



THULAMELA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

ERRATUM NO. 1

OMISSION OF CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS AND EXTENSION OF BID CLOSING DATES

Thulamela Local Municipality hereby issues **Erratum No. 1** in respect of the following bids, which were advertised in the *Limpopo Mirror Newspaper*, on the municipal website, municipal noticeboard and CIDB website on **21 August 2026**:

Bid Number	Bid Description
17/2026/2027	Construction of Ngovhela–Phindula Ring Road
18/2026/2027	Repair of Phiphidi–Maha Road

Prospective bidders and members of the public are hereby informed that, due to technical challenges experienced during the uploading of the tender documents, the relevant construction drawings for the above-mentioned bids were inadvertently omitted.

The omitted construction drawings have now been uploaded and made available as part of the respective tender documents. Consequently, the originally advertised closing dates have been amended as follows:

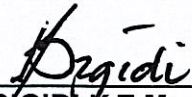
Bid Number	Bid Description	Previously Advertised Closing Date	Revised Closing Date
17/2026/2027	Construction of Ngovhela–Phindula Ring Road	09 September 2026	17 September 2026
18/2026/2027	Repair of Phiphidi–Maha Road	10 September 2026	17 September 2026

Prospective bidders are advised to obtain and carefully consider the complete tender documents, including all relevant construction drawings, when preparing their submissions.

All other terms and conditions applicable to the respective bids remain unchanged.

Bidders are requested to take note of the revised closing dates and ensure that their bids are submitted within the amended timeframes.

Thulamela Local Municipality apologises for any inconvenience caused.



SIGIDI K.T.M.
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

31 August 2026
DATE

Football fraternity mourns young star killed in horrific crash

BY ELMON TSHIKHUDO

The Vhembe football fraternity has been plunged into deep mourning following the tragic death of Makhuvha Up The Ants star Phathutshedzo "Mixer" Libunyu, who died in a horrific road accident in Mokopane on Friday, 28 August.

Libunyu, 28, who had a promising football career ahead of him, was travelling home from Gauteng with his two sisters when the accident occurred. One of his sisters sustained serious injuries and remains in hospital, while the other suffered minor injuries and has since been discharged.

For Makhuvha Up The Ants team manager Mr

Humbulani Makungo, Libunyu's death has left a massive void that will be difficult to fill.

"This is a sad loss to the whole community. Mixer was an asset to the team. He was a gifted natural leftist who also doubled up as a very gifted goalkeeper," said Makungo.

He said Libunyu joined the team at a very young age and was groomed into the accomplished player he became. "He played at different positions and he could master them ... We have lost a great asset as a team," he said.

Family spokesperson Mr Nthuseini Tshikuvhe said the family was struggling to come to terms with the sudden loss.

"He was still young and we were still awaiting

many good things from him. We saw him growing and being groomed as a soccer player," said Tshikuvhe.

He said the family was particularly happy when Libunyu secured employment, believing that his life was finally beginning to take shape.

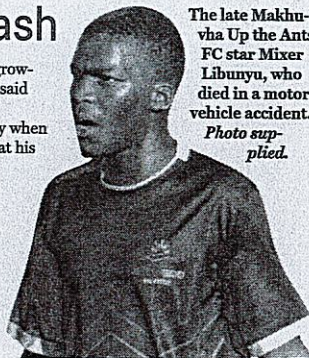
"When he got a job, we were happy that things were coming together and that he would soon gather us and show us a fiancé. Our hearts are torn apart," he said.

Tshikuvhe said Libunyu's mother was devastated.

"She is shattered. What is keeping us consoled is the support we are getting from the community," he said.

The late Makhuvha Up the Ants FC star Mixer Libunyu, who died in a motor vehicle accident.

Photo supplied.



LIMPOPO MIRROR, 4 SEPTEMBER 2026

Mudau left stranded in court after "non-payment"

BY ELMON TSHIKHUDO

The twists keep coming in the murder case against 23-year-old Rothe Mudau. Just days after shocking the Thohoyandou Magistrate's Court by indicating that she intends to plead guilty to murder, Mudau was dealt another blow when her lawyer, Advocate Khuliso Negota, withdrew from the case over unpaid legal fees.

Mudau, who is accused of stabbing 34-year-old Fufufhelo Mabade to death at Ha-Mphogo village outside Thohoyandou, appeared in court on Monday, 31 August, for the continuation of her bail proceedings.

Instead of making progress with the case, she was confronted with the sudden loss of her legal representative. The development appeared to catch Mudau off guard. When asked how she intended to proceed, she told the court that she would seek representation through Legal Aid.

The case was postponed to 8 September to allow her new legal representative time to obtain and study the court records.

The latest development adds another dramatic chapter to a case that has already produced several surprises. Mudau faces murder and robbery charges, with the robbery charge arising from allegations that she was found in possession of Mabade's cellphone after his

death.

Her indication that she intends to plead guilty to murder was particularly startling because she had previously rejected the state's version of events and claimed that she killed Mabade in self-defence. He was found dead on a couch at his home in Ha-Mphogo on Thursday, 6 August, with two stab wounds below his chin.

