

CoGHSTA NEWS

OFFICIAL QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS & TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS



LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE,
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

3ND & 4TH QUARTER EDITION 2012/13

A BETTER LIFE FOR ALL

Serving the community
brick by brick

MEC Clifford Motsepe was recently awarded
the PMR Award for best Pro-Active Political Leader

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Integrated Sustainable Human Settlements

Infrastructure DEVELOPMENT

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK ..

2012 has come to an end and CoGHSTA NEWS would like to thank all of you for your support and making sure that CoGHSTAZens are well informed at all times. As CoGHSTA TEAM we are lingered in SUCESSVILLE as we joined the country during the Social Development Month in October under the theme focused on consolidating the key achievements of government and accelerating efforts towards poverty eradication as part of Vision 2014 meant for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Under theme "Working together to build caring and sustainable communities". In support of the provision of comprehensive social security, we brought hope to Racheku family-when we handed the house to Mapule Racheku from -Madiega village who stayed in dilapidated two roomed structure with her seven children for years. Like any other year CoGHSTA celebrated Sixteen Days of Activism of No Violence Against Women and Children campaign in style by restoring the dignity of Raesetja Thoka from Ga- Mashashane village. The Campaign launched under the theme: "From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Let's Challenge Militarism and End Violence Against Women!" This is a United Nations campaign which is observed annually from the 25th of November (International Day of No Violence against Women) to the 10th of December (International Human Rights Day) and in SouthAfrica it include the Universal Childrens Day and World AIDS Day.

In this issue we find out how the Department was engaged in Batho Pele activities this quarter. We learn about the Graduate Top-Up workshop, the only programme proudly offered by CoGHSTA in the Province which give interns business and life skills, so that they are able to apply them in their lives. We also share stories from municipalities, the rental housing tribunal and also reflect on CoGHSTA awards to the most deserving (RDP) BNG beneficiaries and the departmental service excellence awards aimed at awarding team efforts contributing in improving service delivery and as a result encourage the spirit of innovativeness, team work and sharing of best practices. The Cuban awards, long service awards, and my home my pride awards were also part for the first time. With regard to traditional matters we witnessed the community of Ha- Mulima getting new traditional offices; the launch of local house of traditional leaders in Waterberg and installation of Kgoshigadi Mamabolo M.V. of Bjatladi Traditional Community and many more.

Enjoy reading



MS. Tseng Diale (CIO)

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A BETTER LIFE FOR ALL

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The PMR Award winner for best Pro-Active Political Leader, MEC, Clifford Motsepe

The Limpopo Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTSA) launched a Disaster Management Campaign during the Easter weekend earlier this year, communicating and raising awareness on disaster prevention and mitigation. CoGHSTSA organised a National Youth Build in Molemole, where hundreds of youth volunteers built 76 quality houses in three weeks.

Keeping to the spirit of serving the community the department formed the Kgatla Commission to resolve leadership disputes involving over 500 headmen and senior traditional leaders in the province. Since 2009, CoGHSTSA has scooped over twenty awards, both provincially and nationally – including Department of the Year provincially three years running.

The department still holds the 2008 Govan Mbeki Human Settlements Award trophy, and is the only CoGHSTA department that nationally received a clean audit and has been recognised by Auditor-General Terence Nombembe. Recently the department and the MEC, Clifford Motsepe – was honoured with yet another award, when they received the Public Sector Visionary award, where tribute is paid to those who spearheaded our economic transformation while highlighting the progression of South Africa's leaders.

The Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) has been a beacon of excellence. Please share your leadership insights with our readers.

When given a responsibility to lead, it is important to familiarise yourself with relevant covenants applicable to the organisation. This will not only help in carrying out every responsibility within the four corners of the law, but will also ensure that you are ahead of your peers. Furthermore, if the system is working, you should not tamper with it. When I joined the department in 2009, I found men and women who were dedicated to their work. Part of what we did was just to acknowledge the work they were doing. We motivated them, recharged their energies and made them take ownership of leading the department. The rest is history.

What is your vision for the department going forward?

Our ultimate vision is to implement clean, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient local Government, with all 30 of our municipalities getting clean audit opinions by 2014. Most importantly, municipalities must live up to their core mandates (number one being service delivery) in the most effective and efficient manner. This vision is only achievable if leadership at municipal level is up to the task at hand. One of our weaknesses in Local Government is the inability to implement sustainable forward planning. The day forward planning is entrenched in the municipal system, half of our problems will be solved. This is the only way in which we can turn the 10 identified provincial growth points (e.g. Lephalale, Tubatse, Makhado-Musina Corridor, etc.) into cities.

From a provincial perspective, how are you faring in terms of meeting targets for provision of decent housing, measured against demand?

In the past two financial years we have built approximately 46 000 low cost quality houses, acquired strategically located land in Lephalale and are we in the process of completing the first Community Residential Units in Seshego, among other accomplishments. We have joined hands with the private sector and other social partners to realise integrated sustainable Human Settlements. In partnership with Anglo Platinum, we will be building 8 000 decent houses for mine workers in Thabazimbi. We have a seamless process of identifying development areas well in advance for the next financial years. This was made possible by our Multi-Year Housing Development Plan. Admittedly, the apartheid spatial footprints are very stubborn, but our work is visible on the ground, and the Freedom Charter remains our guiding beacon.

What preventative measures does your department apply in the sphere of quality control in provision of housing?

Housing units are enrolled with the National Home Building Regulatory Council (NHBC), which is the custodian of quality control in the built environment. We are duty-bound to deliver quality service and nothing else, therefore we have a deliberate intervention to enhance quality through the engagement of joint inspections – a departmental project manager, municipal project manager and NHBC inspector who certify the quality of all our housing products. As a demonstration of how serious we are in ensuring that quality remains a thread in our management value chain, we have blacklisted 24 contractors who have done shoddy work; we are still a leading department nationally in this regard. Quality workmanship is now part of our culture in the department.

How do Limpopo's migration patterns affect the the pressure on your department to provide management?

Planning and delivery of housing or human settlements in general involve an imagined journey into the future, where outcomes are uncertain and opportunity and peril co-exist. In its most elementary form, 'migration' is the result of certain push and pull factors. From the 2001 Census and the 2007 Community Survey, Limpopo has experienced a negative

net-migration of 141 000 people to other provinces since 2006. The migration out of the province could possibly be from rural areas with lack of opportunities, whereas migration into the province could be to destinations such as growth point areas, and specifically Lephalale, Polokwane, Tubatse and Musina. However, we endeavour to address the internal migration patterns, and to that end the department has employed other housing typologies, like Ga-Rena Institutional Housing and Community Residential Units in Polokwane, which is the economic hub of our province.

What does your 2030 vision entail?

Our vision as Human Settlements is to build the very first democratic cities in locations such as Lephalale, Tubatse and Musina. We want to see the total eradication of the housing backlog in the province and the creation of integrated community settlements encompassing facilities and amenities like schools and hospitals, and most importantly commercial and industrial areas within reasonable distances from residential areas. The other thing that we would like to do is to encourage and facilitate the People's Housing process, where residents can construct their own houses, thereby making them less dependent on government. Ours is a developmental and not a welfare state. It is therefore important to solicit greater buy-in from the corporate sector as a partner, including labour and community stakeholders in campaigns such as the "Each-One-Settle-One" launched by the National Minister of Human Settlements, Tokyo Sexwale. There is a lot that needs to be done, and government cannot do this alone.

Could you please elaborate on your 10 Growth Municipalities Plan?

The Provincial Growth Points Municipalities Programme (PGPM) is a strategic intention to implement the Limpopo Spatial Development Framework (SDF) and the key elements of the National Spatial Development Framework (NSDF), which both affirm that a maximisation of the economic space should underpin integrated planning and development. Each of these municipalities has established urban nodes and industrial clusters that should be harnessed to support sustainable urban development and economic development as per the Limpopo Employment Growth and Development Plan.

To what degree has your department empowered SMMEs on the ground with regard to adherence to the 30-day payment window?

This department is committed to local economic empowerment, as we demonstrated through our eight payment days in a monthly cycle, which provided an opportunity for our service providers, including SMMEs, to be paid within four days of submitting an invoice. Since the province was placed under Section 100 of the Constitution of RSA, the payment cycle has been reduced to two times a month this effectively means that we are paying service providers within 15 days of receipt of an invoice, a standard that still surpasses the country norm of a 30 day payment window.

What measures are in place to ensure that reputable service providers are being used?

The appointment of our contractors and service providers is done on the basis of assessment and evaluation of proposals which contain their full particulars and related compliance documents (tax clearance certificates, registrations with professional bodies, list of previous clients for reference purposes). We also ensure that our contracts are signed by the legitimate company's directors and managing members, and that their identity numbers appear on the face of the contracts. In 2011 the department took a stance and blacklisted 24 contractors (together with their directors, shareholders and managing members). These companies will not do business with Government for the next 10 years. Furthermore, the information has been submitted to the Special Investigative Unit (SIU) for crossbill criminal prosecution.

What is your department's approach to Public/Private Partnerships?

