



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICE OF THE MEC

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MEDIA STATEMENT

MEC MARTIN MEYER WELCOMES THE OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT OF DR VISH GOVENDER AS KZN PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT; SAYS A SIGN OF FURTHER STABILITY IN THE DEPARTMENT

MEC Martin Meyer welcomes the appointment of Dr Vish Govender as the Head of Department for KZN Public Works and Infrastructure. Dr Govender's appointment was made official today (March 13th 2026) and comes at a time when the department further commits to achieving a full turnaround.

Dr Govender takes up the position at the helm having a depth of experience in both local and provincial government with previous positions including that of Municipal Manager. At KZN Public Works and Infrastructure Dr Govender has been extensively involved in the role of leading having previously been Director of the Immovable Asset unit. This experience would prove invaluable when KZN Public Works and Infrastructure set out to determine the number of properties and assets it owns as well how to best utilize them.

From the time he was appointed Acting Head of Department, Dr Govender has worked tirelessly and side-by-side MEC Meyer in a joint leadership that would see KZN Public Works and Infrastructure achieve many accolades such as reducing the department's near R1 billion debt, accounting for all assets, paying contractors, significantly reducing the threat of construction mafias, community-empowering initiatives, attracting investors, among other many proud achievements.

Dr Govender's dedication and commitment to turning around KZN Public Works and Infrastructure has also been seen by other stakeholders. This was further seen in the form of a unanimous agreement in cabinet which gave a resounding nod of approval to his appointment.

For MEC Meyer the appointment signifies a new era of stability within the department which had gone for a lengthy period without a Head of Department.

"For a period KZN Public Works and Infrastructure was much like a ship that often-rotated captains. This was not ideal at all, and it made charting a course forward a difficult process. This uncertainty also played out when you look our staff morale and how low it was. Added to this was the fact that we went through a period of taking action against unfit officials, some who were shown the door. However, I am happy to say that all this is behind us now and that we finally have a captain who has a strong vision for the department and who enjoys the support and admiration of all staff and senior management", said MEC Meyer.

The latest appointment shows the department's commitment to filling critical vacant posts so that KZN Public Works and Infrastructure continues to efficiently deliver for the people of KwaZulu-Natal.

END.

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