

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA concerned about insufficient budget provisions allocated to Limpopo Departments of Education and Health by Limpopo Treasury
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) has noted the budget for the 2025/26-financial year for Limpopo, as delivered in the budget speech by the MEC for Treasury on 25 March 2025.

Whilst the PSA acknowledges the allocation of budget to fund youth employment in an attempt to ensure service delivery across all provincial departments, the Union is extremely concerned about the insufficient budgets allocated to the provincial departments of Education and Health. Government's efforts to allocate resources for the smooth operations of departments, considering the current economic uncertainties, is appreciated but the PSA has several critical concerns in respect of the provincial Departments of Education and Health. The budget allocations might not address the current state of needs for the two Departments, with a minimal budget of R133 808 billion and R82 500 billion respectively over the next three financial years.

The PSA is specifically concerned about the approach to staffing in newly opened schools where despite the increase in the number of schools in the province, there has been no corresponding increases in the staff complement, with staff from existing schools being redistributed to newly opened schools. This practice undermines the quality of education and exacerbates the educator-learner ratio in public schools.

The PSA is further concerned that with a limited budget, the Provincial Government will not be able to employ many qualified graduates in the province to ensure a balanced and effective learning environment. Additionally, the infrastructure in schools, particularly ablution facilities, remains in a shocking state. Immediate action is required to address these issues and provide a safe and conducive learning environment for learners. Of great concern is the schools that still use pit toilets, which the Department committed to eliminate by 2023.

The PSA is also concerned about low budget allocation for the Department of Health, which is dominated by failing infrastructure in clinics and hospitals. Many facilities, including hospital theatres and X-ray units, are outdated and require urgent replacement. The current state of these facilities hampers the delivery of quality healthcare. There is an urgent need for enhanced security measures at all clinics and hospitals in the province, with a particular focus on 24-hour facilities to ensure the safety of patients and healthcare workers. A substantial increase in the budget for Health is needed to address critical healthcare issues, impacting on citizens' constitutional rights.

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