



STEVE TSHWETE

LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

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MEDIA RELEASE:

Closing of illegal businesses not targeted only to foreigners

Steve Tshwete Local Municipality made a public notice through the local media that ran for almost three months that businesses in respect of which a license is required, were advised to apply for valid business licenses. Such businesses included the sale or supply of meals and perishable foodstuff and the provision of certain types of health facilities or entertainment. However, on 21 June following an operation by the Steve Tshwete Licensing department to close down illegal business throughout the municipal jurisdiction, a wrong message was send out that the local authority targeted only foreign "spaza" shops, after a number of container "spaza" shops are owned by foreigners. This after the national media broadcasted the story that Steve Tshwete Local Municipality closed only foreign "spaza" shop containers, an action which was associated with attacks of foreigners in early June at Seshego, outside Polokwane. Authorities in Steve Tshwete Municipality gave owners of illegal container "spaza" shops seven days to remove their containers.

Yours faithfully

W.D. Fouché
Municipal Manager

