

transport

Department: Transport **Province of KwaZulu-Natal**

MEDIA STATEMENT

Wednesday, 06 March 2019

MEC KAUNDA SADDENED BY DUMISANI MAKHAYE HIGHWAY FATAL CRASH AND ORDERS SPEEDY INVESTIGATION

The KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mxolisi Kaunda has asked the police to speed up investigation into the fatal crash that claimed the lives of three learners on Dumisani Makhaye Highway near Newlands, north of Durban today.

Preliminary reports indicate that early this morning four learners between the ages of 13 and 14 were knocked by a minibus taxi on their way to school. Three learners sustained fatal injuries and the fourth one was taken to hospital. The cause of the crash is not known at this stage as police are currently busy with the investigation.

Kaunda has called on law enforcement agencies to fast track investigation into this tragic crash so that justice can be served.

"As the provincial government, we were deeply saddened about this fatal crash. We would like to send our deepest condolences to the family of the deceased and wish the injured learner a speedy recovery. Our thoughts are with the parents and school of the learners during this time of bereavement. Once again, as the Department of Transport, we would like to plead with motorists and pedestrians to observe the rules of the road so that we can save lives," said Kaunda. According to recently released statistics on road crashes and fatalities, most crashes on the country's road were as a result of human error. Our major concern is that these crashes claim the lives of young people who are expected to contribute immensely in the development of our country.

Police are currently investigating three cases of culpable homicide and the course of the crash.

Ends.