

LED01 of 2018

**MONTHLY: REPORT LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING,
PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES (AED: LED, P) (6/4/1)**

PURPOSE

To present before the Section 80 the Monthly progress reports on projects and programmes in terms of the IDP.

BACKGROUND

The progress report is intended to update the members of the Portfolio Committee as well as Council on Departmental performance in terms of the SDBIP. It reflects also on challenges as well as remedial actions.

*** The Monthly report for February 2018 is **attached On Page 01 To Page 38 of the annexures.**

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Financial implications are in accordance with the approved SDBIP and will further be informed by implementation of each project.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

RECOMMENDATION

Submitted For Consideration

LED02 of 2018

WATER CONTAMINATION AND DELIVERY AT MUNICIPAL COMMONAGE FARM DELPORTS RUST 30 RD SITUATED IN THE DISTRICT OF WELKOM (AED: LED, P) (8/3/3/5)

PURPOSE

The purpose of the report is to inform the Section 80 Committee on the water contamination and delivery challenges at (Commonage Farm Delports Rust 30 RD), situated in the district of Welkom (Free State)

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The farm Delports Rust 30 belongs to the Matjhabeng Local Municipality and forms of the Welkom Commonages. The farm was purchased by the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform in the year 2006 and was transferred to the Municipality to be used for communal purposes. Harmony Gold Mine has been supplying small scale farmers who are utilising Municipal farm (Delports Rust 30 RD) with water since the purchasing of the farm because there was already an agreement in place with the previous owner that water be supplied because the underground water was contaminated due to mining operations.

On the 22 May 2015, Harmony Gold Mine ceased to deliver water at the above mentioned farm and we are faced with a predicament that more than approximately 2000 cattle are left stranded and are left without water. The information received from Harmony Gold Mine was that the samples have been collected and tests conducted on the water at the farm and that the results indicate that water is safe for both human and animal consumption. All these were carried out without the knowledge of the Municipality. A letter was written to Harmony Gold Mine requesting them to continue supplying water to the affected farms until an independent body do the testing.

***** Annexure on Page 39 to Page 40 is a Letter to Harmony**

The LED requested the Infrastructure Directorate to assist with the following:

- Interpreting the report supplied by Harmony Gold regarding the condition of water at the farm.
- Temporary supply of water to the farm (reservoirs) whilst the matter is being attended to.
- Facilitation of water testing on 8 boreholes by the Sedibeng Water.

There was also a series of meetings whereby different stakeholders like the Departments of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, Department of Water and Sanitation, Harmony Gold Mine and representatives from affected farms were the matter was intensely discussed. One of the key resolutions taken, was that the Department of Water and Sanitation collect water samples and do tests to establish if it is indeed fit for both human and animal consumption. This would be a solution since the Department of Water and Sanitation is a neutral party qualified to carry out these tests.

***** The relevant correspondence from Harmony is attached on Page 1 to page 19 of Separate Cover 1.**

CURRENT STATUS AT THE FARM

- There is still no water at the farm and Harmony Gold Mine is refusing to supply water. They will only do so once the verification process indicates that the water is still contaminated.
- The Department of Water and Sanitation has postponed the process of surveying and testing.
- The Department of Infrastructure (Internal) has not responded to the request forwarded to them by LED.
- The society for the prevention of cruelty to animals (SPCA) has also written to the Municipality about the matter and that action will be taken against the Municipality as the owner of the property.

LEGAL IMPLICATION

The legal action be taken against Harmony Gold Mine in order to force them to deliver water and account to all the costs.

POLICY POSITION

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

The Matjhabeng Local Municipality will still incur the costs for delivering water to the farm if this matter is not attended to.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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- That DMR be informed about the current situation
- That Harmony Gold Mine be informed of the water testing results received from Sedibeng and that Harmony be requested to commence supplying water to the farm.
- That the Directorate Infrastructure calculate all the expenses incurred when delivering the water to the farm and invoice Harmony Gold Mine retrospectively from the time they stopped the delivery of water.
- If none of the above three recommendation not work, then legal action be taken against Harmony Gold Mine in order to force them to deliver water and account to all the costs.

