

JUNE 2025

ISSUE 3



MEPF NEWSLETTER



Your No. 1 Pension Fund



Your No. 1 Pension Fund

Dear Member,

As we enter the second quarter of our 2025/26 Financial Year, we would like to take a moment to reaffirm the core purpose of the Municipal Employees Pension Fund (MEPF) and reflect on key developments and achievements over the past quarter.

In this newsletter, we highlight the true intent and value of your pension fund, outline the Board of Trustees' ongoing efforts to ensure financial stability and soundness of the Fund, and provide an update on the successful implementation of the Two-Pot System. We will also explain the structure of death and retirement benefits and share important information about trusts for minor beneficiaries. Additionally, we address recent misinformation and legal developments and extend our appreciation for your continued partnership.

We trust you will find this edition informative and reassuring as we continue our commitment to safeguarding your financial future.





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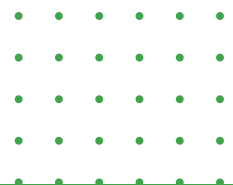
The True Purpose of Your Pension Fund

We urge members to understand and value **the true intent of a Pension Fund**. A pension fund is not merely a savings tool for resignation or a funeral policy. While MEPF does offer additional benefits such as funeral cover, the primary objective of a pension fund is to provide **financial security and dignity in retirement**, as well as **long-term financial protection for your loved ones**.

By contributing consistently during your working years, you are building a reliable financial foundation that will sustain you and your dependents beyond your employment years. This long-term view is what makes a pension fund one of the most powerful financial instruments for future well-being. At MEPF, this will always remain our primary objective.

Decisions to Sustain Financial Stability

The **MEPF Board of Trustees**, mandated to safeguard members' interests, continuously evaluates the Fund's benefits and sustainability. They have a responsibility and duty to ensure the financial soundness of the Fund, oversee investments, and use them to multiply money to pay benefits to all members they serve. Trustees are entrusted to continuously research, diversify, monitor, and adjust to economic and market conditions to ensure growth and good returns on investments. Investments are crucial for the sustainability and performance of the Fund.





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With the investment strategies the Board of Trustees has put in place, MEPF is financially sound and healthy. To put it bluntly, the Fund is in a position to pay benefits for all members if it had to do so now. It is for this reason that Trustees must cap and eliminate wasteful and unnecessary expenditures and ensure all benefits are structured to sustain the Fund for longevity and long-term stability.

Many members have been asking if their monies are safe after false and malicious rumours spread by detractors, and we can boldly confirm that your monies are safe and growing. Benefits are paid according to the Fund rules and in line with regulations governing the Fund.

Two-Pot System: First Quarter Success

We are proud to share that since we started processing payments in April, a total value of **R40 246 836.65** has been paid out to members. This achievement speaks directly to the **operational strength and financial soundness of the Fund**. We remain fully committed and equipped to honour all legitimate claims.



R 40 246 836.65



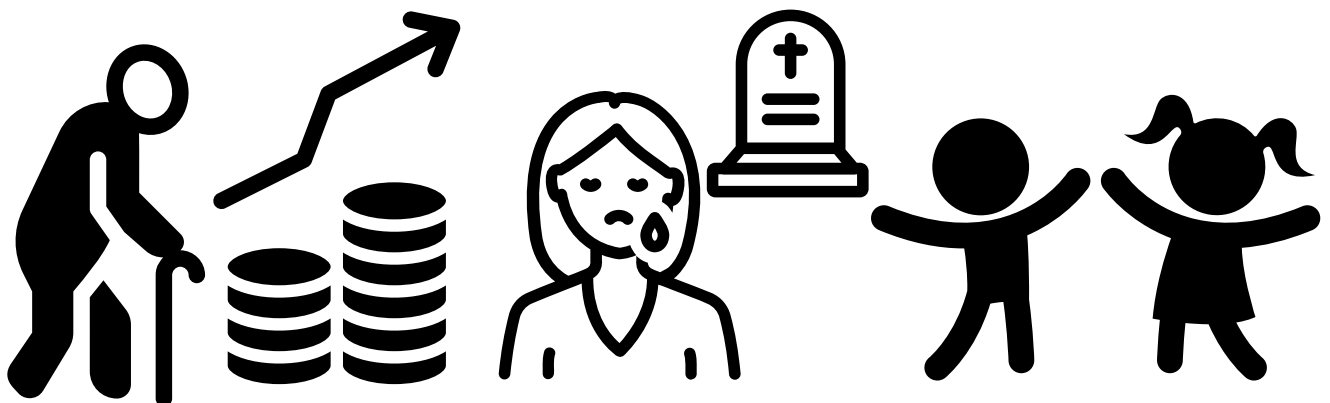
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Understanding MEPF's Death Benefits – DB & DC Explained

