

BUFFALO CITY MUNICIPALITY

MEDIA RELEASE

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**Buffalo City
Municipality**

BCM to clampdown business flouting municipal bylaws

The Municipality has responded to numerous public complaints about various businesses operating outside their licensing jurisdiction in the City.

As a result, an operation to root out all illegal elements in an effort aimed at clamping down businesses flouting our municipal bylaws will go out in full swing as from this week.

The carefully planned operation, whose joint committee is spearheaded by the Municipality Law Enforcement and Traffic Services Section, will include raids in **all** businesses in the City.

The Joint Committee comprises of the members of Buffalo City Municipality law enforcement, disaster management, fire and rescue services, Eastern Cape Liquor Board and SA Police Service, Municipal Business Licensing, Municipal Health and City Planning.

We will target establishments like restaurants, bars, clubs and taverns to check if they are complying with laws and bylaws.

The other aim of the operation – from a BCM Licensing point of view is to raise awareness on what procedures should be followed when applying for a business permit.

“As we are expecting hordes of visitors to our City in upcoming months, this is a genuine across-the-board contribution to make BCM a people centred place of opportunity that we can all enjoy in a safe, healthy and sustainable environment,” says Traffic and Law Enforcement Commander Berny Martin.

Some of the compliances will include:

The Fire and Rescue Division will check for:

- Access for fire fighting and rescue purposes;
- Available fire protection equipment;
- Symbolic safety signs; and
- Adequate availability of escape routes, fire escape doors and emergency exits.

The Eastern Cape liquor Board will check:

General Conditions applicable to all license-holders

- No persons under the age of 18 shall be sold liquor in the registered premises.
- Valid certificate of registration shall be visibly displayed at all times.
- No loud music shall be played at the outlet. Music played shall not be audible beyond the boundary perimeter of the premises.
- No speakers or audio equipment shall be placed outside the building walls of the premises.
- No person shall be allowed to consume liquor in or around the premises other than in the area demarcated for such purpose; the registrant bears the obligation to report such activities to the nearest police station.
- The registered person/owner shall apply with the Board for someone to be appointed as a manager to be responsible in the absence of the owner/registered person.

The City Planning Division:

- Zoning Requirements
- Land Usage compliancy
- Building Control Measurements

Traffic Services will check for:

- Violations of traffic laws
- Motorist and pedestrian safety
- Traffic compliancy

SAPS will check for:

- Safety of patrons
- Illegal activities

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