses complied with health and safety measures. The program focused on universal practices that the tourism sector had to adhere to, fostering consensus on these practices and emphasizing the importance of compliance with health interventions in daily operations.

Participants gained a deeper understanding of the importance of adhering to minimum universal practices to enhance safety and trust within the tourism sector. They also learned about the role of consensus in establishing industry-wide standards for safe tourism operations and the responsibility of tourism business operators in ensuring compliance with occupational health and safety measures.

The event marked a significant step towards the recovery and sustainability of the tourism sector, particularly in the Amajuba District. By prioritizing health and safety, the initiative aimed to rebuild trust among tourists and stakeholders, ultimately contributing to the revitalization of the local tourism economy.

The Department of Tourism, together with its partners, remained committed to supporting SMMEs and ensuring the sector's resilience and sustainability through targeted initiatives like this training.



Tourism business owners at the Tourism SMMEs empowerment workshop.

Community Services – Amajuba District Municipality

Dedicated to improving the quality of life for all residents through essential services and community-based initiatives.

Together, we create a stronger, healthier community.
For more information or assistance, visit our office.

Visit us at: www.amajuba.gov.za

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY HOSTED SUCCESSFUL SUMMER SEASON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

19 November 2025

Amajuba District Municipality, in partnership with eMadlangeni Local Municipality, successfully hosted the Summer Season Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity Building Workshop at the Utrecht Town Hall. The Deputy Mayor, Councillor I. S. Sithole, the Council Speaker, Councillor uMntwana S. O. Zulu, and District Councillors played an active role throughout the programme, driving efforts to strengthen community preparedness and resilience.

The primary objective of the workshop was to empower residents, traditional leaders, and Disaster Management Volunteers with essential information on safety precautions, early warning systems, and preparedness for common seasonal hazards such as severe storms, lightning strikes, flooding, veld fires, and drowning incidents.

Additionally, key players such as the South African Red Cross Society, the Provincial Disaster Management Centre, the South African Weather Service, and SAPS Search and Rescue offered practical guidance on raising risk awareness and strengthening response capabilities.



Amajuba District Municipality Deputy Mayor, Cllr I.S. Sithole.



Amajuba District Municipality Councillors, Cllr Mgoza and Cllr Langa.



Amajuba District Municipality Council Speaker, Cllr uMntwana S.O. Zulu.



Inkosi Mbaso photographed with Emadlangeni Local Municipality Municipal Manager at the Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity Building Workshop.



Amajuba District Municipality Community Services Director, Mr Thabo Xaba.

MAYOR OF AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY SUPPORTED THE SOUTH AFRICAN RED CROSS SOCIETY & ESKOM DISASTER RELIEF DISTRIBUTION IN EMADLANGENI

13 November 2025

In response to recent disasters caused by severe weather across the Amajuba region, the South African Red Cross Society (SARCS), in partnership with Eskom, distributed humanitarian relief supplies to affected families in Emadlangeni.

The Disaster Relief Distribution Programme, held at the Emadlangeni Emergency Services Centre, was supported by the Honourable Mayor of Amajuba District Municipality, Councillor Thembelihle Mthembu; the Mayor of Emadlangeni Local Municipality, Councillor M.L. Buthelezi; and Her Excellency Mrs Mashatile, who joined hands to assist households that had been impacted by storms, flooding, and strong winds.

Through joint assessments, close to 50 beneficiaries were identified and prioritised for immediate assistance. Each household received foam mattresses, kitchen sets (including a two-plate electric stove, utensils, kettle, and bowls), blankets, and basic food parcels to support them as they recovered and rebuilt after the disasters.

The programme further aimed to reinforce the importance of collaboration through the District Development Model (DDM), strengthen disaster response, and promote resilience within communities.

Recognising the critical role of partnership, the Honourable Mayor, Councillor T.E. Mthembu, applauded SARCS and Eskom for their continued partnership, noting that collective action was essential to building resilient, self-reliant communities.

Furthermore, Mr Takalo, CEO of SARCS, commended Amajuba District Municipality for maintaining an effective Disaster Management Centre that enabled rapid coordination and response during emergencies.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, photographed with Emadlangeni Local Municipality Mayor, Cllr M.L. Buthelezi, local SAPS officials, and a SARCS representative.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu.



Disaster relief materials donated by SARCS and Eskom.

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY ORDINARY COUNCIL MET TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNANCE AND SERVICE DELIVERY

24 November 2025

The Amajuba District Municipality Ordinary Council convened in terms of Section 29 (1) of the Municipal Structures Act, No. 117 of 1998, as amended (03 November 2021), to deliberate on critical reports and progress made across the district. Chaired by the Speaker of Council, Cllr uMntwana S. O. Zulu, the meeting served as a key governance platform where councillors, traditional leaders, and senior municipal officials gathered to guide the municipality's development agenda and ensure improved service delivery for communities.

The session focused on core matters affecting the district, including infrastructure development, service delivery performance, financial management, and community welfare initiatives. With the leadership of the Mayor, Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu, supported by the Acting Municipal Manager, Mrs Nandi Dlamini, the council reinforced its commitment to transparency, accountability, and responsible governance.

A major emphasis was placed on strengthening financial management systems to safeguard the institution's sustainability. Council highlighted the urgent need to fully align with the Supply Chain Management (SCM) processes to ensure compliance and efficiency in procurement. Members further stressed the importance of spending the MICE Grant as allocated, warning that failure to do so could result in significant financial losses during upcoming national budget adjustments.

Concerns were also raised regarding revenue management, with the council calling for the establishment of stronger mechanisms to collect revenue from communities. As the municipality continued to provide essential services, it faced challenges in sustaining operations due to limited returns. Council underscored the need for a structured system that enabled effective revenue collection to support service delivery and institutional stability.

Given the current financial climate, the municipality acknowledged the necessity of controlling expenditure. To support this, the council proposed the establishment of an internal finance committee that would guide financially sound decision-making and ensure that available resources contributed directly to providing services to the people.

In addition, the Engineering Services Department presented its festive peak season contingency plan, aimed at ensuring uninterrupted service delivery and rapid response to emergencies during the high-demand holiday period.

Through collaborative discussions and strategic decision-making, the Ordinary Council reaffirmed its dedication to improving the quality of life for residents of Amajuba District. With strong leadership and a united vision, the municipality remained committed to driving progress, enhancing governance, and delivering meaningful services to communities across the district.



Amajuba District Municipality Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu.



From left: Acting Municipal Manager, Mrs A.N. Dlamini; Council Speaker, uMntwana S.O. Zulu; and Honourable Mayor, Cllr T.E. Mthembu.



Amajuba District Councillor Myaka at the Hybrid Council Meeting.

"SAVE WATER, SECURE THE FUTURE"

REPORT BURST PIPES & WATER LEAKS TO THE MUNICIPAL WATER & SANITATION CALL CENTRE ON:

034 329 7400

ISIFUNDA AMAJUBA SITHATHE IZINYATHELO ZOKUHLANZA NGAPHAMBI KWE-WORKSHOP YOKUQWASHISA NGEZINHLEKELE ZASEHLOBO

Emizamweni eqhubekayo yokuzana ukuqina ezokuphepha komphakathi nokukhuthaza izindawo zokuhlala eziphephile, uMasipala Wesifunda Amajuba, ngaphansi kobuholi bukaMeya uKhansela uThembelihle Mthembu, ubambisene noMasipala Wendawo waseMadlangeni oholwa nguMeya uKhansela uMzwakhe Buthelezi ukuqala umkhankaso omkhulu wokuhlaza eMadlangeni. Lo mkhankaso, obanjwe ngaphansi kwesiqubulo esinamandla esithi “Fund Resilience, Not Disasters,” wawu yingxenye yokulungiselela i-Workshop ezayo yokuqwashisa ngezinhlekelele zasehlobo.

