



MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

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MEC DR MOTLHABANE RECEIVED A MEMORANDUM OF DEMANDS FROM THE COMMUNITY OF KGOMOTSO VILLAGE

The MEC of Community Safety and Transport Management, Dr Mokgantshang Motlhabane together with the Provincial Commissioner, Lieutenant General Baile Motswenyane and Kgosi Ponatshego Mothibi received a memorandum of demands from the community of Kgomotso Village. The peaceful and legal march took place on Thursday, 19 January 2016 from Kgomotso village cemetery to Kgomotso Police Station.

The protesters came in numbers from Kgomotso village and 14 other villages around Kgomotso. The idea of a protest march was hatched after communities had reportedly not been satisfied with the service rendered by the Kgomotso Police for years.

The dissatisfactions of the community are:

- Police are reluctant to pursue criminals;
- Police are reluctant to follow up stock theft cases;
- There are police who connive with criminals; and
- Police do not work together with community in defeating crime.

The community requested that MEC Motlhabane and Lt Gen Motswenyane to hear their plea and intervene in curbing criminal activities as well as police involvement in act of criminality as accomplices. The intervention will assist the community to trust, restore confidence and build stronger relations with the police.

MEC Motlhabane said he is happy to see communities coming forward, legally and calmly to hand them as government the memorandum. "We are impressed with the way that you have followed the necessary processes and procedures to ensure this march is legal in order to address your genuine dissatisfaction. This is not only an important sign of maturity and leadership but it also shows democracy is in action. Our Constitution gives everyone a right to safety and security and as a department, as SAPS and Kgosi, we are here, to ensure that citizens are and feel safe "said Motlhabane.



MEC told the community that their pleas are received by the right authorities and department and that such demands are responded to with the urgency they deserve. "We are going to have discussions with the Provincial Commissioner on these demands that you have given to us today and we will ensure that answers will be provided. We are not going to sweep these challenges under the carpet, they will be addressed," explained Motlhabane.

"The Department had one of their regular and random unannounced police station visits late last year at Kgomotso Police Station and as a department we are aware of the challenges that the station has and am aware that there are measures to address the anomalies. Lt Gen Motswenyane will handle the cases herself so that we come to the bottom of this. We have worked together in many previous cases and she has never failed to deliver," concluded MEC Motlhabane.

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