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**22 February 2022**

**PREMIER NTOMBELA CONVENES EXCO BUDGET LEKGOTLA**

The Premier of the Free State, Sisi Ntombela, will convene a two-day Executive Council (EXCO) Budget Lekgotla from 22 to 23 February 2022.

The Lekgotla will be attended by Members of the Executive Council (MECs), Heads of Department (HODs), key officials from Provincial Treasury, Chief Financial Officers (CFOs), Procurement Specialists in government and senior government officials.

This programme will inform government priorities for the year ahead, and also advise injunctions of the State of the Province Address (SOPA) to be delivered by the Premier, on Monday, 28 February 2022.

The primary objectives of the Lekgotla are to ensure that departmental budgeting and spending across departments is coherent, reliable, ethical, open, encourages participation, is well coordinated, transformative, consistent, impactful but most importantly, meets the needs of the citizens of the province.

**The Lekgotla seeks to, amongst other issues, ensure the following:**

- Integrated planning and implementation of policies across government;



- Promotion policy coordination, alignment and coherence;
- Integrated approach to performance monitoring and evaluation;
- Strengthening and promoting inter-governmental relations and cooperation;
- Improving the capacity of the state;
- Ensuring organisational efficiency and effectiveness;
- Ensuring skills development in support of growth and development;
- Promoting participatory governance.

ENDS///

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