

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### EXECUTIVE MAYOR ATTENDS ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN DEPUTY MINISTER OF COGTA AND THE PHOKENG TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

The Executive Mayor of Rustenburg Local Municipality, Cllr Shiela Mabale-Huma, today attended a high-level engagement led by the Deputy Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA), Dr Namane Dickson Masemola, with Makgosana from Ward 26, and Member of the Mayoral Committee from Bojanala District Municipality Cllr Ignatious Mosoki, held at Tlaseng Primary School.

The meeting forms part of ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperative governance, enhance intergovernmental coordination, and address service delivery challenges affecting communities under the Phokeng Traditional Authority. This engagement follows earlier discussions held in January and demonstrates government's continued commitment to finding sustainable and people-centred solutions through collaboration with traditional leadership and local government.

The Executive Mayor welcomed the Deputy Minister's visit and emphasised the importance of close cooperation between national, provincial and local government, as well as traditional authorities, in ensuring effective service delivery and development.

"This engagement is critical in strengthening partnerships that place communities at the centre of governance. Traditional leadership remains a key stakeholder in local development, and through continuous dialogue we can jointly resolve challenges related to service delivery, governance coordination and community development," said the Executive Mayor.

During the engagement, key issues discussed included alignment of development priorities, improving communication and coordination between spheres of government, and addressing service delivery backlogs in a sustainable manner. The meeting also reaffirmed government's commitment to the principle that every municipality must work, in line with the CoGTA theme.

The Executive Mayor reiterated Rustenburg Local Municipality's commitment to working closely with the Phokeng Traditional Authority and CoGTA to ensure that interventions are implemented effectively and that residents receive reliable and quality basic services.

"Our presence here today underscores the municipality's dedication to cooperative governance. We remain committed to engaging traditional authorities and all stakeholders to ensure that service delivery challenges are addressed decisively and in a manner that restores confidence in local government," the Executive Mayor added.

The meeting concluded with a shared understanding on the need for continued engagement, clear implementation plans, and strengthened coordination mechanisms to ensure that resolutions taken translate into tangible improvements for the Phokeng community.

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