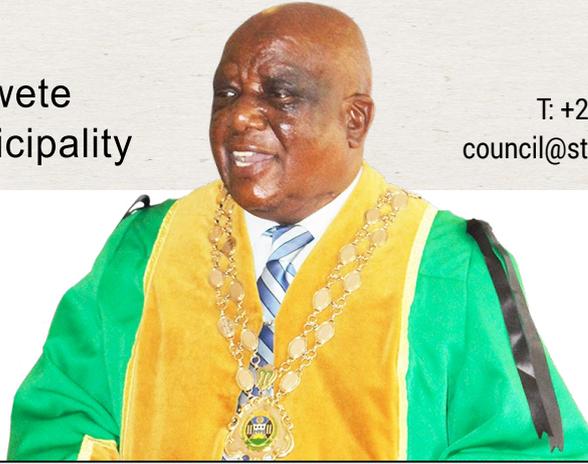




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**Statement by Adv Bheki Khenisa, Municipal Manager, on the passing of
CLLR BAGUDI JONATHAN TOLO, EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

2 FEBRUARY 1952 - 2 FEBRUARY 2021

TUESDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2021

It is with deep sorrow and sadness that we announce the passing of Cllr Bagudi Jonathan Tolo, Executive Mayor, Steve Tshwete Local Municipality.

He was admitted to Life Midmed hospital in Middelburg on 29 December 2020 after testing positive for Covid-19.

He passed in the early hours of the morning from COVID-19 related complications at age 69.

We console ourselves to the fact that he died a heroic death, a death coinciding with his birthday today, 2 February, reminiscent of well-known folk such as William Shakespeare and others who died on their birthday.

We are devastated by his departure as he was highly active and did his utmost in pursuit of service delivery. His astuteness and vigilance will be dearly missed.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time of grief. We humbly thank the family for giving him the support and space to selflessly serve the community of Steve Tshwete Municipality and South Africa. He will be remembered as a selfless and tireless leader.

Cllr Bagudi Tolo was an exemplary leader, activist and life-long champion of freedom and democracy. He was a much loved and greatly respected colleague and comrade whose passing leaves our Municipality at a great loss.

We extend our deepest sympathies to the Executive Mayor's family, his colleagues, comrades and friends.

May his soul rest in peace!

Memorial service, funeral and protocols will be communicated.

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