

EPWP BULLETIN

VOLUME 2. ISSUE 12. 23 July 2025



The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure: 67 Minutes for Mandela Day

Article by: Tumelo Sekwele, Tseke Masemola, Matlhogono Makwela & Pictures by: Communication Chief Directorate

The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) commemorated Nelson Mandela Day by dedicating 67 minutes of service to various Non-Profit Organisations and government departments across the Western Cape, Gauteng, and KwaZulu-Natal.

Western Cape: Planting Hope at MES Safe Space

Minister Dean Macpherson joined hands with MES and local partners at the MES Mould Bellville Safe Space in Cape Town, a shelter supporting individuals overcoming homelessness, poverty, and addiction.

In honour of Madiba's legacy, the Minister and DPWI senior managers spent their 67 minutes participating in hands-on service — planting vegetables, contributing to recycling efforts, and engaging directly with beneficiaries. This initiative highlighted the impactful collaboration between the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and MES, supporting projects such as composting, electronic waste management, and sustainable farming.

Minister Macpherson underscored the importance of Practicality, Partnerships, and Policy, saying: "Serving others should be the first priority... MES has given us a fresh perspective on life — putting others first."

Gauteng: Giving Hope in Mamelodi

Deputy Minister Sihle Zikalala spent his 67 minutes at the Give Them Hope Foundation, an orphanage in Mamelodi, Gauteng, alongside IDT CEO Ms Tebogo Malaka and other senior DPWI officials. The centre currently shelters 20 children and supports 60 more who attend daily after-school programmes.

Children were educated on the dangers of drugs such as Nyaope and crystal meth by Shereen Moyane, a social auxiliary worker from Clearview Clinic, which also provides rehabilitation and support classes.

Deputy Minister Zikalala applauded all stakeholders for their meaningful contributions and donations. He emphasized the need for collaboration between communities and organisations to uplift the less privileged and urged the youth to take care of their well-being and continue learning.

Centre Manager Ms Matshidiso Mothiba expressed heartfelt appreciation to everyone who supported the centre and encouraged the public to continue visiting and supporting the foundation.

The event was attended by representatives from DPWI, the Independent Development Trust (IDT), Clearview Clinic, and the Medium Protection Society.

KwaZulu-Natal: Rebuilding at Isipingo SAPS Vehicle Pound

In KwaZulu-Natal, DPWI Director-General Mr Sifiso Mdakane, together with Provincial Commissioner Lt. General Nhlanhla Mkhwanazi, marked Mandela Day at the SAPS Vehicle Pound in Isipingo, Durban — a facility severely damaged during the 2022 floods.

DG Mdakane provided a progress update on the pound's restoration, assuring the public that full operations will resume by December 2025, with critical functions restored by October 2025. The pound plays a key role in storing vehicles involved in criminal investigations.

The restoration project has created over 25 EPWP work opportunities, reinforcing DPWI's commitment to job creation through infrastructure development.

Together, we honour Madiba's legacy — making every minute count.

