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Media statement

Date :19 December 2019

MEC Kegakilwe meets with traditional leaders

Rustenburg - The North West MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs, Mothibedi Kegakilwe recently met with traditional leaders in the province to discuss amongst others, developments in legislation governing institutions of traditional leadership.

MEC Kegakilwe said the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa serves as a guideline on issues of traditional leadership and called on Dikgosi to keep up to date with new legislation such as the Traditional and Khoisan Leadership Act of 2019 which recognises the functions and roles of traditional and Khoi-San leaders.

“The Act also provides for the recognition, establishment, functions, roles and administration of traditional councils as well as support for such councils. Traditional leaders must be able to have a say in developments in their communities and therefore, it cannot be business as usual. They need to understand the Act and its implications”, he said.

He said it was important for traditional leaders to be provided with the necessary capacity and training to equip them with the necessary skills to deal with the challenges in their areas. “Traditional leaders are better placed to resolve issues of leadership and succession disputes than the courts”, he quipped.

With regard to initiation schools, MEC Kegakilwe said “they are part of culture and they need to be budgeted for”.

Meanwhile, Dikgosi called for their participation and the involvement when the Spatial Planning and Land Usage Management Act of 2013 (SPLUMA) is implemented in their areas. SPLUMA provides for a uniform, effective and comprehensive system of spatial planning and land use management in the country. Its objective is also to ensure that the system of spatial planning and land use management promotes socio and economic inclusion.

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