

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA welcomes launch of KwaZulu-Natal E-procurement system
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The Public Servants Association welcomes the launch of an electronic supply management system, known as E-procurement, which is a first of its kind, with KwaZulu-Natal being the first province to roll out such an electronic tool.

The KwaZulu-Natal Treasury MEC officially launched the new system on 17 June 2025 in Pietermaritzburg. The E-procurement system will be fully implemented in the province between January 2026 and April 2027 through selected departments. Sourced from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, the new system will eliminate the human factor from the tender system and root out fruitless and irregular expenditure across provincial departments. This launch came as some KwaZulu-Natal departments have challenges in paying service providers. The new system will enhance transparency, minimise unscrupulous tenderpreneurs, and prevent officials from contacting preferred suppliers for favours, thus ensuring accountability. According to the Auditor-General, KwaZulu-Natal departments incur irregular expenditure amounting to billions of rands annually. This system will ensure that departments do not source service provider which they cannot afford.

Corruption and wasteful expenditure are prevalent in departments in the province and across the country. The PSA thus welcomes the launch of the E-procurement system whilst calling on government to ensure that the system functions efficiently and eliminates corruption. Corruption and inefficiency have severe consequences on government departments and affect their ability to deliver services, achieve their objectives, and maintain public trust. It is essential to address corruption through effective governance, transparency, and accountability mechanisms. The PSA urges government to uphold the principle of zero tolerance for corruption as the E-procurement system project is being piloted.

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