REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 8th April, 2026

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 10.30 a.m.

[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Anthony Theuri) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPERS LAID

REPORTS ON LAIKIPIA COUNTY DMSP, CFSP & CFSP PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT 2026

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon**.** Speaker. I wish to lay the following papers;

1. Report on the Laikipia County Debt Management Strategy Paper (DMSP) 2026 by the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations dated 8th April, 2026.
2. Report on the Laikipia County Fiscal Strategy Paper (CFSP) 2026 by the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations dated 8th April, 2026.
3. Report on pubic engagement on the Laikipia County Fiscal Strategy Paper 2026 dated 8th April, 2026.

(Hon. Stephen Ndiritu laid the Papers on the table)

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

PROVISION OF WAIVER OF INTEREST AND PENALTIES ON LAND RATES

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Hon. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

NOTING THAT Section 159 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 empowers the County Executive Committee Member for Finance with the approval of County Assembly to waive a county tax, fee or charge imposed by the County Government and its entities;

FURTHER NOTING THAT most of the Land Owners are hesitant to pay for land rates because of the accumulated interest and penalties due to adverse external factors including a depressed economy have affected citizens' ability to pay which amounts to Kshs. 2.058 Billion;

This House URGES The County Government pursuant to the provisions of Section 159 of Public Finance Management Act, 2012 to provide 100% waiver on accrued penalties and interests on land rates for a period of one month with effect from 1st May, 2026 to 31st May, 2026 to offer much-needed relief to rate payers.

REPORT ON THE COUNTY FISCAL STRATEGY PAPER 2026

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Hon. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT this House adopts the report on the Laikipia County Fiscal Strategy Paper (CFSP) 2026 by the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations dated 8th April, 2026.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

REPORT ON THE COUNTY DEBT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY PAPER 2026

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Hon. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT this House adopts the report on the Laikipia County Debt Management Strategy Paper (DMSP) 2026 by the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations dated 8th April, 2026.

MOTION

REPORT ON THE COUNTY DEBT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY PAPER 2026

Deputy Speaker: I did not know that we had changes. So, Hon. Stephen is the Chair Budget?

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. We had changes in this House and I am the Chair for Budget for now. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT this House adopts the report on the Laikipia County Debt Management Strategy Paper (DMSP) 2026 by the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations dated 8th April, 2026.

Hon, Speaker The debt management report is on our desk and I understand that the same report is on the gadgets and all Members can be able to access. Therefore, this is just a report to inform the House on debt management. Let me start from page where we have the membership of the committee; Hon. Speaker, we have the following members;

1. Hon. Stephen Ndiritu - Vice chairperson
2. Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki - Chairperson
3. Hon. Paul Leshuel - Member
4. Hon. Eunice Salaten - Member
5. Hon. Benson Kuria - Member
6. Hon. Irene Wachuka - Member
7. Hon. John Maina - Member

Hon. Speaker, in the Consideration of the Debt Management and Strategic Paper 2026, the committee Held a meeting to deliberate on this report and other reports that were committed to the committee in line with the provision of the Public Finance Management Act 2012, The Public Finance Management County Government Regulation 2015 and the County Assembly of Laikipia Standing Orders,

Hon. Speaker, the County Government power to raise loan is derived from the Constitution of Kenya Article 2012 and the P. F.M. Act 2012, Section 140 and the P.F.M. Act County Government Regulation 2015, and the County Assembly Standing Orders. Regulation 2015 Number 177 stipulates that the County Executive Committee Member derives power to raise loan to the County Government from Section 140 of the P.F.M. Act.

In this case Hon. Speaker, we are not borrowing loan but in line with the provision given by the Standing Orders, we are going to table this document. Therefore, allow me now to go to the next page on the purpose of borrowing where I have said that we are not borrowing.

Committee observations;

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

1. That the county treasurer has adhered to all the laws in preparation and presentation of the Debt Management and Strategic Paper 2026
2. That the county treasurer has no intention to borrow in the financial year 2026, 2027 to finance its priority and objective. However, they may consider borrowing when the market condition and the county fiscal Position is favourable for such intention

Committee recommendation

1. That the committee makes the following Conclusion that the County treasurer ensures that there is no increase in pending bills, and those verified are prioritized for payment.
2. That the Committee is in concurrence With the CDMSP 2026 report and they require the Hon. House to adopt this report.

Therefore, Hon. Speaker, thank you for giving me this opportunity to read this document. The document explains itself and I know that the Members understands the meaning of this document. Therefore, I request Hon. Leshuel who is going through this debt management Strategy paper to stand start firmly and also contribute on this debt management Paper, where I have said that the government is not borrowing any Money, but it is in the law that we have to pass this document in this Assembly. Thank you.

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for this opportunity and I want to appreciate the mover of the motion and I second the motion. It is clear that up to now, we are not borrowing any loan. It is very important for this House to receive the debt statement so that we can be able to know the status and where we are in terms of financial and borrowing.

So, it is clear that we are not borrowing and the chair has gone through the report and it is very clear to the Members. I know it is not the first time Members got this report because it has been with them for a long time. That's why I'm sure they understand this report. If you read the recommendation of the committee, it is clear that the treasury ensures that there is no increase or pending bills. The pending bills have been an issue in all the counties 47 counties and that's why it is mentioned in this report that we don't want to have those pending bills. We are supporting this document because it has already complied with the law according to the PFM Act, so that we can be able to move this county to a high level. I second.

Deputy Speaker: The floor is open for debate. I now call the mover to reply.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to thank the Hon. Member for considering this report. Therefore, I'm requesting the House to adopt the debt management strategy paper.

MOTION

REPORT ON THE COUNTY FISCAL STRATEGY PAPER 2026

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

THAT this House adopts the report on the Laikipia County Fiscal Strategy Paper (CFSP) 2026 by the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations dated 8th April, 2026.

Hon. Speaker, we have the report with us and we also understand the background of this Fiscal Strategy Paper. For the information is that the county fiscal strategy paper focuses

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

on the past, the present and the future of the county budget. So, this Fiscal Strategy Paper informs the Budget process. Therefore, it Means that the Paper should inform the leader on the implementation of the past fiscal year budget, and this includes information on both the revenue collection and expenditure.

Hon. Speaker, number three, the CFSP addition seeks to answer physical questions such as; has the county met its revenue target?, Are all government departments spending as planned and has there been challenges in meeting targets? This information is required as part of the fiscal strategy to inform the county thinking on revenue and spending estimates for the coming year.

Number four, the CFSP also set out the board priority for the county in the forthcoming financial year and act to encourage public debate about this board sector of the county economic. It thus follows that the approved CFSP will guide the overall distribution offered to sector department in the preparation of the annual budget estimates.

Committee mandate

Hon. Speaker, I think all Members of this House understand the mandate of the committee. The mandate is drawn from the Standing Orders No 206 (4) and therefore allow me to go to the next page where we have the committee methodology and settings.

In the consideration of the county fiscal strategic paper 2026, the committee adopted a demotivated approach that include holding values consultation forum with the officers from the executive considering report of public participation on CFSP 2026, DMSP 2026-2027, and first supplementary estimate for financial year 2025-2026, consultation with the public through memoranda sectoral committee of the county Assembly and the various representative of the department within the Executive Arm of the County Government of Laikipia, in line with the provision of the public finance management Act 2012, of the public finance management County Government Regulation 2015 and the County Assembly of Laikipia Standing Orders.

Committee recommendation;

The committee draws the following recommendation and the recommended changes in departmental ceiling, county administration public service and the office of the governor;

1. That the department of the county administration ceiling be 4,777,500 with the county public service board and recurrent ceiling being 15.5M. This vote will face a total reduction of 39M to its ceiling.
2. In department of finance county planning and the county treasury is that finance and the county planning total ceiling, 719 8,111,204 to ensure equitable distribution of the resources. The committee proposes a reduction of 30M million from this department.
3. On health and sanitation, total ceiling of 1,391,700,000 within Nayuki Referral ceiling at 351.7M and 246.0M respectively.
4. Agricultural livestock ceiling be 124M. The committee proposed a reduction of 3M to the department ceiling.
5. Infrastructure and Public Works that the ceiling be 703M with the road network improvement taking a lion's share of 552M. The addition for road network improvement be increased by addition of 100M.
6. Education youth and library services, that ceiling be 169.5M.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

