



**Bojanala Platinum District Municipality**

# Youth 16 June 2011 35 Year Day commemoration

## Youth Month Celebrations

16 June 2011 marks the 35th anniversary of the Soweto and related Uprisings of 1976. The government has made great strides in assisting young people access economic and skills development opportunities. "The hopes and aspirations of young South Africans remain on our shoulders and we have made a commitment not to fail them," said the newly elected Mayor of the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, Cllr. Louis Diremelo.



**Cllr. Louis Diremelo**

## History

In 1975 protests started in African schools after a directive from the then Bantu Education Department that Afrikaans had to be used on an equal basis with English as a language of instruction in secondary schools. The issue, however, was not so much the Afrikaans as the whole system of Bantu education which was characterised by separate schools and universities, poor facilities, overcrowded classrooms and inadequately trained teachers. On 16 June 1976 more than 20 000 pupils from Soweto began a protest march. In the wake of clashes with the police, and the violence that ensued during the next few weeks, approximately 700 hundred people, many of them youths, were killed and property destroyed.

## The road ahead

The Bojanala Platinum District Municipality is also partaking in the call by President Jacob Zuma to establish youth structures throughout the country. We want our youth to have hope for the future. They need to be empowered. The foundation of empowerment is a solid education. We need to invest in our future, our youth...



**Delegates to the rally will be coming from:**

- Rustenburg Local Municipality**
- Kgetlengrivier Local Municipality**
- Moretele Local Municipality**
- Moses Kotane**
- Madibeng**

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