LED03 of 2018

REQUEST FOR THE MATJHABENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY TO CONCLUDE A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE EVERGREEN SERVICES IN ORDER FOR THEM TO CONDUCT STONE CRUSHING ACTIVITY IN FARM PALEIS – HEUVEL 323.(AED;LED P)(8/3/3/5)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report serves to request the Matjhabeng Local Municipality to conclude a lease agreement with the Evergreen Services in order for them to conduct stone crushing activity in farm Paleis – Heuvel 323.

BACKGROUND

Evergreen Services cc is Small Scale Mining Company and 100% black owned entity situated in Welkom, Thabong.

*** See the company profile on **Page 1 to Pages 18 of Separate Cover 2.**

The company has appointed Engedi Minerals and Energy (Pty) Ltd as consultant to lodge a mining right/permit application with the Department of Minerals Resources (DMR). The application was lodged on the 15th of September 2017.

Before any mining right or permit can be issued by DMR, the land owner need to give permission with regard to the envisaged activity to take place in his/her property. The notice of acceptance of mining permit from the DMR on page 4, paragraphs 9 state that consultation should be extended to the Department of Land Affairs and now in this case the owner is the Matjhabeng Local municipality.

*** See the notice of acceptance of mining permit from the DMR on **Page 19 of the separate cover 2.**

It is against this background that we request the Matjhabeng Local Municipality to conclude a lease agreement with the Evergreen Services in order for them to conduct stone crushing activity on farm Paleis – Heuvel 323 which is situated in Odendaalsrus district.

*** See the Paleis – Heuvel 323 farm map on **Page 20 to Pages 29 of the separate cover 2.**

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The economic benefits associated with the proposed project are expected to be somewhat positive. From the point of view, the following three advantages are envisaged:

- To boost region economic growth;
- It can offer people more job opportunities and raise their living standard;
- The slime rehabilitation process can be realized after the processing of the dump

LEGAL IMPLICATION

Lease contract

POLICY POSITION

Municipal Finance Management Act

Municipal Supply Chain and Management policy

National Development Plan 2020, Chapter 3

Integrated Development Plan (IDP)

Mineral and Petroleum Resources Act

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

The financial implication will be clarified as projects roll out.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Matjhabeng Local municipality conclude a five (5) year lease contract with Evergreen Services for the purpose of mining and crushing stone aggregate from the waste dump rock.
2. That all the process of disposal of rock dumps and slime dams comply with the applicable legislation
3. That all mining right/permit applicable legislations by Evergreen Services Company as and when requested by the Department of Minerals and Energy (DMR) be adhered to.

LED04 of 2018

**ESTABLISHMENT OF FARMER PRODUCTION SUPPORT UNIT (FPSU) IN
MATJHABENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (ODENDAALSRUS) (AED: LED, P)
(15/1/2/12)**

PURPOSE

This report serves to provide information with regards to the planned establishment of Farmer Production Support Unit (FPSU) in one of the identified municipal farm known as portion 2 of the farm Kalkkuil 153, situated near Odendaalsrus, in Matjhabeng Local Municipality in the Free State Province.

This report will give background information which will be divided into two parts which firstly are the formation of Agripark in South Africa and will further narrow it to the establishment of this entity in the Lejweleputswa District municipality in (Wesselsbron).

The second part of the background information will focus on the planned establishment of Farmer Production Support Unit (FPSU) in one of the identified municipal farm known as portion 2 of the farm Kalkkuil 153, situated near Odendaalsrus, in Matjhabeng Local Municipality.

BACKGROUND

This section of the document report's purpose is to provide background information about the Agri-parks in South Africa.

In his state of the nation address (SONA), 2015, the former President, Honourable Jacob Zuma, announced the implementation of Agri-parks to revitalise agro-processing and agriculture in the country. The aim is to promote the growth of the smallholder sector, create jobs and create one stop shops for production, processing, logistics, marketing, training and extension services. Subsequent to SONA, the South African Government launched the Agri-parks programme in 2015 as one of the cornerstones of rural economic transformation. The vision for Agriparks is that it will be farmer-controlled entities that serves as catalysts around which rural industrialisation can take place. Agri-parks are supposed to be one stop shops for agro-

production support, processing, logistics, marketing and training within district municipalities. Government believes that the initiative will contribute to developing 300 000 new small holder farmers and 145 000 jobs in agro-processing.