The government cannot do everything alone. The provincial department has forged a partnership with Anglo Platinum to construct 8 000 houses for the gap market in Northam, under the jurisdiction of Thabazimbi Local Municipality. We have in the past three years built 36 houses for poor people from the province in partnership with SABC and Capricorn FM, through the "Celebrity Build A House" programme. All these houses are fully furnished and were handed over to beneficiaries courtesy of public and private partnership.

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FROM THE MANAGEMENT DESK

HOD's Message... "...our **employees** have been the backbone of the leading edge performance".

Summary of CoGHSTA's achievements announced during HoD's address on February 19, 2013

- **11 performance awards received.**
- **1,042 training sessions conducted.**
- **98% compliance with PMS policy.**
- **Achieved unqualified audit opinion with matters of emphasis.**
- **Bulk infrastructure installation underway in Lephalale (through PGP).**

Touch lines of the day

DON'T LOOK BACK YOU WILL TURN INTO A PILLAR OF SALT

"I think too much attention is paid to ugly things in life. It is only when we transcend the negative that we shall begin to have peace, love, hope and happiness in our land". Lucky Sibiya

"Alone we can do so little but together we can do so much" Helen Keller.

"Little men with little minds and little imagination go through life in little ruts, smugly resisting all changes which would jar their little world" Anonymous.

"As long as you keep a person down, some part of you has to be down there to hold him down, so it means you cannot soar as you otherwise might" Mariam Anderson.

"You can make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give" Winston Churchill



CoGHSTA HoD: MS. Nnana Manamela

"The true measure of a man is how he treats someone who can do to him absolutely no good" Anonymous.

"A man can fail many times ; he is not a failure until he begins to blame someone else" Anonymous.

"Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work" Thomas Edison.

"The most dreadful disease on earth is not Malaria, is not TB, not Cancer, is not AIDS but negative self-image" Dr. John Tibane.

"Don't be afraid of a little opposition, remember that the kite of success generally rises against the wind of adversity not with it" Anonymous.

FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY



MR MARIBE MAMABOLO

Taking Parliament to people

On the 14 February 2014 His Excellency Jacob Zuma, The President of Republic of South Africa delivered the State of the Nation Address, outlining the 2013 programme of action in the joint sitting of parliament in CapeTown. In the speech, the prelude statement was that this is address to the nation is a roadmap to a South Africa where all will have water, electricity, sanitation, jobs, housing, public transport, adequate nutrition, education, social protection, quality health care, recreation and a clean environment. It is clear from the President remarks that we must as we get into the new financial year all work together to guarantee the masses of our people all these human rights. It is a clear line of march by the President which must be in every civil servant's mind as and when duties of government are discharged from various spheres of government. The Business community should as well come on board strongly with a concerted effort to play its part in alleviating poverty and unemployment. Government alone can only do this much.

He further said "In last year's address we raised the issue of the gap market, the people who earn too much to qualify for RDP houses and too little for bank mortgage bond. From April 2012 to December 2012, Provincial Departments committed a budget of 126 million rand of the Human Settlements Development Grant for this programme, known as the Finance Linked Individual

"The Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, under the leadership of the MEC Clifford Motsepe has once again received an award for being the best provincial department in Limpopo that provides quality services to the people in an excellent way. The award has been awarded to the department by the African National Congress in Limpopo. This is the 30th award the department has scooped since 2009 making the best nationally and provincially".



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Subsidy Programme". The Provincial Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs in Limpopo has built a lot of houses so far, its known country wide, even in this call by the President about the FLISP, we will do likewise and rise to the occasion and deliver to the people.

BIG Screens were installed in all constituencies including our constituency at BelaBela. In our constituency the BIG screen was installed at Piernasriver community hall. The paramount objective of the big screens is to enable people to interact with the speech, to make people to unpack and understand it. Honorable members were deployed according to their constituencies. Their responsibility was to translate and make the speech easier and understandable to the communities. The MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs Clifford Motsepe was deployed to BELABELA to translate the speech by president to the people of Piernasriver, Rapotokwane and Belabela. All mayors of Waterberg District Municipality, Councilors, Indunas and Traditional Leaders were invited and viewed the President's address with members of the community.

On the February 19, 2013 The MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs Clifford Motsepe appeared before the Select Committee on Cooperative Governance and Traditional in Cape Town to present Departmental Action Plan 2010/11 Consolidated General Report on Audit Outcome of Local Government. The

briefing meeting was to check the progress to date on the support that the Department is providing to the municipalities.

LEGISLATURE

In the State of the Province Address delivered by Premier Cassel Mathale on 21 February 2013 at Legislature, it was announced as a success that the Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs has managed to build more than eight thousand low cost houses by the end of December 2012. First and second phase of Seshego Community Residential Units have been completed and handed over to beneficiaries

AS a Department, we are still reiterating that our relationship with portfolio committee on Co-operative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs has always been very effective, good and palatable in the 2012/13 financial year. We still believe that even in the 2013/14 financial year, our relationship will still be taken to higher levels of understanding and cooperation. The committee performed its oversight role with dedication and commitment to the betterment of the department. There were no favours as the idea was to build an institution of government that should be accountable and alive to the needs of the poorest of the poor in the province. As a result, many lives of the people have been improved tremendously because of the robustness and the militancy that the committee has shown in the financial year.



R234 million Human Settlements bulk service project to support economic growth in **Lephalale**



Nnana Manamela
Head of Department CoGHSTA

Lephalale Project is a 500-hectare, visionary, integrated, sustainable human settlements and lifestyle development under construction in Lephalale.

“The bulk services project is registered with the Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism. After a detailed assesment and completion of a public participation process, the project was approved. A record of decision was received in

July 2012 which includes requirements noted in the environmental management plan currently implemented by the contractor. Monitoring of compliance is conducted by a fulltime personel and audited on a quantity basis,” says Manamela.



Human Settlements Minister Tokyo Sexwale and Clifford Motsepe, the Limpopo MEC for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), held a sod turning ceremony to kick-start the housing project in Lephalale.

The Lephalale project arises out of a vision for a new town which is due to unfold around the famous mega Medupi Power Station. This vision derived from CoGHSTA MEC in his budget speech in which he said: “We have completed a scoping report for Lephalale Municipality. We further outlined our plans of building new city in that part of our province. We are pleased to report that we have commenced with the process of installing bulk infrastructure in Lephalale. The people of Limpopo can now take a sigh of relief in that now government is at the forefront of all developments in Lephalale”.

The 30 000 housing units will help in enhancing development in the area over a period of seven to 10 years. The city is proposed to be named after Joe Slovo, who was the then post-apartheid Minister of Human Settlements.

The Lephalale project is situated in the Limpopo Province within the jurisdiction of the Lephalale Local Municipality, which encompasses the towns of Ellisras, Overwacht and Marapong. The scope of work currently being undertaken in this project includes Eskom contract for bulk electricity supply; Altoostyd mixed income human settlements development; and the bulk water and sewer project.

The Lephalale Local Municipality (LLM) is situated in the Waterberg District Municipal area on the western boundary of the province in close proximity to the largest coal reserves

in South Africa. It is the largest municipal area in the province, but has a relative small population with low settlement densities.

“The Limpopo Provincial government acknowledged the importance of coal resources as the key driver in developing the mining, industrial and power supply potential of the area. Subsequently, the provincial government identified the town of Lephalale as a key priority area to facilitate and encourage economic growth of the region and the entire Limpopo Province,” says Motsepe. He goes on to explain, however, that the number of existing and planned developments in Lephalale to support the development potential had never before been realised in South Africa on such a scale and in such a short timeframe. In addition, service backlogs still existed in certain previously disadvantaged areas which faced high poverty levels and unemployment.



“The municipality’s aim is to provide integrated, sustainable living environments for all spheres of the local communities and to create a vibrant municipal environment that will attract large-scale, long-term investment and accelerate the development of integrated, sustainable human settlements,” says Manamela. Consequently, the provincial government embarked on a project preparation process for the development of infrastructure and services that would meet the needs of the LLM and its stakeholders over the next 25 years.

Engineering and management company, Aurecon, which has been actively involved in the Limpopo Province for over three decades and with a proven track record of delivering on key infrastructure projects, in partnership with BE Consult and Nabila Mining Resources, has been appointed to prepare a comprehensive bulk infrastructure investment plan, an institutional development plan, and a funding application for the development requirements in the LLM.

“Following these studies and subsequent plans, it became evident that the Lephalale development required innovative solutions to enable the LLM to solicit institutional support and apply for funding from various sources,” says Motsepe.

As part of the innovative solutions required, Aurecon and its partners developed the Lephalale Investment Document in which key bulk infrastructure projects, linked to the development of integrated, sustainable human settlements, were identified and prioritised.

“These key projects include the development of water, sanitation, roads and electricity infrastructure. Following the identification of these projects, funding was successfully secured by the Provincial Government to implement the projects. Aurecon provides project management support services for the implementation of three of these key projects – the design and construction of bulk water pipelines, the main sewer outfall line and two phased electricity supply infrastructure,” says Manamela.

Once completed, the sustainable human settlements developed in Lephalale will be a real reflection of Aurecon and its partners’ commitment to the principles of sustainable development – meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs and recognising the need to balance economic growth with social development and the protection of the environment.

