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NELSON MANDELA REGION

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THE PEOPLE'S REGISTER

FINAL VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE • FIELD JOURNAL

NELSON MANDELA BAY LEADS THE EASTERN CAPE

5,087 new voters registered in a single weekend, the highest number of any municipality in the province

LEADING THE EASTERN CAPE'S RECORD REGISTRATION WEEKEND OF
313,797 REGISTRATIONS

313,797

EASTERN CAPE
REGISTRATIONS

79,417

EASTERN CAPE FIRST-
TIME YOUTH

5,087

NEW VOTERS: NMB
METRO



THE PEOPLE, ON THE GROUND: FINAL VOTER REGISTRATION WEEKEND

114 YEARS OF THE ANC

50 YEARS SINCE 1976

61+ SEATS TO WIN

VOTE ANC



2026: THE YEAR OF DECISIVE ACTION TO FIX LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND TRANSFORM THE ECONOMY



EDITORIAL

THE PEOPLE HAVE ANSWERED

Nelson Mandela Bay led the province: 5,087 new voters in one weekend. The Eastern Cape delivered 313,797 registrations and 79,417 first-time youth voters.

NELSON MANDELA BAY **AUGUST 2026**

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The conclusion of the 2026 voter registration programme marks an important step on the road to the local government elections of 4 November. Over a single weekend the Eastern Cape recorded 313,797 registrations, of which 79,417 were young people registering for the first time. Nelson Mandela Bay, our region, led the province, adding 5,087 new voters, the highest number of any municipality.

Every name on this register has a face. The elder in KwaNobuhle who came to the table leaning on her walking stick. The student at Nelson Mandela University (NMU) who arrived with her whole residence corridor behind her, and the TVET apprentice who registered at the campus gate between lectures. The worker in Kariega who signed the roll between shifts. The families of Walmer and Booyens Park who opened their doors after dark. Their registration is not politeness; it is an instruction: the movement must now earn, on 4 November, the confidence they have already shown.

This outcome was earned, not gifted. Across all six clusters, renewal faced the people directly: deployees staffing information tables,

branch executives accounting for every voting district, ward task teams on the street corners, the ANC Youth League (ANCYL) on the campuses and the ANC Women's League at the doorsteps of our elders, coffee in one hand, registration form in the other. The movement did not wait to be summoned by the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC). We carried the campaign to the people.

This special edition of *The People's Register* stands as both a record of that effort and a statement of the task before us. Registration is the foundation; the work of mobilisation and persuasion now begins in earnest. Our candidates are ready. On 23 August 2026, at the national launch of the ANC Election Manifesto, the President of the ANC, Comrade Cyril Ramaphosa, will table the programme to which we shall hold ourselves accountable.

In this, the Year of Decisive Action to Fix Local Government and Transform the Economy, our target is a governing majority of **61+ seats**, under a single line of executive accountability to the people of Nelson Mandela Bay.

The ANC has accepted the challenge of our youth. Once our young people are registered, it is our responsibility to give them a policy platform worth voting for on 4 November.

BAMANYE MATIWANE: REGIONAL SPOKESPERSON

WHAT THE ROLL TELLS US

Across South Africa, the two registration weekends of June and August added **754,332** new voters to the national roll, taking the total beyond **29 million**. In the Eastern Cape, **313,797** registrations were recorded on the final weekend alone, **79,417** of them new youth registrations. Young people aged 16 to 29 accounted for nearly half of all brand-new registrations nationally, a clear signal of the generation now coming into the franchise.

Editor-in-Chief: Cde Siphiwo Tshaka (Regional Secretary)

Editor: Bamanye Matiwane (Regional Spokesperson)

ANC NELSON MANDELA REGION COMMUNICATIONS

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REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (REC): TOP 5 OFFICIALS

01

REGIONAL CHAIRPERSON
Cde Babalwa Lobishe

02

DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON
Cde Lufefe Mkutu

03

REGIONAL SECRETARY
Cde Siphiwo Tshaka

04

DEPUTY REGIONAL SECRETARY
Cde Nontombi Nama

05

REGIONAL TREASURER
Cde Luvuyo Mini

ANC NELSON MANDELA REGION: BUILDING A BETTER LIFE FOR ALL

CLUSTER 01: FIELD REPORT

MOLLY BLACKBURN CLUSTER

Wards 1-9, 12, 39, 40: Gqeberha Central, Walmer, Summerstrand, Kuyga

DATELINE: GQEBERHA METRO CENTRAL ACADEMIC HUBS

THE LEGACY THAT GUIDES US

Molly Blackburn dedicated her life to opposing apartheid injustice in the Eastern Cape, using her seat in the Cape Provincial Council to force state brutality into the official record. Her name reminds us that our movement is non-racial and broad-based, serving every resident of Nelson Mandela Bay, from Walmer Township to Summerstrand.

