Media statement

Date: 28 October 2019

MEC Kegakilwe calls for a turn-around plan for municipalities

Senior officials in the North West Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs have been called upon to work towards turning around the situation in municipalities.

This call was made by the MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements Traditional Affairs, Mothibedi Kegakilwe at a two-day departmental strategic planning recently held in Klerksdorp.

“Local government is a sphere that is closest to the people and we must reach a point where we are developmental in nature as local government. We must therefore put in place, machinery that would be able to intervene in municipalities, as and when the need arises. We need men and women who will be able to deal with the challenges at our municipalities as we prepare for the local government elections in 2021”, said MEC Kegakilwe.

He said the people of the North West look up to the department to unlock service delivery in municipalities. “All our efforts must be channelled towards the achievements of the seven key priorities of government as outlined by President Cyril Ramaphosa.

He also challenged officials in the department to “think out of the box” and always remember they are responsible for 22 more institutions. “Unemployment is generally high and in the province, it stands at 33 %. We are therefore sitting on a time bomb in terms of youth unemployment and this is a serious matter that we need to address. As such, our programmes and projects must be benefit the youth. Meanwhile, MEC Kegakilwe also appealed for continuous support for traditional councils.