

# Roads deaths down

By NTOMBOXOLO MAKOBA

ROAD deaths in the Western Cape have gone down by 21 this August, compared to August last year.

There were 90 deaths in August this year.

The Western Cape transport department told *Daily Sun* that since January 2009, the number of road deaths has declined from 1 739 to 1 231, a reduction of 29,2%.

Transport MEC Robin Carlisle said: "We are on track to reach the goal set through our Safely Home campaign, which is to reduce road crash fatalities by 50% by the end of 2014.

"I wish to thank all the road users who have used the roads re-

sponsibly."

Carlisle said the figures collected for September reveal that there is still cause for serious concern. He warned that the high-risk period, for pedestrians particularly, is over weekends, when most deaths occur.

He said road users must be aware of the danger of driving over weekends.

"Almost half of the deaths recorded on our roads occur on Saturdays and Sundays. All road users must be especially alert on these days.

"Drunk driving and speeding remain the key focus of weekend law enforcement campaigns, and

these will be increased as we get closer to the December school holidays.

"We plan to have many roadblocks during the festive season.

"Enforcement authorities have been ordered not to relax their efforts.

"Motorists should not be gambling with their lives and the lives of other road users by driving at high speeds or after having had too much to drink."