

LEPELLE-NKUMPI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY HOST WARD COMMITTEE CONFERENCE TO IMPROVE SERVICE DELIVERY

Ward Committees are established as a catalyst for service delivery at a local sphere of government in terms of the Municipal Structures (Act 117 of 1998). Lepelle-Nkumpi Municipality (LNM) is currently hosting the Ward Committee conference over three days, 17-19 May 2023 at Oasis Lodge in Mokopane to deliberate with our service delivery foot soldiers as they tackle issues of service delivery, how best they can work together to serve the community of Lepelle-Nkumpi as well as sharing challenges and successes.

The conference is attended by municipal Councillors, officials, Ward Committee members, Community Development Workers (CDWs) and Traditional Leaders. In the spirit of cooperative governance, representatives of Capricorn District Municipality (CDM), Cllr Billy Choshi, officials from Limpopo department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA), Social Development among others graced the conference.

LNM Speaker, Cllr Joyce Nkoabela in her opening address praised the path taken by Ward Committees, for their commitment and efforts which ensures that service delivery is enjoyed by the rural people of the municipality. "Working hand in hand with Ward Councillors, you are reporting on matters affecting the Wards you are serving. We really admire your spirit of public service and we really appreciate your work", said Cllr Nkoabela.

A report from municipality's 30 Wards on delivery of services on areas such as water, electricity, housing, sanitation, roads, storm-water and drainage and social services including health, safety and security will be presented.

The importance of capacitating Ward Committees as a way of improving their skills towards working with the communities in reinforcing Back-to-Basics model as adopted by the Presidential Summit on local government by putting people first "Batho Pele" was also highlighted.

In her message of support, Mayor of LNM, Cllr Meriam Molala said, "As the country is celebrating 29 years of freedom and democracy, under the theme: "Consolidating and Safeguarding Democratic Gains" we must acknowledge the achievements made such far in dealing with service delivery challenges. Our communities want us to redouble our efforts in addressing the triple challenges which are unemployment, poverty and inequality as identified in the Integrated Development Plan".

The Mayor further emphasised that, "There are massive developments around Lepelle-Nkumpi. Many of our people have taken advantage of water and electricity infrastructure to further improve the quality of their lives. We will continue to intensify implementation of the Back to Basics programme in order to ensure continuous improvement on good governance and accountability".

"Motho ke motho ka batho"