The stated intention is to develop Agri-parks in each of the 44 district municipalities, with 27 of the poorest district municipalities being prioritised.

The Free State Province has identified the town of Wesselsbron as the location for the establishment of an Agri-Park in the Lejweleputswa District Municipality based on the following:

- An Agri-Park in the vicinity of Wesselsbron town is proposed
- There are no District level gateways in the Lejweleputswa district
- Welkom is an EDD Regional Gateway in close proximity
- There are at least 10 SPAR Food stores in the area
- There are 14 Pro-Active Land Acquisition (PLAS) projects in the area
- Good railway connectivity
- The road conditions may vary due to actual prevailing road surface condition
- There are many Land Reform Acquisition projects in the area surrounding the proposed Agri-hub location
- There are 4 grain silos, 1 miller, and CASP and Ilima-Letsema projects to the south and west of the proposed location
- Land capability is marginal to moderate
- Close proximity to the N1 national road
- Good water supply from rivers and the dam to the south east of the proposed location
- Location surrounded by the poorest wards
- There are a few Land Reform implemented projects

Agri-parks consist of three components which are the following:

1. The first component being the farmer production support unit (FPSU), which would do primary collection, some storage, some processing for the local market and extension services, including mechanisation and inputs supplies for subsidised emerging farmer support.
2. The second component is the Agri hub unit, which is where processing, packaging, logistics and training is to happen.
3. The third component is the Rural Urban Market Centre (RUMC) unit, which would link the rural and urban areas in terms of market access, both locally and internationally, as well as to act as a holding facility, and to provide market intelligence.

This section of the document report's purpose is to provide background information about the planned establishment of Farmer Production Support Unit (FPSU) in portion 2 of the farm Kalkkuil 153, situated near Odendaalsrus.

Department of Rural Development and Land Reform has identified a need to develop a Farmer Production Support Unit (FPSU) near Odendaalsrus on portion 2, Kalkkuil 153. The FPSU is a rural outreach unit connected with the Agri-Hub. It focusses on primary collection, storage, processing, and extension services including mechanization

The FPSU is a rural outreach unit connected with the Agri-Hub. The main concept of the Odendaalsrus FPSU is to provide essential and efficient farmer support services and training to the developing farmers in the Odendaalsrus area and other towns in the Matjhabeng Local Municipality. These support services and training will focus on the agricultural commodities and input requirements identified in the farmer needs assessment and is also based on the main commodities identified in the Lejweleputswa Agri-Park Master Business Plan, which is chicken (poultry), red meat and maize.

*** See the attached letter dated 16/10/2017 from Department of Rural Development and Land Reform on **Page 1 of separate cover 3**

*** See the attached permission letter from Matjhabeng LM dated 02/11/2017 on **Page 2 of separate cover 3**

*** See the attached special power of attorney's letter from Matjhabeng LM dated 25/01/2018 on **Page 3 to Page 4 of separate Cover 3**

*** See the attached Maps portion 2, Kalkkuil 153 farm in Odendaalsrus on **Pages 5 to Pages 6 of separate cover 3.**

The Odendaalsrus portion 2, Kalkkuil 153 facilities proposed for the FPSU site includes the following:

- Reception and administrative offices
- Multipurpose training facility
- Animal handling facility
- Animal handling site for practical training
- Pastures for animal roaming
- Logistics centre with a mechanisation unit and a training workshop facility
- Storage units, storage for mobile units and cold storage
- Retail space and tourism
- Security offices
- Storage facilities
- Broiler facilities

The creation of viable small holder farmers and value adding activities may indeed contribute to viable and stable rural communities, but substantial support will be required.

LEGAL IMPLICATION

The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform to conduct the Basic Assessment application of the Odendaalsrus Farmer Production Support Unit (FPSU). Activities applied for according to Regulation 41 of Government Notice No. R326 under the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) as amended 7 April 2017, as well as in terms of the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) Section 21, of intent to carry out the following project.

According to Terra Works Environmental company which has been appointed by SMEC South Africa for the Department The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform: National Water Act: Section 21 (NO. 36 of 1998) involve

- i. The impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse and
- ii. Altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse.

