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Department:  
Community Safety & Transport Management  
North West Provincial Government  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

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### **Gopane and Ganalagte crime hotspot cleared through Letsema in closing the 2016 Mandela Month**

Community Safety and Transport Management, MEC Dr Mpho Motlhabane recently led the delegation of the department and community volunteers who came in big numbers during a two-days de-bushing campaign in Gopane and Ganalagte villages respectively.

The campaign came as one of the closing activities of the department in commemoration of this year's Mandela Month.

The Ganalagte de-bushing came after the community suffered a blow when a Lesotho National killed at least four people in the bushy area before he was attacked and murdered by the mob justice a few months back. The trauma of these horrible events necessitated the clearing of crime hotspots areas in the plantation side where one of the deceased was burnt to death.

Addressing community members who were hard at work, the MEC for the department encouraged communities to unite and work together with the local Dikgosi and police in the fight against rampant crime.

"The fight against crime is only winnable if we work together as all we need to clear all these crime hotspots in our areas so that we live a life free of fear.

Working together will help in the fight against crime and our ultimate goal will be reached," said the MEC.

Kgosi Jeff Molete who couldn't hide his excitement about the turn out of his community members to the campaign said it is evident that communities are serious about working together with government to fight crime.

"I don't have enough words to thank you for coming here and let us continue making a difference in our communities," said Kgosi Molete who encouraged the community members to take this campaign to the neighbouring communities.

One of the community members Sphiwe Mashigo (21) was overjoyed about the initiative. "This campaign will help to ensure the safety of our communities. We have been living in fear for a long time now; the clearing of the bushes will help ease our fears. I am confident that the bad incident that happened will not be repeated", he said.

The de-bushing campaign was implemented through a program called Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Strategy (CPTED), which was officially launched in February 2007, after it was approved by the North West



**"Together we move Bokone Bophirima forward"**



Executive Council (EXCO). It is a Voluntary Letsema Campaign which aims to target crime hotspots within our communities by raising awareness through safety related activities as well as to prevent crime through environmental design. Some of the activities done during the letsema activities include clearing of bushes, replacing street light globes and painting of police stations.

Indeed "Boithaopo ke Tirelo Setshaba", Voluntarism is Community Service"

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MANAGEMENT**



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