

**REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION; CULTURE  
SPORT AND RECREATION- ON TAKING LEGISLATURE TO THE PEOPLE  
(TLP) HELD AT MTFUNTINI PUBLIC LIBRARY AND MTFUNTINI CULTURAL  
VILLAGE NKOMAZI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (DCSR)**

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa in section 114 (2) gives the Provincial Legislature, in this case (Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature) the mandate to provide mechanisms to ensure that all provincial organs of state, in this case the (Department of Culture; Sport and Recreation) accounts to the Legislature and maintain oversight on the activities of the executive authority in the province, including the implementation of legislation.

The taking legislature to the people (TLP) took place from the 16-20 September 2019 at Nkomazi Local Municipality. The Portfolio committee of Education; Culture Sport and Recreation visited Mtfuntini Public Library and Mtfuntini cultural village as part of their Oversight role on the 17 September 2019.

The House resolution emanating from this TLP report will be referred to the Department of Culture; Sport and Recreation for implementation and a report will be brought back to the Legislature.

**2. PUPOSE OF THE OVERSIGHT VISITS AND PUBLIC HEARING**

The aim of the Oversight was to assess the progress made by the Department in implementing the 2015 TLP House resolutions, to evaluate the realization of the provincial government's priorities, to determine whether there is value for money in the implementation of projects and to resolve on new arrears needing attention in Nkomazi Local Municipality.

The purpose of the public hearing is to give community members and invited stake holders a progress report on the issues raised in the previous TLP -2015, to allow them to raise new matters and to allow the Departments as Implementing Agents to respond accordingly on the interventions to be implemented to fast track service delivery.

### **3. METHOD OF WORK**

The research section engaged in a research study intended to report on the status quo of projects implemented by the Department of Culture Sport and Recreation (DCSR) at Nkomazi Local Municipality. This exercise will enable the Portfolio Committee on Education Culture Sport and Recreation to hold DCSR accountable for its activities in the Municipality. Their findings were incorporated into the report. The programme of the TLP for the social cluster and notice for the TLP was circulated to members.

Invitations were sent to both the Hon MEC and HOD of the department of Culture; Sport and Recreation, Department of Public works Roads and Transport and Nkomazi Local Municipality

Informing and inviting them to the TLP. A progress report on the implementation of the 2015 House resolutions and the status quo on the two identified projects Mtfuntini Public Library and Mtfuntini Cultural village was presented by the Department to the committee during the TLP at Mtfuntini Public Library, there after in loco inspection was conducted on both projects. The committee adopted its TLP report on the 9 October 2019.

### **4. PROGRESS REPORT ON PRE-TLP HOUSE RESOLUTIONS**

#### **4.1. Mbuzini Public library**

##### **(a).House Resolution: Renovation of both Mbuzini and Mtfuntini Public Libraries.**

- ✓ Renovations were done on both libraries .but the roof is still leaking. The Department is in a process of redesigning the roof through the implementation Agent (Department of Public Works Roads and Transport).

##### **(b). House Resolution: There was a shortage of water at the library**

- ✓ The Department of Culture Sport and Recreation signed a Service Level Agreement with Nkomazi local Municipality on library operational matters including infrastructure and is now providing water to the library.

**(c).House Resolution: Only 1 toilet out of the 3 was working during the oversight visit at Mbuzini public library**

- ✓ The maintenance for Mbuzini public Library was done in the 2016/17 financial year. Fixing of the toilets was also part of the scope of work and are now in good working condition.

**4.2. Magcekeni Sport Combo**

**(d). House Resolution: The Committee recommended that the department (DCSR) submit a full report on its interactions with the DPWRT from the conception of this combo court (providing the SLA and proof of monitoring and evaluation done on this project).**

- ✓ After interacting with the DPWRT regarding the court the service provider came on board to correct the court :
  - Cracks were patched,
  - Markings were re-done,
  - The sloppiness could not be corrected since it needed the project to be start from scratch.

**(e). House Resolution: The Department must strengthen interaction with the sport federations and the municipality's .The federation must be invited when the committee visits the combo courts.**

- ✓ The federations would be involved from the beginning in all projects to be done by the department to avoid mishap during the process.

**(f).House Resolution: The department must provide the committee with a detailed report explaining how the Magcekeni sport combo court came to be built in its current location without the knowledge of the department of education and how they will address poor communication between the two departments.**

- ✓ Permission was acquired and granted by the department of education to have the combo court built in Nkomazi local Municipality and the department of education granted the name of the school where it should be constructed.

