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



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DELIBERATIONS ON STOCK THEFT WORKSHOP HELD IN MOSES KOTANE - A GREAT SUCCESS

Many stocks thefts and accidents are reported between 19:00 and 7:00. This is due to lack of stock branding markings, tattooing, stock neglect, poor structures, systems to control stock movement in the locality and irregular issuing of pouching permits.

The department, relevant stakeholders, such as the South African Police Service (SAPS) and National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) saw it fit to hold a workshop with farmers and Dikgosi in Moses Kotane Local Municipality at Mabeskraal village on Friday 17 February to educate them about stock theft, stray animals on our roads and its negative effects. They also educated them on the correct way of issuing poaching permits and the development of by-laws. Animal safety gadgets such as reflector bands and ear tags were issued to farmers to help identify stray animals on our roads.

Most farmers raised concerns about the police officials conduct in the area saying they work with the people who steal their stock thus their cases are not followed upon. One of the farmers Mr Thabo Motsosi said, "My cows were stolen and I opened a case at the local police station when I made follow ups I discovered that the case was closed without my knowledge, I was then told there was not enough evidence. I need the department to intervene on this matter , "he concluded.

The Acting Head of Department, Mr Buti Chuma assured the farmers and community that the department will work with the police and other stakeholders to help solve these problems. "We as the department came up with a plan to teach road traffic officers about stock theft so that they can be aware when they come across criminals who try to transport stock to neighbouring countries or provinces. We vow to work together with the farmers, Dikgosi, the Police and community at large, as this is part of growing our economy in the province. We need to work together for a common goal, "said Chuma.

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