



Steve Tshwete Local Municipality

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MEDIA RELEASE:

Concerns over busting water pipes and brown colouring being addressed

The continuous problems of burst water pipes and brown water in Mhluzi and Middelburg are being addressed by our Civil Engineering Department. The old infrastructure, some of which is over 50 years old is being replaced by new and larger PVC piping.

Water pressure has also increased due to the growing number of households and this has added extra strain on the fragile pipes.

Unfortunately there will continue to be water outages in these areas until all the old pipes, which are a legacy from apartheid are replaced, and residents are requested to remain patient.

Council, at its last special council meeting set aside R2.1million to fast track the installation of the new pipes. Work commenced last week and is due for completion by the end of June 2014. The department had already started with the replacement of the old pipes and the following streets are done: Plein, Leeu, Makunyane, Nhlanhla and Ngubeni, but as yet new water meters have not been installed at all the stands.

Residents complaining about brown water in their taps can be reassured that despite the colour of the water, which is due to the mixing of elements such as vegetation and silt that came down stream into the dam during flooding in December, is treated to the highest standards.

“The colouring in the water although not attractive is harmless and the water remains safe for drinking as per the Blue drop and SANS 241 minimum requirements,” says Willie Fouche, Municipal Manager.

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Yours faithfully

WD FOUCHE
MUNICIPAL MANAGER