



# Curtain comes down on Mayor's 100-day programme



**Rustenburg** – The Executive Mayor of the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality – Cllr Louis Diremelo – has just completed an eventful 100-day programme that started when he assumed office. The 100-day programme went a long way in accelerating service delivery within the five local municipalities of the Bojanala District.

In July, the poor living conditions of two families based in Bojanala came to the attention of the office of the executive mayor. The fortunes of Ms. Anna Maletsatsi Radebe started changing for the better during Mandela Day Celebrations when the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality started constructing a new RDP house for her family. More than 100 people from the municipality turned out to support this worthy cause by taking part in the construction process of the new house, contributing their share as a pledge, contributing to Madiba's "67 minutes pledge".

The intervention by the municipality is a fulfilment of the pledge it made after the plight of Ms. Radebe – who was living in a dilapidated house in Siga village and using her social grant pension of R1 140 to take care of three orphaned children and another dependant – came to light.

"During the rainy season, it was very difficult for her because her old house was built using old substandard bricks," said Bojanala Platinum District Municipality Speaker, Cllr Gugulethu Mtshali, who also took part in the construction of the new house. During the same period, Cllr Louis Diremelo spearheaded the transformation of the life of the Molefe family in Mmupudung.

During the run-up to the 2011 Local Government Elections, the Molefe family – poor and destitute – stood out as a family in desperate need of food, blankets and shelter. The conditions that the Molefe family were living under were deplorable. None of the members of the family of 19 have ever reached high school education due to financial constraints.

None of the family members have been able to secure formal employment and this means that

they just survive on income from a grant and pension. Miss Molefe – a pensioner – has a child, 40 years of age and also another 17 dependants that rely on her for survival. They all lived together in a shack measuring just 2 x 2 metres, which had no floor or furniture. Through assistance by Oersofranky Construction, Bojanala Platinum District Municipality constructed a new RDP home for the family – a development that changed their lives forever. "The gesture displayed here must not only be limited to Mandela day, but should be a way of life," said Cllr. Diremelo. Apart from addressing these and other issues related to service delivery, on 8 July 2011, at the Rustenburg Civic Centre, Bojanala hosted a public safety session aimed at stepping up efforts to combat illegal electricity connections.

Held under the banner of "Operation Khanyisa" – a national programme that has been set up to fight illegal connections and the theft of electricity cables – the session also saw the media being brought up to speed with the power utility's latest efforts to reduce the cases of criminal activities in the sector. Issues regarding the escalating number of safety incidences, continuous power supply interruptions and illegal connections in the area – among others – were discussed. During the 100 days, from the 4th to the 5th of August, Bojanala also hosted the SALGA conference and elections. The elections brought together representatives of all the municipalities in the North West Province under one roof. The elections, which were held at Orion Safari Lodge just outside Rustenburg, saw Cllr Govan Lubilo being elected as chairperson of the Provincial committee together with four other councillors. Bojanala Platinum District Municipality also hosted a three-day Provincial Summit on Climate Change that took place from August 31 to September 2 at the Rustenburg Civic Centre. Held under the theme "Save Tomorrow Today", the summit sought to find ways of dealing with the threats associated with climate change and how those attending the summit could play a crucial part in limiting the effects of this change.



Cllr. Louis Diremelo, Mayor of the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality

