

Media Release-(Immediate)

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Media Briefing Statement by MEC Makoma Makhurupetje on the Outcome of Disciplinary Hearings in Coghsta: Nine Senior Officials

Good Afternoon

Let me start by thanking you for responding to this urgent invitation to this press conference. Your response as always, continue to confirm and solidify the cordial relationship we enjoy with you as the media in this province. This is in deed appreciated and commendable.

As you all know, last year on the 22nd of October 2013, the Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs preferred charges against nine of its senior officials.

The charges followed a forensic investigation conducted in relation to the awarding of the human settlements tender for the construction of low cost houses (RDP) for the financial year 2013/14. The said charges relate to non-adherence to the specified bid evaluation and adjudication criteria during the procurement processes.

The department has since terminated the said tender and its contracts due to non-compliance with prescripts that govern procurement in the public service.

Disciplinary hearings have been going on since then and the update is as follows:

- Charges against one (01) of the nine officials were withdrawn;
- Four (04) of the eight officials linked to the bid evaluation process of the said tender were found guilty and dismissed/ discharged from the public service and the department in particular; and
- The disciplinary hearings of the remaining four (04) officials linked to the bid adjudication process is yet to be finalised

The department is looking forward to finalise the hearings relating to this disciplinary processes very soon.

Once more, I thank you for coming.

Issued by the Department of CoGHSTA (Winner of the 2013 ANC Pandelani Ramagoma Award for Best Service Delivery Department, 2012 Southern African Institute of the Government Auditors, 2011 Premier's Service Excellence Award for the Best Department in Limpopo).

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