“Receiving these awards, coupled with our on-going involvement in the LLM and other municipalities, it is a testament to CoGHSTA’s commitment to support all 30 Municipalities to develop integrated, sustainable living environments. This commitment is in line with South African values of not only improving the lives of the people living in southern Africa’s energy hub, but also in all the communities in which we work,” concludes Motsepe.

Where we live should be where we learn and leisure; and where we stay should be where we play and pray, according to the Minister of Human Settlements Tokyo Sexwale and Lephalale is the place to be.

This information is brought to you by the multi award-winning department of CoGHSTA
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MOTSEPE SAYS THE DEPT HAS DONE NO WRONG.....



MEC: Motsepe address media briefing at CoGHSTA Head quarters

By Rirhandzu Nkobyane

Polokwane - The MEC for CoGHSTA, Clifford Motsepe says there are no irregularities in the appointment of service providers. He was speaking during a media briefing that was held at the Department's head office recently. The media briefing was organized to clear out questions that came out after the Star Newspaper published articles on the 1st and the 4th of February 2013 claiming and alleging that the Department awarded lucrative contracts of building houses to companies that are linked to ANCYL former President, Julius Malema who is a close friend of the MEC. According to the articles the contracts were valued at about R900 million.

Motsepe regards the allegations as “part of a smear campaign against the political leadership of the province”.

“I have asked the Auditor-General and Public Protector to investigate these allegations not because I believe them to be true, but because I have every reason to believe that they are false. But, because it appears that the newspaper in question seems to disbelieve us when it comes to such matters, I feel that I need to

be able to give the public an independent assurance that there is no wrongdoing in the allocation of contracts to Service Providers”.

According to Motsepe the companies that have been appointed as contractors for the financial year 2013/14 have been appointed on the basis of price, track record, ability and other criteria stated in the procurement policies.

He concluded by saying that everyone has to wait for the findings from the Public Protector and the Auditor General regarding the allegations.



CoGHSTA RESTORES DIGNITY



A home..... The brand new house for the Thoka family handed over by the CoGHSTA HoD Nnana Manamela.

By Rirhandzu Nkobyane

Ga- Mashashane- Living in dire poverty, declared mentally ill and grandchildren that were abused by her sister in law. These are some of the challenges that Raesetja Thoka who hails from Ga-Mashashane village outside Polokwane had to go through. Life has not been easy for Thoka (51) who is an unemployed single parent and had to make ends meet to support her three children. The load was certainly too huge for her shoulders and that resulted in her being admitted at Groothoek hospital at Zebediela in 1995. While she was still in hospital, her three grandchildren were abused by her sister in law who was supposed to look after them. Since her release from hospital, Thoka has been living in a shack with her grandchildren.

Thoka is a beneficiary whose house was officially opened by the HoD for CoGHSTA Nnana Manamela on the 7th of December. This was in support of the 16 days of no violence against women and children campaign. Thoka was at a loss for words



HOD for CoGHSTA, Ms Nnana Manamela with Raesetja Thoka and her grandchild

on the day and thanked the Department for restoring their dignity. "I really do not know what to say. I have been through a lot in my life. My grandchildren have suffered the worst form of abuse and they were abused by someone who was supposed to care for them. As a family we have been getting a

raw deal out of life and I feel like my luck has really changed for the better. We now have a place we can call home".

Manamela said that communities have a responsibility to fight against women and child abuse, saying that such kinds of crimes do not have a room in the society.

MEC MOTSEPE BRINGS HOPE TO RACHEKU FAMILY



The new home that brought hope to the Racheku family



MEC for CoGHSTA Clifford Motsepe handing over the house to the Racheku Family (Left) and the family's previous house (Right)

By Tlotlisang Mokoena and Rirhandzu Nkobyane

Madiega - Life has not been easy for Mapule Racheku who has to stay in dilapidated two roomed structure with her seven children for years. Racheku (47), a single parent could not contain her excitement when the MEC for CoGHSTA, Clifford Motsepe handed her keys to a brand new fully furnished three bedroom house with a dining room, lounge, kitchen and a pantry. "The situation was very bad as there was not enough space for all us". She says as she looks down with

sadness in her eyes and takes her memory back to the situation. Mapule is a single parent and she receives grant for five children and the other means of income is the seasonal jobs she does on a monthly basis. "I cannot explain how happy I am, really I can't she repeatedly said. "My children can now concentrate at school as they will be coming back to a warm welcoming home. The family was identified by the Premier's Office Research team a year ago and an undertaking was made to assist the family.

Speaking during the handing over ceremony that was held at Madiega village in Botlokwa last Friday, Motsepe thanked all the stakeholders who contributed in ensuring that the Racheku family has a proper house over their heads. Saying that their dignity has been restored. The MEC believes service delivery is very important. "And I am looking forward to opening more and more houses to those in need, because this is not about me but the people we serve

PREMIER DELIVERS A HOUSE TO TSEHLA FAMILY



In the background lies a house to be replaced by new houses to be donated by Premier Mathale to the Tsehla family.

By Jimmy Malebati

Syferfontein – Ntate David Tsehla (55) doesn't just want an RDP house, he needs it. Tsehla struggles to make ends meet and is unable to build a proper house for his children. He is the father of three and his children were forced to stay with their grandmother due to the inhabitable living conditions they were subjected to over the years.

Tsehla's wife passed on and since her death, he had to look after their children. This situation is about to change for the better as the Department of CoGHSTA pleaded with housing contractors to lend a hand by providing the family with a decent quality house. Tsehla was ecstatic when he was

visited by the Premier of Limpopo Cassel Mathale who broke the news to him when he least expected. Mathale and his entourage visited the family on the 02 November 2012 with the good news that saw Tsehla a thankful happy man..

Eventually the Premier arrived and he could not believe it. "We're happy about the house CoGHSTA is building for Tsehla family. They are not the only one that needs a roof over their heads, but the list is huge", said Mathale. "We will in the next financial year 2012/2013 build more houses for the remaining communities in need", Premier announced.

Tsehla concluded by responding to the Premier Cassel Mathale and his government

in thanking them for a brand new house to be built in his yard. "I am happy and feel highly energized. Thank you for the house you are going to build for me and my children", he said

The Premier visited few households as part of the Limpopo Provincial Government Executive Council (EXCO) monthly outreach programme. Members of the communities are given an opportunity to engage with various Members of the Executive Council (MECs) on service delivery bottlenecks. Issues raised ranges from government basic services like water, electricity, sanitations and roads.

HA- MULIMA GETS NEW TRADITIONAL OFFICES



New offices for the Ha-Mulima Traditional Authority after years of using structures that could not cater for the community

By Amanda Mokoena

Ha- Mulima – The community of Ha-Mulima now boasts state of the art traditional council offices. This follows the official handing over of the offices by Premier of Limpopo Cassel Mathale at Ha-Mulima outside Elim, Makhado local municipality. Accompanied by Public Works MEC Thabitha Mohlala and Khosi Mulima, the Premier said the new offices confirm government's unrelenting commitment to deliver to its people irrespective of where they come from. "we take into account daily the needs of our people. Not a single day do we think we have done everything and fold our arms. We work tirelessly as servants of the people to do what our people say we must do", said the premier shortly after unveiling the plaque at the entrance of the new offices.



Limpopo Premier Cassel Mathale and Khosi Ha-Mulima unveiling the new offices at the Ha-Mulima village

Members of the community were ecstatic about the new building because the old office did not have all the facilities addressing the needs of the community and its surrounding areas.

One community member, Madala Manobi says the opening of a new tribal office is definitely a dream come true. It shows that the government is working tirelessly to ensure that we have all the services. "We are happy now that we have a building that brings dignity in the community. The previous building was very old since it was built in 1902".

Solly Seloka, who has been working at the tribal hall which falls under the authority of the tribal office says the building did not have electricity as it would be a risk connecting electricity to such an old collapsing building, the roof was rusty and could collapse at any time.. "During rainy days we were in trouble as the rain could come through the roof and flood the place." Seloka has been working there for five years and believes their working conditions will change. He believes the morale of the workers would be boosted. A senior Admin Officer, Nthangeni Mashudu, said the community is now relieved and very

happy, this will make life easier, and communication will also become easier.

The new building has brought hope to the community of Ha- Mulima and consists of 12 rooms,.. There is an office for chief, office of accounting clerk, office of chief advisor, Board room, Dinning waiting area and kitchen, office of secretary, court room, office for admin officer and four (4) toilets two female and two male including toilet for people with disabilities.disabled.

Community dancers of various traditional groups danced with pride celebrating the opening of the traditional council offices.

DEPARTMENT REWARDS EXCELLENCE

By Adelaide Mabotja

Polokwane - Aloha!!/Hello!!- The department of Co-operative Governance Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs hosted its Departmental Service Excellence Awards and My Home My Pride Awards on the 07th of December 2012 at the Polokwane Air Force Base. The Service excellence awards are highly esteemed and coveted awards that are conferred only in instances where delivery teams have distinguished themselves through their accomplishments and excellent service delivery. The awards aim to promote good governance and accountability within the department, to recognize team efforts contributing in improving service delivery and to encourage the spirit of innovativeness, team work and sharing of best practices. Awards were given in the following categories: Cuban awards, long service awards, departmental service excellence awards and my home my pride awards.

