



Address all correspondence to the Municipal Manager

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ALL MEDIA HOUSES

ATT: Editors/Journalists

For immediate release

MEDIA STATEMENT: HEAVY RAINS WRECK HAVOC IN DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

The wrath of the heavy torrential rains that poured in Dipaleseng Local Municipality and adjacent areas on Friday, 16th December 2022 caused the municipality to suffer extensive damages to municipal infrastructure consequently negatively affected service delivery.

The downpour which led to localized flooding caused extreme damages to electrical and road infrastructure as well as recognizable and terrible damages to some public and private properties as well as businesses mostly in Balfour, Siyathemba, Greylingstad and Nthoroane areas.

Damages included some of the electrical poles and feeder lines being knocked down with some being left exposed to running water, complete destruction of some internal roads, vehicles swept away and stuck in ditches, flooding at business and private properties, loss of livestock and damaged crops.

As soon as the rain cleared on the morning of Saturday, 17th December 2022, teams from relevant units within the municipality were timeously on the ground attending to areas hardest hit by the floods.

The municipal Fire and Rescue unit commenced with active ground work of performing inspections, evacuations and conducting risk analysis.

This unit is currently still attending to various matters in order to bring the situation under control. The Gert Sibande District Municipality's Disaster Management Unit has also been activated for further assistance on the matter.

The electrical teams assembled to commence with removing fallen trees and repairing numerous electrical lines. Transformers that also suffered damages as a result of this are also being attended to with some being completely damaged and require replacement.

Due to the massive damages, residents can expect incremental restoration of services in due course as we gradually move towards normality within the area.

The municipality would like to extend the greatest form of appreciation especially to residents who offered their time, skills and resources during this difficult time to bring some form of normality to local area and residents. It is heart-warming to be part and serve residents that are equally willing to do their share of good will and even going an extra mile for the good of all. Their efforts really did not go unnoticed and go a long way in reflecting great fruits of shared labour. Through such collaborative efforts, we are indeed together in governance.

ENDS

**ISSUED BY
OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER**

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