BUDGET IMPLICATION

The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform will fund the entire project from the planning to construction.

ROLE OF THE MATJHABENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

The Municipal Manager as the accounting officer of the Municipality is expected to give authorisation with regard to any application to other bodies in order to expedite the implementation of the project. Other relevant and affected Departments in Municipality are expected to advise and provide information to the Municipal Manager and further also give support and information required for the successful implementation of this project.

CONCLUSION

The viability and stability of our emerging farming communities both primary agriculture as well as the value chain needs to transform and become more inclusive towards categories of people that have been excluded by the legacy bottlenecks of in past and substantial support will be required from Matjhabeng Local Municipality.

The creation of viable Farmer Production Support Unit (FPSU) and value adding activities may indeed contribute to Matjhabeng Local Municipality as the custodian of identified land and the advocacy with regard to the promotion of economic growth which will result to job creation and poverty alleviation. Our intervention as the Matjhabeng Local Municipality should embrace the fast tracking and smooth implementation of this project rather than being seen as the main obstacle by creating unnecessary bottlenecks and the so called rate tapes which are against any development which will result into the changing life of our communities.

Emerging black farmers today find themselves battling in farming because of these past laws which excluded them. The many literature highlighted on how white farming had been promoted and resourced whiles on the other hand black farming had been deliberately ignored and undermined. In considering addressing the above statement, we as developmental

municipality should drive the transformation of the sector by supporting this initiative and opportunity for our municipality.

Primary and secondary agriculture in in Matjhabeng Local Municipality has a significant and central role to play in promotion of local economic development, building of strong economy by increasing of resources and other opportunities to the poor. Sustainable agriculture has the economic, environmental, social and ecological dimensions, therefore for an effective, efficient and sustainable management of the land reform beneficiaries, a requirement for the combination of resource enabling environment, sustaining local institutions and conserving technologies.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Section 80 Committee take note of the item.

LED05 OF 2018

**REPORT ON REVENUE COLLECTION OF DELPORTS RUST 96RD
COMMONAGE FARM SITUATED IN THE DISTRICT OF WELKOM (ACTED: LED
P AND) (8/3/3/5)**

PURPOSE

The purpose of the report is to inform the Section 80 Committee about the revenue collection (Commonage Farm Delports Rust 96 RD), situated in the district of Welkom (Free State)

BACKGROUND

Lease agreement documents dated 17th February 2017 were handed to the Commonage Committee of Municipal Commonage Farm Delports Rust 96RD.

*** See lease agreement on **pages 41 to Page 50 of the Annexures**

Letter of intention for eviction from Municipal Commonage Farm Delports Rust 96 RD Dated 28/06/2017 were drafted and send to the individual farmers with the aim of revenue collection.

*** See attached letter of notice to evict on **pages 51 to Pages 52 of Annexures**

DISCUSSION

The 51 farmers were given letters and only 22 farmers paid for 2016- 2017.

The project is benefiting the Municipality on the following:

- Creation of more job opportunities for young people to reduce high level of unemployment around the Municipality.
- Sustainable income for the beneficiary
- Collection of revenue for the Municipality

POLICY POSITION

Commonage Policy

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Lease Agreements entered into between the Municipality and the 51 Commonage farmers.

Anticipation of another audit query with regard to non-collection of revenue and failure to take drastic measure to these who default.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The revenue that was supposed to be collected is R70 686 but only R15 354 was collected.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the rental agreements be cancelled.
2. That the process to remove the livestock be implemented immediately.

LED06 of 2018

REPORT TITLE: REPORT ON ARTS AND CRAFTS WORKSHOP (AED: LED, P)
(5/6/2/12)**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

The purpose of the report is to give feedback on the participation of Matjhabeng Local Municipality at the arts and craft workshop held on the 27th March 2018 at TS Du Plessis Hall in Welkom.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs in collaboration with Free State Development Cooperation conducted an arts and crafts workshop that focused on an online marketing platform (Peek) and registration for Lejweleputswa Arts and Crafts. Peek is an initiative of the Cape Craft and Design Institute (CCDI) and sponsored by the Department of Small Business Development. It is a search and connect website that is free for crafters in South Africa. Peek provides a platform for SA businesses to access markets anywhere in the country in order to showcase their work to local and global audience. This assists in highlighting the very best of what South Africa has to offer. This workshop was not restricted to registered businesses only; non-registered businesses were guided on the importance of registration and funding benefits thereof. Matjhabeng Local Municipality was requested to provide a venue for the workshop as well as stakeholders.

PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP

The purpose of this workshop was to introduce technology advancement to small businesses specifically the arts and crafters. This online marketing platform will give artists a great opportunity merge and empower each other for the development of their businesses. DESTEA.

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Arts and crafters were requested to fill a form which will later be uploaded on an online system by the officials from DESTEA. The form requires information of the business owner(s), business contact details, financial, human resource and product information.

CHALLENGES AND RESOLUTIONS

CHALLENGE	RESOLUTION
Access to computers for the arts and crafters to physically see how the online system is processed.	DESTEA to ensure that a relevant venue with computers is booked for this type of workshop.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996

The White paper on National Tourism Policy as amended in 1996

Tourism BEE Charter

National Tourism Sector Strategy

Matjhabeng Tourism Sector Strategy

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Section 80 Committee take note of the report.

LED07 of 2018

REPORT ON THE TOURISM INDABA 2018(AED: LED P AND H/S) (15/2/3/52)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to give progress on the participation of Matjhabeng Local Municipality at the Tourism Indaba Expo 2018.

BACKGROUND

INDABA is one of the largest tourism marketing event on the African calendar and one of the top three 'must visit' events of its kind on the global calendar. It showcases the widest variety of Southern Africa's best tourism products, and attracts international visitors, travel trade and media from across the world. INDABA is owned by South African Tourism and organised by Stnergy Business Events (Pty) Ltd. INDABA has won the award for Africa's best travel and tourism show. This award was presented by the Association of World Travel Awards. INDABA is a three day trade event that attracts over 13000 delegates from the travel tourism and related industries. The exhibition is held at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli Convention Centre (Durban ICC) and Durban Exhibition Centre (DEC) in the Province of KwaZulu Natal. The exhibition show dates are 08- 10 May 2018.

The purpose of the show is to facilitate networking amongst people from various sectors of the travel industry and to showcase the latest tourism-related products. The INDABA is well worth the visit for anyone involved in tourism and acts as a platform for those looking to get into the industry. This is done through exposing interested parties to big industry leaders and giving them the chance to network face-to-face. INDABA brings together a showcase of Southern African tourism products and services for the international travel trade. Exhibitors in the DEC (Durban Exhibition Centre) include provincial authorities, municipalities, provincial products and African Countries. In the ICC (International Convention Centre), exhibitor categories include accommodation, tour operators, game lodges, transport, online travel, media publications and industry associations. Outdoor exhibitors include transport, camping and safari companies.

THE ROLE OF MATJHABENG AT INDABA 2018

The role of Matjhabeng Municipality at the Tourism Indaba would have been to market Matjhabeng as a destination of choice through attracting investors and marketing local tourism products through speed marketing.

ATTENDANCE AT INDABA 2018

The following would have attended:

1. Me Lebogang Kobue (Acting Manager: LED and Tourism)
2. Miss Lulama Brooms, tourism officer
3. Councillor Matinte Radebe, MMC LED, Small Business, Tourism and Agriculture.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 1.1 A contribution of amount of R72 000.00 for space in the Free State Tourism Authority stand.
- 1.2 Accommodation and travelling of three employees.

ACTION PLAN

- 6.1. Participation in the Free State Preparatory meetings.
- 6.2. Request to the Municipal Manager for participation in the Tourism Indaba 2018.

CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS

CHALLENGE	SOLUTION
Request for participation not responded to	Positive response for participation in the Tourism Indaba on time

LEGISLATIVE POSITION

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996
 The White paper on National Tourism Policy as amended in 1996
 Tourism BEE Charter
 National Tourism Sector Strategy
 Matjhabeng Tourism Sector Strategy

RECOMMENDATION

That the Section 80 Committee recommend that Council gives necessary support for participation in the Tourism Indaba in the future.

LED08 of 2018

REPORT TITLE: REPORT ON THE ART BEAT OF CENTRAL SOUTH AFRICA EXHIBITION TO BE HELD ON 03 SEPTEMBER 2018 -08 SEPTEMBER 2018(AED; LED, P) (14/3/2/1)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to report on the participation of Matjhabeng Local Municipality at the Art Beat of Southern South Africa Exhibition to be held on the 03rd September 2018 until the 08th September 2018 at Ferdi Meyer Hall, Ballroom Hall as well as the open space between Matjhabeng Publicity and the Ernest Oppenheimer Theatre in Welkom.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Exhibition is to provide a platform and to promote access to markets for little known artists all over South Africa. They get a chance to exhibit, showcase and market their work at this prestigious Exhibition. The aim is also to get people from neighboring towns to come to Welkom. More than 80 Artists from across South Africa, of various art forms and techniques, will be exhibiting their work during the week of the 03rd September 2018 to 08th September 2018. Oil, Acrylic, Water Color, Charcoal, Photography, Sculpture, Carpets, African Crafts and even Quilting. This Exhibition will become Central South Africa's biggest Annual Art Exhibition attracting Artists and Art- lovers from all over our Country.

BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

- Local restaurants and SMME's to be invited to sell food under the marquee tent at the exhibition.
- There will be a number of expensive paintings for the exhibition, as result a local security company is to be sourced to patrol for 8 nights and 9 days.
- Local schools e.g. St Dominic Primary, St Andrews Primary, Riebeeckstad Primary, Koppie Allen Primary, Gymnasium High School and artists from Thabong to be more involved.

MARKETING PLAN

- Local and national radio stations, local and national newspapers, advertising screens, advertising boards and distribution of flyers at Toll gates and petrol stations along the N1 route to be used as a form of marketing the exhibition. The advertisements to be from the 8th August 2018.
- Marketing material (posters, flyers and banners) used at the Art Beat of Central South Africa Exhibition 2017 will also be used for the 2018 exhibition with the corrected date for this year.

- On Friday the 31st August 2018 a fun walk at the North Park is planned,
- An invitation to a local musician and one international musician will be extended.
- Flyers to the community will be handed out.

ACTION PLAN

ACTION REQUIRED	REASON
1. Ferdie Meyer Hall, Ballroom and a marquee to be used at the open space between Matjhabeng Publicity and the Ernest Oppenheimer Theatre.	1.The exhibition will be having more artists than the previous year
2. Quotation to be sourced for 75 wooden boards/dividers	2.To maintain a more professional and uniform look
3. Letters of partnerships to be prepared	3. To acquire financial support of local businesses. I return they will get a chance to market their businesses
4. Preparations' meetings to be held once a month	4. To maintain momentum and give feedback

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Quotations to be sourced.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996
The White paper on National Tourism Policy as amended in 1996
Tourism BEE Charter
National Tourism Sector Strategy
Matjhabeng Tourism Sector Strategy

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the section 80 Committee take note of the item.

LED09 of 2018

REPORT ON THE TOURISM INDABA 2017(AED: LED, P) (15/2/3/53)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to report on the Free State Service Excellence Legacy Team Launch attended by Matjhabeng Local Municipality at Bloemfontein on the 26 March 2018

BACKGROUND

Purpose of the project

- Turn Tourism Information Centres into centres of excellence through the application of service excellence systems.
- Turning Rural Information Centres into multi-purpose centres with the involvement of relevant partners and stakeholders.
- Conduct an audit to establish an updated and reliable database and holistic information on information centres.
- Liaise with relevant structures to ensure that relevant information is provided at information centres (SAT, Tourism Agencies and Local Government).
- Awareness creation and capacity building initiatives.

Objective of the Visitor Information Centres (VICs)

- Visitor Information Centres act as one stop physical location where travel/tourists can go and acquire destination information.
- It links product owners (suppliers of services) with tourists/consumers (demand).
- It conveys the destination brand image and markets the destination.
- They facilitate enhanced bookings for various accommodation establishments.
- They assist in promoting packaged tours.
- Help in collecting data and gathering of information from the market to remain competitive.
- They play an advocacy role for product owners and DMOs (Destination Marketing Organisations)

**ATTENDANCE THE LAUNCH OF THE FREE STATE SERVICE EXCELLENCE
LEGACY TEAM**

The following would have attended:

4. Me Lebogang Kobue (Acting Manager: LED and Tourism)
5. Miss Lulama Brooms (Tourism Officer)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Travelling costs of two employees.