The departmental service excellence awards are held annually to recognize the hard and good work done by the different divisions. The departmental service excellence awards are divided into three categories namely: Best Support Team, Best Service Delivery Team, and Best Innovative Team.

The winners in the different categories are:

1. Best Support Team:

- Human Resource Development **PLATINUM**
- Integrated Development Planning **GOLD**
- Departmental Expenditure and Housing Finance **SILVER**

2. Best Service Delivery Team:

- Housing subsidy admin, contracts and claims **Platinum**
- Integrated development planning **GOLD**
- Community development programme **SILVER**

3. Best innovative team:

- Housing property management and administration **PLATINUM**
- Municipal Finance **GOLD**



Best Service Delivery Team: Housing subsidy admin, contracts and claims *Platinum*



Best Support Team: Integrated Development Planning, *GOLD*

An interview with Lerato Khutswane, Senior Manager Municipal Finance said that they are humbled as a team to receive such an award as it was the first time they were entering the departmental service excellence awards. They dedicate the award to the branch of Local Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs, it is through their support that they were able to achieve. It is through team effort that they were able to receive the best innovative team platinum award; they value each other's opinions irrespective of the level one holds. Municipal Finance stays relevant to the market, everyone including interns contribute in the day to day running of the office, the staff compliments each other and respect within the team keeps them motivated and it is important that they work harder than this year so that they are able to

win more service excellence awards in the coming years, she said.

The department also recognizes the good work the Cubans do in the province. The Cuban awards were given to seven technical advisors who have been with CoGHSTA for three years. The purpose of having Cuban's working with COGHSTA is so that we learn from one another, the Cubans are known for building their own houses. They provide support around the implementation process to assist people to build their own houses. They provided engineering skills in the Lephalale bulk infrastructure, they also have geologist amongst them. South Africa's relationship with Cuba goes a long way; the Cubans take service delivery serious. The Cuban awards were received by all seven technical advisors.



Delighte..... Main prize-winner Rosina Mokgolo of Extension 44 walked away with R100 000 worth of building materials

COGHSTA AWARDS THE MOST DESERVING (RDP) BNG BENEFICIARIES

Lebohlag Makgato

Polokwane-The Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs hosted its annual My Home My Pride awards ceremony at Air Force base in Polokwane on Friday, 07th December 2012.

The campaign was established in 2010 and it is aimed at encouraging RDP (BNG) beneficiaries to value their property by planting trees and vegetables, maintaining beautiful and clean yards. The campaign has been set to continuously raise awareness and to instill a sense of ownership to our housing beneficiaries.

This year the department partnered with Rheinland, Rirothe, Daily Sun, Capricorn FM and NHBC to make this competition possible.

The assessment processes were placed in the capable hands of the CoGHSTA Adjudication team, who saw the processes through from the selection of the top 8, to the physical verification. Now the voting was in the hands of the community who voted through Daily Sun.

The guests of the day were chauffeured to the venue in a Limo. Addressing the guests



From left to right: The 1st runner-up, Tetelo Phasha, Main prize-winner Rosina Mokgolo, 2nd runner-up Mr. William Letswalo

was the HOD, Ms Nnana Manamela on behalf of MEC Clifford Motsepe, who congratulated the top 8 finalists and thanked them for taking care of their homes and appreciating their houses.

Moment of the truth came when the HOD announced the winners: the 2nd runner-up was Mr. William Letswalo of Lenyenye who walked away with R30 000 worth of building materials, the 1st runner-up went to Mr. Tetelo Phasha of Lebowakgomo who said he would use R50 000 worth of building material to build a dining-room, bedroom materials and wall around his yard. Delighted main prize-winner Rosina Mokgolo of Extension 44 walked away with R100 000 worth of building materials. She couldn't hold back the tears as she thanked CoGHSTA for giving her this

opportunity to give her a better and proper home and encouraged them to continue doing a wonderful job by helping people in need. She went on further to say "this is a dream come true. I have three kids and only two bedrooms." Now she says she will extend her house and improve her yard. The other 5 finalists didn't walk away empty handed; they each received a Shoprite shopping voucher to the value of R3000 courtesy of Daily Sun.

The SGM for Local Governance, Mr. Nape Nchabeleng thanked all the entrants for partaking and encouraged those who didn't win not to throw in the towel, but to go back home and work very hard to become the next winners.



Head of Department, Nnana Manamela (in red ensemble) flanked by CoGHSTA officials who served the people during the Provincial Batho Pele Day celebrated at Rebone stadium under Mogalakwena municipality

LIMPOPO CELEBRATES BATHO PELE DAY

By Jimmy Malebati and Lebohlag Makgato

Steilooop-The Office of the Premier led its entire provincial departments to Steilooop, Rebone stadium under Mogalakwena Municipality on the 17 November 2012 to celebrate Batho Pele Day. The day's celebrations were held under the resounding theme *"Working Together, we can do more"*. MEC for Limpopo Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET), Pinkie Kekana spoke on behalf of Premier Cassel Mathale.

Kekana told people attending that the fundamental purpose for introducing Batho Pele principles is to guide every initiative which is aimed at furthering the efforts of offering services to people within a certain set of standards. She added that government is expected to ensure accountability for its decisions and operate in a transparent manner.

Kekana echoed the 2011 Census report and

said it clearly confirms that the process of delivering essential services to people is on the right track. "The census results indicate that 85.9 percent of our people in Limpopo had access to clean running water in 2011 as compared to 75.3 percent in 1996. At least 87.5 percent of our people had access to electricity in 2011 as compared to 62 percent in 2001", she said to the multitude of people gathered. "We are encouraged by the successes registered in the fight against poverty, underdevelopment and other social challenges which are robbing our people of their inherent right to development. We have delivered many houses to their rightful beneficiaries in a short space of time as part of realizing our promise to provide shelter to our people", she said.

She went further to say that government will continue to promote and protect the values of democracy and ensure that every decision made contributes to the development of people. Limpopo aims to continuing to build

an effective administration that is able to deliver quality services to the people on time. Limpopo has through the department of CoGHSTA and Provincial Treasury established a Clean Audit Committee that will assist the province to meet the target of the 2014 Clean Audit Campaign.

Kekana reminded public servants that it's vital at all times to offer services in a friendly manner and that there should be a mutual understanding amongst people. All government departments showcased the different services they offer. Kekana and her entourage visited stalls to interact with officials and check what kind of services are offered on the spot. The HOD for CoGHSTA and senior management also visited the CoGHSTA stall and were impressed. Kekana urged members of the communities to use the services of Premier's Hotline to report any delivery of poor services or failure to deliver services

FOLLOW ETHICS, SPEAKERS TOLD

By Jimmy Malebati

Tzaneen – The MEC for Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Clifford Motsepe has raised the bar at the two days Municipal Speaker's Forum hosted by Limpopo Legislature held at Tzaneen Country Lodge on 15 and 16 November 2012.

Motsepe who is known for calling a spade a spade has called on Speakers to do more to change the face of local government and follow the ethics and conflict of interest. "I hope you learn the ethics and conflict of interests. This is one critical issue that will differentiate our province country from the rest", he said. In his presentation, Motsepe covered a range of critical issues, which included the role of Speakers in achieving clean audit, service delivery in municipalities, with Lephalale local municipality being cited as the fastest growing city in Limpopo. He also touched with serious emphasis good governance and support to municipalities.

Motsepe also took the opportunity to air his concern about the low expenditure on Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG), which is relatively very low. Some municipalities have managed to spend only 2% of its allocations. "We are the worst province in terms of MIG expenditure", he told speakers of Limpopo's municipalities

He encouraged municipalities to consider the National Development Plan when drafting their Integrated Development Plans. He further told the forum that money is available provided municipalities have bankable projects indicating Lephalale as a municipality that has been allocated an additional R400 million for roads projects.

He announced that provincial government turned its focus on twelve (12) identified municipalities for revitalization of Municipal Turnaround Strategy (MTAS) in the priority municipalities. These municipalities include Capricorn, Lephalale, Sekhukhune, Elias



Speaker of Legislature Rudolf Phala and MEC Clifford Motsepe during Speakers Forum held at Tzaneen Country Lodge. MEC Motsepe edged speakers to do their best to improve face of local government.

Motsoaledi, Greater Tubatse, Vhembe, Makhado, Musina, Mopani, Ba-Phalaborwa, Maruleng and Greater Tzaneen. Polokwane and Molemole have been added. He believes the move will go a long way in turning around service delivery in our province.

Speaker of Limpopo Legislature Rudolf Phala outlined the purpose of the forum as to learn from the other best practices prevailing in municipalities across the province. The Speaker, Honorable Phala said that as speakers engage in day-to-day duties, they must bear in mind that there are a lot of challenges facing municipalities needing their prompt attention. Phala said the forum will ensure speakers learn from other colleagues to see how they do it in their respective municipalities. "Experience is the best teacher. We must ensure that we interact at all times", he encouraged. He added that the speakers need to share knowledge to help deal with similar challenges faced at various municipal levels. He said that the forum needed a better understanding of issues of ethics and conflict of interest. "Most good leaders are destroyed for lack of this knowledge" pointed out Phala. Speakers were also reminded of the minimum competency levels required when hiring top Municipal officials like Municipal Managers (MM), Chief Financial Officer (CFO), other Section 57 managers and officials responsible for Supply Chain



Speaker of Legislature Rudolf Phala with Dirk Strydom from AG's Office at the municipal speakers forum held at Tzaneen Country lodge.