Lo mkhankaso uhlanganise amaqembu kamasipala, uhlaka olubanzi lokuphathwa kwezinhlekelele, kanye namalungu omphakathi wendawo ukuze kubuyiselwe ukuhlanzeka ezindaweni zomphakathi, kusulwe izingozi ezingaba khona zezikhukhula, futhi kuphakanyiswe ulwazi mayelana nemikhuba yemvelo eqhubekayo. Lesi senzo sokubambisana sibonisa ukuzibophezela okuhlanganyelayo komasipala bobabili ukunciphisa izingozi zezinhlekelele; ikakhulukazi ezindaweni ezisengozini yezikhukhula kanye nezimo zezulu ezimbi.

UMeya uMthembu ugcizelele ukuthi ukuqina kuqala ngokubandakanyeka komphakathi okusebenzayo, ephawula ukuthi indawo ehlanzekile idlala indima ebalulekile ekunciphiseni imiphumela yenhlekelele. UMeya uButhelezi uphinde washo la mazwi, ebonga izakhamuzi ngokubamba iqhaza nokugqamisa ukubaluleka kobunye ekuvikeleni inhlalakahle yemiphakathi yasendaweni.

Inhloso enkulu yalo, umkhankaso wokuhlaza uhlanganisa ukuzinikela okuhlangene ekuvikeleni izimpilo, ukukhuthaza ukuphepha, kanye nokuqinisa ukulungela inhlekelele. Ngokubambisana, ukubamba iqhaza kwezakhamuzi okusebenzayo, kanye nokugxila ezindleleni zokuvimbela, iSifunda Amajuba kanye noMasipala Wendawo waseMadlangeni bayaqhubeka nokusekela umbono wokwakha imiphakathi eqinile, ephhephile, eqinile ndawonye.



Izisebenzi zikamasipala wase Madlangeni ezingaphansi kohlelo lwe EPWP ngesikhathi ziyingxenye yokukhuculula idolobha lazo.



Sekuqoqwa imfucuzo ngemumva kokukhucululwa kwedolobha.



Izisebenzi zezenhlekelele zase Madlangeni kanye naku Masipala Amajuba.

CLIMATE ACTION: SMALL ACTIONS FOR A BIG IMPACT!

Conserve water | Plant Trees |
Save Energy | Reduce Waste



BABEKWE EQHULWINI ABAPHILA NOKUKHUBAZEKA KWISIFUNDA AMAJUBA

Isekela Meya uKhansela Shaka Sithole ehambisana no Ngqongqoshe woMnyango Wezokuthuthukiswa Komphakathi, uNksz Mbali Shinga, mhlaka, 20 kuLwezi 2025, uthathe indawo ephambili kwisifunda Amajuba ukusingatha umcimbi obaluleke kakhulu iNyanga Yokuqwashisa Ngamalungelo kubantu abaphila nokukhubazeka (i-DRAM). Lo mcimbi ububanjelwe ehholo lomphakathi lase-Annieville, lapho amalungu omphakathi abuthene khona ukuzogubha nokuzindla ngezinyathelo uMnyango ozenzile ekubandakanyeni bonke abantu abakhubazekile.

Isihloko salo nyaka, “Ukudala Ubambiswano Olunezinhlalo Eziningi Zomphakathi Wokukhubazeka,” asisho nje ukuthi siyinto ekhangayo; siyisibizo esinamandla sokwenza okuthile esigcizelela indima ebalulekile yokubambisana ekwakheni indawo lapho abantu abakhubazekile bangachuma khona. Isihloko sisebenza njengesikhumbuzo somthwalo wemfanelo esihlanganyela sonke ekukhuthazeni amalungelo kanye nokubamba iqhaza okusebenzayo kwabantu abakhubazekile kuzo zonke izici zokuphila.

Enkulumweni yakhe, uNgqongqoshe uShinga uveze ukuthi iNyanga Yokuqwashisa Ngamalungelo Okukhubazeka akufanele ithathwe njengophawu nje; kunalokho, ime njengesikhumbuzo esijulile sikazwelonke samalungelo ayisisekelo anawo wonke umuntu okhubazekile. Umemezele ukuthi abantu abakhubazekile akufanele nje babe nokufinyelela amathuba kodwa kufanele bazizwe bamukelekile futhi benamandla okuzibandakanya ngokugcwele ezicini ezahlukene zomphakathi; kungaba imfundo, umsebenzi, noma imisebenzi yomphakathi.

“Njengabaholi, kumele siqinisekise ukuthi akekho oshiywa ngemuva nokuthi wonke umuntu uthola ukuvikelwa okulinganayo ngaphansi koMthethosisekelo,” kusho yena. Izwi likaNgqongqoshe uShinga lathinta kakhulu izilaleli, likhuthaza ukuzibophezela okuhlanganyelwe ekubandakanyekeni nasekumeleni amalungelo.

Ngesikhathi somcimbi, uNgqongqoshe uphinde wasebenzisa ithuba lokuxhumana ngokunenjongo namalungu omphakathi mayelana nokusebenzisana kwakhe kwakamuva neMkhandlu Wokukhubazeka waKwaZulu-Natali osanda kukhethwa. Wabelane ngombono ohlangene kanye nokuzibophezela okungaguquki ubuholi bomkhandlu obunakho ekwenzeni izinguquko ezinengqondo esifundazweni.



Ungqongqoshe Wezokuthuthukiswa Komphakathi KwaZulu-Natal u Nkk Mbali Shinga ngesikhathi kugujwa inyanga babantu abaphila nokukhubazeka.



Obeyingxenyayo yalo mgubo.



Isekela Meya uKhansela I. S Sithole kanye ne Meya yaku Masipala wase Danawozi uKhansela Hadebe.

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY HOSTS FINAL LEG OF DISTRICT-WIDE CRIMEFIGHTING IMBIZO

28 November 2025

Amajuba District Municipality, through its Rapid Response Team under the Office of the Speaker, uMntwana Siphamandla Zulu, on 28 November 2025 hosted the concluding session of the Amajuba Crime-Fighting Imbizo. The event marked the final chapter of an extensive series of engagements that began in Dannhauser and proceeded across the district, reaffirming the government's commitment to strengthening safety, cohesion, and responsive governance.

The series of Imbizos provided an important platform for residents to voice concerns, engage leadership, and collaborate on practical solutions to the rising incidents of crime affecting communities. Each session aimed to deepen partnerships between communities, traditional leaders, government departments, law-enforcement agencies, and civil society structures.

The final leg of the Imbizo was enriched by the presence of Inkosi M.E Mchunu from the Provincial House of Traditional Leaders, who was a guest speaker. Inkosi Mchunu emphasised that traditional leadership remains a central pillar in community safety, social stability, and the preservation of moral values. He urged communities to reclaim their neighbourhoods, support local crime-prevention initiatives, and work hand in hand with both government and law-enforcement bodies.

