



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### **Gauteng Provincial govt, City of Tshwane and DWS recommit to solve Temba and Hammanskraal water woes**

14 September 2018

The challenge of poor water quality, which has beleaguered the community of Temba and Hammanskraal, will be a thing of the past come end of January next year.

This was the collective commitment that was made by the Gauteng Provincial Government, the City of Tshwane and the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) during a feedback meeting held at the Sebothoma Hall on 13 September 2018.

Addressing a large crowd of residents, Premier David Makhura acknowledged the gravity of the situation posed by the poor water quality in the areas, saying that the meeting was a follow up from the one the government had with the residents in July this year.

Speaking in Setswana, Premier Makhura said: "I promised to talk to the mayor of the City of Tshwane and the Minister of Water and Sanitation to see how we can ensure how we resolve the issue of water in Hammanskraal which is not fit for human consumption. You said the water was dirty and people were getting sick and getting hospitalised."

Premier Makhura said after discussions with both Minister Gugugile Nkwinti and Mayor Solly Msimanga they had put together teams to work on all the issue of water, admitting that during his last visit in July to the Rooivaal Waste Water Treatment Plant he saw the condition of the water that ended up in Temba and Hammanskraal.

Premier Makhura acknowledged that there was a promise that the Temba Waste Water Treatment Plant would be up and running in November but due to certain problems that could not happen.

Giving feedback to residents, Mayor Msimanga told the residents that efforts were being made to ensure that the water from Rooivaal Waste Water Treatment Plant reached the communities of Temba and Hammanskraal in a good state, reiterating that the process of testing water had already begun but had experienced a problem of dirt inside the pipes.

He said this was the reason why when people opened taps they encountered water that was sometimes brown in colour.

Residents called on the municipality to redeploy tankers to provide them with water while the challenge of poor water quality was being attended to.

A resident, Mr Francis Mabobo, said the manner in which water was distributed previously left much to be desired as residents seemed to be at the mercy of the drivers of water tankers.

He complained that schools and crèches were neglected by the drivers, adding that at some instances they were allegedly selling the water.

Ms Annah Mawela, who is zone secretary of the South African National Civic Organisation (SANCO), said it was alleged that the drivers of water tankers were forcing residents to pay R150 for water, calling for the drivers to be monitored.



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“Getting water is a democratic right. We voted for proper service delivery and we are calling on the municipality to work closely with the residents,” Ms Mawela appealed.

She said there should be additional tankers providing water to the residents as the ones that were withdrawn was insufficient.

**Hosia Sithole**