Management. "In terms of this gazette, you (municipalities) have been given a grace period until January 2013. From February 2013 you are expected to start complying, if not this is going to be an audit query", said Motsepe.

"For MM position the minimum requirements for a municipality with less than R500 million turnover NQF level 6/certificate in municipal finance management, for CFO position minimum requirements is degree in fields of accounting and finance or certificate in financial management for a municipality with a turnover of less than R500 million, for a municipality with turnover of more than R500 million you need NQF level 7 in the field of accounting and finance or a chartered accountant and a minimum of seven years' experience at senior/middle management level at least two years at senior management, section 57 manager position minimum requirements is NQF 6 or certificate in municipal finance management and five years' experience at middle management", said Motsepe.



Taking Points: Chairperson of SALGA David Magabe interacting with the media during Salga Lekgotla press conference held at 2Ten Hotel.

PROVIDE LEADERSHIP - MOTSEPE URGES LIMPOPO SALGA

By Jimmy Malebati

Thohoyandou- The MEC for the Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Clifford Motsepe has appealed to the South African Local Government Associations (Salga) Provincial Executive Committee to always provide credible leadership at all times. He was speaking at at 2 Ten Hotel, Thohoyandou where SALGA leadership had gathered for two days of planning and reflecting from 21-22 November 2012. Motsepe urged Salga PEC not only to share best practices but to provide leadership at their respective municipalities.

“The only way to deal with under spending on MIG is through forward planning. On the 1st July we want to see the fruits of forward planning”

Motsepe was addressing the PEC on behalf of Premier Cassel Mathale. His speech focused on three points: Service delivery, Operation Clean Audit 2014 and Governance. “We must never desire to work

as individuals but as collectives”. He expressed his unhappiness at the expenditure rate of Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG). On numerous occasions in various platforms, he has pleaded with municipalities to practice forward planning which he says helps in the spending of the infrastructure grant if properly implemented by municipalities. The province in terms of MIG spending is at 19.88 percent as of October 2012 while 30 percent of MIG had to be rolled over which amounts to R2 030 302 and this is the biggest roll over in the country. MEC Motsepe said that the province has returned more than R28 million to national government while communities don't have roads, water and other basic services. “This cannot be business as usual” he warned.

“The only way to deal with under spending on MIG is through forward planning. On the 1st July we want to see the fruits of forward planning”, he said. He advised all municipalities to start with the processes of appointing consultants and contractors as soon as possible to ensure that implementation start early and avoid delays. .



Deputy Chairperson of Limpopo Salga Dikeledi Mmetle giving MEC Clifford Motsepe a token of appreciation.

LIMPOPO COGHSTA AND ITS MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS GRADUATES

By Jimmy Malebati

Boksburg – Limpopo CoGHSTA and its municipal officials are amongst the 400 people to receive DBSA Vulindlela Academy certificates. The Development Bank of Southern Africa's (DBSA) Vulindlela Academy handed out certificates to graduates from government, non-government and municipal officials. The ceremony was held at Birchwood Hotel, Boksburg Gauteng province. The qualifications issued are National Certificate Local Economic Development (LED) level 5, National Certificate Municipal Integrated Development Planning (MIDP) level 5 and National Certificate Municipal Finance Management (MFMP) level 6.

Dr Paul Kibuuka, DBSA Managing Director of DBSA Development Fund delivered a keynote address at the occasion. He said the graduation programmes for LED, MFMP and MIDP are critical skills area for empowering our municipalities for effective service delivery and economic development. "We pride ourselves of the contribution that we are making in ensuring that those municipalities that lack the necessary skills are assisted. We hope that all those who have qualified including those who will be receiving their certificates today will make a difference in ensuring that delivery takes place in those intermediaries like municipalities, government departments, non-governmental organizations in which they will be working", said Dr Kibuuka in his address.

"Credit should also go to our partners who have contributed immensely to the success which we are celebrating. Their commitment in working with the academy is confirmation that we are on the right track in living up to the challenge that this country and the region face, creating a pool of skilled cadres to meet that challenges this country face", added Dr Paul Kibuuka.

Of the four hundred graduates, twenty-four are from Limpopo comprising one official from Department of CoGHSTA and twenty-three from municipalities. They are as follows: Chuene Bernard, Dzebu Itani,



Graduates.....Hard work paying off for CoGHSTA and its municipal officials

Kgomo Broderick, Madiba Fridah, Maluleke Nana, Marokane Maxwell, Mashishi Miranda, Mathekgane William, Mathomu Constance, Mavhungu Matodzi, Mhlongo William, Mkhari Daniel, Mkhwanazi Zanele, Molea Rebecca, Molomo Khomotjo, Mtheza Goddollar, Mthombeni Vheli, Mudau Azwindini, Mukhwevho Tshinane, Ntobeng Stephen, Rababalela Eric, sedikila Sherly, Seleka Thabiso, Seokoma John, Twala Gerald, Shingange George, Kgafela Madumetja, Kgonyane Lowrance, Molekwa Betty, Maharala lesiba, Maake John, Mabetwa Tebogo, Machabaphala Mahlatse, Maja Dorothy, Makgoka Magape, Makhubele Themba, Manwatha Josephine, Buba Jerida, Semenya Simon, Mengwai Mahlogonolo, Mokgohloa Richard, Mokgotho Nelson, Moremi mapula, Moyo Diketso, Mphigalale Lawrence, Tlouamma Ngoako, Dzivhani Anna, Nkoane Dion, Nkuna jonathan, Seanego Chuene, Seduma Piet, Shongoane marcus, Sinyegwe Victor, Sithole Lebogang and Tivani T.V.

Mavhungu Matodzi is a staff member of CoGHSTA who also received a certificate for completing MIDP. "Commitment was the order of the day. One has to complete the portfolio of evidence's at the same time to have to perform your day to day work at municipalities and in the office", said Mavhungu Matodzi. He added that his achievements will go a long way in assisting and adding value in capacitating municipalities.

Dr Kibuuka said DBSA focused its training on national priority areas of planning, finance,



management and leadership. Thambi Dlalisa, Head of DBSA Vulindlela Academy said the Theme "Empowering Municipalities Through Structured Learning: Paving the Way for Effective Service Delivery" of this ceremony captures the significance of occasion brilliantly.

Amongst the delegates that attended the ceremony were Kgoahla Ceriana Senior Manager: Municipal Institute Capacity Building, LED programme coordinators Bopape Joe and Rathogwa Cecil, MIDP programme coordinators Tseka Louie and Mashego Edith. In the 2011/12, the Vulindlela academy has managed to trained over eighteen thousand (18 000) delegates in the areas of management, leadership, finance and planning.

The programmes offered by the academy are accredited by the LGSETA. The DBSA Vulindlela Academy was established to support the operations of the Bank and to disseminate development knowledge in Southern Africa.

NHBRC

Home Builder's Roadshow

By Jimmy Malebati

Malamulele - The Limpopo National Home Builders Registration Council (NHBRC) held a consumer awareness roadshow on the 22nd November 2012 at Malamulele Gymnasium, Thulamela municipality. The aim of the roadshow is to ensure that home builders and consumers are aware of their rights which included registration of home builders and new homes with NHBRC as the law requires.

NHBRC is a statutory body with the responsibility to protect the interest of the housing consumer in terms of Housing Consumers Protection Measure Act of 1998 (Act 95 of 1998) as amended. Its mandate is to provide protection for all new housing consumers against defined defects and to regulate the home building industry.

Acting Provincial Manager Limpopo NHBRC, Mr Ramalla Tshepo said that it's a crime if a builder is building houses and is not registered with his organization. He said that his organization offers preliminary training for ten people per company in plastering, plumbing, and construction



Some of the consumers at the road show organised by the NHBRC

management free for registered builders.. He requested the communities to share with others about the services of NHBRC. The Department of CoGHSTA is a registered member of the NHBRC and those houses built are enrolled. He said all new homes

must be enrolled fifteen (15) days prior construction. The benefits of enrollment are one year roof leakage, five year structural defect period, rectification of poor workmanship or deviation from set technical standards.