Speaker uMntwana Siphamandla Zulu expressed his appreciation to all traditional leaders, ward councillors, SAPS, Community Policing Forums, and residents who participated throughout the Imbizo sessions. He highlighted that the Rapid Response Team has observed valuable patterns and community insights that will inform future safety interventions, including targeted crime-prevention campaigns, youth support programmes, and strengthened law-enforcement collaborations.



Amajuba District Municipality Speaker of Council, uMntwana S.O. Zulu



SAPS officials responsible for stock theft cases in the Dannhauser area.



Amajuba District Municipality Acting Municipal Manager, Mrs A.N Dlamini



INGXOXO NGEMITHETHO YEZEZIMAYINI IQHAKAMBISA INHLALONHLE YABANTU

28 KuNcwaba 2025

UMnyango wakwaMinerals and Petroleum kanye noMasipala Wesifunda Amajuba mhlaka 28 kuNcwaba wasingatha ngempumelelo umhlangano wokuxoxisana nomphakathi ngoMthethosivivinywa Wokuthuthukiswa Kwezinsiza Zokumbiwa phansi, wezi-2025, eHholo ledolobha lase-Utrecht.

Lo mcimbi udonse abantu abaningi, amalungu omphakathi abephume ngobuningi bezofunda kabanzi ngalo mthetho ohlongozwayo futhi axoxe ngezinto ezibakhathazayo ngomthelela wezimayini ezimpilweni zawo.

Lokhu kuxoxisana kunikeze inkundla ebalulekile kumalungu omphakathi ukuthi axoxisane nababambe iqhaza, okuhlanganisa iPhini leMeya yesiFunda Amajuba, uKhansela Shaka Sithole, kanye nePhini likaNgqongqoshe uPhumzile Mgcina. Inhloso yale ngxoxo ukunikeza izakhamuzi ithuba lokufaka imibono yabo emithemthweni ezolawula izimboni emphakathini yabo.

Amalungu omphakathi anikezwe ithuba lokuphakamisa izwi lawo azwakalise ukukhathazeka kwawo mayelana nokusebenza kwabanikazi bezimayini emiphakathini yabo. Le ngxoxo evulekile nebandakanya wonke umuntu ibalulekile ekuqinisekiseni ukuthi lo mthetho ohlongozwayo uqhakambisa izidingo kanye nezifiso zabantu abazothinteka kakhulu kuwo.

UMthethosivivinywa Wokuthuthukiswa Kwemithombo Yezokumbiwa phansi, wezi-2025, uhlose ukukhuthaza izinqubo zezimayini ezinomthwalo wemfanelo, uqinisekise ukusimama kwemvelo, futhi unikeze izinzuzo emiphakathini yendawo. Ngokuxoxisana nomphakathi nabanye ababambiqhaza, umasipala ukhombisa ukuzibophezela kwawo ekwenzeni izinto obala, ukuziphendulela, kanye nokubusa okugxile kubantu.

Ukubonisana okuyimpumelelo kuyisinyathelo esibalulekile sokudala ikusasa elingcono labantu besiFunda Amajuba. Imibono eqoqiwe izokwazisa ukuthuthukiswa komthetho osebenzela izidingo zomphakathi ngempela, futhi iqinisekise ukuthi izinzuzo zezimayini zabiwa ngokulinganayo kubo bonke ababambiqhaza.



Iphini likaNgqongqoshe wezokumbiwa phansi uNkkz Phumzile Mgcina



IMeya kaMasipala eMadlangeni uKhansela Mzwakhe Buthelezi

UMASIPALA WESIFUNDA AMAJUBA WELULE ISANDLA EZINGANENI EZINEZIDINGO ZEKHETHELO

10 KuMandulo 2025

UMASIPALA wesifunda Amajuba ngaphansi kobuholi obunombono weMeya uKhansela Thembelihle Mthembu wethule uhlelo olujabulisayo lokweseka abafundi baseBumbisizwe Special School esigcemeni 5. UMasipala unikezele ngezinsiza zesikole ezibalulekile okubalwa izicathulo zesikole, okokugeza kanye nama sanitary towels ukuze kubuye isithunzi salaba bafundi abasha. Lesi senzo sigqamisa ukuzinikela kukamasipala ekudaleni indawo enemfudumalo nesekele abafundi abanezidingo ezikhethekile.

Ngokubambisana okuyimpumelelo neSeeds of Restoration NPO, eholwa nguNkk Zanele Mpungose, kanye neNjiki Edungamazi NPC, eholwa nguNkk Thando Sibeko, uMasipala Wesifunda Amajuba ukhombise amandla okusebenza ngokubambisana ekuqhubekiseni izinguquko ezinhle.

Lo mzamo wokusebenzisana ubhekana nezidingo ezisheshayo zabafundi futhi ukhombisa ukuzibophezela komphakathi ekufukuleni izingqondo ezisencane. Ngokuhlinzeka ngalezi zinsiza ezibalulekile, uMasipala kanye nalezi zihlangano ezibalwe ngenhla basiza ekwakheni indawo ebandakanya wonke umuntu lapho wonke umfundi engachuma khona futhi afinyelele amandla akhe aphelele



From the left: Umfundi, uNkk Thando Sibeko, uNkk Pinky Mabele, uNkk Zanele Mpungose kanye nozakwabo.






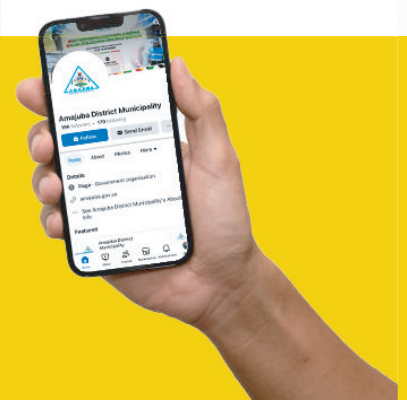
Izingane zase Bumbisizwe Combined School zamukeliswa izipho zazo.

UMnyango wezokuXhumana (Communication) uMasipala Wesifunda sase-Amajuba

Siyigunya lezokuxhumana – siletha ulwazi oluthembekile, olunembile nolufinyeleleka emphakathini.

Xhumana nathi ukuze uhlale unolwazi ngezinhlelo kanye nemicimbi kamasipala.

 Amajuba District Municipality  AmajubaDistrictMunicipality  @amajuba.district



AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY EMPOWERS COMMUNITIES THROUGH EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME

12 September 2025

The Amajuba District Municipality recently hosted a significant event, welcoming over 130 new workers to the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP). The ceremony, led by the Honourable Mayor, Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu, marked an important milestone in the municipality's efforts to create job opportunities and stimulate economic growth.

The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) is a nationwide initiative aimed at providing poverty relief and employment opportunities through the delivery of public goods and services. Launched in 2004, the program seeks to address the pressing issues of unemployment, poverty, and inequality by creating temporary work opportunities for unemployed individuals. By doing so, EPWP contributes to the development of skills, improves livelihoods, and enhances the capacity of communities to participate in the economy.

Under the leadership of His Worship the Mayor, Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu, the Amajuba District Municipality is committed to creating job opportunities and stimulating economic growth within the district. The municipality recognizes the importance of job creation in addressing poverty and inequality, and is doing its part to contribute to the national effort.

During the welcoming ceremony, the municipality distributed Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) to the new EPWP workers, underscoring its commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of its workers. The provision of PPEs is essential in preventing workplace accidents and injuries and demonstrates the municipality's prioritization of worker safety.

