

IMBIZO SETS THE TONE TO FIGHT CRIME

MAPELA: A powerful one day Crime Awareness Campaign coupled with Heritage month celebrations on Friday, organised by the Provincial Commissioner, Lt General Ledwaba the eThekweni Municipality, to tackle the deadly scourge of crime and drugs in the area, was well received by the community of Mapela in the Mogalakwena Municipality.

Various stakeholders and community representatives came together to address the burning issues and to take back the streets from crime and drug lords. About 350 community members, civic, youth, CPF and religious leaders including representatives from the police were present at the imbizo.

The community of Mapela had the opportunity to express their grievances about the performance of Tinmyne SAPS and satellite police stations when the Provincial Commissioner, Mogalakwena Municipality Mayor Cllr Andrina Matsemela and Councilors visited the area in the Mapela Traditional Council Stadium.

“We welcome the visit of Lt General Ledwaba after this area experienced a number of challenges regarding criminal activities and recently a very shocking incident where suspects were arrested for allegedly killing a woman and cut off her head and genitals. We applaud the men and women in blue for efforts they have put in arresting them,” Matsemela said.

“Unfortunately this incident happened in the village I come from and we cannot allow such criminal activities in our municipality, our families, friends and children should be free at all times. However, the matter is before court and we are hopeful that justice will be served,” added Matsemela.

“As parents we must at all times keep our streets free from drugs, and our children away from criminal activities and safe from drugs. One of the biggest challenges the community faces is that of nyaope. All of us have a part to play in this effort: parents, educators, community partners, and most importantly, our youth themselves,” Matsemela said.

Matsemela encouraged the community to commemorate heritage month with the promotion of human dignity in their minds whilst upholding the good value systems embodied in various cultures.

Major General Mathebula said, “The Imbizo is aimed at getting the community involved to assist the police in solving crimes and bringing crime rates down. We want to have a good relationship with the community we serve. They are our eyes when we are not there and can help us fight crime even better than what we are doing now.”

The police urged the community to effectively participate in the fight against crime in the area.