Cluster 1 spans established suburbs and growing urban communities, meeting students at their residences, commuters on their routes and families at their homes.

ON THE GROUND: WHAT WE DELIVERED

Campus drives at Nelson Mandela University and the Port Elizabeth TVET College brought hundreds of first-time voters onto the roll. Deputy Regional Secretary Cde Nontombi Nama led the team at the Ward 5 TVET station. In Ward 39, Ward Candidate Cde Tanya Stephens and campaign teams covered the Sherwood Voting District (VD).



ON THE GROUND

WARDS 1-9, 12, 39, 40

ANC teams at work across the Molly Blackburn Cluster.



REC LEADERSHIP

REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTRE

The regional operations centre is fully operational on Day 2 of the final voter registration at the Florence Matomela House.



DOOR-TO-DOOR

NELSON MANDELA BAY REGION

Door-to-door in the Nelson Mandela Bay region, led by ANC National Executive Committee (NEC) Member Comrade Mmamoloko Kubayi alongside Regional Secretary Comrade Siphiso Tshaka.



VOTER ENGAGEMENT

KWAZAKHELE: WARD 20

ANC Regional Secretary Comrade Siphiso Tshaka interacts with voters in KwaZakhele, Ward 20.

The right to vote was secured through immense sacrifice. Our responsibility is to ensure every eligible citizen is registered to exercise that right.

COMMUNITY VOICE: MOLLY BLACKBURN CLUSTER

CLUSTER 01: FEATURE

YOUTH & CAMPUS MOBILISATION

The generation that inherited freedom is choosing to defend it at the ballot

DATELINE: NMU & RUSSELL ROAD CAMPUS & YOUTH

The young volunteers of this cluster produced TikTok content during field operations that drew national attention. NEC Convener Comrade Mmamoloko Kubayi commended the initiative and requested the videos for the movement's national platforms. It is an encouraging sign of renewal that the generation which inherited democracy is now choosing to defend it at the ballot.

At the Russell Road Campus VD, councillor candidates and student activists worked side by side at the registration stations. Their example is helping to draw a new generation of South Africans onto the roll.

Our TikTok videos from the registration station went viral at NMU. My entire residence is now registered.

COMMUNITY VOICE: STUDENT VOLUNTEER: NMU

THE YOUTH SURGE, IN NUMBERS

NATIONAL NEW VOTERS		754,332
EASTERN CAPE REGISTRATIONS		313,797
EC FIRST-TIME YOUTH		79,417

Young people aged 16 to 29 made up nearly half of all brand-new registrations nationally.



STUDENT POWER

CAMPUS: NMU

Young ANC members and student leaders at a campus registration drive.



YOUTH MOBILISATION

CAMPUS DRIVE

The next generation of ANC leaders taking to the campaign.



WARD CANDIDATE

WARD 2: NMU

Ward 2 councillor candidate Sibongakonke Msibi is a student at NMU.



FIRST-TIME VOTERS

TVET: RUSSELL ROAD

Students making their voices count for the first time.

THE YOUTH MOVEMENT

They registered themselves. Then they registered their friends. Across NMU and the TVET colleges, the young people of the Molly Blackburn Cluster stopped waiting for the

campaign to come to them and carried the campaign themselves. Freedom was handed to them. They are choosing to hand it forward.

CLUSTER 02: FIELD REPORT

LILIAN DIEDERICKS CLUSTER

Wards 10, 11, 13, 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37, 38: Gelvandale, Helenvale, Bethelsdorp, Booyens Park

DATELINE: NORTHERN AREAS HIGH-DENSITY WARDS DOORSTEP ENGAGEMENT

THE LEGACY THAT GUIDES US

Lilian Diedericks was a Port Elizabeth trade unionist and a founding member of the Federation of South African Women, who stood among the leaders of the 1956 Women's March on the Union Buildings. Tried for treason and banned by the apartheid state, her legacy lives in the working-class communities of Gelvandale and the Northern Areas.

