



MEDIA STATEMENT.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

23 April 2026

SEDIBENG RESPONDS TO CONCERNS RAISED REGARDING THE VEREENIGING AERODROME

The Sedibeng District Municipality acknowledges the statement made by the Freedom Front Plus (VF+) Councillor regarding the challenges faced by the Vereeniging Aerodrome. The Municipality welcomes the opportunity to provide clarity and an update on the matter.

The Municipality confirms that the challenges highlighted by the VF+ Councillor are well documented in official Council records. These challenges, which accumulated over a considerable period, ultimately resulted in the cancellation of the Aerodrome's licence in 2019, owing to non-compliance with strict perimeter fencing regulations designed to ensure the safety, security and operational integrity of the facility.

Private Sector Partnership and Way Forward

In response to these challenges, the Municipality has taken decisive steps to secure the future of the Vereeniging Aerodrome. Council has resolved to extend the facility's mandate through a private sector partnership, which will see the Aerodrome leased to suitable investors who are committed to rehabilitating and transforming the aviation facility for the benefit of the entire region. This initiative is aimed at promoting General Aviation and stimulating the local economy.

The Municipality recognises that aviation is a capital-intensive sector, and that sustainable progress requires significant investment and a long-term strategy. To this end, the relevant department is currently developing Terms of Reference in accordance with the required legal procedures. Upon completion, a formal Supply Chain Management process will be followed, which will include the issuance of a public notice inviting interested investors to submit proposals for the leasing of the Aerodrome.

On the Alleged R180 000 Maintenance Tender

Regarding the claim that the District Municipality approved a R180 000 tender for maintenance work in July 2025, the Municipality wishes to place on record that no such tender was approved or issued. The Freedom Front Plus is respectfully requested to provide further details and supporting evidence in this regard so that the matter can be thoroughly investigated.

On the Sewer Matter

The sewer-related concern raised has been formally reported to Metsi a Lekoa for their urgent attention and resolution.

On the Status of the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA)

The Municipality wishes to correct the perception that the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) has closed the Vereeniging Aerodrome. This is factually incorrect. The SACAA has not closed the facility, nor has it initiated any such process. As the official aviation regulator, the SACAA remains a supportive body that is available at all times to provide guidance on matters of aviation safety.

Sedibeng expresses its sincere gratitude to all stakeholders who have contributed to ensuring that the Vereeniging Aerodrome remains accident-free to date. The District Municipality reaffirms its commitment to accelerating the process of bringing about positive and meaningful development at the Aerodrome for the benefit of the entire Sedibeng region.

Issued by Sedibeng District Municipality | Communications Department: communications@sedibeng.gov.za