**4.3. School Infrastructure**

**(I). House Resolution: The Department is required to provide a progress report on how it has implemented the school sport programme ( including infrastructure )from the 2013/14 -2015/16 financial year indicating the allocated budget and the level of interaction ( working relationship) with the Department of Education.**

**Improve competitiveness of learners in school sport.**

Conditional grant Budget-School sport is presented through the national DORA grant and there is no voted funds for this programme. The challenge is that the grant may not cover every aspect of the school sport; as it only start at District, provincial and national level. There is a high impact of the participation of learners at District, provincial and national levels. The national Championships are divided into three seasons namely: (winter, summer and autumn).

The provincial School Sport Integrated League (by DoE) has offered schools an opportunity to win busses to be used for participation in the School league, which culminates into the national championships.

**Mpumalanga Improvement**

Team Mpumalanga has improved from position 7 and 6 of the previous years in the 2016/17 summer games the team obtained position 2 out of 9 provinces. In the autumn codes MP obtained position 4.This shows growth from previous positions.

**Sports Focus School:**

The school programme for 2014/15 ,2015/16 and 2016/17 , have athletes that were selected to be recipients of the ministerial bursary and are placed at the Sport Focus Schools.(two learners at Lowveld High ad two at Rob Ferreira

**Schools provided with equipment and /or attire**

Selected schools in the rural arrears are provide with equipment and attire to improve the participation of learners.

The schools are selected once they have registered to participate in the school league, 2014/15 (200 Schools), 2015/16 (200 Schools) and 2016/17 (160 schools) 2018/19 (100 Schools).

## **Capacity building through the training of educators on code specific skills**

Educators are trained every financial year by the DCSR to be skilled in the different sporting codes as coaches and technical officials for the league.

### **Job creation**

24 School sport coordinators have been appointed to deliver the school sport programme. The Budget is allocated as follows:

(2013/14- R 17 613 760, 2014/15 –R17 615 600 and 2015/16 R17 615 600).

The department has currently suspended the provision of sport combo courts due to budgetary constraints. However, funding still exists from the National Arts and Culture that use Sport Trust as its Implementation Agent. This recommendation have been escalated to the National Department as well.

## **4.4. Public hearing**

### **(k).House Resolution: The Community of Mbangwane requested sports grounds**

- ✓ The Department has been working with the National Department of Sports and Recreation SA, and the Nkomazi Municipality in trying to resolve the issues raised around Nkomazi, to date the department can confirm that it has assisted in ensuring that the Kamhlushwa Stadium is renovated through the MIG grant allocated by the National Sport and Recreation SA.

### **(l). House Resolution: The community of Mgebodzi raised a concern about a stadium that was promise to them but has not been build.**

- ✓ The Department has noted the challenge raised and would like to indicate that the construction of sport grounds are the responsibility of the Municipality and such matters will be referred to the municipality.

## **5. Main observations of the Committee**

- ✓ All Nkomazi Libraries except Komatipoort are staffed with qualified and knowledgeable personnel.
- ✓ Only 3 of the 7 libraries in Nkomazi have the Audio material that are used by visually impaired patrons.
- ✓ The department conducted a training workshop for all identified people who are visually impaired in the first quarter of 2019/20.
- ✓ Rural areas where there is high population (kaMhlushwa and Ka Maqhekeza) have lesser books than urban areas (Malelane and Komatipoort) with less population.
- ✓ The department has an internship programme and has placed at least 2 interns in each library.

## **6. Oversight Visits**

### **6.1. Mtfuntini Public Library**

The oversight visit commenced with a briefing session at the library, at which the HOD of the department, together with the Chief Director Library Services briefed the Committee on the library profile and functionality. The Committee interacted with the department and then inspected the various aspects of the library.

#### **The profile of the Library**

Mtfuntini Public Library is one of the seven public libraries under Nkomazi Local Municipality, in ward 25 attached to the Emtfuntini Community Hall. The population of Lange loop is estimated at 14 700.

The public library was officially opened on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2008, it is servicing three communities (Lange loop, Boschfontein and Driekoppies) and five schools.

The library operating hours are as follows:

Monday to Friday 07h30-16H00

Saturdays 08H00-13H00

Sunday and public holidays closed.

#### **Service Level Agreement**

Nkomazi Local Municipality has signed a service level Agreement with the department of Culture, Sport and Recreation. This agreement requires the Department and the Municipality to implement the roles and responsibilities as indicated below:

## **SERVICES.**

### **Book provisioning**

The DCSR provide library material to all Nkomazi Municipal libraries including Emtfuntini. The collection of library material is at 3 356.

### **Membership**

Emtfuntini Public Library has a total membership of 76 and 167 frequent users that are visiting the library per month. The membership has since declined from 144 in 2018 to 76 in 2019 due to escalating membership tariffs.