7. Early childhood development, and Cultural facilities development budget to be increased by 25M.
8. That Gender cultural and social services ceiling be retained at 15.5M.
9. Trade tourism department ceiling be 43.11M.
10. Water resources and environment ceiling be 117M. Water service development budget be reduced by 5.0M.
11. That Rumuruti Municipality totalling be 7.0M, Nyahururu ceiling be 7.7M and Nanyuki ceiling be 8.5M.
12. Urban infrastructure improvement development budget be reduced by10M ten million.
13. The County Assembly total ceiling be 555M with the current being 545M and development of 10M.

Committee composition is as I had read earlier. Therefore, I am requesting the Members of this county to agree with this report and approve the said report, so that we can give away for the Executive now to come up with the estimate which will help this county to have a smooth running with a clear budget. I am requesting my neighbour here, Hon. Mwaniki who happened to be the chair of this committee before, to also contribute on this report because I know he understand very well the meaning of this motion and the meaning of this paper, which will guide the county from now onward on budgeting issues. Therefore, I'm requesting him to second this report.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving this chance to second this motion. The CFSP report guides on how we will be able to expedite with a budget on the coming financial year. It is all about the re-alignment of funds or setting up the ceilings so that we can know the maximum per department and the limits set within the budget, so that we can be able to spend wisely.

As an Assembly we have the obligation to align and realign funds. If at all you can go through the departments you can see some changes that we have made. Those are the recommendations by the committee so that we can have more funds where the electorates have more problems or they have issues that require more budgeting. You can see like the roads and infrastructure that has been a menace in this county, we have additional funds that we have allocated.

We have reduction in the other departments because we only have this budget Mr. Speaker and the budget is set, the funds that have been allocated by the budget controller. Having the funds set is for us to realign and arrange because we don't have additional funds.

That's why, as an Assembly, we have the obligation to re-align these funds. That's what we have done in the CFSP, so that we can be able to set the ceilings per department, and so that each and every department knows its figure, or how much it is supposed to spend. So that we can have a recurrent budget per department, and the development budget per department.

Mr. Speaker, having the road in this county with the lion share on additional funds, and the municipalities getting a reduction, it shows the problems that are emanating from the directory. Where the problems are more, that's where we allocate more funds, so that we can be able to solve issues affecting ourselves. I do second, and thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Question proposed)

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

Deputy Speaker: The floor is open for debate.

(Silence)

Deputy Speaker: I now call the mover to reply.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Bwana Spika, nasimama kushukuru wajumbe kwa kuunga mkono hii ripoti. Nafikiri huu ni mwanzo ambapo tutafungua ndio tuanze kupanga mambo ya bajeti. Tumeeleza kuna wizara ambazo zitapokea pesa na kusaidia wananchi kwa njia moja ama ingine. Wakati tumeweka hiki kiwango ni kuweza kuhakikisha kwamba pesa ya umma inatumiwa vizuri. Kama hatutaongozwa na hii stakabadhi, huenda tukapatia serikali nafasi mwafaka ya kutumia pesa ovyo. Wakati huu tuko macho. Wakati wa kufunga Bunge tutakuwa tumepanga mambo yote. Tumepewa jukumu na Mwananchi kuhakikisha tumewakilisha katika Bunge hili kwa mambo yote. Kwa hayo, nashukuru.

(Question put and agreed to)

MOTION

PROVISION OF WAIVER OF INTEREST AND PENALTIES ON LAND RATES

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

NOTING THAT Section 159 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 empowers the County Executive Committee member for finance with the approval of County Assembly to waive a county tax, fee or charge imposed by the County Government and its entities;

FURTHER NOTING THAT most of the Land Owners are hesitant to pay for land rates because of the accumulated interest and penalties due to adverse external factors including a depressed economy have affected citizens' ability to pay which amounts to Kshs. 2.058 Billion;

This House URGES the County Government pursuant to the provisions of Section 159 of Public Finance Management Act, 2012 to provide 100% waiver on accrued penalties and interests on land rates for a period of one month with effect from 1st May, 2026 to 31st May, 2027 to offer much-needed relief to rate payers.

