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Ensuring safe, secure and responsible use of roads in South Africa.

ITLMPOSA Conference - 2024 *Concept Paper*

Three-point exit staggered approach of training for
Traffic Officers on the NQF level 6 Traffic Officer's Qualification & Intro of
the Assistant Traffic Officer

By David Maboeane



PURPOSE



The purpose of the presentation is to apprise the ITLMPOSA Conference Delegates on the progress regarding the April 2023 Shareholders' Resolution to review and evaluate the implementation of the NQF level 6 Traffic Officer's qualification

The report highlights:

- Introduction and background on the training of traffic personnel currently
- Causal factors that necessitated the review of the implementation of the NQF level 6 Traffic Officer's qualification
- Business case regarding the introduction of the Assistant Traffic Officer (ATO) and the 3-Exit Points of the NQF level 6 Traffic Officer qualification
- Consultation with stakeholders regarding the ATO and the 3-Exit Point
- SASSETA/QCTO bilateral regarding the application for the development of the 1st Exit Points 12 months Traffic Officer qualification
- Process Flow and relationship between the ATO and the 3 Exit Points
- For noting

Introduction and Background



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1. The Corporation's Road Traffic Training Academy (RTTA) has implemented the all-inclusive NQF level 6 Traffic Officer's Curriculum, SAQA ID: 97639, since 2019 to date.
2. All other 13 Traffic Training Colleges are still implementing the legacy T.O's qualification, i.e., the NQF level 4 (one year) Further Education and Training Certificate (FETC): Road Traffic Law Enforcement, SAQA ID: 62289.
3. The first NQF level 6 qualified Traffic Officers graduated from the RTTA in March 2023 (Due to COVID the academic period had to be extended).
4. A need was identified to review and evaluate the implementation of the NQF level 6 Traffic Officer's qualification after the graduation of the 1st cohort.
5. The main challenges, among others, identified, i.e.:
 - The 3-year duration period to complete the qualification was perceived to be too long to produce an entry level/basic Traffic Officer; and
 - The persistent immediate need for qualified Traffic Officers and Metro Police Officer in the country to curtail the growing number of road fatalities.

Informed by the above, the RTMC's Shareholders Committee resolved on 20 April 2023 the following:

- All 14 Traffic Colleges across SA may enrol traffic trainees on another 12 months Course, i.e.: (the very last NQF level 4 one-year Traffic Officers course – this was done on **30 June 2024**);
- *To develop exit levels in the NQF level 6 Traffic Officer's Qualification inclusive of an Exit Level for a Metro Police Officer Qualification.*
- The RTMC to be allowed to review the current implementation of the NQF level 6 Traffic Officer qualification to address the challenges mentioned above; and
- ***Introduce an Assistant Traffic Officer.***

SUMMARY OF THE ASSISTANT TRAFFIC OFFICER BUSINESS CASE



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- ❑ A Draft Business Case was developed to action the resolutions of the Shareholder.
- ❑ Initially *4-exit-levels* on the NQF level 6 Traffic Officer's qualification were proposed before the commencement of external consultation; however, these were revised to **3-exit-levels** after the first round of consultations.
- ❑ The new 12-month – 1st exit point course for basic Traffic Officer training must be available by 30 June 2025.
- ❑ The **ASSISTANT TRAFFIC OFFICER (ATO)** is proposed not to be an exit level of the NQF level 6 Traffic Officer's qualification; however, it is proposed that a totally independent/separate qualification be developed for the Assistant Traffic Officer.
- ❑ This separate qualification (ATO) should include all the functions and powers of current Traffic Wardens, Law Enforcement Officers and possibly Crime Prevention Officers.
- ❑ The powers and duties of the ATO to be extensively consulted on before inclusion into the NRTA.

SUMMARY OF THE ASSISTANT TRAFFIC OFFICER BUSINESS CASE

- Traffic Wardens + Law Enforcement Officers + possibly Crime Prevention Officers
= ASSISTANT TRAFFIC OFFICER (ATO)
- The normal legislative amendment processes to be followed to consider the introduction of the ATO into the NRTA as per the Shareholders Resolution.
- ATO to be an assistant role to a fully-fledged Traffic Officer, be used to replace the current Traffic Warden and reserve Traffic Officer in all relevant legislation.



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Three-point exit staggered approach of training for Traffic Officers on the NQF level

6 Traffic Officer's Qualification:

- ❑ **1st Year Exit Point:** Traffic Officer – *12 month duration* **Occupational Higher Certificate** **NQF level 5** as fully qualified Traffic Officer with all the Powers and Duties as prescribed in the National Road Traffic Act; or continues to year two.

#This will allow the current / revised Metro Police Skills Programme to be done directly after the first-year exit point for NQF level 5 qualification of a fully qualified Traffic Officer.

#This means that the total duration of training of Metro Police Officers will remain unchanged under the custodianship of the SAPS/SASSETA.
- ❑ **2nd Year Exit Point:** Traffic Officer – *12 month duration* **Advanced Occupational Certificate**, **NQF level 6** inclusive of all the revised Modules in the Metro Police Skills Programme; or continues to year three.
- ❑ **3rd Year Exit Point:** Traffic Officer – *12 month duration* **Occupational Diploma**, **NQF level 6** inclusive of all the remaining Modules, i.e. EDL, EOY, Traffic Criminology, Crash Investigation.