Cluster 2 is the Northern Areas, the heart of working-class Nelson Mandela Bay. Door-to-door teams moved through every street to assist residents with address verification, registration updates and their questions about delivery.

ON THE GROUND: WHAT WE DELIVERED

Ward 39 delivered one of the drive's defining moments at the Sherwood Voting District, where Ward Candidate Cde Tanya Stephens and BET Coordinator Cde Patrick Brennan worked shoulder to shoulder with Cde Isla Williams. Registration assistance, address verification and doorstep conversations ran the length of the weekend. Every voting district was covered.



VOTER DRIVE

SHERWOOD VD: WARD 39

Cde Isla Williams on the ground at Ward 39 with Ward Candidate Cde Tanya Stephens and BET Coordinator Cde Patrick Brennan at the Sherwood Voting District.



REVOLUTIONARY SOLIDARITY

WARD 39: SHERWOOD VD

A moment of revolutionary solidarity: Ward Candidate Cde Tanya Stephens and BET Coordinator Cde Patrick Brennan at the information desk in Ward 39.

My mother took me to the Women's March in 1956. Today I am taking my granddaughter to register. The fight continues.

COMMUNITY VOICE: NORTHERN AREAS

CLUSTER 03: FIELD REPORT

GOVAN MBEKI CLUSTER

Wards 14-22, 24: New Brighton & KwaZakhele Flagship

DATELINE: NEW BRIGHTON & KWAZAKHELE HISTORIC HEARTLAND MASS MOBILISATION

THE LEGACY THAT GUIDES US

Govan Mbeki was a veteran strategist and intellectual who organised industrial and township workers and built an impenetrable ANC stronghold in Port Elizabeth. This is where the ANC's ideological foundation is deepest, and where the movement has always drawn its greatest strength.

Cluster 3 consistently achieved some of the best registration results across the entire metro, a living return on decades of rooted organisation.

ON THE GROUND: WHAT WE DELIVERED

Regional Chairperson Cde Babalwa Lobishe led a door-to-door campaign in Ward 16, New Brighton, alongside ANCYL Regional Task Team (RTT) members Comrades Akhona Kethani, Amyoli Resha and Ntombozuko Xipu. Senior leadership and branch volunteers moved as one team through every voting district.



EMPLOYEES IN ACTION

WARD 14, NEW BRIGHTON

ANC Member of the Provincial Legislature (MPL) Cde Dr Tony Duba verifying registration documents with a resident on her doorstep.



DOOR-TO-DOOR

WARD 17, STEPHEN MAZUNGULA VD

REC Member Cde Zipho Jodwana leading a street patrol of volunteers through residential lanes.



ON THE GROUND

NEW BRIGHTON: WARD 16

Regional Chairperson and ANCYL RTT door-to-door mobilisation.

I spoke the truth and exposed what was the hardship of the Africans. If you call that ruthless, speaking the truth, then I was ruthless.

IN THE WORDS OF THE CLUSTER'S NAMESAKE: RIVONIA TRIAL, 1964

CLUSTER 03: FEATURE

WARD 17 & CAMPUS COFFEE DRIVES

Doorstep visits and the PE TVET College Russell Road Campus drive

DATELINE: LUNDINI & RUSSELL ROAD HOME VISITS & CAMPUSES



HOME VISIT

WARD 17, LUNDINI VD

Cde Zipho Jodwana seated with an elder resident inside her home explaining registration options.



DIRECT SERVICE

WARD 17 DOORSTEP REGISTRATION

Volunteers assisting senior citizens in completing registration checklist verification forms.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

WARD 17 COFFEE DRIVE

ANC teams serving coffee and registration guidance to residents during the Ward 17 community coffee drive.



ADVANCEMENT

CAMPUS: PE TVET COLLEGE (WARD 15)

REC Member Cde Eugene Johnson and the Ernest Malgas Branch hosted a Coffee Drive at the Russell Road Campus, driving student engagement and registration assistance.