The Amajuba District Municipality's efforts to create job opportunities through the EPWP program are a positive step towards addressing the socio-economic challenges facing the district. As the municipality continues to implement initiatives aimed at stimulating economic growth and development, it is hoped that these efforts will have a lasting impact on the lives of residents.

By providing opportunities for employment and skills development, the Amajuba District Municipality is empowering its citizens to take an active role in the economy. As the municipality looks to the future, it is expected that initiatives like the EPWP program will continue to play a vital role in shaping the economic landscape of the district.



Male EPWP recipients with Amajuba District Mayor, Cllr Mthembu.



Female EPWP recipients with the Mayor of Amajuba, Cllr Mthembu

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY SUPPORTS YOUTH EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVES

In an effort to support and empower the youth of the Amajuba District, the Amajuba District Municipality Deputy Mayor, Cllr Shaka Sithole, was part of a two-day scouting camp that brought together children from all around the district. This camp is a crucial step in preparation for the Provincial Scouting March, organized by the Office of the Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, which will take place later this month. By promoting scouting as a movement that shapes and builds the youth of the district, the municipality is investing in the future of its young leaders.

Addressing the scouts at the camp, held at the Fort Amiel Museum in Newcastle, Deputy Mayor Sithole encouraged the young participants to be good citizens and uphold the values and teachings they've received through scouting. He urged them to apply these lessons in their daily lives, emphasizing the importance of scouting in shaping their character and future. Through initiatives like these, the Amajuba District Municipality is fostering a sense of community and leadership among its youth, setting them up for success in all areas of life.

The municipality's commitment to youth development is evident through such initiatives, which aim to nurture and empower the next generation of leaders, ensuring a brighter future for the Amajuba District.



Amajuba District Cllr L.N Zulu, Amajuba Christian Changemakers Chairperson Mr Kunene and Amajuba District Municipality Deputy Mayor Cllr Sithole.

TRANSFORMING LIVES: AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY SUPPORTS REHABILITATION INITIATIVE

04 September 2025

The 2-day programme at Waterval Prison has officially come to a close, marking a significant milestone in the journey towards rehabilitation and restorative justice. The event was a testament to the talents and creativity of the offenders, who showcased their skills through powerful poetry recitals, energetic Indlamu performances, and soulful Scathamiya singing. These artistic expressions not only highlighted their hidden talents but also served as a means of emotional release and personal growth.

Amajuba District Municipality Deputy Mayor, Cllr Shaka Sithole, delivered a heartfelt message of support and encouragement to the offenders, urging them to take advantage of the rehabilitation opportunities available to them. “Behave yourselves, get the help you need, and come out better humans,” he emphasized. His words resonated deeply with the offenders, inspiring them to reflect on their past actions and strive for positive change.

We’re proud to support initiatives like these that foster rehabilitation, restorative justice, and personal transformation.

The success of this programme is a reminder that with the right support and opportunities, individuals can turn their lives around and become positive contributors to society. As Amajuba District Municipality, we remain committed to playing our part in building a safer, more compassionate, and inclusive community for all.



Amajuba District Deputy Mayor, Cllr I.S. Sithole, handing out an award to the best isicathamiya performers.



Prison warders and prisoners during a soccer match at Waterval Prison.

**UMnyango weziNhlelo ezikhethekile –
uMasipala Wesifunda sase-Amajuba**

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Vakashela: www.amajuba.gov.za

HORSE RACE BRINGS COMMUNITY TOGETHER, BOOSTS LOCAL ECONOMY

The Newcastle Annual Spring Horse Race has steadily grown into one of the most anticipated social and sporting events in the Amajuba District, drawing spectators, families, traditional leaders, and government representatives from across the province. This year's event carried even greater significance as it aligned with ongoing efforts to strengthen community spirit, promote local tourism, and create inclusive platforms that benefit various sectors of society. With vibrant energy, cultural displays, and a strong sense of unity, the horse race reaffirmed its place as a key event in the district's social calendar.

In an effort to unite the community and boost local economies, the Newcastle Annual Spring Horse Race proved to be a resounding success! The event took place 30 August 2025, graced by the presence of the Honourable Deputy President of the Inkatha Freedom Party and the Deputy Minister of the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA), Inkosi Mzamo Buthelezi, along with members of the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature, showcased the vibrant spirit of the Amajuba District. The horse race was a huge draw, attracting large crowds and generating significant revenue for local businesses. From food vendors to artisans, many small enterprises benefited from the influx of visitors, highlighting the event's potential to stimulate economic growth in the region. Beyond its economic impact, the horse race also served as a platform for social cohesion, bringing together people from diverse backgrounds to celebrate their shared passion for horse racing. Congratulations to the organizers and participants on a job well done!

The success of the event has also opened opportunities for future collaborations between local government, the private sector, and community stakeholders. Many attendees expressed appreciation for the improved event logistics, enhanced safety measures, and family-friendly atmosphere, which contributed to a memorable experience for all. As the Newcastle Annual Spring Horse Race continues to grow, it stands as a shining example of how well-planned programmes can support economic recovery, promote cultural celebration, and strengthen the social fabric of the Amajuba District.



MP Sanele Zondo, Inkosi Mzamo Buthelezi, Deputy Minister DPSA, Amajuba District Mayor Cllr E.T Mthembu and Newcastle Mayor Cllr D.X Dube.



**Bika noma yikuphi ukusebenza okungafanele
noma ukukhwabanisa ngokungaziwa ku:
mpimpahotline@amajuba.gov.za**

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY EMPOWERS LOCAL BUSINESSES THROUGH KZN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT MASTERCLASS

22 September 2025

The Amajuba District Municipality, under the leadership of His Worship the Mayor, Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu, is committed to supporting local and upcoming businesses in the district. As part of this commitment, the municipality recently partnered with Ithala Development Finance Corporation, the Department of Economic Development, Tourism, and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA), and uBunzima Skills and Projects to deliver the KZN Economic Employment Masterclass.

This comprehensive two-day training program aimed to equip small businesses with the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in today's competitive market. The masterclass covered a range of essential topics, including budgeting, customer care, planning, marketing, and business pitching. These topics were carefully selected to provide participants with a well-rounded understanding of the key elements required to run a successful business.

By providing training and support to small businesses, the municipality is helping to create jobs, stimulate economic growth, and improve the overall well-being of the community. The training was designed to empower local businesses, and the municipality's efforts have been evident in the support provided to participants.

As a culmination of the masterclass, participants will be showcasing their skills and business ideas through a business pitching competition. The winners of the competition will be announced by the MEC of EDTEA, Rev Musa Zondi, and will receive material or work equipment to support their businesses.

The Amajuba District Municipality's efforts to support local businesses are commendable, and the KZN Economic Employment Masterclass is just one example of the municipality's commitment to economic development. Through initiatives like this, the municipality is making a positive impact on the lives of local business owners and contributing to the overall development of the district.



Local business participating in the Economic Empowerment Masterclass.



Local Businesses during a presentation.

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MAYOR HONOURS MADIBA'S LEGACY WITH A HEARTWARMING VISIT TO ST MARTIN'S VILLAGE

In honour of Mandela Day, celebrated annually on 18 July, the Mayor of Amajuba District Municipality, Cllr T.E. Mthembu, paid a compassionate visit to St Martin's Village, a home dedicated to providing safety, care, and comfort to vulnerable children.

Following in the footsteps of the late Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi, uMntwana wakwaPhindangene, the Mayor embodied the values of humility, service, and Ubuntu; principles that both Madiba and Prince Buthelezi championed throughout their lives.