ACTION PLAN

Three VICs have been chosen to participate in the pilot project, namely in Bethlehem, Phuthaditjhaba and Clarens. The aim is to ensure that our information offices, namely Welkom and Ventersburg - partake in the next round of assessments so as to be part of the service excellence project

6.3. Participation in the Free State Preparatory meetings.

6.4. Request to the Municipal Manager for participation in the Tourism Indaba 2018.

CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS

CHALLENGE	SOLUTION
Both the information offices within the jurisdiction of the municipality are privately owned and operated	Ensure that they are included in the National Governments' program. Ensure the municipality eventually has its own run information offices

LEGISLATIVE POSITION

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996

The White paper on National Tourism Policy as amended in 1996

Tourism BEE Charter

National Tourism Sector Strategy

Matjhabeng Tourism Sector Strategy

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Section 80 Committee take note of the report.

LED10 of 2018

REPORT TITLE: REPORT ON TOURIST GUIDES TRAINING (AED; LED, P)
(5/6/2/12)

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to give feedback on the progress of Matjhabeng Local Municipality for the tourist guides training that was meant to be held on the 26th March 2018 until the 06th April 2018 at TS Du Plessis Hall in Welkom.

BACKGROUND

Tourist guiding is a very critical component of the tourism value chain. Tourist Guides play an essential role in ensuring repeat tourist visitation to South Africa through creating a positive image of our country. They act as ambassadors of the country because they are the first to meet and welcome tourists into the country and are often the ones to bid farewell to the tourists when they leave the country.

The Local Economic Development and Tourism division of the municipality had for years requested for the assistance of The Department of Economic, Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DESTEA) to train tourist guides in our area. The aim of the training is to increase the number of culture guides within the vicinity. The above mentioned training was envisaged to take place on the week of the 26th March 2018 up to the 06th April 2018. The two weeks' long training consists of both theory and practical modules. DESTEA has managed to source the facilitator that will conduct the training. Due to budgetary constraints the Department has requested Matjhabeng Local Municipality to procure catering for 30 people.

CURRENT STATUS OF TOURISTS GUIDES IN FREE STATE

DESTEA through the office of the provincial registrar has confirmed that the number of registered tour guides in the Free State Province is 89. The province aims to introduce tourist guiding as a career of choice that will rapidly boost the province with professional and well trained individuals.

ACTION PLAN

4.1 Interviews	Interviews were conducted on the 16 th March 2018 at 1 Reinet Building, 3 rd Floor boardroom, Matjhabeng Local Municipality. 28 candidates were invited to the interview but only 20 attended the interview.
4.2 Selection Process	The selection process was done by the interview panel which consisted on 3 officials from DESTEA. The names of the

	selected candidates will be provided to the Municipality in due course.
4.3 Facilitator	The facilitator for the training was appointed by DESTEA. The training was envisaged to start on the 26 th March 2018 until the 6 th April 2018.
4.4 Catering	Matjhabeng was unable to procure catering for the training due to financial constraints.
4.5 Venue for the training	The library boardroom was booked for the first week of training and TS du Plessis Hall was booked for the second week.

CHALLENGES AND RESOLUTIONS

CHALLENGE	RESOLUTION
DESTEA had to postpone the tourist guides training due to an overlap of the training to the next financial (2018/2019), which begins on 01 st April 2018 to 31 March 2019.	The training will be conducted in the new financial year (2018/2019).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Procurement for catering lunch for 30 people.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Tourism Act, 2014;
 White Paper on Tourism Development and Promotion, 1996;
 National Tourism Sector Strategy, 2016 Review;
 Tourism Act no. 3 of 2014.
 Regulations on Tourist Guides, 1994 and 2001 respectively.
 The Code of Conduct and Ethics
 South African Tourism Planning Toolkit

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the section 80 Committee take note of the report.

LED11 of 2018

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE EVENT HELD FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY
(AED; LED P AND H/S)(13/2/1/1)**

PURPOSE

To create an environment that is supportive and developmental in nature equal opportunity for people with disability.