### **Provision of staff**

The Department and Municipality has appointed one librarian, one intern and one general worker who are responsible for the daily operation of the Library.

### **Provision of ITC Services**

The department provided five computers, one laptop and a copier through the conditional grant. The library has free access to WI-FI and Internet.

### **Library Infrastructure**

The department did maintenance work at the Library during the 2016/17 financial year. The work included: fixing of the Roof, painting, floor tiling, and palisade fencing, provision of air conditioners and furniture.

### **Community Programmes**

The Department has initiated the 'friends of the library' committee to increase a sense of ownership by the community. The main purpose of this committee is to create awareness and help with protection and precise usage of the library.

The membership of this structure is expected to come from all sections of the community like schools, community police forum, Community Development Workers (CDWs), church leaders, traditional leaders, business, ward committee and school governing bodies.

## **Marketing**

The Department markets all public libraries through marketing campaigns/programmes that aims to promote the culture of reading. The marketing programmes are rolled out through different library advocacy campaigns namely:

International Mother Language Day initiated by the United Nations Education (UNESCO)

- ✓ SA Library week
- ✓ World Book Day
- ✓ International Museum Day
- ✓ International Library Day
- ✓ National Book Week
- ✓ International Literacy Week
- ✓ Open Access Week
- ✓ World Aids Day
- ✓ Literacy Month-celebrated in September each year.

The library has also initiated a book club called 'ASIFUNDENI', which meets every day at 14H30 to read books. It has two groups. One for 10yrs -14 yrs. and the other one is for 15yrs-18 yrs.

The committee appreciated the effort by the librarian to market the library. However, on the high tariffs charged by the library when making copies and the leaking roof, the committee raised a concern. The HOD Mr Godfrey Ntombela admitted that the tariffs for making copies and membership fees were too high but he further mentioned that the department is in a process of standardizing the tariffs through MUNIMEC. The committee then proceeded to Mtfuntini Cultural village.

### **6.2. Mtfuntini Cultural Village**

Dr Mafika Lubisi, the chief director for cultural affairs from the department of Culture; Sport and Recreation acknowledged that the building was not in good condition due to lack of funds.

#### **The profile of the Cultural Village**



Emtfuntini Cultural Village situated about 40 km from Malalane at Lange loop Trust in Ward 25 of Nkomazi Local Municipality .The Matsamo Traditional Authority donated 2 Hectors of land to the department of Culture; Sport and Recreation for the primary objective of promoting cultural diversity, education, youth empowerment and cultural tourism in the fight against poverty. The project was started in 1992 during the old kaNgwane Government (Inyandza) by 6 pensioners including the Late Gogo Monica Zwane (make Lazwane) who were the beneficiaries of the project.

Gogo LaZwane, a cultural officer was at the time responsible for the day to day to day activities taking place in the village with the support and involvement of the local women in projects such as youth development ,cultural values ,knowledge and discipline including outreach programmes to the benefit of the entire province in general and local schools in particular. Due to high unemployment in the area, majority of economically active women join the projects with an aim of spawning economic activity through local indigenous social and cultural programmes.

An ablution facility providing for both males and females was constructed and recently tiled. The Department continue to render support by constructing two beehive huts in 2008 utilising the local community as a short term relief with the effort to expose local expertise and available skills for future opportunities in the construction of indigenous infrastructure, Budget limitations negatively impacted on the development and the upgrading of the village in order for it to be fully functional.

### **Aims and objectives of the village**

To generate product awareness in the various target segments (Locally and internationally)

- To promote market growth and increased market share through continuous product development and modification.
- To develop the villages reputation as a cultural village offering authentic cultural experiences.
- To market the educational value of the village by means of packages with other tourism attractions and tour operators.
- To establish the Village as business hub for small conferences and meetings.

### **Activities**

- Cultural performance for local schools and community
- Cultural Dance ( Indlamu , Sibhaca, Umtsimba, uMkosho nesi Zingili)
- Skills exchange for youth development
- Craft and bead work
- Grass work (Kweluka ema cansi) and other grass work.
- Cultural Education including Miss Indoni yema Swati
- Support and participate in cultural activities such as `Immimmemo`
- Health awareness / Life style
  
- Indigenous Knowledge system (IKS) Early child hood'
- Marula Season (Buganu)- include underground storage
- Craft Exhibition (Lowveld Show, Botanical Garden, One of a Kind Exhibition (JHB) and Government Events
- Cooking of African Cuisine (food tasting) Timbabe, tindlubu, Umbidvo, Tinkobe etc
- Advisory place / counselling families (Young and Old)
- Gardening (planting of Indigenous trees, plant and Vegetables)
  
- Norms and value of Ubuntu.