We wish to remind our members and stakeholders of the Death Benefit structure available to our members:

- **Defined Benefit (DB) category:** In the unfortunate event of a member's passing whilst employed, the DB fund provides a **monthly pension for eligible dependents** (including spouse and minor children), in addition to a gratuity (lump sum) of 3x Annual Salary. This ensures long-term financial support for the family. If a member leaves **no minor children or spouse**, the compensation is the greater of 1x Annual Salary or twice the member's contributions only.
- **Defined Contribution (DC) category:** Death benefits under the DC component are based on the member's accumulated fund credit plus 4x Annual Salary, which is **paid as a lump sum** to the dependents of the member, as per fund rules and legal guidance (Section 37C of the Pension Fund Act).

The MEPF currently disburses more than **R50 million monthly to pensioners, widows/widowers, and children**. This is a clear and powerful indication of the **financial strength and sustainability** of the Fund. We are proud to uphold our promise of lifelong support to those who have served and contributed faithfully.





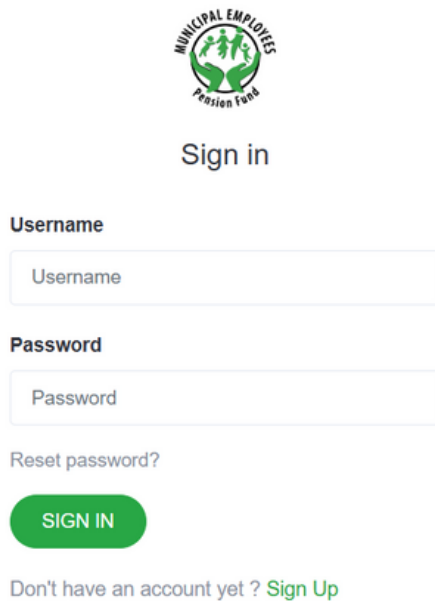
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Retirement Pensions & Spousal Benefits

At retirement, DB members receive a monthly pension for life. In addition, **a 50% monthly pension is paid to the spouse for life** upon the pensioner's passing. This crucial benefit ensures that your spouse remains supported, financially, even after you're gone. **This benefit ceases when the spouse passes on.**

New on the MEPF App: Beneficiary Nominations

You can now **view your beneficiary nominations directly via the MEPF App**. This important feature gives you greater control and transparency over who benefits from your pension, so we encourage all members to log in and ensure that their details are up to date.



The image shows a sign-in screen for the MEPF App. At the top is the MEPF logo. Below it is the text 'Sign in'. There are two input fields: 'Username' and 'Password'. Below the password field is a link for 'Reset password?'. At the bottom is a green 'SIGN IN' button and a link for 'Don't have an account yet ? Sign Up'.

Member Portal



WhatsApp Channel





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Trusts for Minor Beneficiaries – Protecting Their Futures

For deceased members with minor children as beneficiaries, MEPF has a **dedicated Trust structure** administered by **Akani Retirement Fund Administrators (Akani RFA)**. These Trusts ensure that funds are responsibly managed and disbursed **in the best interests of the child** until they reach legal maturity.

We call on all families, guardians, and stakeholders to **engage with the Fund** if they suspect there may be **unclaimed benefits**, particularly where a minor may be involved. Ensuring rightful beneficiaries receive what is due to them is a shared priority.





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Misinformation and Legal Victory

MEPF operates under the strict regulatory framework of the **FSCA and the Pension Funds Act**, ensuring compliance, integrity, and transparency. We continue to caution all stakeholders against the spread of misinformation.

We welcome the ruling handed down on **11 June 2025**, where the **court ordered Mr. Phumudzo Ndou and Ndou Attorneys and Associates** to retract all defamatory statements made against **MEPF and Akani RFA** on their social media platforms. This decision upholds the Fund's reputation and reiterates our dedication to ethical governance and legal compliance.