Mr. Speaker, there is a waiver on matters of the penalties that is accrued within the county, on matters of land rates. This goes to the business, the freehold, plots or properties and the leasehold. Within this town and the other small towns, Mr. Speaker, people are still doing business on land that they have not been paying, the land rates. As the County Government and the finance department they have requested that we pass this motion so that we can give the electorates a relief on matters of land rates so that they can be able to on-board this financial year so that it can be able to pay the land rates without penalties. That's the only relief we can give electorates so that they can be able to on-board in the revenue system.

If at all we pressure our people to pay the land rates from the day that they acquire their title deeds, this, Mr. Speaker, these are very hefty sums. We will be jeopardising on how our electorates do business within the county. The electorates have requested so that they be issued with a waiver so they can be able to pay the small amounts, they can be able to, which is this financial year. They can be able to allow the tenants within their premises to acquire licences.

As of today, the business owners, Mr. Speaker, have already paid for their licences, but still the landowners, who are the landlords, have not been able to pay for their land because there are hefty funds. Giving them a waiver will be able to allow our business people to do

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

business, because the landlords will be able to pay small amounts of money as rent rates, so that they can be able to allow the business people to get licences.

That's why we have requested for a waiver. The Department of Finance, and the Department of Revenue has requested for a waiver, so that we can be able to allow our people to do business within this country, Mr. Speaker, and give them a relief. I do call upon Hon. Daniel Mugweru to second this.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. It's a good opportunity to second this motion, and especially because it affects the people of Laikipia directly. As I second this motion, it is also important to note that these penalties, sometimes if you go to the shopping centres and towns in this county you find the land rates, penalties are bigger. You find the land rate in Kalalu Shopping Centre is amounting to around Kshs. 40,000, but now the penalty is 300,000. Some of the penalties are major. They are bigger than even the value of the land. You wonder, why should you pay those land rates? You pay 400,000 for a piece of land that has a value of 300,000. You find yourself, agreeing to lose even that piece of land. It is a good motion.

The task that is ahead of us as a Members of County Assembly and the County Government of Laikipia is to sensitise our people that there is this waiver. We have given out waiver for so many times, only to find that the members of public do not know that there is a waiver. If anyone knows that there is waiver, they will all be ready to pay the normal land rates, Hon. Speaker.

It is upon us as Members of County Assembly, in any gathering that you go, tell the people that there is a waiver for them to go and pay the rates. Even the executive, they are supposed to mount the public address, move around this county, telling people that there is waiver for land rates so that we may at least get enough finances to sustain this government. Also, even to help our people to live happily, that they no longer have debts.

So Hon. Speaker, I really support this. In future, I don't know how this will work, but I would call upon the committee to sit down and see that in future, not just the land rates. There are so many penalties that are in this county, that really press our people.

Apart from the land rates, we have other penalties that are there. Even those business people who are there, you find that someone closed the business for an entire year just because of a certain penalty. We need to figure out on what we can do to have the waiver, at least even if it is one week waiver, even if it is a three days waiver, so that we may be able to collect much revenue as possible in this county.

But as of now, now that we are talking about land rates, let us go to our people, let us inform them, let us even have advertisement in our newspaper and news and radios that there is this waiver so that people may take advantage of this situation and pay the land rates that they are supposed to pay. So I second and hope the members will support this motion. Thank you.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante Bwana Spika. Nasimama kuunga mkono. Nafikiri hili ni jambo ambao ni mwafaka kuletwa. Litasaidia wananchi wengi ambao wanaumia sana na haya mambo ya nauli ya mashamba. Tumetoka wakati wa pasaka, kama serikali tuko na jukumu ya kusamehe nauli za wananchi. Nafikiri huu ni wakati mwafaka tusameheane. Tusamehe wananchi wetu madeni yetu, dhambi na pia sisi tusamehe waliotusamehe. Ile kitu

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

siwezi fanya nikusamehe mtu ambaye amenipeleka kortini. Najua pale kortini sio kwa mama yangu ama mama ya mtu. Ni mahali pa sheria.

