

REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS, ROADS AND TRANSPORT; COMMUNITY SAFETY, SECURITY AND LIAISON

OVERSIGHT VISIT HELD IN THE DR JS MOROKA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, NKANGALA DISTRICT, 01 AUGUST 2019 - KATJIBANE POLICE STATION (DCSSL)

1. INTRODUCTION

Section 118 (1) (a) and (b) (i) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa empowers a provincial legislature to facilitate public access to and involvement in its oversight processes. In addition, sections 114 and 133 of the Constitution, read together with rule 131 of the Rules and Orders of the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature (the Rules) directs the Legislature to hold the Executive accountable for the exercising of powers and performance of functions.

In carrying out its constitutional oversight and public participation mandate, the **Portfolio Committee on Public Works, Roads And Transport; Community Safety, Security And Liaison** (the Committee) conducted an oversight visit in the Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality (the municipality) on 01 August 2019.

This report reflects the issues that emanated from the oversight activities during the said date, which will need further intervention of the Department of Community Safety, Security and Liaison (CSSL) and Mpumalanga South African Police Services (SAPS).

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE VISIT

The following objectives shaped the oversight visit to the Police Station:

- To determine challenges impacting on the Police Station in meeting the national standards.
- To assess the challenges affecting the functionality of the Police Station (e.g. office space and operational budget for the Community Policing Forum).

3. METHOD OF WORK

The Committee took a resolution to conduct an oversight visit to the Katjibane Satellite Police Station in the Dr JS Moroka Local Municipal area. Since it was a planned oversight visit, the Department of Community Safety, Security and Liaison was invited to join the oversight visit.

The invitation was also extended to the Mpumalanga SAPS (South African Police Service) Provincial Commissioner, the Executive Mayor and Councillors of the Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality.

4. OVERSIGHT ON GOVERNMENT FUNDED PROJECTS

KATJIBANE SATELLITE POLICE STATION

4.1. Background

The project of constructing the Police Station was implemented by the National SAPS during the 2014/15 financial year. However, the project was immediately stopped after the surrounding community raised concerns in terms of the appointment of labourers. A meeting was called on 10 May 2018 and was attended by community members whereby they demanded that the Police Station be built. A temporary solution by means of parked home structures was proposed to the community, while the National SAPS is working on a permanent solution. The proposal to place parked homes was accepted by the community. The order for procurement of these parked homes was placed on 30 July 2018 and the parked homes were subsequently constructed on site.

4.2. Deliberations with the Katjibane Satellite Police Station Management

Challenges that were raised during the meeting:

- It was noted that the challenge currently hindering the swift implementation of the project is the vetting of the labourers.
- It was noted that an application for electricity has already been submitted to Eskom (with reference SWM 277562456); and that Eskom indicated that the submission for the installation of electricity is currently before the committee that awards contracts.
- It was reported that SAPS will appoint a contractor to drill a borehole and install water tanks.
- It was also noted that six (6) carports are to be installed.

5. FINDINGS

The Committee made the following findings after interaction with SAPS:

- 5.1. National SAPS is working on a solution of constructing a fully-fledged Police Station in the area.
- 5.2. The challenge currently hindering the swift implementation of the project is the vetting of the labourers.
- 5.3. SAPS will appoint a contractor to drill a borehole and install water tanks.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee made the following recommendations:

- 6.1. The SAPS must provide a Committee with the current plan of action and ensure that the permanent structure is constructed in the near future.
- 6.2. SAPS must fast-track the process of vetting the labourers to ensure that the project commences without delay and is completed by the end of September 2019, as per the anticipated completion date of the project.
- 6.3. SAPS must ensure that the contractors who will be responsible for drilling a borehole and the installation of water tanks are appointed with immediate effect and that the plan for both is being implemented as planned.

7. CONCLUSION

The Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee extends his appreciation to Members of the Committee, Mpumalanga SAPS, and the Department of Community Safety, Security and Liaison as well as the support staff of the Legislature for their participation during this oversight visit to the Katjibane Satellite Police Station in the Dr JS Local Municipality, in enhancing the oversight role of the Legislature.

The committee tables this report to the House for adoption with its recommendations.

Unless otherwise stated, the department must provide a progress report by 29 November 2019 and thereafter on a quarterly basis.



HON. SK MASHILO (MPL)

09/10/2019

DATE

CHAIRPERSON:

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON

PUBLIC WORKS, ROADS AND TRANSPORT;

COMMUNITY SAFETY, SECURITY AND LIAISON