

POWER ECONOMY TO THE PEOPLE PARTY (PEP)

MANIFESTO

Putting power, opportunities and services into the hands of the people

OUR COMMITMENT: JOBS, DIGNITY, SAFETY, RELIABLE WATER AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

Power Economy to the People Party (PEP) is committed to practical solutions that improve the lives of ordinary people. We believe communities must benefit from local economic resources, workers must be treated with dignity, small service providers must be supported, children must be protected, and essential public services must be delivered responsibly.

Our manifesto sets out the priorities we will advocate for in partnership with communities, government, businesses and traditional leadership.

1. JOB CREATION, SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Sekhukhune District is rich in mineral resources and has numerous mining operations. PEP believes that local communities must benefit meaningfully from these resources through employment, practical training and sustainable economic opportunities.

Our proposed commitments include:

- **Practical skills training:** Advocate for mining companies operating in Sekhukhune to establish training centres where local people can learn technical, artisan and other hands-on skills.
- **Pathways from training to work:** Encourage mining companies to create opportunities for trained participants to gain practical experience and enter the workforce.
- **Community workshops:** Advocate for workshops where qualified trainees can work, offer services or establish small businesses after completing their training.
- **Tools and equipment:** Encourage mining companies and relevant partners to provide access to tools, equipment and resources that help trained people earn a sustainable income.
- **Local enterprise development:** Support community-based businesses that create jobs, provide services and reduce dependence on scarce formal employment.
- **Accountability and oversight:** Propose cooperation among government, mining companies and traditional leadership, including local kings, to monitor delivery and ensure community benefit.

PEP believes Sekhukhune's mineral wealth must create real opportunities for the people who live alongside the mines. Our communities must have the skills, resources and support needed to participate in the economy.

2. SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL TRANSPORT OPERATORS

School transport operators provide an essential service to parents and learners, especially where reliable public transport is limited. Many operators experience difficulties understanding, applying for or obtaining the permits required to operate legally.

Our proposed commitments include:

- **Permit guidance:** Help school transport operators understand the relevant requirements and how to apply for the necessary permits.
- **Accessible government services:** Engage relevant departments to improve access to permit offices, application services and clear information.
- **Efficient processing:** Advocate for transparent procedures, reasonable processing times and better communication about application progress.

- **Fair treatment:** Engage law enforcement authorities and transport stakeholders to promote fair, consistent treatment of operators who comply with applicable requirements.
- **Child safety:** Support a properly regulated school transport sector that puts the safety and welfare of children first.

PEP wants school transport operators to be able to comply with the law without unnecessary administrative barriers. Our goal is to protect learners' access to safe transport while helping operators work legally and with dignity.

3. PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT AND THE INSOURCING OF SECURITY SERVICES

Security officers help protect public facilities, government buildings and community infrastructure. PEP recognises the uncertainty that can arise when workers depend on short-term contracts and repeated tender processes.

Our proposed commitments include:

- **Direct employment where feasible:** Advocate for government to assess whether suitable security services can be brought in-house and qualifying personnel employed directly.
- **Greater employment stability:** Promote sustainable employment arrangements that reduce avoidable insecurity caused by frequent contract changes.
- **Fair working conditions:** Advocate for fair remuneration, respect for labour rights and improved employment security.
- **Responsible implementation:** Encourage assessments of staffing needs, affordability, service quality and applicable labour and procurement laws.
- **Transparency and accountability:** Support open processes that protect workers and ensure public resources are used responsibly.

PEP believes that people who protect public institutions deserve dignity, fair treatment and greater employment security. Any transition to insourcing should be carefully planned and legally compliant.

4. RELIABLE WATER SUPPLY AND MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Access to clean and reliable water is essential for households, schools, businesses and community life. Water interruptions can place serious pressure on communities and highlight the need for effective planning, infrastructure maintenance and accountable financial management.

Our proposed commitments include:

- **Clear local accountability:** Advocate for clear responsibility for water services within each municipality's jurisdiction, supported by appropriate funding, skills and infrastructure.
- **Review of water management:** Assess whether current arrangements are effective and explore reforms that could improve local planning, distribution and maintenance.
- **Address water-related debt:** Call for transparent engagement between relevant municipalities and water institutions to resolve outstanding obligations and reduce the risk of service disruptions.
- **Infrastructure investment:** Advocate for maintenance, repair and expansion of pipelines, reservoirs, pumps and other essential water facilities.
- **Public reporting:** Call for regular updates on interruptions, repair schedules, expenditure and progress towards reliable supply.
- **Equitable access:** Promote fair water distribution so that no community is neglected because of its location or financial circumstances.

PEP will advocate for practical reforms that strengthen accountability, improve coordination and make reliable water services a priority. Water governance must be transparent and focused on the needs of the people.

5. PROTECTION AND SUPPORT FOR ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN

Every child deserves love, protection, dignity and a fair opportunity to succeed, regardless of family circumstances. PEP recognises that orphans, vulnerable children and child-headed households may face challenges accessing food, education, safe housing and essential services.

Our proposed commitments include:

- **Education support:** Advocate for assistance with school uniforms, stationery, transport and other essential learning needs.
- **Food and basic necessities:** Work with government, community organisations, businesses and traditional leaders to strengthen support for children who lack adequate food, clothing and other essentials.
- **Child-headed households:** Advocate for appropriate social-work support and access to available services for children caring for themselves or their siblings.
- **Access to social assistance:** Help eligible caregivers and families understand and access relevant child support, foster care and other available social assistance programmes.
- **Safe homes and protection:** Support the identification of children at risk of abuse, neglect, exploitation or homelessness and help connect them with appropriate child-protection services.
- **Mentorship and future opportunities:** Promote vocational training, career guidance, mentorship and employment pathways as vulnerable children transition into adulthood.
- **Community responsibility:** Encourage cooperation among government, traditional leaders, schools, community organisations and responsible businesses so that vulnerable children are not forgotten.

PEP believes that losing parents or growing up in difficult circumstances should not determine a child's future. Every child deserves the chance to learn, develop their talents and grow up in a safe and supportive environment.

OUR COMMITMENT TO THE PEOPLE

PEP stands for practical solutions to the challenges affecting ordinary people. We will advocate for policies and partnerships that expand opportunity, protect dignity and improve essential services.

OUR PRIORITIES

- Create pathways from practical training to employment and self-employment.
- Help school transport operators navigate permit requirements and access government services.
- Promote stable, fair employment through the appropriate insourcing of security services where feasible.
- Fight for reliable water supply, infrastructure investment and accountable municipal management.
- Protect orphans and vulnerable children by strengthening access to education, basic necessities, social assistance and safe environments.

POWER ECONOMY TO THE PEOPLE PARTY — PUTTING THE PEOPLE FIRST THROUGH OPPORTUNITY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND ACTION.