As part of the global 67 Minutes for Mandela Day initiative, symbolic of the 67 years President Nelson Mandela spent fighting for justice and equality, the Mayor dedicated his time to uplifting the children at the facility. He arrived bearing essential donations, including diapers, toiletries, baby formula, and nutritious baby food; items that are crucial to the daily needs of the infants and young children who call St Martin's Village home.

The visit was filled with warmth and compassion as Mayor Mthembu engaged with the children and caregivers, offering encouragement and reaffirming the municipality's commitment to protecting and supporting vulnerable groups. His presence not only brought joy to the little ones but also strengthened the bond between the municipality and community-based care organisations.

The management and staff of St Martin's Village expressed sincere appreciation for the Mayor's generosity, noting that such acts of kindness make a meaningful difference in sustaining the vital services they provide. They commended the Amajuba District Municipality for its continued dedication to community upliftment and for honouring the spirit of Mandela Day in a practical, impactful manner.

This Mandela Day outreach forms part of the municipality's broader commitment to social development and community support. By choosing to stand with vulnerable children, Mayor Mthembu reminded all residents of Amajuba that each of us has the power to touch lives, inspire hope, and build a more compassionate society, one act of kindness at a time.



St Martins Village management during the 67 minutes visits.



Amajuba District Mayor, Cllr Mthembu, with a little baby girl during the visit

UBANI OWATHI INDODA AYIKHALI? ISIDALA LESO.

28 KuNtulikazi 2025

Mhlazi 28 kuNtulikazi 2025 Isekela Meya lomaMasipala wesifunda Amajuba uMhlonishwa uKhansela Shaka Sithole kanye nesikhungu Sokuhlonyeleliswa kwezimilo bathe sondela ndoda sixoxe. Ngesikhathi ebambe ngempumelelo ingxoxo ekhethekile yokubungaza inyanga yamadoda, aphinde akhande inkundla kanye nendawo ephephile lapho amadoda esifunda angahlala khona axoxe kabanzi ngezinqinamba abhekene nazo zezempilo ezahlukeneyo.

IPhini leMeya uKhansela Shaka Sithole ethula inkulumbo yosuku ebinamandla, ugcizelele ukubaluleka kokufukulwa kwabesilisa kanye nesidingo sokuthi amadoda asekaneyo. Ngezinqinamba ezivulekile nezithembekile, ababambiqhaza bakwaze ukudiliza izithiyoyi futhi baphonsele inselelo imikhuba emibi yomphakathi. Isekela Meya uSithole uthe kubalulekile ukuthi nabesifazane kumele babe yingxenye yezithangami ezifana nalezi njengoba iningi labo kuyibona abakhulisa izingane zabafana.

Okuyinhloso enkulu yalomcimbi ukwakha indawo ephephile yokuthi abesilisa baxoxe ngezinsalelo zabo nezinto ezibakhathazayo kusize ukukhuthaza isiko lokuvuleleka, ukuqonda nokuzwelana. Umcimbi Isibaya SaMadoda ubuwubufakazi bokuzibophezela kukaMasipala Wesifunda saseMajuba ekufukuleni amadoda nokwakha imiphakathi eqinile, okushiye ababambe iqhaza bezizwa benamandla, besekelwe, futhi begqugquzelekile ukwenza umthelela omuhle.



Isekela Meya laseMajuba uKhansela Sithole edodisana kanye namadoda ngesikhathi kunesibaya saMadoda.



Amadoda ehleli exoxisana ngezinkinga abhekene nazo, njengenxenyeyo yokubungaza inyanga yamadoda.

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETS TO DRIVE PROGRESS AND SERVICE DELIVERY

29 July 2025

The Amajuba District Municipality Ordinary Council is a pivotal platform where key stakeholders gather to deliberate on matters affecting the district. Chaired by the Speaker of Council, Cllr uMntwana S.O. Zulu, the Council convenes to make informed decisions that benefit the people of Amajuba. During the meeting, Council members engage in robust discussions on critical issues, including service delivery, infrastructure development, social welfare, and governance priorities. The Council's overarching objective is to ensure that the district's development agenda is steered by a shared vision and collective effort, ultimately enhancing the quality of life for all residents.

A strong commitment to transparency, accountability, and ethical governance underpins the Council's decision-making process. Led by the Mayor, Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu, and supported by the Acting Municipal Manager, Mr Thubelihle Buthelezi, the Amajuba District Municipality's Ordinary Council plays a central role in driving progress and delivering effective, sustainable services to communities. By bringing together councillors, traditional leaders, sector representatives, and municipal officials, the meeting strengthens intergovernmental collaboration and ensures that the district's development programmes remain responsive to the needs and aspirations of its people.

With the firm leadership of the Speaker of Council, Cllr uMntwana S.O. Zulu, the Council remains well-positioned to take decisive actions that will positively impact households across the district. These engagements reaffirm the municipality's unwavering dedication to serving its residents with diligence and integrity.

As the Council continues to meet its mandate, the Amajuba District Municipality remains committed to accelerating service delivery, strengthening community partnerships, and ensuring that every decision contributes to a more inclusive, resilient, and prosperous district for all.



Speaker of Council, Cllr S.O. Zulu and Amajuba District Mayor, Cllr E.T. Mthembu, during a council meeting.



Cllr Ndlovu and Cllr Khoza during a council meeting.

BUILDING SAFER SCHOOLS: AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY JOINS INITIATIVE

04 August 2025

Amajuba District Municipality Deputy Mayor, Cllr Shaka Sithole, is joining a crucial initiative to tackle gangsterism in high schools, specifically at Masihambisane High School located in Osizweni, an area previously known for its high crime rate and gangsterism challenges. This program brings together key stakeholders to discuss challenges and solutions, emphasizing the municipality's commitment to supporting youth and promoting safe learning environments.

The initiative is further strengthened by the presence of Major General Alexander, highlighting the importance of collaborative efforts in addressing gangsterism and promoting safety in schools. By engaging with educators, learners, and community leaders, the municipality aims to empower the youth and build a brighter future for the community. Let's work together to create a safer and more supportive environment for our learners to thrive.

In addition to addressing the immediate concerns around gangsterism, the programme also focuses on long-term preventive measures, including strengthening school safety committees, promoting mentorship programmes, and encouraging parental involvement. These efforts underline the municipality's dedication to restoring stability, fostering discipline, and nurturing positive behaviour among learners. By uniting law enforcement, school leadership, and the community, Amajuba District Municipality continues to demonstrate its unwavering commitment to building safer, stronger, and more resilient schools across the district.



Learners from Masihambisane High School participating in a dialogue against gangsterism.



Amajuba District Deputy Mayor with law enforcement agencies from various sectors.

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DEPUTY MAYOR CONDUCTS OVERSIGHT VISIT TO COVID-19 INTERVENTION WATER PROJECT

06 August 2025

The Amajuba District Deputy Mayor, Cllr Shaka Sithole, concluded his oversight visit to ongoing infrastructure projects with a focused inspection of the Covid-19 Intervention MIG/WSIG Reprioritisation Project; a critical investment aimed at strengthening water supply in the district. The R15 million project, scheduled for completion on 30 September 2025, forms part of the municipality's accelerated efforts to improve water infrastructure and address long-standing supply challenges in key areas.