Bwana Spika, ni vizuri niseme mambo mengine yanafanywa nyuma ya sheria. Unapata mjumbe hapa Bungeni akipeleka mjumbe mwenzake kortini. Hio ni kukosa nidhamu na adabu. Korti halina jukumu la kuchukulia Bunge kama hili kisheria. Tuka na mamlaka na nguvu kisheria. Asante na nashukuru.

Deputy Speaker: I call the mover to give a reply.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I do thank the Members for supporting this motion, because I have had no objection on this. It shows the Members want the business to flow within this county. I do thank the members, and thank you, Hon. Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

PROCEDURAL MOTION

ALTERATION OF THE ASSEMBLY CALENDAR

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 29(4), this Assembly resolves to alter its calendar as adopted on 24th February, 2026, so as to: -

a) Have a short recess break from Thursday 9th April, 2026 to Monday 20th April, 2026.

b) Resume its regular sittings for the first part of the Fifth Session on Tuesday 21st April, 2026.

Mr. Speaker, this is in order, to have an alteration of the calendar so that the Members can attend to other business. It is required of us to move out of this Assembly, and do other business. I do call upon Hon. Stephen to second this.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante Bwana Spika. Naunga mkono kuahirishwa kwa vikao vya Bunge ambapo kama vile kiranja wa walio wengi amesema tunafaa kuwa na likizo kidogo ndio tuhudhurie kikao cha Kaunti 47 ndio tujue maendeleo na mwelekeo.

Tunapoenda kikao kama hicho ni jambo la busara sana. Sisi ndio mwongozo wa serikali za Kaunti katika upande wa kutunga sheria. Naomba wajumbe wote wafike mahala pale. Maoni yangu ni kwamba hiki kikao hunyonya pesa zetu sana. Mabilioni ya pesa inatumika. Kama ile pesa inaweza patiwa MCA na wafanyakazi wa Bunge, Bunge yetu inaweza songa mbele. Hayo ni maoni tu. Asante na nashukuru.

(Question proposed)

Deputy Speaker: I now call the mover to give a reply.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Hon. Speaker. I thank all Members for their support. I do congratulate the Members on support of this motion. Thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

PROCEDURAL MOTION

ADJOURNMENT OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 29(3) this Assembly do adjourn until Tuesday 21st April, 2026.

Hon. Speaker, this is a one-week break. It concerns the Legislative Summit that the Members must attend so that they can have a discussion with the other counties and be able to understand how far we have gone on matters of the assistance of the devolved government. The Members, had requested, the Assemblies across the country, that we should have a discussion on matters of this Assembly on welfare of the members within that summit.

That's why I urge all the Members of this Assembly to attend so that they can raise questions, they can raise concerns, so that maybe we can be able to deliberate on these matters as we move forward within this country. I do call upon Hon. Shuel to second. Thank you.

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I stand to second. It is very important for us to have this break. That summit, it's a lot for the members to understand. We have a clear presentation that indicates the progress, the challenges, where we are, where we're going, and what is the way forward.

Mr. Speaker, it is very important for all of us to be there so that we can be able now to know the status of devolution. The other thing, Mr. Speaker, you know we have a lot of challenges in this country, especially on the sharing of resources. The way the monies devolve and functions. So, Mr. Speaker, it is not just for us to go for a break. It is very important so that we can go there, see what our status is, and where our plan is as we go as all 47 counties. I to second.

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, allow me to guide you to standing Order No. 29 (3);

'On the day when the Assembly is scheduled to adjourn to a day other than the next normal sitting day to accordance with the assembly calendar, the leader of the majority party or the leader of the minority party or another member of the House committee shall move a motion to adjournment which shall be debated for not more than three hours after which the Assembly shall adjourn without a question put.'

ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Speaker: This House stands adjourned until Tuesday, 21st April, 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

The House rose at 11.30 a.m.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*