MYDISTRICTTODAY

A NATION THAT WORKS FOR ALL

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CONTACT DETAILS OF THE GCIS PROVINCIAL OFFICES

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PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

GCIS partners with EDTEA to equip KwaCele Traditional Council and Amandawe community

By Khanyiso Seyisi; GCIS, KwaZulu-Natal

The Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), in partnership with the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA), conducted a workshop with the KwaCele Traditional Authority and the Amandawe community on 22 September 2026. The workshop, held at the Inkosi Mkakwa Community Hall at Amandawe, aimed to capacitate the KwaCele Traditional Council and community members with information on government programmes and services available to them.

The key stakeholders present were the GCIS, EDTEA, Department of Agriculture, Umdoni Local Municipality, KwaCele Traditional Authority, Department of Social Development, Department of Arts and Culture and the Electoral Commission of South Africa.

The GCIS presented sessions on cybersecurity, misinformation/disinformation and digital literacy. The sessions equipped participants with knowledge to navigate digital platforms safely, identify misleading information and make informed use of online resources.

The workshop also provided an opportunity for government departments and institutions to engage directly with the community, share information on available services and address community concerns. The GCIS encouraged communities to use official government communication channels and verify information before sharing it on social media.



Inkosi Mthokozisi Cele of the KwaCele Traditional Authority explains the purpose of presenting the workshop to the Traditional Council.





Izinduna and government officials attending the workshop.



The EDTEA's Control Environmental Officer, Mr Xolani Biyela, directing the workshop programme.



A GCIS official sharing information on misinformation and cybersecurity.

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PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

New school infrastructure brings hope to learners of Bethelsdorp High School

By Zukiswa Mqumbisa; GCIS, Eastern Cape

On 7 October 2026, a new chapter began for the Bethelsdorp community as Eastern Cape (EC) Premier, Mr Oscar Mabuyane; along with Member of the Executive Council (MEC) for Education, Mr Fundile Gade; and Nelson Mandela Bay Executive Mayor, Cllr Babalwa Lobishe, officially handed over the newly refurbished Bethelsdorp Comprehensive School. The handover represents an investment in dignity, opportunity, skills development and the future of young people in the area.

Ms Kelly Sebia, a former scholar of the Bethelsdorp Comprehensive School, reflected on the importance of seeing the school enter a new chapter. “Having once walked its corridors as a learner, witnessing the transformation of the school and the opportunities now available to today’s learners, is a powerful reminder of the legacy of this institution. The new facilities represent more than infrastructure; they are an investment in the generations of learners who will continue to carry the Bethelsdorp Comprehensive School legacy forward.”

Having received an investment boost of more than R100 million, the modern facility includes 31 classrooms, two science laboratories, a technical workshop, a library and a media centre in addition to facilities that support the School Nutrition Programme. The school will also expand opportunities through e-learning, 4th Industrial Revolution initiatives and the Three-Stream Model which incorporates academic, technical and vocational pathways.

At the handover, the school’s improving academic performance was also highlighted, as it had increased from 50% in 2024 to 78% in 2025.

As the EC continues to invest in education infrastructure, Bethelsdorp Comprehensive School stands as a symbol of legacy, renewal, opportunity and hope; connecting the achievements of the past with the aspirations of a new generation.



Premier Mabuyane, MEC Gade, Cllr Babalwa Lobishe and Ms Sharon Ann Maasdorp, the Head of Department at the EC Department of Education at the handover.



Premier Mabuyane visiting one of the new classrooms.



One of the newly built technical workshops, which will be used to fix cars.



The sewing class, which is also newly built.





The newly transformed Bethelsdorp Comprehensive School.

PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

New chapter unlocked as President Ramaphosa launches R7 billion Vedanta Gamsberg phase II expansion in Namakwa

By Olebogeng Stephen Moseki; GCIS, Northern Cape

On 16 October 2026, President Cyril Ramaphosa officially launched the Vedanta Zinc International's (VZI) Gamsberg Phase II Expansion Project in Khâi-Ma Local Municipality, which falls under the Namakwa District, Northern Cape. Initiated under the theme: "Partnerships for Progress", the expansion represents one of the largest mining investments in South Africa valued at R7 billion; and reinforces VZI's commitment to the country. Since 2011, VZI has invested R89 billion in its South African operations, with the current investment expected to double production output of the mine and place it among leading zinc producers globally.