The project includes the construction of four booster pump stations, the installation of a backup generator, the upsizing of reservoir outlets, and the repair of bulk pipeline leaks. These interventions are particularly vital for Dannhauser, a community that has historically faced severe and persistent water shortages. The four booster pump stations; Eastbourne, Jessie, Rutlands, and Dorset, play a central role in stabilising water pressure and enhancing the reliability of supply across surrounding communities.

With the overall project standing at an impressive 86% completion, significant progress has already been made. However, Cllr Sithole raised serious concern about the impact of cable theft at two pump stations, a setback that has delayed portions of the work. He reiterated that vandalism not only undermines the municipality's efforts but directly affects the very communities meant to benefit from the improved infrastructure.

The Deputy Mayor called on residents to act as custodians of public infrastructure, urging stronger community involvement in safeguarding development projects. He stressed that infrastructure protection is a shared responsibility, and that continued theft and vandalism only hinder service delivery and prolong hardships for residents.

Despite this challenge, the Amajuba District Municipality remains steadfast in its commitment to delivering sustainable water solutions. Once completed, the project will significantly improve water distribution capacity and contribute to a more reliable, resilient water system for households across the district, bringing long-awaited relief to communities in need.



Amajuba Engineering Portfolio Committee members during a site visit.



Mr. Sanele Dube, Deputy Director PMU, and Cllr L.N Zulu

UMASIPALA WESIFUNDA AMAJUBA UHAMBABHAMBILI EKWESEKENI OSOMABHIZINISI ABANCANE

07 KuNcwaba 2025

UMasipala wesifunda Amajuba ngaphansi kobuholi beMeya uKhansela Thembelihle Mthembu ulokhu ukukhombisa njalo ukuzibophezela ekwesekeni osomabhizinisi abancane bendawo, njengoba ubuphuthula uhlelo lwezinsuku ezintathu lokuqeqesha osomabhizinisi abayikhulu abasafufusa. UMasipala ubambisene neThala Development Finance Corporation (IDFC) kanye neVision Africa ukuze banikeze osomabhizinisi abancane amakhono nolwazi oludingekayo ukuze baphumelele emabhizinisini abo. Lolu hlelo luyisibonelo esisodwa nje semizamo kamasipala yokukhuthaza isimo samabhizinisi esithuthukayo esifundeni.

Ngaphansi kobuholi beMeya uCllr Thembelihle Mthembu, uMasipala wesifunda Amajuba wenza isiqiniseko ukuthi akekho osala ngaphandle ekuthuthukisweni kosomabhizinisi bendawo. Ngokunikeza ukufinyelela ekuqeqeshweni, izinsiza, kanye nokwesekwa, umasipala uhlomisa abanikazi bamabhizinisi amancane ngamathuluzi abawadingayo ukuze banqobe izinselelo futhi bafeze izinjongo zabo. Le ndlela yokuthuthukisa umnotho iwubufakazi bombono kamasipala wekusasa eliqhakazile neliqhubekayo lesifunda.

Ukuzinikela kukaMasipala wesifunda Amajuba ekwesekeni amabhizinisi amancane kuyinto engenakuqhathaniswa, futhi imizamo yawo isivele ithela izithelo ezinhle. Ngokutshala imali ekuthuthukisweni kosomabhizinisi bendawo kanye nokusebenzisana nababambiqhaza ababalulekile, umasipala wakha umnotho ophilayo nothuthukayo ozohlomulisa wonke umphakathi. Njengesibani sethemba kosomabhizinisi abancane kulesi sifunda, uMasipala wesiFunda Amajuba ubeka isibonelo esihle nakwabanye.



Osomabhizinisi abakhele isifunda Amajuba ngesikhathi bethamele befundiswa kabanzi ngamathuba okhona okukhulisa amabhizinisi wabo.



IMeya KaMasipala weisifunda Amajuba, uKhansela Thembelihle Mthembu ekhuluma nosomabhizinisi.

Disaster Emergency Numbers Be Disaster Wise! Know Who to Call in Emergencies!

Mshengu Otty Tshabalala	083 6041 904
Mzuwandile Xaba	071 7626 351
Muzi Zikalala	064 6745 764
Thulani Zwane (Supporting Newcastle Local Municipality)	076 8564 445
Thabo Mndebele (Supporting eMadlangeni Local Municipality)	083 2303 643
Bafana Nkosi (Supporting Dannhauser Local Municipality)	082 7775 880

IMPROVING SERVICE DELIVERY: AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY ASSESSES FLEET

13 August 2025

In a bid to ensure the effective delivery of municipal services to the people of Amajuba District, Deputy Mayor Cllr Shaka Sithole, who also chairs the engineering portfolio, has initiated a crucial assessment of the municipality's fleet. As part of this effort, Cllr Sithole has called on all truck drivers to report to the municipal building for a comprehensive evaluation of the vehicles. This proactive measure aims to identify which trucks are in good working condition and capable of serving the district's needs, thereby ensuring that the municipality's resources are utilized efficiently. The assessment will cover the 10 trucks distributed across the district, and its findings will likely play a significant role in informing future maintenance and procurement decisions.

By prioritizing the upkeep and functionality of its fleet, the Amajuba District Municipality demonstrates its commitment to providing quality services to its residents. Through this initiative, the municipality is taking a vital step towards enhancing its operational capacity, ultimately benefiting the people of Amajuba District. The Deputy Mayor's call to action underscores the importance of a well-maintained fleet in delivering essential services and supports the municipality's broader goals of promoting the welfare and well-being of its constituents. Notably, Cllr Sithole was accompanied by Cllr Msibi, Cllr Madi, and the Director for Engineering Services in this important initiative.

The fleet assessment also serves as a foundation for strengthening accountability within the Engineering Services Department. By identifying operational gaps, documenting mechanical challenges, and verifying the condition of each vehicle, the municipality will be better equipped to implement a structured maintenance plan. This approach not only reduces downtime and repair costs but also ensures that service delivery operations, such as water tankering, waste removal, and infrastructure support, continue without interruption. Through this hands-on oversight, Amajuba District Municipality reinforces its dedication to efficiency, transparency, and responsive governance.



Amajuba water trucks under inspection.



Mr S. Khulu, Deputy Mayor Cllr I.S Sithole, Ms L. Simelane, Cllr Madi, Mr T. Shandu and Mr S. Dube

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY PARTNERS WITH KZN TOURISM AUTHORITY FOR STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP

14 August 2025

In an effort to promote the beautiful province of KwaZulu-Natal, the KwaZulu-Natal Tourism and Film Authority, in collaboration with the Amajuba District Municipality, hosted a Tourism Development Stakeholder Engagement Workshop today at the Blackrock Casino. The workshop, themed “Working Towards Inclusive Tourism Growth,” welcomed all businesses and stakeholders in the tourism industry, providing a space for growth and development. During the opening remarks, the Acting Municipal Manager, Mr. Thubelihle Buthelezi, emphasized the importance of such platforms, stating that “business owners are encouraged to avail themselves when platforms and opportunities like these are presented to them. Attending programmes such as this one is also part of investing in our business.”

The workshop brought together key industry stakeholders, government representatives, and development partners to explore opportunities for expanding tourism in the district. The event featured presentations and discussions on various topics, including tourism enterprise development and private sector coordination

. The engagement encouraged open dialogue, allowing attendees to share ideas and challenges, while fostering collaboration across sectors. By hosting this workshop, the Amajuba District Municipality and the KwaZulu-Natal Tourism and Film Authority demonstrated their commitment to building a more inclusive and sustainable tourism sector, marking a significant step towards unlocking tourism’s potential as a driver of economic growth and community upliftment in the district.



