



**TO: NEWS EDITORS/ALL MEDIA HOUSES  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PREMIER LETSOHA-MATHAE APPOINTS DR PHERA AS DIRECTOR-GENERAL  
OF THE FREE STATE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT**

**BLOEMFONTEIN** – The Premier of the Free State, MaQueen Letsoha-Mathae, has appointed Dr Molefinyana Phera as the Director-General of the Free State Provincial Government, with effect from 01 January 2026.

Dr Phera was born and raised in the Masilo township of Theunissen. He is a proud product of a small-town upbringing and brings with him a strong background in political and trade union activism.

He entered the public service in July 1994 at the age of 21, beginning his career at entry level. As he advanced academically, he also developed organically and professionally within the ranks of public service, serving in both the Free State and the Northern Cape.

In 2002, at the age of 28, he was appointed to his first senior management position and has since accumulated approximately 22 years of experience in senior and executive management service.

Dr Phera, who has committed himself to the pursuit of authentic democratic governance, social justice and economic emancipation, previously served two brief stints as Acting Director-General before being appointed to a five-year term, commencing on 01 January 2026 and concluding on 31 December 2030.

By profession, Dr Phera is an Advocate of the High Court, a Chartered Governance Professional, and a Chartered HR Professional, with current registration with the relevant professional bodies. He is an accomplished scholar in Governance and Law,

holding qualifications that include a PhD, MA, LLM, LLB, and a BTech in Public Management, as well as several university-accredited diplomas.

Accepting the appointment, Dr Phera indicated that he has answered a higher call of public service. “I humbly accept my appointment as the sixth Director-General of the Free State Provincial Government since the advent of democratic governance in April 1994. I am ready to serve with integrity and professionalism. This is a responsibility I do not take lightly”, said Dr. Phera.

Premier Letsoha-Mathae highlighted that Dr Phera faces high expectations in strengthening governance and improving service delivery in the Free State. “I am confident that he will lead the administrative machinery of the Free State Provincial Government towards becoming a capable, ethical, and developmental organ of state, firmly focused on serving the people with integrity and dedication”, said Premier Letsoha-Mathae.

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