

Rift grows between cops, policing forum

CPF charges that it is sidelined from events

By **Boitumelo Tshahle**
North West Correspondent

There is no working relationship between police and the Community Policing Forum (CPF) in North West, and this has led to the two not being able to fight crime effectively.

This came up yesterday during an oversight meeting by provincial portfolio committee on public works and community safety with police and the CPF board.

The committee raised concerns about the high rate of crime in the province, including the deaths of two teenagers brutally killed in Coligny and Klerksdorp recently. The committee urged the police and CPF to work together to fight such crimes.

Provincial CPF chairman Dixon Ngamlane claimed that the police had rendered the CPF useless.

2017, NEGATIVE, DCS & TM
He said the CPF was not even involved in recent protests across the province, including in Coligny.

"... we are not informed about these mega community problems [even though] we are the strategic partners of the police service. [We] need to be part of [these] programmes so that we are able to advise the police where it is necessary."

Committee chairwoman Wendy Matsemela said police cannot have CPFs that are functional and continue to have criminal activities.

Deputy provincial police commissioner Major-General Patrick Asaneng agreed that police did not have a functional relationship with CPFs.

"We seem to be competing and once I start assuming a position of authority over the board then I will be missing the point until I understand why the CPFs are there."

Matsemela said police and the CPF must start working together.

Portfolio committee chairwoman Wendy Matsemela says police and CPFs must start working together.

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Women urged to report abuse

TNA REPORTER

POLICE Minister Fikile Mbalula has called on women to report cases of abuse.

Mbalula was briefing the media ahead of his budget vote in Parliament yesterday.

"Our ability to protect South Africa must be validated by our ability to protect the most vulnerable members of society, women and children," Mbalula said.

"SA is engulfed by the attacks against women and children. Society must have an in-depth reflection on what has gone wrong in our country, while the police continue to bring perpetrators to book. I urge all women to report all forms of abuse before we lose lives."

Mbalula lauded the manner in which the media had carried reports of cases with regard to women being abused and killed. He said the fourth estate had been more constructive and brought the necessary awareness to the issue.

"We need these kinds of partnerships to fight all forms of crime, especially the ones directed at women and children. South Africans must continue using social media to highlight abuse against women but we urge them to report these cases to the police."

He said the police would soon embark on a national campaign to ensure that women were protected and not turned away from police stations when reporting cases of abuse.



WOMEN FIRST: Police Minister Fikile Mbalula says the police will embark on a national campaign to ensure that women are protected. PICTURE: GALLO IMAGES

Mbalula also urged communities to partner with the police in fighting crime.

He said the social fabric of society had slowly been eroded due to criminality and blatant disregard of the law, which had brought him to the conclusion that society was under siege and the police must mobilise communities to fight crime.

He said the country's apartheid past, where those that gave information to police were regarded as informers or apartheid spies, had led to a tradition of mistrust between members of the public and the police. "Therefore, it is the aim of this ministry to mobilise society and forge unity with the community in fight-

ing crime and corruption. We do this knowing very well that only when our communities partner with the police will we be able to defeat criminality.

"I know very well that these criminals live in communities and are well-known by communities. Therefore, we urge communities to mobilise, to partner with the police in fighting against this criminality. The police have no business being associated with criminals.

"We need to be hard on criminals. We must instil fear in criminals. We must inspire confidence in our people. They must trust that the police are their biggest ally in the fight against crime."

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Scores arrested for crime in Rustenburg

ELFASTORERAI

THE Rustenburg local municipality managed to arrest scores of people in a crime clampdown targeting the CBD in the past two weeks.

The municipality started that campaign after a number of complaints were raised on the increased crime levels in town.

Acting mayor Mike Mhlungu said: "Following a story published in the media in the past two weeks regarding crime that seemed to have escalated in the city and its environs, the municipality is proud to announce that the collaborative effort between them, the police and other security agencies such

as the community policing forum was successful."

Mhlungu further said this united front on crime combating was meant to drive out criminals.

"A specialised crime fighting unit has been started by the municipality with specific focus mainly on nipping crime in the bud particularly in the CBD. The police have undertaken to increase patrols and police visibility in the city," he said.

The municipality's law enforcement unit has also deployed civilian officers to patrol the city and its environs and identified hot spots such as big retailers, warehouses, supermarkets, main streets, taxi ranks and bus stops.

It also patrols the city's main streets with the objective to bringing the suspects to book, thus effectively eliminating criminality such as armed robbery, drug peddling, human trafficking, prostitution, housebreaking, theft, shop lifting and commercial crime.

"We are going to intensify our public education and awareness campaign on crime combating together as a united force. We want to applaud our communities for apprehending criminals and handing them over to the police as happened recently. This is commendable indeed. Continue that way without taking the law into your hands but letting it take its course," Mhlungu said.

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Bogus cops busted

PRETORIA NEWS, PG 2
POSITIVE, NW SAPS, 24/05/17

TWO men were arrested for impersonating a police official along the N12 road near Klerksdorp, North West police said.

Police spokesperson Lieutenant-Colonel Pelonomi Makau said the two were arrested after police spotted a suspicious vehicle. "A search of the vehicle yielded three firearms, ammunition, three reflective jackets, a blue light, cable ties, a balaclava and a glove. The suspects could not give account of the property." Police believe this was a breakthrough on reported cases of motorists shot, robbed and one allegedly killed by traffic cop impersonators between Klerksdorp and Wolmaransstad. - ANA

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Bogus cops are arrested

SAPS
(Pos)
24 May 17

Two men were arrested on the N12 near Klerksdorp, North West yesterday.

Lieutenant-Colonel Pelonomi Makau said: "Three firearms, ammunition, three reflective jackets, a blue light, cable ties, a balaclava and a glove were found in their possession. They could not account for the property," she said.

Police believe they are connected to cases in which drivers were shot and robbed by traffic officer impersonators between Klerksdorp and Wolmaransstad. - ANA

24/05/17 TNA Pg 2 POS DOT

Transport Minister wants 24-hour policing

TNA REPORTER

THE Department of Transport will increase the number of law enforcement officers on public roads in this financial year, Transport Minister Joe Maswanganyi says.

"The department will advocate that law enforcement be declared an essential service to ensure availability of traffic officers on a 24/7 schedule on the country's roads," Maswanganyi said yesterday when he tabled

his budget vote in Parliament.

The department's budget is expected to increase at an average annual rate of 6% in the period ahead, from R59bn in 2017-18 to R68.6bn in 2019-20.

"The South African National Roads Agency will receive an additional R1.7bn over the medium term. The agency will also receive an additional R3.7bn to upgrade the R573 Moloto Road," Maswanganyi said.

He said the R573 Moloto Development Corridor would play a significant role as

a logistics spine to connect Mpumalanga and Limpopo with Gauteng.

The corridor will also be used for transporting people, minerals and agricultural produce to regional markets and export harbours.

The department's spending on Metro-rail is expected to subsidise more than 484 million passenger trips a year in the period ahead and spending on the mainline passenger service is expected to subsidise 2.3 million passengers over the medium term.