



Press Release
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CONTRACTORS WARNED OF BOGUS SERVICE PROVIDERS

The Mpumalanga Department of Human Settlements is appealing to all service providers (contractors) to be very vigilant when it comes to bogus tenders awarded by government. This follows an incident where representatives of a bogus consortium calling itself Bondeiro Business Development Consortium (BBDC) were arrested yesterday at Bronhorstpruit, Gauteng. The arrest is as a result of a contractor who alerted the Department about this company that wanted to give them work.

MEC Speedy Mashilo briefed the media (Wednesday 25 January 2016) in Mbombela to condemn such an act. The consortium allegedly owned by white individuals' claims to have received massive projects from government throughout the country to deliver services to communities. It targets unsuspecting contractors' claiming to have received tenders to deliver projects such upgrading cemeteries, for **R3 million** and sports stadium for **R30 million** at Moretele Local Municipality in Hammanskraal and delivering **10 000** housing units in Mpumalanga for R166 800 per unit", amongst others.

Mashilo stressed that elements of fraud and corruption have a potential to undermine government's efforts of delivering quality services to communities. *"We believe that this arrest will send a strong message to other unscrupulous people/individuals and restore confidence in our communities that corruption has no place in this government"* continued Mashilo. The unscrupulous consortium's modus operandi is very appealing to a normal eye and service providers in need of jobs, especially from government. It is believed that BBDC is solicits company names from some data-base whether inside or outside government and target those by selling fake jobs to them.

Those who are being contacted, or have fallen prey to this and other scams be it the construction of government low cost houses (RDPS) or any government services to immediately report such to the police. *"As a Department We believe that this arrest will send a strong message to other unscrupulous people/individuals and restore confidence in our communities – that corruption has no place in this government"*, charged MEC Mashilo. The Department will take keen interest to see its finality and witness the law bringing the alleged perpetrators to book.

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