

Boitumelo Hospital in Kroonstad Ready for Life-Changing Cataract Surgeries of 100 Patients in two Days



Boitumelo Regional Hospital in Kroonstad, has completed the Cataract marathon preparations with the screening conducted on Friday, 29 May 2026, for the Cataract operation of 100 patients set for 2 days (Saturday, 30 May and Sunday, 31 May 2026). The Free State Department of Health said for patient safety, theatre lists will be finalised based on vital signs. Blood sugar and blood pressure must be well controlled on the day; if levels are high, patients will be scheduled for another appointment so they can still benefit from these life-changing surgeries. “Hopes are high and the best outcome is expected by the patients and clinicians alike,” said CEO of Boitumelo Regional Hospital, Ms. Bongi Mthimkhulu, who expressed her delight at the hospital being selected to offer these life-changing surgeries.



Zamdela GBV Centre Receive Vehicle Boost from Free State Social Development

As part of a stakeholder engagement on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) held today at the Harry Gwala Multipurpose Centre in Zamdela, Sasolburg, Free State MEC Hlalele for the Department of Social Development, handed over a vehicle to the Curious Future Movement Shelter, a Non-Profit Organisation based in Zamdela. The shelter plays a vital role in providing care, protection, and empowerment services to survivors of gender-based violence. According to the Department of Social Development,

the donation is intended to strengthen the shelter's capacity to reach and support vulnerable individuals in need of assistance. The vehicle is expected to improve mobility, enhance response times, and expand access to support services, ensuring that survivors receive help when they need it most. The department said the initiative forms part of its ongoing efforts to improve and extend services for victims of gender-based violence following the declaration of GBV as a national disaster



End of the Road for Ngwathe Council Administrators to Run the Municipality

Following its monthly meeting on the 10th June 2026, the Free State Executive Council (EXCO), led by Premier MaQueen Letsosa-Mathae, resolved to implement the court order relating to the Ngwathe Local Municipality without delay. The decision follows the Constitutional Court's dismissal of an application for leave to appeal in the matter of Afriforum NPC v Ngwathe Local Municipality and Others, thereby upholding the orders issued by the Free State High Court on 20 June 2025. Key interventions approved by EXCO include:



municipality.
*The approval of temporary budgets or revenue-raising measures aimed at restoring municipal functionality.

A multidisciplinary team comprising officials from relevant provincial departments will be established to finalise and oversee the implementation plan. The meeting also addressed matters relating to local government accountability, economic development and the strengthening of government communication. The EXCO reaffirmed the Provincial Government's commitment to restoring good governance, improving the delivery of basic services and ensuring accountability to the residents of Ngwathe. The intervention is aimed at stabilising the municipality, restoring effective administration and improving service delivery for communities across the municipal area.

*The development and implementation of a comprehensive financial and service delivery recovery plan.
*The dissolution of the Municipal Council and the appointment of administrators to manage the



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