SERVICE TO THE ELDERS

The most patient work of the weekend was done at the doorsteps of our elders. Home visits in Lundini VD paired younger volunteers with senior residents, completing verification forms face to face and treating every registration as an act of respect. It was

service first, without agenda, done quietly and without reward, in the way the movement has always understood that our duty is to those we serve.

CLUSTER 04: FIELD REPORT

CHAMPION GALELA CLUSTER

Wards 24-28, 30, 33, 36, 41: Kariega & Despatch Industrial Hubs

DATELINE: ZWIDE & KARIEGA INDUSTRIAL HEARTLAND

THE LEGACY THAT GUIDES US

Champion Galela was a civic leader of the Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation and a member of the PEBCO Three, who sacrificed his life fighting for civic rights and democratic representation. Abducted and murdered by the security police in 1985, his spirit rests in Zwide, in the soil of the community he died to liberate.

Cluster 4 is working-class Zwide and the industrial belt of Kariega and Despatch. Our teams met factory workers, shift personnel and residents of informal settlements where they live and work.

ON THE GROUND: WHAT WE DELIVERED

Teams focused on shift workers, informal settlements and residential areas across the industrial corridor, ensuring complete voter coverage and consistent visible presence along major transport routes.

We came from the funeral of Cde Mali. The Regional Chairperson told us to register after the service. We did. We will vote on 4 November.

COMMUNITY VOICE: KARIEGA



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

WARD 41 BAYLAND

Regional Chairperson shares a light moment with a resident of Bayland.



COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

WARD 41 BAYLAND DEPLOYMENT

Volunteer teams conducting one-on-one doorstep conversations with residents.

SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS

The Champion Galela Cluster covers working-class Zwide and the industrial belt of Kariega and Despatch. From the door-to-door outreach in Bayland to the registration that followed a comrade's funeral, our teams served residents where they live and work, and the community responded in kind.

CLUSTER 05: FIELD REPORT

ALEX MATIKINCA CLUSTER

Wards 23, 53-60: Motherwell, Ikamvalihle, Coega SEZ

DATELINE: MOTHERWELL COEGA SEZ GROWTH & OPPORTUNITY CORRIDOR

THE LEGACY THAT GUIDES US

Alex Matikinca was a grassroots activist and education advocate from Motherwell who championed equal access to schooling, youth empowerment and community development. His legacy lives on through the annual Alex Matikinca Reading Competition.

Cluster 5 sits at the centre of the region's future. The Coega Special Economic Zone is transforming the area into an automotive, manufacturing and export hub, with a proposed R2-billion investment by the Sailun Group set to create thousands of industrial jobs.

ON THE GROUND: WHAT WE DELIVERED

NEC Convener Cde Mmamoloko Kubayi and Regional Secretary Cde Siphiwo Tshaka worked together at the Agape Voting Station in Ward 60. NEC Member Cde Andile Lungisa joined REC Member Cde Yolisa Pali-Jongilanga at ANC information tables in Ward 59. Motherwell is a young, growing community, and it is where the future of the region is taking shape.



NEC PRESENCE

WARD 59 INFORMATION TABLE

NEC Member Cde Andile Lungisa and REC Member Cde Yolisa Pali-Jongilanga engaging at information tables in Ward 59.



NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

WARD 59 MOBILISATION

Resident NEC Member Comrade Andile Lungisa poses for a picture with ANC members and volunteers at the Ward 59 information desk.

Nelson Mandela Bay is ready to compete for global investment. We are determined to create an enabling environment where investors can establish, grow and contribute meaningfully to our local economy.

MAYOR LOBISHE: ON THE COEGA VISION

CLUSTER 05: FEATURE

WARD 59 OPERATIONS & LOGISTICS

Information tables, gazebos and the operations desk that kept Motherwell moving

DATELINE: MOTHERWELL GROUND SETUP & COMMAND



HANDS-ON LEADERSHIP

WARD 59 SETUP

REC Member Cde Yolisa Pali-Jongilanga carrying the campaign gazebo framework to the setup point.

MOTHERWELL: A STRATEGIC PRIORITY

Motherwell's dense population makes Wards 53-60 a critical pillar for regional success. High-profile leadership deployments ensured that information tables operated at full capacity throughout the weekend.



OPERATIONS CENTRE

WARD 59 OPERATIONS ROOM

Field officers reviewing VD tally sheets and registration logs.

