



Province of the Eastern Cape
OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

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**TO: ALL HEADS OF PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENTS
CHIEF DIRECTOR: CORPORATE SERVICES (OTP)**

Dear Colleagues,

**COMMUNICATION OF DPSA 38 OF 2026 PARTICIPATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE
EMPLOYEES IN THE 2026 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS**

The purpose of this Circular is to provide guidance on the participation of public service employees in the 2026 Local Government Elections and to ensure compliance with the Public Service Act, 1994, the Public Service Regulations, 2016, and other applicable legislation.

Heads of Departments are requested to ensure that all employees are informed of the following:

1. Public service employees who intend to stand as candidates in the Local Government Elections must comply with the provisions of the Public Service Act, 1994, and the Public Service Regulations, 2016.
2. Employees who become official candidates must immediately notify their Heads of Departments in writing and submit the relevant Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) candidate certificate.
3. Departments must administer leave arrangements in accordance with the applicable legislation framework.
4. Employees may not conduct political activities during official working hours or use government resources, facilities, or their official positions for political purposes.
5. Departments must ensure that service delivery is not disrupted during the election period.



COMMUNICATION OF DPSA 38 OF 2026 PARTICIPATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES IN THE 2026 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

6. Where an employee is elected to a position that is incompatible with continued employment in the Public Service, the relevant legislative provisions must be applied.

Heads of Departments are requested to bring the contents of this Circular to the attention of all employees and ensure full compliance.

For enquiries, contact nwabisa.ntantiso@ecotp.gov.za / 072 346 8577 or zolani.ntozini@ecotp.gov.za / 083 842 2274.

Kind Regards



MBULELO SOGONI (MR)
DIRECTOR-GENERAL

30 July 2026

DATE

