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**Office of the Executive Mayor: Communication Unit**

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**MEDIA STATEMENT  
19 December 2018**

**RE: Backlog of refuse removals**

Having noted service delivery challenges that are faced by our Municipal Services Department in particular deterioration of our Potch Dam, swimming pools, parks and general maintenance and continuous inability of the department to have a proper plan for refuse removals, illegal dumping and solid waste.

It is against this background that today, the Executive Mayor, Cllr Kgotso Khumalo took a decision to oversee and be fully in charge of the entire Municipal Services Department with immediate effect.

The continuous sewer and water spillages, and blocked drains amongst others, he will equally oversee the Department of Technical Services until such time that services are fully restored in the spirit of #Thuma Mina as outlined by the State President, Cyril Ramaphosa.

Again today the Executive Mayor, Kgotso Khumalo met with the entire employees of Waste Management Section to listen to the challenges they encountered that led to the backlog of services such as household's waste removal amongst others.

It was in that meeting that employees explained to the Executive Mayor that most of the fleet of Waste Management Section are facing serious mechanical problems. Follow-up to the meeting, Cllr.Khumalo and the management visited the municipal workshop to witness the conditions of all municipal vehicles which are awaiting to be repaired and stalling delivery services.

"As the Executive Mayor I have instructed the administration that, as from tomorrow, 20 December, they must get external assistance of waste management

vehicles for a period not exceeding six months whilst we are doing a massive repairs and maintenance to the fleet management of the municipality.”

We have issued a temporary schedule as from Thursday, (20 December for household and business waste removals as follows: Ikageng proper except Thabeng and Difence Section (Collection in the mentioned sections have already taken place this week) ;

Friday, 21 December, Miederpark, Built and Van der Hoffpark;

Saturday, 22 December, Kanana, Topcity, Sonderwater and Sarafina;

Sunday, 23 December, All Extensions in Ikageng.

“We wish to apologise to the community of JB Marks for all the inconvenience. As the municipality we are pleading with our people to bear with us as we are treating these challenges we are facing with the seriousness and sensitivity it deserves.

The municipality is currently working around the clock to ensure that the situation goes back to normality.” Stated Cllr Kgotso Khumalo.

**END STATEMENT**

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**ISSUED BY** : The Communication Unit – Office of the Executive Mayor

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