

EPWP BULLETIN

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Minister Macpherson Concludes Successful EPWP Listening Tour in Tafelsig, Cape Town

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The Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, Mr. Dean Macpherson, successfully concluded another leg of the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) Listening Tour in Tafelsig, Mitchells Plain, on Monday, 15 September 2025.

He was joined by the Executive Mayor of Cape Town, Alderman Geordin Hill-Lewis; members of the Mayoral Committee; Acting Deputy Director-General for EPWP, Molatelo Mohwasa; Acting Regional Manager, Dumisani Gqibela; and senior officials from the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI).

The EPWP Listening Tour provides a platform for government to engage directly with communities, understand their lived experiences with the programme, identify challenges, and gather input to inform the redesign of a more impactful and sustainable EPWP.

“Today’s engagement in Tafelsig was not just about listening — it was about learning, connecting, and reaffirming the purpose of the EPWP,” said Minister Macpherson. “The stories shared here prove that when government listens and responds, real change happens. We are committed to building a reimaged EPWP that goes beyond temporary work and creates pathways to lasting empowerment.”

Mayor Hill-Lewis highlighted the City’s progress in implementing the EPWP:

“We are proud to announce that we have significantly exceeded our target of creating 30,000 EPWP job opportunities in Cape Town. This is a clear demonstration of what is possible through collaboration between all spheres of government. However, the demand far outweighs our current resources, which is why we are calling on national government to increase funding so we can expand this life-changing programme and reach even more people in need.”

The Tafelsig engagement drew strong participation, with community members sharing valuable insights and personal testimonies.

“The EPWP gave me my first real job. Through it, I learned new skills, gained confidence, earned a stipend, and was able to support my family. I’m grateful that leaders are here to hear our voices and see the difference this programme makes,” said Ms. Nomthandazo Sibozo, an EPWP participant from Iliso Care Society in Khayelitsha, who is now studying toward a degree in Human Resource Management.

Stories such as these highlight the programme’s role in driving employment, skills development, and community upliftment. The feedback gathered in Tafelsig will play a key role in shaping the future of the EPWP, ensuring that it becomes more effective, inclusive, and community-driven.