Amajuba District Deputy Mayor, Cllr I.S. Sithole, handing out an award to the best isicathamiya performers.

Office of the Speaker – Amajuba District Municipality

Committed to ensuring transparency, accountability,
and active civic participation in governance.

Your voice matters in shaping a better community.
For inquiries and assistance, please visit our office or
contact us at 034 328 7400



DSAC EMPOWERS 48 SCHOOLS WITH SPORTING EQUIPMENT IN AMAJUBA DISTRICT

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC) has once again demonstrated its unwavering commitment to developing sports at the grassroots level within the Amajuba District Municipality. Led by the MEC, Mr. Mtomuhle Khawula, the department has undertaken a significant initiative to support local schools through the distribution of sporting equipment to 48 institutions across the district.

This programme, implemented in partnership with the Department of Education, reflects a strong dedication to creating meaningful opportunities for young people. By equipping schools with essential sports resources, the department aims to nurture talent, promote active lifestyles, and inspire learners to reach their full potential through structured sports participation.

The Amajuba District Municipality, under the leadership of Mayor Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu, has welcomed this initiative with great appreciation. The mayor commended DSAC for its continued investment in the district's youth and for strengthening collaborative efforts aimed at enhancing sports development. The municipality believes that such interventions contribute significantly to learner development and community upliftment.

Welcoming MEC Khawula and his delegation, the Amajuba District Municipality expressed confidence that the provision of sporting equipment will bring positive and lasting impact to schools across the district. The initiative is expected to bolster school sports programmes, promote physical education, and encourage greater learner participation in competitive and recreational sporting activities.

Through this programme, DSAC reaffirms its commitment to empowering the youth of Amajuba and supporting a vibrant sporting culture that benefits both learners and the broader community.



HOD Ms. Thobile Sifunda, MEC for the Department of Sport Mtomuhle Khawula, and Cllr Kunene during a leadership briefing at the Amajuba Disaster Centre.



Newcastle Speaker of Council, Cllr Thengamehlo Zulu

UMASIPALA WESIFUNDA AMAJUBA UPHOTHULE I KWAMDAKANE THUSONG ANNUAL 2025 UFUNDISA NGOKULIMA NGOKWEMVELO (ORGANIC FARMING)

18 kuMandulo 2025

UMasipala Wesifunda Amajuba uvale ngokusemthethweni Isonto Lonyaka leThusong laKwaMdakane lika-2025 ngomcimbi obalulekile ngohlelo likulima ngokwemvelo. Umnyango wezoLimo ubambe iqhaza elikhulu ekufundiseni umphakathi waseDannhauser ngezindlela zokulima ngokwemvelo, ugqamisa ukubaluleka kwezindlela ezisimeme zezolimo.

Kulo mcimbi inhlangothi i-AI Imdaad foundation izibophezele ekutheni izobiyela ingadi yaKwaMdakane eyasungulwa ngenhloso yokweseka amalungu omphakathi angathathi ndawo. Lengadi ihlose ukusiza abantu abadala abalanda imithi yezifo ezingelapheki kanye nemizi ephethwe izingane.

Lolu hlelo lwenziwe lwaba yimpumelelo ngokubambisana nezinhlaka ezahlukene okubalwa kuzo uMnyango wezokuBusa ngokuBambisana, neziNdaba zoMdabu (COGTA), uMnyango wezoLimo, uMnyango wezokuThuthukiswa koMnotho, ezokuVakasha nezeMvelo (EDTEA), uMnyango wezeMpilo, abaNakekeli boMphakathi (CCGs), Uhlelo lwezeMisebenzi yoMphakathi (CWP), noHlelo Olunwetshiwe Lwezemisebenzi Yomphakathi (EPWP).

Lolu hlelo lukhombisa ukuzibophezela kukaMasipala wesiFunda saseMajuba ekuqhubekiseleni phambili ukuhlinzekwa kwezidingongqangi kanye nokuthuthukisa intuthuko yomphakathi. Ngokugququzela ubudlelwano nokusebenzisana, umasipala uyaqhubeka nokwenza ngcono izimpilo zabahlali bawo.



Ithimba elisebenza KwaMdakane Thusong Centre eliholwa uMnu Ayanda Khumalo, ngesikhathi ligaba iThusong week, lifundiswa ngokutshwala okunempilo.



Ithimba ngesikhathi selitshwala.

Community Services – Amajuba District Municipality

Dedicated to improving the quality of life for all residents through essential services and community-based initiatives.

Together, we create a stronger, healthier community.
For more information or assistance, visit our office.

Visit us at: www.amajuba.gov.za

AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY SENDS OFF TALENTED SENIORS TO GOLDEN GAMES

17 September 2025

The Amajuba District Municipality, under the leadership of Mayor Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu, hosted a send-off ceremony for its talented senior citizens who will be participating in the Golden Games in Durban. This remarkable programme, led by the Departments of Sport, Arts and Culture and Social Development under the Active Ageing banner, recognises and celebrates the resilience, agility, and continued contribution of older persons in society.

As the athletes prepare to compete against counterparts from across KwaZulu-Natal, Mayor Mthembu extended his heartfelt well-wishes, encouraging the team to represent Amajuba with pride and confidence. With more than 1,650 senior athletes expected to participate in a range of sporting codes, this year's Golden Games promises to be one of the most vibrant and competitive editions yet.

The Golden Games offer more than just an opportunity for athletic competition—they serve as an important platform for enhancing the physical, emotional, and social well-being of older persons. By participating in activities such as athletics, indigenous games, fun walks, and ball sports, seniors are able to stay active, strengthen their health, and engage meaningfully with peers from other districts. This aligns with the municipality's broader commitment to promoting healthy ageing and fostering inclusive community participation.

The Amajuba District Municipality continues to prioritise the welfare of senior citizens by ensuring that programmes supporting active and dignified ageing are fully embraced. Through collaboration with provincial departments, the municipality aims to create spaces where older persons can thrive, feel valued, and remain active members of society. The send-off ceremony reaffirmed the district's pride in its senior athletes and highlighted the importance of recognising their abilities, talents, and determination.

Let us rally behind Team Amajuba as they head to Durban to showcase their skills and uphold the spirit of unity and excellence. The municipality believes in their potential and wishes them every success at the 2025 Golden Games.



Amajuba District senior citizens' team during a send-off ceremony.



Amajuba District Mayor, Cllr E.T Mthembu, sharing a handshake with an Mkhulu.

AMAJUBA SHINES AT GOLDEN GAMES 2025: MAYOR CONGRATULATES TEAM ON SECOND PLACE FINISH

19 September 2025

The Amajuba District Municipality is beaming with pride as Team Amajuba secures an impressive second-place finish at the Active Ageing / Golden Games 2025 in Durban. Mayor Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu extended his warmest congratulations to the team, acknowledging their exceptional talent and dedication.

“We are incredibly proud of Team Amajuba’s achievement, showcasing the district’s commitment to promoting active ageing, wellness, and community spirit,” said Mayor Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu. “Their second-place finish is a testament to their hard work and commitment to excellence.”

The Golden Games featured remarkable skills and competitive spirit among senior citizens from across KwaZulu-Natal, aligning with the Department of Social Development’s Active Ageing Programme. This event provided a platform for older adults to engage in meaningful activities, foster social connections, and promote physical and mental well-being.

