



MINUTES OF THE IGR ROUNDTABLE MEETING

DATE: 15 MARCH 2019

TIME: 10H00

VENUE: NEW COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL

| ITEMS | MATTERS DISCUSSED | ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN | DEADLINES |
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| 1. Welcoming & Introductions | The Chairperson Ms. Ondela Mahlangu opened the meeting and welcomed representatives from the Independent Electoral Commission, Departments of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs , Social Development, Home Affairs, Office of the Premier, and BCMM representatives. | None | |

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| 2. Apologies | The IEC representative made an apology ahead of making a verbal presentation indicating that a soft copy will be shared electronically with representatives. | | |
| 3. Purpose | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Mahlangu highlighted the purpose of the IGR Roundtable meeting, adding that it was held to discuss urgent matters and issues raised from previous IGR Forum meeting such as the Anti-Poverty Strategy of Social Development which required BCMM's interaction. | None | |
| 4. Presentation by IEC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Bana from IEC gave a summary on the background of IEC and its location in the metro which is situated in the Beacon Bay Crossing and King Williams Town Civic Centre (satellite office). She further went to provide the status of readiness of the Metro and the Eastern Cape at large for the upcoming national elections. She highlighted that for the upcoming elections there will be 322 voting stations that will be opened, those include churches, voting sites, schools and municipality halls. She reported that in the metro IEC did not receive any objections thus far. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BCMM is requested to provide mini-tents, water, add more ablution facilities in all the voting stations. It also needs to assist with grass cutting in areas where tents and marquees will be used. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13 March is the cut off date to register those who are out the country 14 March-was the cut of date for parties contesting the elections. 18 March will be the publishing of |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of the special votes those who want to apply, the process will be opened from the 4th -18th April 2018. Application can be captured and the status can be sent via phone. • IEC assured that all Political Parties will be part of the observations together with IEC and SAPS. SAPS on the other hand will be guarding all the voting stations to make sure there is safety in all of them. • In terms of the status and report of the registration BCMM only 2% of the voting station were not opened which was a positive sign compared to other municipalities who had difficulty opening registration stations due to community unrest. • Statistics from the registration will be circulated which revealed so far that most people who had registered were the youth. • Ms Bana then provided cut-off dates so that can be communicated to the political leadership and senior management and also sited challenges where the IEC will need to meet with those communities to clarify matters. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCMM needs to follow up on the issues that IEC is the issue of demarcation between Ngqushwa and BCMM on Tamara village, and the issue of Nonibe village and Nonibe Primary school which both are located in different municipalities. | <p>the final Voters roll.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 April Cut of off date to register for Special votes • 23 April will be a compilation of final list of Political parties contesting the election • 25 April all parties will be issued with certificates • 27 April Cut off date for International Voters |
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| | <p>QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IEC was requested to provide specific information on the needs of voting stations in BCMM that required assistance so that the relevant internal departments could be advised on time. • A suggestion was made that with regards to the issues of demarcation in Ngqushwa that community members must be informed in advance that given it was a national election that they can go to any of the two-voting stations to vote. | | |
| <p>5. Presentation by Home Affairs</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Stuurman from Home Affairs made a presentation on the state of immigration in South Africa and particularly in the Metro. He highlighted that there has been a record of many people who enter the country who are not permitted by the Department of Home Affairs. He further stated that the Constitution protects all who enter the country including immigrants. • In terms of the latest developments in the Department, all documentation will be digitized | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCMM needs to build a working relationship with Department of Home Affairs • BCMM will find a way for Home Affairs to make a presentation to the BCMM Principals. | |

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| | <p>going forward to improve record keeping and accessibility. Currently Home Affairs are operating on a manual system where documents take up to six months before one can access them from Home Affairs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of activities of Home Affairs in BCMM; 255 transgressors were arrested, 11 employees arrested, and 38 operations have been conducted by the department. • Mr Stuurman advised that there were still many uncollected Smart Identity documents with approximately 3856 uncollected in King Williams Town and 5079 uncollected in East London. • Some of the challenges faced by Home Affairs include; extensions for detained foreign nationals, working together of BCMM, Health and other relevant stakeholders during raids. • There was a challenge in BCMM especially related to RDP houses which are sold by communities to foreign nationals. • It was also advised that Home Affairs has introduced new laws in terms of visa application. It | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCMM will need to find a way with Home Affairs to get the word out to wards for people to collect their ID's. • More cooperation required from BCMM during raids etc. • Need for Bylaws in BCMM related to RDP houses sold by communities to foreign nationals. | |
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| | <p>is required that if a person's visa expires whilst in the country one needs to go back to their country of origin and re-apply in their country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due some challenges experienced regarding paternity. There has been changes in the law in terms of unabridged birth certificate for a child. Both parents are now required to bring paternity tests as proof of being biological parents of the child. <p>QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given the challenges experienced by Home Affairs members of the meeting agreed that BCMM needed to work closely with Home Affairs in order to deal with some of the issues. • It was queried whether Home Affairs had any plans for E-service in the banks in the Eastern Cape just like the Gauteng Province. Mr Stuurman responded that the Standard Bank in Vincent will have a Home Affairs function which will be effective in the next 12 months. • It was also queried whether the uncollected Smart ID's will be able to be distributed to people. Mr | | |
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| | <p>Stuurman responded that unfortunately distribution was not possible with the Smart IDs as they need the owners finger prints to be scanned at a Home Affairs center.</p> | | |
| <p>6. Presentation: Anti-Poverty Strategy</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Sogoni from Department of Social Development gave a presentation on the Provincial Anti-poverty Strategy. She highlighted that the reason to present at the IGR platform was to seek support for the strategy in BCMM and to build working relations with the Metro. The program is a multi-dimensional program. The Strategy is situated in the social transformation cluster that is led by Department of Social Development. It is aligned with Provincial Growth and Development Plan (PGDP). • Due to the nature of the strategy it should be aligned with IDP. • The implementation of the Anti-poverty Strategy in BCMM particularly will focus on wards that are called the “deprived wards”. This will allow the | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IGR Unit will rope in and engage LED as this strategy falls under their functions. • The issue will also be escalated to the BCMM Accounting Officers office as to identify the relevant department where the | |

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| | <p>Department to measure quantitatively in the wards how to address the level of poverty in BCMM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The program started in 2012 where two wards in BCMM Ward 34 (Dimbaza area) and Ward 32 (Tsolomnqa area). To date Ward 32 and 34 have moved out of poverty line. • The department has also expanded support to the Nompumelelo and Ducats areas. Social Development has also started with Ward 36 in Xhwithinja but not much progress has been made in this area. • The Community Survey by Stats SA identified five “deprived wards” in BCMM, (Ward 24, Ward 2, Ward 6, Ward 31 and Ward 32). • The Strategy has created a relationship with the BCMM Social Labs in order to identify areas that are poverty stricken and to work together in fighting poverty. It was reported that Social Development work with and are guided by ward councillors regarding this initiative. <p>QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS</p> | <p>strategy needs to be located.</p> | |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was queried whether the Department of Social Development could verify if the Wards still fell under the same areas identified before the demarcation took place with BCMM. | | |
| 7. Way Forward | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IEC will circulate their presentation on Monday to everyone. BCMM will ensure that the Presentation by Home Affairs will be presented to the BCMM Principals as most issues requires BCMM Cooperation. The BCMM Accounting Officer will be advised on the Anti-poverty strategy to allow him to identify the department where the strategy needs to be located. The Date of the next IGR Forum is the 8th May 2019. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None | |
| 8. Closure | The Chairperson thanked everyone in attendance and thanked them for the inputs and closed the meeting. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None | |