DR TIBANE MOTIVATES CDWs

By Jimmy Malebati

Makhado- Community Development Workers, famously known as CDWs are employees whose works demand courage and a big heart to carry out. It is so demanding that they from time to time need words of encouragement to contend with the harshest of conditions they find themselves in on a day to day basis. With this realization, the Departmental Organizational Development (ODD) unit organized a motivational talk for Community Development Workers based in Makhado under the Vhembe District Municipality. Dr Johan Tibane encouraged individuals to consider five key factors in life. One he said people need to take stock of themselves. He said that majority of organizations do Strength Weakness Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis while forgetting to analyze themselves. Secondly, take a stand. "He who stand for nothing will fall for anything", he said. He added that people who don't know their standing point are



Community Development Workers during the team building exercise at Makhado

easily changed from their purpose of life. According to Dr Tibane people must have values that will guide them in life. Thirdly he spoke of taking step. "If the promised Land doesn't come to you, take a step to reach it", he said to a group of Community Development Workers. Dr Tibane's fourth point was, taking a sharp. He encouraged Community Development Workers (CDWs) to be able to adapt to change. The last point was taking a seat. Makhado CDW coordinator, Nkensani Masaka said she was motivated. "Wow he

was great (referring to Dr Tibane). Fortunately enough, it was not the first I listen to him but the time was limited. Today I got what I expected. I really enjoyed a lot. He made an impact; the message was needed to boost the moral after CDWs were moved from Office of the Premier to CoGHSTA," applauded Masaka. Maluleke Eric who is also a CDW echoed Masaka sentiments about the motivational speaker. He added that after the motivational talk he felt that it's important to face challenges head on.

EXECUTIVE MAYOR PROMISES A BETTER LIFE FOR THE DISABLED PEOPLE

NORTHAM - In the Republic of South Africa the 3rd November-3rd December has been declared Disability Rights Awareness month in response to the United Nations General Assembly's proclamation of the 3rd December as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. It is the reason hundreds of disabled people and members of Waterberg Disability Council across the district bussed to gather at Northam Sport grounds of Thabazimbi Municipality last week to celebrate the Disability Rights Awareness Month.

The Mayor of Thabazimbi, Cllr Patricia Mosito welcomed all the people and thanked for them for attending in their hundreds.

Amongst other objectives of the Disability Rights Awareness Month 2012 are: highlighting challenges being experienced by Persons with Disabilities in exercising their rights as equal citizens, enabling Persons with Disabilities as equal citizens in the mainstream society, reflect on progress made in the implementation of policies and programmes and legislation that seek to improve the quality of life of Persons with Disabilities.

"We should be reminded that every South African carries the responsibility to remove barriers that exclude persons with disabilities from everyday society. The South African Constitution recognizes the right of persons with disabilities as equal citizens of the country, and prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability," said Mme Tlotlanang Mogotlane, the Waterberg District Executive Mayor.

"Yet, persons with disabilities, "the world's largest minority", continue to experience barriers to participation in all aspects of society. Barriers can take a variety of forms, including those relating to the physical



People with disabilities also deserve better

environment or to information and communications technology (ICT), or those resulting from legislation or policy, or from societal attitudes or discrimination. The result is that persons with disabilities do not have equal access to society or services, including education, employment, health care, transportation, political participation or justice," she continued.

Mogotlane said evidence and experience shows that when barriers to their inclusion are removed and persons with disabilities are empowered to participate fully in societal life, their entire community benefits.

Mogotlane emphasized that the community should join hands to eliminate these kinds of attitude and barriers so that all Persons with Disabilities enjoy the same treatment and rights that is enshrined in chapter two of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa.

"During the District Conference of People with Disabilities held recently a number of programmes for the Disabled have been identified. These programmes are aimed at

capacity building in business management and other skills. Together with our stakeholders, we must work to empower Persons with Disabilities to acquire the necessary skills in order to participate in the mainstream economy of our district and the country," she added.

"We will engage with Education MEC to have a school for different kind of disabilities in our district under one roof. We are working under the clock so that every municipality has a budget for disabled people. A budget which includes amongst others transport, venue, refreshments and accommodation if need be," She promised.

"We still make a call to the District Disability Council Executive to forward a database from their members with businesses so that they are considered for rendering services to the municipality," Mogotlane signed off.

FRAUD AND CORRUPTION A CHALLENGE TO SERVICE DELIVERY



No room for fraud and corruption

By **Shibambu M.M**

Makhado - "Fraud and corruption is one of the serious challenges in service delivery in our communities". Said the Executive Mayor of Vhembe District Tshitereke Matibe during the launch of anti-fraud and corruption hotline at Makhado Showground recently.

"Government and other multinational companies are struggling to root out fraud and corruption within their institution but with little success, corruption undermines the capacity of a state to function properly and to render effective and efficient services" said

Matibe.

"The Auditor General and the Public Service Commission recently released a report indicating that, a number of public servants benefitted from the government and municipalities' procurement processes through fraud and corruption. People who are involved in corruption should be named, shamed and be dealt with accordingly.

The Executive Mayor further indicated that the anti-fraud and corruption hotline was established as a shared service between Vhembe and its local Municipalities. The

hotline should be used to report the following amongst others; tender management fraud, offering bribes or kicks backs, abuse of Municipal resources, sexual harassment, nepotism and any act or fraudulent activities. The hotline number is 0800668538, fax 0800 200 796 and the e-mail is fraud@kpmg.co.za.

Gabri Viljoen, the marketing Officer of KPMG Company said that the hotline will operate on a 24hour basis and that people are not obliged to indicate their names when reporting any fraudulent activities.

EXECUTIVE MAYOR'S OUTREACH AT TAUNG VILLAGE

Taung - The Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality Cllr Mogobo Magabe accompanied by MEC For Safety, Security and Liaison Florence Radzilani, Provincial Commissioner Lt General TS Mpembe, Acting Mayor of Greater Tubatse Municipality Cllr MD Nkosi, members of the Mayoral Committee, Executive Committee members and Councillors visited Taung village, Ward 22 of Greater Tubatse on the 18th October 2012 to interact with the community and to launch the Multi Million water project. Kgoshi Komane welcomed everybody and highlighted the challenges faced by the community including clean water, electricity, inaccessible roads and poor network coverage. The community was also given an opportunity to raise their concerns and the following were recorded;

- High rate of unemployment in the village
- Need for electricity
- Water pump machine that is always broken
- Lack of sanitation
- Poor network coverage despite the tower that was installed
- Poor condition of the roads
- No provision of RDP houses in the village
- The absence of the ward Councillor in the village
- Police not attending to queries on time
- The need for the new school building

In his response the SAPS Provincial Commissioner Lt General TS Mpembe indicated that the standard set in Limpopo to respond to a query is 20 minutes and appeal to the Municipality to always maintain the roads to be in good condition in order to respond on time. He encouraged the community not to take law into their hands but report any matter to the Police as they are trained to do so. He continued by saying that space will be provided in the nearby Police station for community members to certify their documents. In terms of recruitment he invited qualifying members to apply for reservist posts in the SAPS.

The acting Mayor of Greater Tubatse Municipality Cllr Nkosi MD indicated that the Municipality has developed a programme called Operation Mabone which seeks to



The Executive Mayor of Sekhukhune District Municipality Cllr Mogobo Magabe accompanied by MEC For Safety, Security and Liaison Florence Radzilani launching the water project



Taung Community member during the water project launch

accelerate the provision of electricity in villages like Taung that are not electrified and will be implemented once funds are provided. In terms of the access roads the Municipality is going to purchase additional machinery to supplement the current ones in order to cover all areas of the Municipality. The issue of the tower is still under discussion as the land is under claim.

When responding to what were raised by the community, the Executive Mayor Cllr Mogobo Magabe said that the Municipality is offering bursaries to learners who are pursuing higher education and everyone is encouraged to apply. On the issue of employment he indicated that vacancies in government are advertised in newspapers including the local papers. Other issues will be elevated to other departments for intervention. The main reason of visiting the village was to launch the R26 million water project which will supply water to the village and the nearby villages. The contractor was also introduced and the community was

encouraged to establish the project steering committee which will oversee the project.

In her address the MEC for Safety, Security and Liaison Florence Radzilani thanked Kgoshi Komane and the community in the manner in which they have raised their concerns. She encouraged both Municipalities to put more effort in addressing the concerns of the community.

The mobile office will be provided in the village every Wednesday to give variety of services including certification of documents. A stock theft unit will be established where community members will report the loss of their livestock `said the MEC. She emphasised that all incidents of house breaks inn should be reported to the Police as they are capable of handling such matters.

The outreach was concluded by conducting a sod turning ceremony for the R26 million water project.



Some of the Traditional Leaders at launch of the Waterberg Local House of Traditional Leaders at Makobe villege

WATERBERG LAUNCHES LOCAL HOUSE OF TRADITIONAL LEADERS

Rirhandzu Nkobyane

Makobe Village—Traditional leaders from all corners of the province gathered at Mogalakwena Municipality to attend the launch of the Waterberg House of Traditional leaders held recently. Speaking during the event that was hosted at Bavaria Sports Ground at Makobe Village, the Executive Mayor of Waterberg District, Ms Rosina Mogotlane stressed the important role played by traditional leaders in the community. She said that if the government and traditional leaders can work together, they can be able to face the challenges faced by communities. “The active involvement of traditional leaders in the affairs of local government shows that there is no inherent contradiction between the institution of traditional leadership and the pursuit of our National Democratic Revolution which is aimed at meeting the basic needs of our people and to create a better life for all”. Mogotlane said that the Waterberg District Municipality is one district that is booming with economic opportunities. She said the region is home to two power stations, a third

power station is on its way and a coal mine and if all structures including traditional leadership can broaden their shoulders, they will take the region to another level. “Presently there are many developments that are taking place and some will be starting soon in areas that are in the custody of traditional leaders. We do believe that working together we can be able to economically empower our communities through these developments”. Mogotlane said there are big plans in place to keep on developing the district and with the help from all structures including traditional leaders the plans will materialize.