Team eThekweni emerged victorious, with Team Amajuba finishing a close second and Team iLembe claiming third place. KwaZulu-Natal Premier Thami Ntuli and MEC for Social Development Mbali Shinga officiated the closing ceremony and awards presentation, praising participants’ enthusiasm and energy.

The Amajuba District Municipality is proud to support Team Amajuba’s endeavors, and the Mayor’s congratulations reflect the municipality’s appreciation for the team’s hard work and achievement.

This outstanding performance not only highlights the strength and resilience of Amajuba’s senior athletes but also reinforces the municipality’s dedication to programmes that uplift, empower, and celebrate older persons. Team Amajuba’s success serves as an inspiration to the entire district, proving that age is no barrier to excellence and community pride.



Amajuba District special programme manager, Ms Pinky Mabele, and Team Amajuba at the Senior Citizens’ games.



Team Amajuba receiving an accolade at the closing ceremony

AMAJUBA MAYORAL CUP GAMES 2025: SPORT AS A BEACON OF HOPE, UNITY AND RENEWAL

As Amajuba District Municipality closes the chapter on 2025, the Amajuba Mayoral Cup Games stand out as one of the most powerful and meaningful highlights of the year. Held in 2025 at Arbor Park, the Mayoral Cup Games brought together young people, communities, sports codes and cultural expressions in a vibrant celebration of talent, discipline and hope for a better tomorrow.

The Amajuba Mayoral Cup Games were not just about competition; they were a deliberate and strategic intervention by the District to use sport and culture as tools for social change. The Games were convened to create a safe, positive and empowering space for young people to showcase their abilities, build confidence, and engage in activities that promote healthy lifestyles, teamwork and mutual respect.

Throughout the Games at Arbor Park, the atmosphere was electric. Young athletes competed with passion and pride, representing their local municipalities and communities with determination and discipline.

From the early morning fixtures to the final matches, the fields and courts were alive with energy, encouragement from supporters, and a shared sense of purpose. Beyond the scores and medals, what truly mattered was the spirit of unity, sportsmanship and resilience displayed by the participants.

Sport remains one of the most powerful instruments for community development, especially within a district like Amajuba, which continues to face serious social challenges such as gangsterism, drug abuse and alcohol dependency. These realities threaten the future of many young people, often robbing them of opportunities before they have a chance to realise their full potential.

The Mayoral Cup Games therefore served as a strong statement that the District is committed to fighting these social ills by investing in prevention, positive alternatives and youth upliftment.

Equally important was the inclusion and recognition of cultural initiatives during the Games. Culture and sport go hand in hand in building identity, pride and a sense of belonging. Cultural expressions showcased during the event reminded young people of who they are, where they come from, and the values that have sustained communities for generations. In a time where many young people feel lost or disconnected, culture becomes an anchor that grounds them and offers direction.

The Amajuba District Municipality used the Mayoral Cup Games to send a clear and compassionate message: young people who are still on the right path are seen, valued and supported.

At the same time, the District acknowledges that there are those who have already been influenced by drugs, alcohol and crime. The Games were therefore not about exclusion, but about hope — creating platforms that show the dangers of substance abuse while opening doors for rehabilitation, second chances and reintegration through sport, culture and structured youth programmes.

By hosting the Mayoral Cup Games, the District reaffirmed its commitment to doing everything in its power to steer the youth of Amajuba towards positive choices. Every whistle blown, every match played, every cheer from the stands was a reminder that when communities come together, they can protect, inspire and uplift their young people.

As the final external newsletter of the year, this edition reflects not only on an event, but on a vision — a vision of an Amajuba where young people choose sport over substance abuse, unity over violence, and hope over despair. The Amajuba Mayoral Cup Games 2025 were a testament to what is possible when leadership, communities and youth work together to build a brighter, safer and more prosperous future for all.



AMAJUBA'S WAR ON WATER LEAKS AND DRY TAPS: #OPERATIONMBO

As Amajuba District Municipality concludes the year, one of the most impactful and visible service delivery interventions remains the War on Water Leaks and Dry Taps – #OPERATIONMBO. This bold and decisive programme was initiated by His Worship, the Mayor of Amajuba District Municipality, Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu, and is spearheaded under his leadership, with the full support of the Acting Municipal Manager, Mrs Nandi Dlamini, and all Heads of Departments.

The programme was introduced in response to persistent challenges facing the district, including water losses, ageing infrastructure, prolonged dry taps in communities, and increasing pressure on limited water resources. #OPERATIONMBO reflects strong political and administrative leadership working together to confront these challenges and deliver tangible results for residents.

Leadership-Driven Intervention

Under the guidance of Mayor Cllr Thembelihle Mthembu, #OPERATIONMBO has been positioned as a priority intervention to restore reliable access to water, protect municipal infrastructure, and uphold the dignity of communities. The Mayor's hands-on approach, supported by Acting Municipal Manager Mrs Nandi Dlamini and departmental leadership, has ensured coordinated action, accountability, and urgency across all operations.

This unified leadership approach underscores the municipality's commitment to turning policy into action and addressing service delivery challenges at both strategic and operational levels.

Why #OPERATIONMBO Matters

Water is life. For many households across Amajuba, inconsistent supply and dry taps have disrupted daily life, affected schools and clinics, and placed additional burdens on vulnerable communities. Non-revenue water—caused by leaks, burst pipes, illegal connections, and vandalism—has further strained the system.

The War on Water Leaks and Dry Taps therefore goes beyond infrastructure repairs. It is about protecting a scarce resource, improving efficiency, and ensuring that every household has access to safe and reliable water.

Key Focus Areas and Achievements

Through #OPERATIONMBO, the municipality has intensified efforts to:

- Identify and repair water leaks across urban and rural areas
- Respond decisively to dry taps, addressing root causes such as infrastructure failures and supply constraints
- Strengthen maintenance and technical teams to improve response times
- Safeguard water infrastructure against vandalism and illegal connections
- Promote water conservation and public awareness, encouraging communities to report leaks and use water responsibly

These focused interventions have already resulted in reduced water losses, improved water supply in previously affected areas, and increased public confidence in municipal responsiveness.

A Shared Responsibility

While the programme is driven by strong leadership from the Mayor and municipal management, its success depends on partnership with communities. Residents are encouraged to report leaks promptly, protect infrastructure, and practice responsible water usage. Every action taken by the community directly supports the municipality's efforts to ensure sustainable water provision.

Sustaining the Momentum

As the year comes to an end, Amajuba District Municipality remains committed to sustaining and strengthening #OPERATIONMBO. Continued investment in infrastructure upgrades, improved planning, and skills development will ensure that the gains made are protected and expanded.

The War on Water Leaks and Dry Taps is not a short-term campaign—it is a long-term commitment to service delivery excellence, accountability, and environmental stewardship. Guided by decisive leadership and supported by the administration and communities alike, Amajuba is taking meaningful steps to secure water for today and for generations to come.

#OPERATIONMBO – Every Drop Counts.



“SAVE WATER, SECURE THE FUTURE”

REPORT BURST PIPES & WATER LEAKS TO THE MUNICIPAL WATER & SANITATION CALL CENTRE ON:

034 329 7400





AMAJUBA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY
OFFICIAL EXTERNAL NEWSLETTER
NEWS FLASH

“EZESIFUNDA SENTUTHUKO”

External Newsletter / July – November 2025 Edition

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