The expanded phase is set to create between 800 and 1 000 jobs during its operational phase. Addressing stakeholders at the launch, President Ramaphosa emphasised that the expansion reflected meaningful collaboration and a commitment to creating opportunities, strengthening partnerships and contributing to the future of the Northern Cape. The President also stressed that local communities must benefit from nearby mining operations, noting that the ultimate purpose of economic development was to improve people's lives.

In his address, Premier of the Northern Cape, Dr Zamani Saul, emphasised the importance of this investment in attaining a modern, growing and successful province as articulated in the province's vision. Dr Saul also affirmed VZI as a strategic anchor for the Namakwa Special Economic Zone and the Boegoebaai Development Corridor. The expansion of the Gamsberg Project is a testament of the power of collaboration between government, business and communities, in driving development and ensuring the sustainable livelihoods of communities.



President Ramaphosa together with the VZI Chairperson, Ms Priya Agarwal Hebbar, officially opened VZI's Gamsberg Phase II Project at Aggeneys, Namakwa District.



Members of the media and invited guests during the official opening of the project.



President Ramaphosa accompanied by Premier Saul; Minister of Electricity and Energy, Dr Kgosientsho Ramokgopa; and VZI employees on a facility inspection and tour.



Mr Shaun Modise:
"I'm ecstatic about this day, which I have been waiting for. It marks the transition of plans into operations."



Mr Chris Fortuin:
"Besides the social labour plans which we must have as a regulatory requirement, over the past two years we invested in an Oncology clinic in Springbok to the value of R26-million."

PRIORITY 3: BUILD A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE.

Love Your Street – Play Your Part activation creating a safer community

By Jethro Grootboom; GCIS, Western Cape

On 13 October 2026, the Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), partnered with local stakeholders to bring the Love Your Street – Play Your Part activation to Rose Valley in Oudtshoorn. The day focused on producing a safer community, creating a clean neighbourhood and improving living conditions for families who reside on serviced sites.

Over the years, the community has benefited from the Rose Valley Housing Project, which has seen ongoing initiatives to expand community access to housing and improve living conditions. Phase III of the project was completed in 2025, with Phase IV planned to include 132 houses and serviced sites for qualifying beneficiaries who have not yet benefited from earlier phases. An important development for the community is the provision of electricity to informal structures on serviced sites, which is helping to bring light, dignity and improved safety to households that previously had no electricity or streetlights.

The Love Your Street – Play Your Part activation brought together the GCIS, Oudtshoorn Local Municipality, South African Police Service (SAPS), Community Policing Forum and Ward Ward 6's Cllr Lena Moos, Lena Moos, to engage residents on practical ways to address crime and improve their neighbourhood.

Warrant Officer Witbooi, a Sector Commander in the SAPS, urged residents to protect electrical infrastructure, report cable theft and work together with law enforcement to help prevent crime. He highlighted the importance of community cooperation in addressing safety concerns that affected vulnerable residents.

Cllr Moos encouraged residents to respect one another, stand united against crime and take collective responsibility for their streets. The councillor is also working to bring four additional high-mast lights to the greater Rose Valley area, particularly as the festive season approaches.

The message of the day was simple: development is about more than houses and infrastructure. It is also about restoring dignity, creating safer surroundings and building a community where everyone feels protected.

The Love Your Street – Play Your Part activation reminded residents that every effort counted, from keeping public spaces clean to protecting infrastructure and reporting criminal activity.



Cllr Moos addressing residents about keeping their environment clean and safe from crime.





Warrant Officer Witbooi encouraging residents to work closely with law enforcement agencies to help root out crime by reporting it.



Cllr Lena Moos:
"We as a community need to make sure that our environment is clean. A clean community is a healthy community. We are working hard to make our community safe through the installation of high-mast lights and the electrification of informal settlements. We will continue to light up dark spots here to help prevent crime."



Warrant Officer Witbooi:
"I would like to encourage you all to work closely with law enforcement agencies to help root out crime by reporting cable theft, vandalism to police motor vehicles, gender based violence and femicide and crime in general. This cellphone belongs to the SAPS; hence, I am giving you its number, which you can call at any time to report a crime. The number is 082 522 3207."