



# CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS AND ICT

3366 Besemmer Str Telkom Building  
Industrial Site Mahikeng, 2745  
Private Bag X 2145, Mmabatho, 2735  
Tel: +27 (18) 388 4824/5

NWDC Cnr, University & Provident Drive  
Private Bag X 2145, Mmabatho, 2735  
Tel: +27 (18) 388 4913

2nd Floor West Wing, University Drive  
Garona Building  
Private Bag X 2145, Mmabatho, 2735  
Tel: +27 (18) 388 4824/5

## MEDIA STATEMENT

**Attention all Journalists and editors**

**28 June 2022**

### **Human Settlements Congratulations Dr Bole**

The Department of Human Settlements congratulates its former spokesperson and current director of Stakeholder Engagement and Capacity Development Ben Bole for his academic achievement. Dr Bole has just completed a PHD in governance and political transformation at the North West University under the tutelage of Prof Andre Duvenhage.

In his thesis, Bole focused on “Sustaining section 139(1) intervention in local government: Case of selected municipalities in the North West Province”. Bole used case studies to analyse the current state of local government in the North West Province with specific reference to Section 139(1) interventions, its successes, and failures in the specified municipalities.

Through his research findings, he confirmed that, no single municipality in the North West Province received a clean audit opinion for at least past seven years. Furthermore, he found that the implementation of section 139(1) intervention might need to be strengthened. His findings provided strategic framework on how should progress made by the intervention team be sustained to avoid the repeat of section 139(1).

In addition the study recommended how annual local government reports which comes from the municipalities to the Provincial Legislatures and Parliament should be considered as a warning signs for possible collapse of the municipalities. In that sense measures can be taken on time to avoid the collapse of the municipalities and invocation of section 139(1) intervention.

According to Bole his thesis could not have been conferred at the right time, following the resent Auditor General of South Africa's report which placed all provincial municipalities in the red. "I hope my analysis and recommendations will make assist in guiding the processes and give lasting solutions to our local government in the province. It will further assist on governance process and ultimately lead to service delivery at a cold phase of government," said Bole.

Commenting on his achievement, Bole said it was through dedication that was inspired by his vision of seeing a functioning and well driven municipalities. Dr Bole obtained his Master's Degree in Governance and Political Transformation in Bloemfontein at the University of the Free State in 2008. He worked as a Director in the office of the Speaker at the North West Provincial Legislature. He is currently the Director at the Provincial Department of Human Settlements in the North West Province responsible for Stakeholder Engagement and Capacity Development.

The acting head of Department James Mashigo congratulated Dr Bole on his achievement saying the department is proud of him. He said that his contribution to the department has and will continue to be valuable to the department.

END

**Issued by the Department of Human Settlements (North West)**

**Enquiries: Ms Dineo Lolokwane**

**SPOKESPERSON: Department of Human Settlements**

**0725428444 \ 018-388 3291**

**Or**

**MEC's Spokesperson Mr Tsholofelo Mathibedi**

**0724098816/388 2884**

**mathibeditsholofelo@gmail.com**





Let's Grow North West Together