A Draft Business Case was developed to action the resolution of the Shareholder and presented to the following external Stakeholders to date:

- The Training Committee for Traffic Personnel (the “TCTP” consists of the Heads of all Traffic Training Centres) x 2
- The Metro Police and SAPS National Training Forum The Metro Police Chiefs Forum
- The Institute of Traffic, Licensing and Metro Police Officers (ITLMPO) x 2
- Cross Border Road Agency x 1
- Internal RTMC Units/Management Committee – several sessions
- DoT x 2
- National Parks (Kruger Park) x 1
- **Upcoming presentations/consultations:**
 - *RTMC MANCO on 14 August 2024* - several sessions
 - *ITLMPO Conference on 11 September 2024 – Last session*
 - *RTMC EXCO*
 - *National Road Safety Steering Committee (NRSSC)*

** It should be noted that all stakeholders did not object to the introduction of a 3 points staggered approach of NQF 6 except that their officers in possession of the 6 and 12 months courses must be considered for RPL into the new qualification. Most did not have a view on the introduction of the ATO per se. However, the ITLMPO requested further engagements regarding the introduction of the ATO – the last presentation will be conducted on the 11th of September 2024 during their National Conference. A formal letter was written to the ITLMPO clarifying the rationale for the intro of the ATO and the process to be followed.*

SASSETA / QCTO BILATERAL FOR THE APPLICATION TO DEVELOP EXIT LEVEL 1 – TRAFFIC OFFICER QUALIFICATION TO REPLACE THE CURRENT NQF 4 TRAFFIC OFFICER COURSE

- The application to develop the new 12 months first exit point qualification for Assistant Traffic Officers (ATO), to replace qualification SAQA ID: 62289, whose last enrolment was 30 June 2024 has been actioned.
- Several meetings with the SASSETA and the QCTO regarding the approval of the above application has been ongoing, the last engagement in this regard was on 10 July 2024 as QCTO officials geared themselves to present our application to the relevant QCTO Committee for approval on 15 July 2024.
- Towards the end of August 2024 TNS has received approval from the QCTO to commence with the development of the first exit point of the NQF level 6 Traffic Officer Curriculum
- Meanwhile TNS has commenced with the packaging of the new 12-month – 1st exit point course for the basic Traffic Officer to ensure that once approval from the QCTO is received, the relevant SMEs will be consulted to finalise the qualification expeditiously with the development.



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Summary of the Assistant Traffic Officer Business Case and Exit Levels for the NQF level 6 Traffic Officers Qualification...

NQF Level 6 – Occupational Diploma (3 year-qualification) – SAQA ID: 121688

Proposed Exit Levels as per the RTMC Shareholders Resolution

Assistant Traffic Officer
3-6months Skills Programme
(NQF level 4) - (replacement
of current Traffic Warden and
Reserve Traffic Officer)

Comments/Dependencies :

- Buy-in from consulting industry/stakeholders including MANCO, EXCO, NRSSC.
- Amendment of enabling Legislation s
- Proposed Entry Requirements: Grade 12 (Dip endorsed), no Criminal record, Code B Driving Licence
Core proposed duties: **Parking enforcement; regulating traffic.** Powers and duties to be developed & finalised during legislation consultation

Note: The development of the Assistant Traffic Officer is as per the resolution of the RTMC Shareholders Committee on 20 April 2023.

EXIT LEVEL 1: Traffic Officer
12 Months Basic qualification –
Occupational Higher Certificate -NQF level 5
(replacement of current SAQA ID. 62289)

Comments/Dependencies

- Approval by the QCTO to commence with the development
- Approval of the developed qualification by QCTO and SAQA
- Registration on the NQF by the SAQA – lengthy process
- Proposed Entry Requirements: Grade 12 (Dip endorsed), no Criminal record, Code B Driving Licence, physically fit, employed
- Core duties: **As per the NRTA**

Note: The new one-year NQF level 5 Traffic Officers qualification to replace the current NQF 4 qualification

EXIT LEVEL 2: Traffic Officer
+ 12 months further training–
Advanced Occupational Certificate - NQF level 6

Comments /Dependencies:

- Must have completed the Exit Level 1, 12 Months Basic qualification (NQF level 5) – **Occupational Certificate.**
- Core duties: As per the NRTA; plus Crime prevention, Metro Policing Modules, Introduction to Traffic Criminology, Additional Legal Subjects ...(modules to be finalised during curriculum development.)

Note: Metro Policing Modules to be harvested from new Metro Policing qualification to be developed by SAPS and Metros.

EXIT LEVEL 3: Traffic Officer
+ 12 months further training -
Occupational Diploma - NQF level 6

Comments /Dependencies :

- Must have completed the Exit Level 1, 12 Months Basic qualification and the Exit Level 2, 12 months Adv Occ Certificate
- Core duties: As per the NRTA; Crime prevention, Metro Policing Modules; basic crash investigation, Examiner of Vehicles and Examiners for Driving licences...(modules to be finalised during curriculum development.)

Note: Progression to exit level 3 is subject to the successful completion of exit levels 1 & 2



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FOR NOTING



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- It is recommended that the ITLMPOSA notes the Progress Update Report regarding the Introduction of the Assistant Traffic Officer (ATO) and the 3-exit points for the NQF level 6 Traffic Officer qualification; and
- The RTMC Legal Service to lead the Stakeholder Consultation Sessions in collaboration with TNS regarding any possible legislative framework for the introduction of the ATO



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Thank You

