Asimile Siyaqhuba:
ADVANCING PUBLIC SAFETY

THE Durban Metro Police continues to evolve into a modern, professional and technology-driven law enforcement agency committed to creating a safer and more secure eThekwini.

Guided by the vision of delivering effective policing and Municipal law enforcement, the Metro Police has achieved significant milestones between 2021 and 2026 through innovation, strategic partnerships, and dedicated service to the people of Durban.

Highlighting these achievements is the City's Five-Year Service Delivery Milestone campaign, Asimile Siyaqhuba: Resilience Through Adversity.

The campaign highlights service delivery gains made during the 2021 to 2026 term of office.

One of the Metro Police's most notable achievements has been the implementation of the Smart Policing Programme, a transformative initiative that has modernised policing through the integration of advanced technology.

This includes the rollout of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras, vehicle-mounted dash cameras, closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras expansion, and the establishment of a state-of-the-art Command Centre.

Once fully operational, the facility will serve as the nerve centre for monitoring citywide operations, co-ordinating emergency responses, integrating CCTV and ANPR technology, and supporting intelligence-led policing through real-time information and advanced operational systems.

These technological advancements have significantly enhanced operational co-ordination, intelligence-led policing, and the rapid deployment of resources, positioning eThekwini as one of the leading municipalities embracing smart law enforcement solutions.

The period also marked a significant investment in employment creation and skills development, demonstrating the Municipality's commitment to strengthening public safety while creating meaningful employment opportunities.

During this period, 487 Authorised Officers were employed to support Municipal by-law enforcement.

Operational capacity was also strengthened through the appointment of 60 new Metro Police Officers. In addition, 147 Metro Police Officer trainees successfully completed their training and graduated, while a further 90 trainees completed the programme and are awaiting appointment.

To ensure the sustainability of training and professional development, 30 members were recruited for instructor development at the Metro Police Training College, while 42 new recruits commenced the Metro Police Officer Training Programme, ensuring a continuous pipeline of qualified law enforcement officers for the future.

The Metro Police also strengthened its crime prevention capability through specialised operational units focusing on drug trafficking, illegal firearms, wanted suspects, stolen vehicles, and organised criminal activity. Working alongside several stakeholders, numerous successful joint operations resulted in the arrest of dangerous criminals, the recovery of illegal firearms and stolen vehicles, and the disruption of criminal syndicates.

Road safety also remained a key priority with the directorate intensifying traffic law enforcement through regular roadblocks, speed enforcement operations, and campaigns targeting drunk driving.

Thousands of motorists were prosecuted for violating road traffic legislation, while hundreds were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol.

Dedicated Motorcycle Units continue to maintain high-visibility policing on major routes, ensuring the free flow of traffic while addressing dangerous driving behaviour and improving compliance with road traffic laws.

Municipal by-law enforcement was also significantly strengthened. Through co-ordinated clean-up operations, illegal trading enforcement, problem buildings interventions, inner city regeneration programmes and environmental compliance initiatives, the Metro Police has played a leading role in restoring order within the City's public spaces.

The directorate has also continued to strengthen relationships with communities through public education campaigns, road safety awareness programmes, school safety initiatives, and consistent communication via digital platforms.

As the Metro Police enters the 2026/27 financial year, it remains committed to building on these achievements by embracing innovation, strengthening partnerships, creating employment opportunities, investing in skills development, and delivering professional, accountable and responsive policing services.