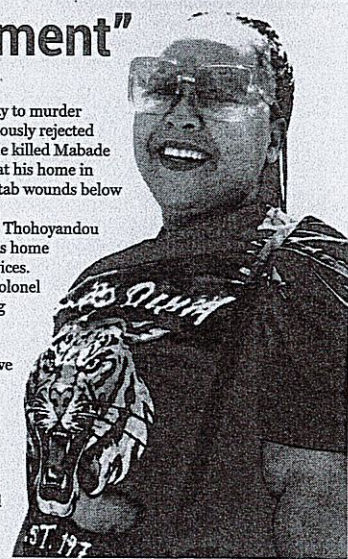
Police allege that Mabade and Mudau met in Thohoyandou on Wednesday, 5 August, before travelling to his home after allegedly agreeing on R800 for sexual services.

According to Limpopo SAPS spokesperson Colonel Malesela Ledwaba, trouble started the following morning when Mudau was preparing to leave.

"The deceased paid the suspect an agreed amount, and when the suspect was about to leave the house, a heated argument ensued. They fought until the suspect allegedly grabbed a knife and stabbed the deceased," Ledwaba said.

Mudau, however, previously gave the court a starkly different version. She claimed Mabade did not want her to leave and that an argument escalated into a physical confrontation. She told the court that she stabbed him in self-defence. She also confirmed that the two had agreed on R800 and that the money had been paid.

Mudau made her first appearance in the Thohoyandou Magistrate's Court on 7 August, facing a murder charge. The bail application later got under way.



Murder accused Rothe Mudau, who was left stunned when her legal representative withdrew from her case, citing non-payment of legal fees. Photo supplied.

Elderly traditional leader arrested for alleged rape of 17-year-old girl

BY ELMON TSHIKHUDO

The arrest of a 67-year-old man accused of raping a 17-year-old girl has added to growing concerns over sexual offences against children in Vhembe.

The traditional leader from Ngulumbi, who is known to Limpopo Mirror but cannot be named because he has not yet pleaded, was arrested by members of the Thohoyandou Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS) Unit following allegations that he raped the teenager at his home.

According to police, the teenager was at home with her mother when she allegedly told her that the traditional leader had raped her on Monday, 10 August. It is alleged that

the teenager had gone to the suspect's home to see a female teacher, only to find that the teacher was not there.

The traditional leader appeared before the Thohoyandou Magistrate's Court on Wednesday, 26 August. His case was postponed to 2 September for profiling and a possible bail application, but the matter could not proceed because the accused's attorney was not at court. The case was then postponed to 7 September.

Vhembe police spokesperson Captain Vuledzani Dathi confirmed the arrest and said investigations were continuing.

The latest case comes amid a number of sexual-offence cases involving children and teenagers reported in Vhembe and surrounding areas in recent

months.

In June, police launched a manhunt for a suspect accused of raping a toddler in the Maphophe area. The case involved a child who was only 22 months old.

In another disturbing case, a 31-year-old soccer academy director was arrested by the Thohoyandou FCS Unit after being accused of repeatedly raping a 15-year-old boy. The accused remained in custody after his bail proceedings were initially postponed.

In a separate case, two teenagers from Mutsha Khwekhwe were allegedly raped by a well-known prophet who allegedly lured them with the promise of money and snacks. The prophet is currently on the run from police in connection with the allegations.

Yet another teenage death shocks

BY ELMON TSHIKHUDO

Incidents of suspected teenage suicide are becoming a disturbing concern in Vhembe, with a string of deaths involving young people leaving families, schools and communities struggling to understand what is driving children to take their own lives.

In the latest tragedy, 13-year-old Tendani Nebonde from Tshikweta outside Thohoyandou, a Grade 8 learner at Nthetsheseni Secondary School, was found hanging from a tree at a disused home in the village. The incident happened on Tuesday, 26 August, at about 08:00.

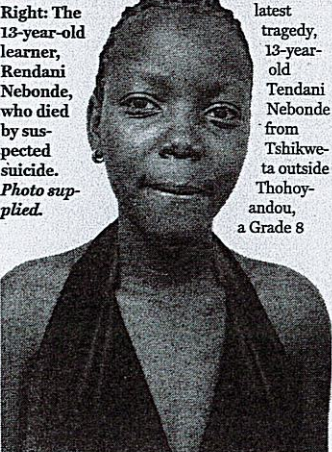
Vhembe District SAPS spokesperson Captain Vuledzani Dathi confirmed that Thohoyandou police had opened an inquest following the discovery of the girl, adding that the circumstances surrounding her death remained unclear.

Tendani's death has left the Tshikweta community in shock, while her school mourned a learner it described as a "beautiful soul".

"Gone from our sight but never from our hearts. Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure," the school said in a tribute.

Tendani's death is not an isolated incident. In December 2025, 12-year-old Vhaakona Madilonga of Vuvha Hamagwada and 17-year-old Orilwela Nndanduleni of Tshitavha died in separate suspected suicide incidents. Earlier that year, two teenage girls from Lwamondo, aged 13 and 14, died in a suspected double-suicide incident. In April 2026, a 15-year-old learner from Vuu was also involved in a suspected suicide incident.

The succession of cases has raised uncomfortable questions about the emotional and psychological wellbeing of young people in the district. For parents and educators, the growing number of tragedies is a warning that changes in a child's behaviour should never be dismissed.



Right: The 13-year-old learner, Rendani Nebonde, who died by suspected suicide. Photo supplied.



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