### **Current status**

- The department through the department of Public Works Roads and Transport commissioned Motse LMI Architects to do a preliminary business case report. Their , assessment and opinion gave appraisal to the effect that the village was established in a community where the majority is unemployed including the youth.
- The project has provided an employment opportunity to 5 members (4 Females and 1 male) through EPWP funding who run the day to day operation and management of the village and 1 full time official who is a driver and caretaker. They utilise the land for a number of activities such as vegetable gardens, craft, dance practice sessions etc to keep the site alive and ensure safety from vandalism. Community members and surrounding schools utilizes the village for their cultural activities and performances.
- The project has the potential to address and eradicate poverty and create job opportunities. It will also unearth young and creative talents in a number of activities such as handcrafts, indigenous music and dance, cultural tourism and also foster

programmes that positively contribute in the development and education of the youth to be responsible citizens.

- There is an existing administration block which was vandalized. At the time of visit, renovation of the administration block was in progress by the Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport (DPWRT). Close by the administration block, there are 2 large thatched huts.
- The plan is to have the developments and restoration of the facility completed in order to give life and meaning to the community it serves as well as promoting our cultural heritage, inculcating ownership, self-esteem, positive values and attributes in the upbringing of the youth to reach the full potential for the existence of the facility.

**The following work was done previously at the village:**

<b>Item / Description</b>	<b>Year of renovations</b>
Main admin block	Current
Gogo bee-hive hut 3.5m round	2008
➤ Erection of security fence 2 hector, structure:1.6mm isor droppers 1850mm	2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Replacement of sewer pipes.</li> <li>➤ Replace Bath basin &amp; toilet set</li> <li>➤ New water storage tank with the capacity of 10 000L and One stand.</li> <li>➤ Refurbishment of new reticulation pipes</li> <li>➤ Replacing of damaged wooden doors</li> <li>➤ Installation of security fencing on broken windows</li> <li>➤ 24 replaced broken window glasses</li> <li>➤ Water connection: Municipality Nkomazi</li> <li>➤ Water meter connection</li> </ul>	2017
Soil treatment for termite (Termido) chemical and purchase of garden equipment.	

**Activities planned for the 2019/20 financial year.**

During 2019/20 financial year DCSR made available a budget of R4138 000.00 to upgrade the cultural village. DWRT has appointed a contractor to commence with the upgrading of the cultural village. The scope for the upgrading of the facility will include:

- 1 Main conference centre (eNdlunkulu)
- 3 small thatched huts
- 1 thatched Kitchen (Lidladla) include utensil's and furniture (stove, fridge, kitchen unite etc)
- 1 Cow Kraal (Sibaya)
- Replace Borehole pump and equipping it with electronic motor
- Upgrade fencing with remote gate control security
- 2 Parameter walls (Liguma)
- Flooded pole (Electrify all structure old and new with Fire extinguishers).

They pointed out that the Purpose of the main conference centre (eNdlunkulu) at Emtfuntini Cultural Village will be utilized for:

- Conferencing area at Emtfuntini Cultural Village
- Cultural event activities
- Cultural performance
- Tourism area for youth development
- Craft and bead work area.

## **The Project plan and financial implications**

### **Project details and budget summary:**

<b>A</b>	<b><u>COSTS</u></b>
1. Dome shaped thatched-craft hut/steel structure, 2210 m2 floor area	R7 403 500
2. Dome shaped thatched-admin office/steel structure, 280 m2 floor area	R1 273 000
3. Market stalls-thatch roof on timber structure, 100m2 floor area	R 320 000
4. Refreshment centre-thatched roof on timber, 170m2, floor area	R544 000
5. Dance arena-thatched roof on timber structure, 200m2, floor area	R 640 000
6. Guard house-thatched roof on timber structure-82m2 floor area	<u>R215 250</u>

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**7. Total excluding:** preliminary, contingency, professional fees and VAT = R10, 395 750

**B**

1. Refurbishment of existing structures R 350 000

2. Civil works (including earthworks, platforms, water supply, sewer and storm  
Water, boundary fence, access road etc. R1 548 700

3. Electrical and mechanical installations R 650 000

4. Equipment and furniture R330 000

**5. Subtotal R 2 878 700**

**Project plan budget carried forward: R 13 274 450**

C. Preliminaries and general 10 % R 1 327 445 00

D. Contingency 8 % R1 168 151 60

**TOTALS R15 770 046**

E. VAT 15 % **R2 365 506**

F. PROFESSIONAL FEES 18 % **R 3 236 013 56**

**Total estimates R21 371 565 56**

**Estimated total costs to complete the entire project which could be undertaken in multiyear approach.**

**Funding models.**

The annual allocation for Mtfuntini Cultural Village is not adequate to make a significant impact on the upgrading and development for the village to reach its optimal productivity and sustainability. The project is largely dependent upon the annual equitable share which does not make any impact.

