

# EXECUTIVE MAYOR CAUTIONS PEACE OFFICERS AS THEY SET FORTH TO ENFORCE HEALTH LEGISLATIONS

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MOPANI

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Mopani District Municipality's Executive Mayor Cllr. Pule Shayi has cautioned the peace officers about the temptations they will face as they set forth to perform their duties in ensuring compliance with the environmental health legislations.

The Executive Mayor said this during the certification ceremony for the 31 environment health practitioners who have been trained as peace officers. The training on Law Enforcement for Peace Officers (LEPO) was led by the Nelson Mandela University.

He said the work of the peace officers has the potential to generate much needed revenue for the Municipality, but the priority should be to protect the health and wellbeing of the people in the district.



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“You are going to experience the moral hazards, these unethical things. You will get these things when you get to spaza shops. Some of them do not bank. They keep their money in the spaza shops. They are part of unbanked South African society, and because that money is readily available when you get in, and you find that they are bathing in the backroom in the same spaza shop, the entire family, the ablution facility is there. When you have to charge them, and they say take this. You will be standing at a crossroad from an ethical point of view. The temptations and the test will be so high at that level,” the Executive Mayor said.

He said that the peace officers have the obligation to help in ensuring compliance on water quality. “We equally have an obligation to ensure that the water that we give to our people drink is of good quality.

“The municipal health services by-law recommits us to that obligation. Majority of our people are still dependent on borehole water. Through your work, we should have that constant assurance that the water they drink meet the required standards,” he said.

The Executive Mayor also said that the officials have to work closely with local municipalities on town planning to ensure that mortuaries are not build closer to food outlets. He said that big industries that pollute the environment should not be left to do as they please.

The Municipality is also finalizing the municipal health services by-law, with public consultation deadline set for the 26 of July 2024. The by-law upon approval by council and gazetting will help the Municipality to enforce the environmental health regulations within the district.

