

MAYOR DOLEFUL FOLLOWING OVERSIGHT VISIT

REBONE: The Mogalakwena Municipality Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Andrina Matsemela who was accompanied by members of Executive Council, Ward Councillors, Management and officials conducted an oversight visit in Rebone Township.

The visit was informed by a report which was brought before Council recently about the state of affairs in Rebone, the Mogalakwena Municipality Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Andrina Matsemela was not impressed about what she uncovered.

The state of the Rebone satellite office was the first stop for the Mayor and the entourage, when engaging with the staff, some of the issues which were raised were late coming shortage of staff, absconding, workers leaving before knock-off time, shortage of municipal vehicles non-payment of services by the entire community of Rebone which results to non-payment of services despite the municipality rendering all basic services. The source of collection in Rebone is from the graveyard, hall and the stadium.

Mayor Matsemela indicated that the community of Rebone has to be engaged about the pros and cons of not paying for municipal services and the municipality will be installing prepaid meters in Rebone, Mahwelereng and all other areas where services has to be paid.

Mayor Matsemela and the entourage went on to portion of land where residents of Rebone are unlawfully occupying the land. It is reported that over 600 stands have been illegally occupied.

The law clearly indicate that where unlawful occupiers whose basic rights are not at risk have to be evicted, the private land owner must, without delay, approach the court for an eviction order in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Eviction from and Unlawful Occupation of Land Act, 1998 (Act 19 of 1998). This law is currently administered by the Department of Human Settlements and will be transferred to the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR) in due course.

Mayor Matsemela emphasized that land invasion cannot be tolerated in our municipality and anywhere in South Africa. Matsemela added that they thread carefully to resolve this matter.

It is alleged that the Steilooop Shopping Complex is sourcing water from the municipal borehole and other services at no cost. The Mayor and EXCO members requested Management to investigate the matter and promised to take major steps if those allegations are found true.

There is also municipal premises which has been occupied by a business for quite some time now without an agreement with the municipality. It is alleged that this business man source water from the municipal borehole and illegally connected water from the municipal water pump machine.

The businessman who is known by the municipality and has later met with municipal leadership promised to cooperate with the municipality as they investigate this matter.

Other sites such as Rebone Hall, Rebone Sports Stadium were visited and developments for the stadium are underway as phase 1 is complete. The Rebone Satellite office has to be equipped so the resident should not travel to town to pay for the services.