**7. PUBLIC HEARING AT KAMHLUSHWA STADIUM.**

-The public hearing was held at Kwamhlushwa stadium on the 19 September 2019 and the following issues were noted for the department of Culture; Sport and Recreation:

NO	WARD	ISSUE RAISED
1.	25	The librarian at Mtfuntini Library restrict the users from using WI FI and some fail to access the internet to do school work.
2.	22	A community member requested that schools with sports grounds be engaged to allow communities to access them since there are no communal sports grounds in the other areas around the ward.
3.		Old aged home at Naas request assistance with equipment for their football team.
4.	4	KamaQhekeza request assistance with sport equipment and the development of sports fields.

## 8. FINDINGS.

After considering the Departments responses to the raised questions on the TLP, the Portfolio committee made the following findings:

### 8.1. Mtfuntini Public Library.

8.1.1.. The DCSR has signed a service level agreement with Nkomazi Local Municipality which requires both parties to implement their roles and responsibilities.

8.1.2. The Library is very small, not conducive for Audio material and is not suitable for the visually impaired patrons.

8.1.3. Membership fee of R65 00.per year is high and most community members are unemployed and cannot afford to affiliate or make copies. The inability to pay membership fee results in overcrowding and tearing of books by patrons.

8.1.4. There is inconsistency in the provision of library books that need to be addressed by the department.

8.1.5. The department requires an amount of R338 000 000 (at a cost of R13 000 000 per library) to address the backlog of having 1 library facility per ward. It currently has 7 Library facilities in 33 wards.

## **8.2. Mtfuntini Cultural Village.**

8.2.1. The Cultural village is currently having 1 full time official who is a driver and caretaker and has 5 EPWP beneficiaries and is still having a shortage of personnel.

8.2.2. The position of the late Ms Monica Zwane popularly known as (Gogo Lazwane) has since not been filled due to the moratorium on vacant post.

8.2.3. The department is supporting the cultural education programme 'Tindoni te Maswati'.

8.2.4. The department invested an amount of R4 138 000 00 to upgrade eMtfuntini Cultural village in order to preserve and promote culture and heritage, and to promote economic opportunities for the people of Mtfuntini.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS.**

**Based on the above findings, the Committee recommends that the Department must:**

### **9.1. Mtfuntini Public Library.**

9.1.1. Provide a copy of the Service level Agreement with all the details on the roles and responsibilities of both parties to the committee.

9.1.2. Prioritise a budget to create suitable space that is conducive for Audio material and build a suitable place to accommodate visually impaired patrons.

9.1.3. Procure more books looking at the number of users per library and standardize the membership fees and copy fees for users to afford.

9.1.4. Ensure that relevant and enough books are procured and circulated as per orders, to address the inconsistency.

9.1.5. Request for an increased budget and request funding from other sources, to deal with the back log in order to have 1 library per ward.

**9.2. Mtfuntini Cultural Village.**

9.2.1. The department need to provide a detailed report on the number of people that need to be employed in terms of the Organogram, fill the advertised posts as a matter of urgency and Fast-track the process of converting contracted employees into permanent employees, through the guidance of national treasury.

9.2.2. Write a letter to the executive to requesting that the post be filled as a matter of urgency.

9.2.3. Submit a detailed report to the committee on the programme including the criteria used to identify the participants.

9.2.4. Ensure that the allocated amount is used for the intended purpose and provide a progress report to the committee.

The department must interact with the issues raised at the TLP and public hearing, implement the House resolutions and provide a progress report by the **29 November 2019**.

**10. CONCLUSION.**

The Chairperson thanked all Honorable Members of the Portfolio Committee for their robust engagement during the TLP oversight visits at Nkomazi Local Municipality and extended appreciation to the Department of Culture, Sport and Recreation; for providing the requested information on the projects and for always responding positively when called by the committee. Nkomazi Local Municipality and Tribal Authority are also appreciated for supporting the programme of the Committee.

The work done by the support staff of the Committee in ensuring the success of the TLP oversight programme was also appreciated.



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**HON. NL HLOPHE (MPL)**

**CHAIRPERSON: PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION; CULTURE, SPORT AND RECREATION**

**REF NO: 13/6/4**



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**DATE**