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SECTION: **Communications** | DEPARTMENT: **Corporate Services**

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE : October, 2020
RE : Safety of Extension 4

For some period of time the municipality has been assisting indigent and vulnerable families that are under distress in their family events such funerals with basics such as burial expenses, grocery and firewood were possible.

As to the specific case mentioned, an internal departmental investigation is being conducted and initials indications are that the team decided to collect wood from dead trees that were already lying on the ground.

The information we have thus far is that the incident you refer to also involved the funeral of an elderly person whose next of kin approached the municipality for assistance with firewood.

The firewood that the municipality provide to families is normally harvested from the trimmings of branches as the team conduct their routine maintenance on pavement trees. Under no circumstances should a healthy tree be removed for purpose of firewood.

The municipality will await the completion of the investigations and take the matter from there.

END STATEMENT

END STATEMENT

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ISSUED BY : The Communication Unit – JB Marks Local Municipality

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