Ndou Attorneys Inc SA

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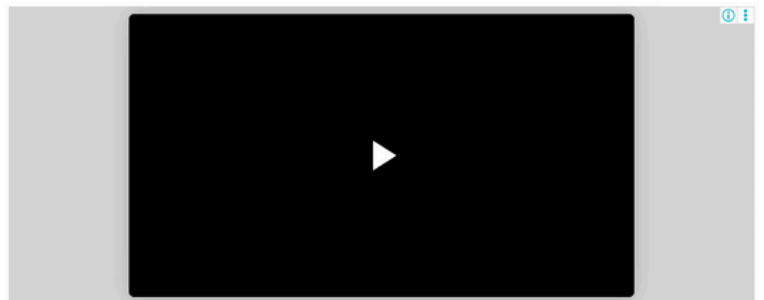
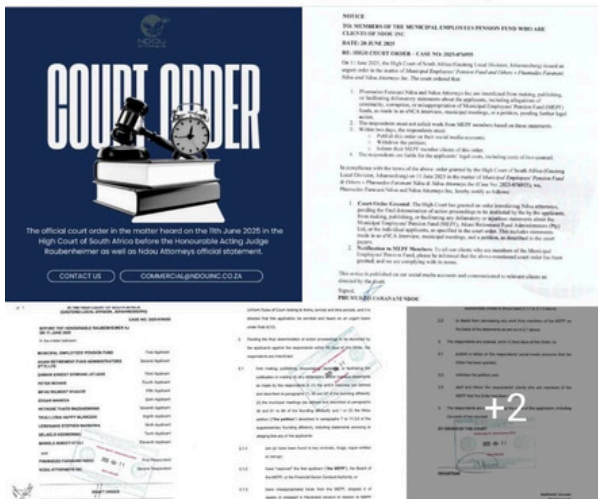
To all clients of Ndou Attorneys who are members of the MEPF. This is the order issued by the High Court of South Africa (Gauteng Division) on the 11th June 2025, we are obligated to bring this to your attention. As a responsible and law-abiding legal firm, we are committed to upholding the rule of law. Therefore, we will comply with the directives outlined in the court order in its entirety.

The lawyer representing the disgruntled members of the Municipal Employment Pension Fund (MEPF) has been ordered to stop making defamatory and injurious statements against the fund and its administrators, Akani Retirement Fund Administrators.

The Johannesburg High Court granted Akani and MEPF an interdict against Phumudzo Ndou and Ndou Attorneys on Wednesday.

In the judgment Sunday World has seen, acting judge Etian Raubenheimer ruled that Ndou and his law firm should cease and desist from making any disparaging and defamatory remarks about Akani and the MEPF, including calling the company and the fund "thugs, criminals, rogue entities and corrupt".

Akani, owned by businessman Zamani Letjane, and the MEPF had approached the court to interdict Ndou and his law firm in their tracks for being hell-bent on slandering the pension fund administrators and its fund.



"The applicants are granted condonation for non-compliance with the uniform rules of court relating to forms, service and time periods, and it is directed that this application be enrolled and heard on an urgent basis under rule 612. Pending the final determination of action proceedings to be launched by the applicants against the respondents within 30 days of this order, the respondents are interdicted from making, publishing, encouraging, repeating or facilitating the publication of or making any defamatory and/or injurious statements as made by the respondents in the eNCA," reads the judgment.

Lawyer ordered to stop defaming Akani and MEPF

[Read More](#)





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Appreciation and Continued Partnership

We extend our sincere thanks to all our stakeholders – members, HR officers, municipal officials, and service providers – for your continued **support, partnership, and collaboration**. Your cooperation helps us to **deliver quality service and protect the dignity of every member**.

Together, we move forward with purpose, resilience, and shared commitment. Our team of esteemed Stakeholder Relations Officers are always available to assist:

Contact Numbers:

1. Lebo Molemane: **066 020 8535** (North-West, Mpumalanga)
2. Tsamai Ratsela **082 289 0100** (Free-State, Gauteng)
3. Gudani Mufhadi **072 352 7144** (Free-State, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North-West)
4. Thulani Mthombeni **082 585 5931** (Gauteng, KZN, Northern Cape, Eastern Cape)
5. Wisani Shiviti **072 352 6894** (Limpopo, Mpumalanga)

Regards,
Municipal Employees Pension Fund
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APPRECIATION