THE ROAD TO 4 NOVEMBER

Registration complete. Online registration remains open until the proclamation of the election date. **Manifesto launch** on 23 August 2026, at which ANC President Comrade Cyril Ramaphosa will table the Election Manifesto. **Persuasion phase** of 1,619 conversations per day across 40 priority wards. **Election day** on 4 November 2026, with transport, rapid response and a war room ready to defend every vote.

CLUSTER 06: FIELD REPORT

ZOLA NQINI CLUSTER

Wards 42-52: Kariega, KwaNobuhle & the Industrial Belt

DATELINE: KWANOBUHLE MANUFACTURING BELT OUTER RING WARDS

THE LEGACY THAT GUIDES US

Zola Nqini was an Umkhonto we Sizwe commander and diplomat who chose the ANC when he could have chosen comfort. He was imprisoned on Robben Island, banned and exiled, and killed in the 1982 Maseru raid. A statue in his honour stands in Kariega.

Cluster 6 covers the industrial manufacturing belt and peri-urban areas of KwaNobuhle. Mobile teams operated throughout the weekend to ensure residents in outlying sectors were fully registered.

ON THE GROUND: WHAT WE DELIVERED

Field reports were received from the Mgcunube VD in Ward 46 and the R H Godlo and Vuba VDs in Ward 47. The response of the industrial working class to the registration drive speaks to the strength of the movement in this cluster.



CLUSTER 6

CLUSTER ACTIVITY

ANC teams mobilising across the Zola Nqini cluster during the final registration weekend.



CLUSTER 6

CLUSTER ACTIVITY

Deployed volunteers and branch members on the ground across the Zola Nqini cluster.



CLUSTER 6

CLUSTER ACTIVITY

Regional Spokesperson Bamanye Matiwane on the ground across the Zola Nqini cluster.



VD 47

VUBA

Voter assistance at the Vuba voting district, Ward 47.



VD 47

R H GODLO

ANC teams at the R H Godlo voting district, Ward 47.



VD 46

MGCUNUBE

Field outreach at the Mgcunube voting district, Ward 46.

Ndifela abantu bakuthi! Ndifela isizwe sakuthi!: I am dying for my people! I am dying for my nation!

IN THE WORDS OF THE CLUSTER'S NAMESAKE



FINAL DATA CONSOLIDATION

VOTER REGISTRATION METRICS

Regional performance across 60 wards and six clusters

313,797 EASTERN CAPE REGISTRATIONS	79,417 EASTERN CAPE FIRST-TIME YOUTH	5,087 NEW VOTERS: NMB METRO	6 / 60 CLUSTERS / WARDS
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REGIONAL CLUSTER	WARDS COVERED	FIELD FOCUS	STATUS
1. Molly Blackburn	1-9, 12, 39, 40	NMU & TVET campuses; Sherwood VD	100%
2. Lilian Diedericks	10, 11, 13, 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37, 38	BooySENS Park & George Botha door-to-door	100%
3. Govan Mbeki	14-22, 24	New Brighton & KwaZakhele outreach	100%
4. Champion Galela	24-28, 30, 33, 36, 41	Kariega & Despatch industrial drive	100%
5. Alex Matikinca	23, 53-60	Motherwell & Coega info tables	100%
6. Zola Nqini	42-52	KwaNobuhle outer ring mobilisation	100%
REGIONAL TOTAL	60 Wards	Six Clusters Mobilised	FULL COVERAGE

FROM GROUND MOBILISATION TO
ELECTORAL VICTORY

The people before us are the measure of what disciplined organisation can achieve. Every registration represents a comrade who has taken their place in the democratic process, and every door knocked and every conversation held has strengthened the movement's standing among the people of Nelson Mandela Bay.

The work of renewal does not end at the registration station. Our people have registered; our task now is to earn their vote on 4 November, and to govern in a manner worthy of their trust.

THE TARGET IS CLEAR: 61+ SEATS. A GOVERNING
MAJORITY.

A SINGLE LINE OF EXECUTIVE ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE PEOPLE OF NELSON
MANDELA BAY

REGISTER. MOBILISE. VOTE ANC.

ELECTION DAY: 4 NOVEMBER 2026

#VoteANC

#61PlusSeats

#RenewalInAction



"THE PEOPLE SHALL
GOVERN."
FREEDOM CHARTER, 1955

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