



TSWAING LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



UPDATE ON WATER AND SANITATION

6 APRIL 2020

Access to water for hygiene purposes is critical to avert the spread of Covid-19. To accelerate provision of water and sanitation to communities our municipality is engaging the Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality (NMMDM) as our water service authority that is responsible for all the bulk water and sanitation services.

We have requested 52 jojo tanks from the district municipality for the municipal settlements that are experiencing water shortages in Tswaing. Thus far NMMDM has supplied us with 2 jojo tanks for Delareyville Ext 8 & Skierluk, we are awaiting the delivery of the other 50 tanks to be allocated to various areas. We have been using one water tanker truck for refilling of jojo tanks for all the 15 wards, this resulted in the jojos tanks not being refilled timeously. The district municipality has supplied us with additional two trucks to alleviate this problem. The jojo tanks are for temporary purposes whilst awaiting the district municipality to implement long-term solutions to address the lack of bulk water services in various areas.



A water jet, which is used to clean drains and sewer lines, is being utilised to unblock sewer lines in Delareyville Ext 7 & 8, Atamelang, Agisanang, Letsopa and villages. Our sewer pump stations in Delareyville & Atamelang need to be serviced as each is currently operating with only one pump. The Agisanang pump station was refurbished by the provincial Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs in November 2019 and all the pumps were replaced. The pump station is functioning though overloaded as it is processing about three times the sewer load it was designed to handle. As a result, there are frequent blockages experienced at the facility. The sewer situation in Agisanang is further worsened by the network design where

relatively small diameter pipes have been used leading to spillages and overflows. There is a new waste water treatment works being built in Agisanang by NMMDM. The contractor started in January 2020, the project is planned to be implemented over a period of 18 months.



The Ottosdal waste water treatment works has been non-functional since April 2019 leading to constant blockages and sewer spillages in Letsopa. There is a contractor upgrading the water reticulation in Letsopa and a new storage tank has been built. Water provision was interrupted in Letsopa Ext 1,2,3 and 5, the water and sanitation officials have begun to open the valves identified by the contractor to enable water provision at the affected areas. The water pipes and water meters need to be replaced to eliminate the leakages that have been experienced in Ottosdal.

Delareyville waste water treatment works is operational though not at maximum capacity as the non-functional equipment needs to be refurbished, the effect of the non-functioning equipment is that the raw effluent streams outside the plant and this is a health hazard.

The emptying of septic tanks in Sannieshof and Ottosdal is on-going. The two towns are the only settlements where water borne sewer is still operated through septic or conservancy tanks.

NMMDM has appointed a contractor to refurbish the boreholes and pump stations in Geysdorp and Blesbok. The contractor in Atamelang has assessed the boreholes and the sewer pump station, 3 new boreholes have been drilled and equipped to the water source project and currently awaiting Eskom to energise the 3 boreholes.

The district municipality is responsible for the provision of water and sanitation services to all the villages, their service to these areas is not satisfactory and we are currently utilising our water and sanitation officials from Atamelang to attend to nearby villages. This arrangement causes a financial and human capital burden on our municipality as we allocate resources, i.e. vehicle, machinery, diesel and additional salaries, and personnel to attend to the faults even though the district municipality is allocated a grant from National Treasury to render these services. The community is constantly raising their concerns to their respective councillors about the dire services been rendered by the district municipality. We have recommended to NMMDM to automate the boreholes and pump stations so they can be monitored electronically. Furthermore, we have raised a concern about the infrequent testing of the water quality and the delayed payment to the water testing laboratories.



Boreholes in Ottosdal and Delareyville have repeatedly been vandalised and equipment stolen at the sites. The district municipality has appointed a contractor to refurbish the boreholes and pump station in Delareyville, but they were vandalised again whilst being refurbished.

We plead with our community to be vigilant in guarding the infrastructure which is meant to provide them with basic services. There is constant vandalism of boreholes and pump stations and this results in provision for basic services being compromised and leaving residents with limited or no access to water and sanitation. Manholes' covers are being stolen and this poses a risk of someone falling into the exposed manhole and drowning or causing damage to vehicles. Furthermore, we urge our residents to stop throwing stones and waste into manholes and drains as these interrupt the sewer flow which results in sewer blockages.



To report faults or make enquiries kindly contact our customer care line on 083 389 4149.