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MEDIA STATEMENT

23 June 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MATATIELE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY CLOSE ITS TRAFFIC OFFICES AFTER AN EMPLOYEE TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

Matatiele Local Municipality has moved with speed to close with immediate effect, the traffic offices after an employee tested positive for COVID-19.

All staff working in this building have been released as a precautionary measure. Meanwhile, the Municipality will follow the COVID-19 protocols, that include the testing of employees and decontamination of the two buildings before employees return back on duty.

Following the guidelines set out by the World Health Organisation and the Department of Health, the employee who tested positive is in self-isolation.

Affected public safety services include; fire and rescue, waste management, EPWP, licensing and law enforcement.

Acting Municipal Manager, Mr Vuyo Mlokothi said the process of tracing those who were in contact with the employee is underway. Those employees will be tested and monitored accordingly, whilst the municipality is fast-tracking the process of deep cleaning and decontamination of all offices.

"We would like to wish our affected employee a speedy recovery and pledge to offer all the necessary support. During this time, all employees are encouraged to work from home until it is deemed safe for them to return to the office", said Mlokothi.

Necessary precautions to combat the spread of the virus are being implemented to ensure the well-being and safety of all employees and those accessing services from the municipality.

Expressing his well wishes to the affected employee, the Mayor of Matatiele local municipality Cllr. Momelezi Mbedla once again pleaded with everyone to take heed of the lockdown regulations. "Please stay at home – you are safer there, wash your hands, practice social distance and wear a mask at all times", he re-iterated.

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Issued by Matatiele Local Municipality