

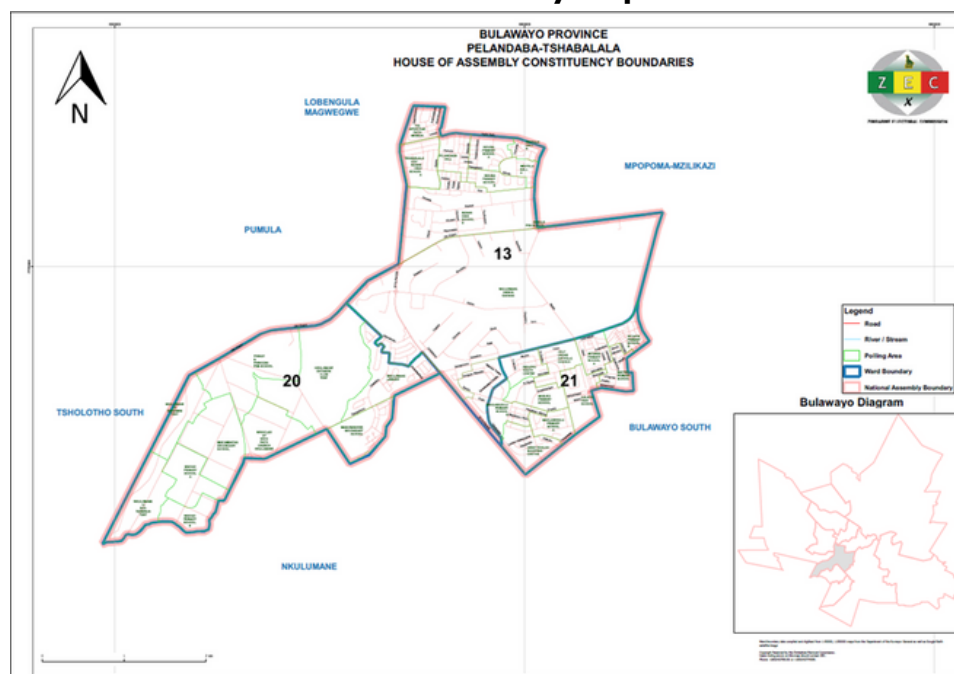
# CONSTITUENCY PROFILE

## PELANDABA-TSHABALALA CONSTITUENCY

### Introduction

Pelandaba-Tshabalala Constituency is one of the seven (7) Bulawayo constituencies that were reconfigured and renamed following the 2022 Delimitation exercise. It borders with Lobengula Magwegwe, Mpopoma-Mzilikazi, Bulawayo South, Nkulumane, Tsholotsho South and Pumula. The CCC spokesperson Ostallos Gift Siziba was directly elected in the August Harmonized Elections to represent the constituency. He served from 7 September 2023 when he was sworn in up to 7 November 2023 when he was said to have 'ceased' from being a member of the party, hence, on 14 November, the Speaker of Parliament declared the constituency vacant. The President of Zimbabwe then proclaimed 3 February 2024 as By-Election date to directly elect a Member of Parliament for the constituency.

### Pelandaba-Tshabalala Constituency Map



Source: ZEC

### Nomination Court

In line with the legal dictates, the Nomination Court sat in Bulawayo's at Tradegold Courts to fulfil legal obligations and accept nomination papers of prospective candidates. Two (2) sittings were done in the year 2023, firstly for the Harmonized Election candidates then secondly for the 3 February By-Elections. Six (6) candidates successfully filed their nomination papers for the Harmonized Elections. These were representing ZANU-PF, CCC, UZA, CCC, EFF and DOP. There were double candidates for the CCC party. Regarding the February By-Elections, four (4) candidates submitted their nomination papers, two points drop from the Harmonized Elections aspirants. ZANU-PF and DOP forwarded new candidates to represent their parties. CCC's Ostallos Gift Siziba, the recalled candidate was consistent. The Tshabangu faction forwarded Tembo Moreblessing. Just as was the case in the first Nomination Court Sitting, the second had double candidates from CCC.



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## Previous Election Results

Pelandaba-Tshabalala is in Bulawayo Province, Zimbabwe's second largest city. It has a total of 22 444 registered voters according to the 2022 Delimitation Report. The Constituency comprises of three Wards: 13, 20 and 21 of Bulawayo Municipality. Pelandaba-Tshabalala came into being after the 2022 Delimitation reconfiguration and renaming of seven (7) constituencies in Bulawayo Province, alongside Emakhandeni -Luveve, Lobengula-Magwegwe, Mpopoma-Mzilikazi, Bulawayo North, Entumbane Njube and Cowdray Park.

In 2023, six (6) candidates contested for the seat. There was a balanced gender disaggregation, with three females and three males vying for the seat. CCC's double candidates split opposition votes, however, the losing CCC candidate polling more votes ahead of the ZANU-PF candidate. The results of the election were as follows.

CONSTITUENCY	CANDIDATE	PARTY	VOTES
Pelandaba-Tshabalala	Moyo Soneni	CCC	3 829
	<b>Siziva Gift</b>	<b>CCC</b>	<b>6 529</b>
	Ndlovu Gift	DOP	169
	Maplanka Sanpoulus	EFF	144
	Moyo Moureen	UZA	88
	Verenga Cecilia Melody	ZANU-PF	2 969



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## Political landscape

Pelandaba-Tshabalala is in Zimbabwe's northern region- Bulawayo Province, which has been a historic stronghold of opposition politics since the formation of MDC in 1999 both at National Assembly and Local Authority levels. ZANU-PF failed to win seats in open contests and square off election with the opposition. With the exception of cases where the opposition either filed double candidates or in years like 2015 where MDC boycotted elections, the ruling party has failed to appeal to the electorate and win their support. Important to note is that in 2015, the ruling party won in five (5) constituencies of the Bulawayo Province, however, the party had approximately 11 450 votes out of the 100 000 registered voters in the five constituencies. In December 2023 By-Elections for Bulawayo constituencies, the province realized a number of protests votes after recalled candidates were barred from contesting by the High Court. The protests votes came amidst very low voter turnout that characterized these By-Elections.

## Socio-economic status

Pelandaba-Tshabalala has significant Ndebele cultural and language influence. Once a hub of industrial activities, Bulawayo which houses the Pelandaba-Tshabalala constituency has seen downsizing or closure of more than 60% of the major industries[1]. More than 50% of the households in the province live below the poverty line, and struggle to afford basics. Bracketed with similar experiences the rest of the country is facing, Pelandaba-Tshabalala struggles with shortages of basic services like education, infrastructure, healthcare and high levels of unemployment.

[1] [PressReader.com](https://www.pressreader.com) – Digital Newspaper & Magazine Subscriptions



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