

Parliament portfolio committee on COGTA gives MDM 'benefit of the doubt.'



The parliament's portfolio committee on cooperative governance and traditional affairs says they are ready to give Mopani District Municipality "the benefit of the doubt" that it can turn things around.

The oversight committee chaired by Hon. Faith Muthambi visited Mopani where they met with the leadership of both Mopani District Municipality and Greater Giyani Municipality last week.

They wanted progress report on issues raised by SCOPA earlier last month where the Executive Mayor and the Acting Municipal Manager were summoned for a hearing regarding the findings from the 2017/18 Auditor General's report. But they also wanted a report from Greater Giyani Municipality on their state of affairs following the failed investment on the collapsed VBS.

Executive Mayor told the committee that they have already presented the SCOPA report to a special sitting of council, where it was resolved that monthly progress reports on the implementation of the audit action plan will be shared with both Cogta and SCOPA.

"We had a special council to deal with the report emanating from SCOPA engagements. In fact, at the level of council, we presented the transcript (question and answer) so that council is able to have a sense, but also appreciate the kind of challenges that SCOPA has been raising with the municipality."

"Out of that particular council, we took resolutions that we will report to SCOPA on a monthly basis on issues relating to audit in terms of how far we have gone to ensure that the findings of the AG are being dealt with," he said.

Muthambi said that the committee will monitor progress. "We are happy that a member of MPAC is saying to us there is progress in this municipality. We are going to monitor progress. We will send a template on matters that you must report to us on a quarterly basis."

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