The Chairperson of the House, Ms Raesibe Tauatsoala, thanked the Mayor for all the support they receive from the district. “There are many challenges faced by the communities and if we work together we will overcome them”. Tauatsoala said Traditional leaders play a vital role in the society and with the help from government they will go a long way in developing communities.



Executive Mayor of Waterberg District, Ms Rosina Mogotlane launching Local House



One of Traditional dance group that entertained the people at launch

THE RENTAL HOUSING TRIBUNAL



By Lorrain Masegela

In an effort to intervene in disputes between landlords and tenants and also stabilize the rental market, government established the Rental Housing Tribunal. The Tribunal was formed in terms of the Rental Housing Act of 1999. This fundamental is the section 4 of the act which deals with the relations between landlords and tenants. Ever since its establishment in 2008, about 555 cases have been received and 543 have been resolved. Cases are received from all municipal areas in the province. The MEC for CoGHSTA has in terms of section 7 of the rental housing act 50 of 1999 as amended, appointed members of the Rental Housing Tribunal whose main responsibility is to resolve disputes between landlords and tenants, creating harmony in the rental sector as well as attracting investors to invest in rental. This Tribunal is operating with seven members which are Chairperson, his deputy, three members and two alternative members with legal and consumer background as required by the act. Rental Housing Tribunal's market has irregular customer practices and government intervention was necessary to protect mostly consumers with less or no access to legal costs. People are therefore required to comply with the rules of tribunal because those who do not comply with the ruling of the tribunal are in contempt and are in

contravention of the section 16 (g) of the act.

The departmental organizational structure provides for the appointment of officials to give administrative support to the Tribunal towards the realization of its objectives but the challenge is to engage magistrates outside Capricorn district to enforce the rulings of the Tribunal in the area of their jurisdiction. The Rental Housing Tribunal stabilize and regulate the residential market by protecting landlords and tenants against unfair and unlawful practices and it will forever maintain its neutrality when adjudicating over disputes and . Rental Housing Tribunal with the support of the Secretariat has been canvassing and preaching gospel about the tribunal in the Municipalities around the province and to certain extent they have made a break through. This is evident by the number of municipalities which have designated officials to operate as Information Officers in their respective area of jurisdiction as required by section 14 of the principal act. Those municipality are also providing office accommodation (boardroom) for the Tribunal hearings and meetings free of charge as required by section 10 (3) of the act as and when the Tribunal seats in their areas.

According to the chairperson of the Rental

Housing Tribunal Maboku Mangena, their primary responsibility is to ensure that there is no unfair business practice incidents taking place in the rental housing market and they are only dealing with leases of residential properties. "Our greatest challenge lies in the area of communication, the other challenge relates to enforcement of our order and we have however built/established a relationship with the office of the magistrate's court, sheriff and SAPS officials." As the Rental Housing Tribunal, they are unable to reach the majority of the people in the province and rely on the municipalities to assist us even though in the most cases the municipalities do not have dedicated personnel/officials for this function. "We measure our success in terms of the total number of complaints we were able to attend to and we consider ourselves successful in that to date we have resolved more than 98% of all the cases referred to us like failure by the estate agent to refund deposits, failure by the tenants to pay outstanding municipal accounts in their names, unfair rental increase, mainly in Lephalale & Burgersfort (Tubatse) area damage caused to leased premises and the majority of them have been dealt with, within the required time-frame we have set for ourselves and mainly through mediation." said Mangena

BATHO PELE CHANGE ENGAGEMENT MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP



Group members presenting their group work on five of the eight Batho Pele principles, the challenges they encounter and the solutions they will apply.

By Adelaide Mabotja

Mokopane-Coghsta hosted the Batho Pele Change Engagement Management workshop in Mokopane at Oasis lodge on Tuesday the 9th of October 2012. The purpose of the workshop which was organized by the Service Excellence SBU was to orientate officials on the Batho Pele Change Management Engagement Programme, to deepen the understanding of Batho Pele as a service delivery policy, to introduce the belief set (We Belong, We Care, We Serve) and also to be able to combine the belief sets with the eight principles.

Mr. Nelson Dikgale, an official for CoGHSTA who was delivering the purpose of the workshop said that Batho Pele cannot be seen with a naked eye, it is the attitude and

behavior that symbolizes Batho Pele. He encouraged the officials from Waterberg District to change the way they conduct themselves at work so that service delivery can improve. During his presentation, Dikgale spoke about The White Paper on the Transformation of the Public Service (WPTPS), 1995. He said since 1994 the democratic government targeted the acceleration of service delivery to communities, and the policy sets out 8 transformation priorities amongst which Transforming Service Delivery is regarded as key. This policy also declares that the Public Service should be...People-centric, People come first and Batho Pele. **A better life for all.**

The manager for Service Excellence, Eddie Mmamabolo, highlighted how the Belief Sets

are the pillars of the eight Batho Pele principles and their meanings. We belong because we are recognized and rewarded for living Batho Pele. Caring for Customers, We care because we are devoted to doing the job until it is done, ensuring that we deliver beyond customer expectations and Servicing the Public We serve by delivering an experience to look forward to that offers world class integrated service delivery for all South Africans. It is important to note that the Belief Set is not meant to replace the 8 Batho Pele principles but instead to re-enforce them. The Belief Set should rather serve as a value system that all public servants should identify with and embrace in their quest to provide essential services to their clients. It is our corporate identity!



Staff members attending the staff address presided over by CoGHSTA HoD, Ms Nnana Manamela

MANAMELA CALLS FOR HARD WORK AND COMMITMENT



Head of Department, Ms Manamela N

Rirhandzu Nkobyane

Polokwane –“ A mixture of both good and bad” This is how the HoD for Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Ms Nnana Manamela describes her experience as an administrator of the multi -award winning department while calling for concerted effort and commitment on the part of staff members. She was speaking during a staff address that was held at 1st floor's Hensa Towers on the 19th of February 2013.

Manamela who was hosting the first staff address ever since she took over office on the 1st of June last year painted the experience of being in charge as a “rough journey” but she is thankful for the hardworking and committed staff members who go an extra mile when doing and executing their jobs.

“The Department is moving in the right direction and this is achieved through your support”, said the HoD while quoting

Hellen Keller who once said: “Alone we can do so little but together we can do so much” Some of the achievements she talked about during the meeting included the thirtieth award awarded by the ANC for being the best department in the Province. Manamela said she was concerned about the performance of some municipalities and hoped the appointment of resident accountants will help bring about the necessary assistance in jerking the performances of municipalities. The soft spoken yet firm Manamela encouraged all staff members in the Department to continue doing their work with pride, dignity and loyalty.

Manamela also dismissed media reports that stated that the Department was allegedly giving contracts to people who are friends to the former ANCYL President, Julius Malema. She said the matter is being investigated and people should wait for the outcome of the investigation.

Manamela is disappointed that there are members of staff who are responsible for leaking information to the media. “We know who you are and if I were you I would kneel down and ask God for forgiveness”.

Some of the Department's achievements

- 11 performance awards received
- 1,042 training sessions conducted
- 98% compliance with PMS policy
- Achieved unqualified audit opinion with matters of emphasis
- Bulk infrastructure installation underway in Lephalale (through PGP)

TRADITIONAL LEADERS REVOKE INITIATION BILL



Limpopo Senior Traditional leaders and some headman listened attentively to the Limpopo Initiation Repeal Bill presented at The Ranch Hotel.

By Jimmy Malebati

The Ranch - The Traditional Affairs wing under the Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs met with all Limpopo Senior Traditional Leaders and some headmen to discuss and make inputs on the Limpopo Initiation School Repeal Bill. After the 2012/13 initiation school season, the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders in consultation with CoGHSTA MEC Clifford Motsepe identified the need to repeal the Northern Province Circumcision Schools Act, Act No.06 of 1996. The motivation behind the repeal is that the Act was not assisting the House of Traditional Leaders and the Department in particular regarding the modern challenges relating to initiation schools.

It is against this background that the traditional leadership of the province converged at the Ranch Hotel outside Polokwane to look into measures which seek to strengthen and prevent illegal initiation schools and other related matters. The Initiation Repeal Bill is aimed

at regulating the holding of initiation schools, providing for the prohibition against abduction, to provide for consent or permission for the performance of initiation operation and holding and it also provides for the implementation and monitoring of health and hygiene standards. This Bill has been done by the Departmental Legal Services in close consultation with the Committee on Initiation Schools of the House of Traditional Leaders

The Chairperson of Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders, Kgosi Dikgale said at the meeting that the Bill needed to be repealed because it was not covering different types of initiation schools as opposed to circumcision. "We wanted to repeal the Initiation school so that it covers men, women and men returning for the second time which is referred as 'bogwera'. We also needed to repeal to be in control, so that our bill covers both genders", said Kgosi Dikgale. He added that it was vital so the House is able to legislate issues of payments.

The Resolutions for Limpopo Initiation School Repeal Bill are as follows:

- If a person is not a graduate and caught snooping at the initiation school, he will be detained. If you are under age, the school will consult with parents and Senior Traditional Leader concerned for permission.
- Admission fee will be regulated and issued by the MEC for CoGHSTA in consultation with Senior Traditional Leaders.
- Local Houses must establish committees to assist the Provincial House in recommending applications for initiation schools, which must be approved or disapproved by the department.
- People above 21 years can attend initiation school without parents or guardians' consent.
- Senior Traditional Leaders are not allowed to operate initiation schools in other Senior Traditional Leader's areas of jurisdiction.

TRADITIONAL LEADERS UPHOLDING THE PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE - OJ



Launching the Mopani Local House of Traditional Leaders at Selwane village

By Jimmy Malebati

Selwane - The Chief Whip of Mopani District Cllr OJ Mushwana has commended traditional leaders for upholding the principles of cooperative governance. He was delivering keynote address to the Mopani House of Traditional Leaders during its official opening at Selwane, Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality. Mushwana who was standing in on behalf of Mopani District Executive Mayor Joshua Matlou, said the sitting by traditional leaders in Mopani once again gives us a clear indication of the amount of enthusiasm that the institution of Traditional leadership shows towards matters of governance.

OJ said that Mopani remain a proud trendsetter in the country with regard to establishment of functional houses of traditional leadership at a district and local level. "This gives us absolute confidence that we are in the correct path in upholding the principles of cooperative governance as required by our governing legislations", he said.

OJ said that the Mopani District is seeing an improvement with regard to the release of land for housing, burial, and other developmental purposes through consultative processes with traditional leaders. "All this explains the working relationship and cooperation that exists between local government and traditional leaders of Mopani. It is a cordial one and should be taken to the next level for the benefit of the masses of our people in the district. Together a lot can be done and achieved" appreciated the Chief Whip.

The Chairperson of Mopani House of Traditional Leaders Kgosikgadi Sekgopo who chaired the proceeding of the day outlined the function of the house as that of advising government on issues of traditional affairs. "Traditional leaders play an important role by participating on issues of governance and the development of rural communities", explained Kgosikgadi Sekgopo. She added that as part of their work the House will advise Mopani District municipality on

issues of development, empowerment and all other matters pertaining to traditional issues. The opening of District Houses of Traditional Leaders follows the opening of the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders which took place last year at Homu Village, Greater Giyani Municipality. The provincial House was opened by the Limpopo Premier Cassel Mathale and attended by guests from other provinces such as Eastern Cape and Mpumalanga.

The Limpopo House of Traditional Leadership Act summarized the mandate of traditional leaders as to advice government in developing policies impacting on which traditional communities, to advice government in the development of legislation which affects rural communities, to participate in national and international programs geared towards the development of rural communities and to participate in national and provincial initiatives meant to monitor, evaluate and review government programs in rural areas.

ROLE OF TRADITIONAL LEADERS PIVOTAL – SAYS EXEC MAYOR



This group gave their best performance at the launch

Rirhandzu Nkobyane

Ha-Manenzhe - Scores of people from Ha-Manenzhe and surrounding villages outside Thohoyandou attended the official opening of the Vhembe House of Traditional Leaders on the 22nd of February 2013. The opening was attended by the executive mayor of Vhembe District and traditional leaders from across the province. Speaking during the event, the Executive Mayor of the district, Tshireke Matibe acknowledged the pivotal role that is played by traditional leaders in their communities. He said during last year's matric results the district received a pass rate of 76.8 % and this was achieved through the partnership between parents, traditional leaders and the government. He went further to say that the District has assisted more than 100 students from the needy families by giving them R30000 worth of bursaries. He said: "More than 95% of these students are from communities under traditional leadership. This confirms that indeed Vhembe is committed towards the eradication of unskilled human resource based". He appealed to traditional leaders to work



Executive Mayor of the district, Tshireke Matibe flanked by Kgotsi Dikgale and Hosi Chauke

closely with the district to identify learners from poor families. Matibe also encouraged traditional leaders to work hand in glove with government and in the fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic and other life threatening diseases that are a threat to the future of the country. "Let us encourage our communities to live a healthy lifestyle. Without the support of traditional leaders government will never succeed in fighting the spread of HIV/AIDS. Let us go out and strengthen our clinic committees. Our health and AIDS Councils are up and

running and we are pleased by the participation of our traditional leaders", appealed the Executive Mayor in his address. The Chairperson for the District's House of Traditional Affairs, Chief Nxumalo who was also present during the opening said they are grateful for the support they receive from the district. "We will continue working with government as this partnership will improve the delivery of quality services to our people. For our communities to develop, we all have to be involved", emphasised Nxumalo who presided over the day's proceedings.



OPERATION CLEAN AUDIT 2014

2011/12
Achieved clean audit opinion

MUNICIPAL AUDIT OPINIONS	
Clean Audit	1
Unqualified	1
Qualified	14
Adverse	0
Disclaimer	11

2010/11
Achieved unqualified report with matters of emphasis

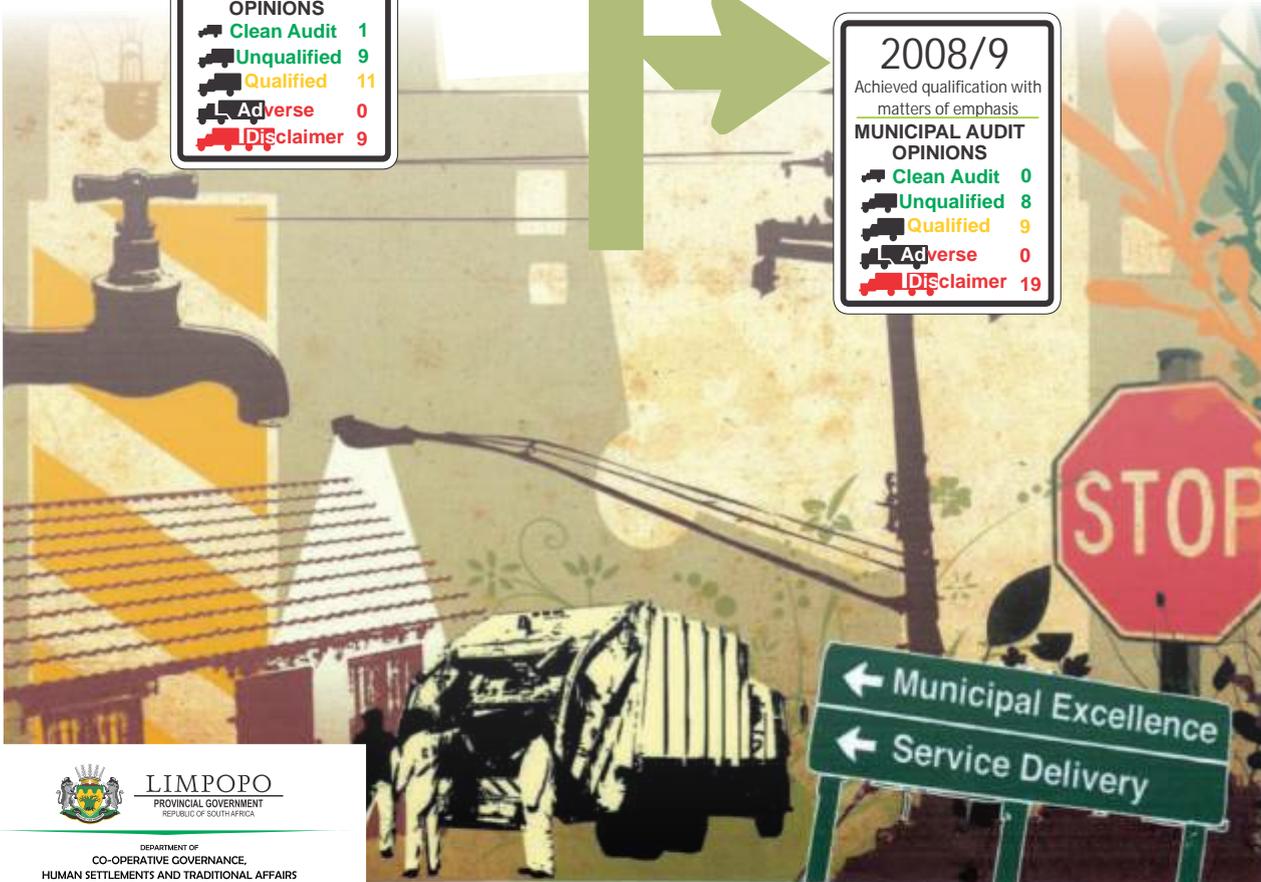
MUNICIPAL AUDIT OPINIONS	
Clean Audit	2
Unqualified	3
Qualified	12
Adverse	3
Disclaimer	10

2009/10
Achieved unqualified report without matters of emphasis

MUNICIPAL AUDIT OPINIONS	
Clean Audit	1
Unqualified	9
Qualified	11
Adverse	0
Disclaimer	9

2008/9
Achieved qualification with matters of emphasis

MUNICIPAL AUDIT OPINIONS	
Clean Audit	0
Unqualified	8
Qualified	9
Adverse	0
Disclaimer	19



LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF
CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE,
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

The heartland of Southern Africa - development is about people!