To give a feedback report on SMME programme specifically designed for people with disability. The purpose of the programme was creating a conducive environment in ensuring that they receive equal support and development.

BACKGROUND

Matjhabeng Municipality in partnership with Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA), Disabled People of South Africa (DPSA), Department of Agriculture's GIS and other Stakeholders hosted a 1-day event for people living with disability. Focus was to empower them with informative knowledge specifically in accessing funding for their businesses, the programme also aimed in exposing emerging entrepreneurs by presenting available opportunities for them to tap into.

The programme objectives are as follows: -

- To give disabled SMME's to interact with economic role players in their locality.
- To motivate and give hope to the economically inactive disabled persons
- To expose them to the business sector/environment so that they learn Educational wise and transfer of skills development through the current trends and technologies.
- To ensure that they have compliant and successful businesses.
- To ensure that they are exposed to equitable access into business support services.

The LED directorate mandated amongst others to facilitate potential stakeholders to render skills development programme to promote Economic growth.

PARTIES CONSULTANT

Office of the Executive Mayor

Acting Ex. Director of LED, Planning and HS

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

- The municipality was responsible for out sourcing: Transport for people with Disability in six Towns
- Two (2) Interpreter
- Keynote Speaker (motivational speaker)
-

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- Department of Small Business Development – National Informal Business Upliftment Strategy
- SALGA Municipal Guidelines for Informal Economy Policy: March 2012

RISK IMPLICATIONS

- None

RECOMMENDATION

1. That since the programme is annually it be supported, adopted and budget for,

LED12 of 2018

SMME DEVELOPMENT –ON CAPACITATION OF BACKYARDS AUTO MOTIVE MECHANICS (AED: LED, P) (18/1/19)

PURPOSE

To present the provincial initiative to capacitate informal motor mechanics businesses within Matjhabeng Local Municipality.

BACKGROUND

During July 2014, a company by the name of Filpro presented to Mayoral Committee the programme to capacitate SMME's in automotive in terms of providing Infrastructure support service, Technical training and Capacity building. MAYCO accepted the initiative and tasked the Directorate of LED to run with the project.

FILPRO PRESENTATION AND MAYORAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2014

“The Executive Mayor welcomed Mr M Mahlalela from Filpro Company to the Mayoral Committee meeting and gave him the opportunity to present.

Mr M Mahlalela indicated that the purpose of the presentation is to request the Municipality to support their initiative by centralizing all township Mechanics in one roof. He further indicated that the project initiative is to empower the mechanics through the following;

- a) Formalizing the initiative opportunity into business*
- b) Register their business and*
- c) Give basic business mechanic training to experiment mechanics”*

THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE RESOLVED: (23 JULY 2014)

1. That the Mayoral Committee **SUPPORT** the initiative
2. That the plan of action **BE DESIGNED** on how to formalize the concept.
3. That the Executive Director and the MMC for LED **TO MOVE** with speed in
Terms of looking for funding.

All avenues were exhausted in regard to source funding for this project and as a result it could not proceed.

DISCUSSIONS

Discussions were conducted with Lanzisielg Field PTY Ltd. and a commitment to source funding for this initiative was concluded, the company was then issued with endorsement letter for this initiative. The beneficiaries will be provided with skills and equipment needed.

Currently in South Africa, Enterprise development programs continue to be of outmost importance, given the barrier to entry which has traditionally existed in South African economy, formal businesses tend to start and remains at the same level of activity.

These individuals are also normally in the business by necessity rather than choice the controlling situation in the disadvantaged communities is gradually being reduced providing greater choices to people within the communities. Some of these backyards motor mechanics will require a conducive environment to conduct their businesses in a form of space/land, the municipality as the custodian of the land will then identify land and issue temporal permits.

PROGRESS TO DATE

30 beneficiaries were selected in all the wards, and already undergone a psychometric test, only 15 beneficiaries passed the test and they will attend a 6-week course in Johannesburg. The remaining 15 will be put on a special programme so that they also get their qualifications.



Thabong



Meloding



LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Service Level Agreement

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are financial implications involved and to be sourced external.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

No risks identified

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the committee note and support the initiative