



the dpw

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No room for poor performing contractors...

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North West Public Works MEC Jerry Thibedi has reiterated that his department will not tolerate shabby work by contractors appointed to execute building infrastructure in the province.

During the 2007-2008 financial year, the department terminated contracts on three projects implemented on behalf of its client departments due to poor performance by contractors.

The department terminated the original contractors working on Mmabatho Library and Archives building in Mafikeng as well as Khunwana and Kanana clinics in Kraaipan and Orkney respectively.

Thibedi said while he acknowledged that natural factors like torrential rains can at times contribute to delays, the department would not stomach the poor work shown by some contractors.

“While factors and challenges posed by ‘Mother Nature’ are understandable, what we find unacceptable is none or poor performance by a contractor,” he said during the presentation of his department’s budget vote yesterday.

The contractor for the R62.6million Mmabatho Library and Archives building was terminated on July 9, 2007, a year after moving on site. Following this, a new contractor was appointed and work commenced in September 2007.

The new contractor is expected to complete the project by August 20, 2008.

Contractors for both Khunwana and Kanana clinics were terminated on June 21 2007. New contractors for the two projects were appointed on October 10, 2007 and February 25, 2008 respectively.

While Khunwana clinic has already been completed, the completion date for the Kanana clinic is July 15, 2008.

The department also pulled the plug on underperforming consultants working on four projects.

These included the Mechanical Engineer for the Vryburg hospital, the Electrical Engineer for the new Brits hospital and the Civil Structural Engineer for Agisanang and Tswaing Primary Schools.

Thibedi said there has been leniency on emerging contractors in line with the department's responsibility to support them so that they too can develop to a higher Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) grading.

ENDS

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