



the dpw

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Third senior manager poached from us in less than four months...

DATE: THURSDAY, APRIL 03, 2008

By Communications

Ken Jacobs, our Chief Director: Infrastructure, Public Works, has resigned to take up a position in Brisbane, Australia after approximately five years in the public service and a stint with two departments.

He is serving notice and officially leaves for Brisbane on May 8.

Jacobs is our third senior manager to move- on to greener pastures since December following the departure to the private sector (Sasol) of Ms Lerato Monnapula-Mazabane the former regional director Southern region and that of Ramasedi Mafoko, the former director for Bophirima region.

Mafoko is currently with the National Department of Education.

The department is in the process of finalizing arrangements to fill the three vacant positions, including that of Chief Director: Technical Support Services.

This arose following the retirement- due to ill health- of Hans van Wamelen in September 2007.

Jacobs said his tenure with Public Works has been rewarding and ``very interesting`` in many respects.

He applauded the ``friendship he has built`` over the years as well as the leadership qualities of the head of the department, Obakeng Mongale.

``It is difficult for me at this point as I will be leaving. But may I say, not many of us realise the quality of the leadership we have in the public service and in our DDG,`` Jacobs said in a brief address to his colleagues during a management meeting today.

He said he had no doubt the department with Mongale's leadership could retain the Platinum Award...`if everybody here cooperated and appreciated the quality of the person in the HOD chair`'.

Mongale said he was saddened by the timing Jacob's departure and thanked him for this contribution.

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