



**Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the 185<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Mayoral Committee held at the Sedibeng Mayor's Parlour on the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011, in Sedibeng**

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Colleagues & Officials

Honourable Members of the Mayoral Committee, welcome once again to the 185<sup>th</sup> seating of this august body representing the collective leadership of Sedibeng District Municipality. This is being the third such seating in the New Year.

Just like I said in the last MAYCO, these meetings are coming thick and fast as we begin to wind down the few months of our mandate given by our communities in 2006.

The City Press over the weekend carried a report on service delivery over the 13 year period. Leading the charge, the report says in bold letters "Service Delivery failure a myth-Survey. The South African Institute of Race Relations has the following statistics to show:

- The number of households living in brick houses has increased from 5.7million to 10.4 million, an 80% hike between 1996-2009
- The number of households using electricity increased by 120% over the same period
- At least 130% more households were using electricity to cook in 2009 than in 1996
- In the same period, the number of households with access to piped water rose by 71%

According to the institute deputy CEO, Frans Cronje, the research seriously challenges the “refrain that is repeated week in and week out in South Africa-that service delivery has failed”

Over the same period, the number of households in South Africa increased from more than 9 million to 13.8 million, or by 52%.

I have deliberately chosen to lead with these findings this morning. My choice was informed by the manner in which we beat ourselves up, believing the lies and propaganda which is leveled against us that we have failed in the provision of service delivery.

Our record speaks volumes and can stand serious scrutiny as Sedibeng District Municipality. We have provided more low cost housing in

Sedibeng District than any other area in the entire country and we continue to do so.

Had it not been of the challenge posed by the Sewer Works, which stifled our rapid growth, our housing provision would have been way beyond the rest to even think of challenging. It is with pleasure that I look to the eminent resolution of the Sewer challenge in Sedibeng.

We have grown the former townships beyond recognition. In 1984, Sharpeville as a whole had no more than 3 120 households, which was far less than Zone 13 in Sebokeng with 3 734 households.

Tshepong has by and large more households today than Sharpeville was then. Boipatong and Bophelong at the time had less than 3 500 households combined. At the moment, Muvhango has more than three times the number of households which Boipatong and Bophelong had at that time.

Our contribution as the Sedibeng District Municipality to the figures found by the survey must be very impressive indeed, yet we tend to fall victim to popular sentiment of lack of service delivery in the face of real evidence to the contrary.

We have almost singularly eradicated the bucket system in our District, the figure in Emfuleni stands at less than 7000 households which is receiving attention as we speak. Access to flush or chemical lavatories nationally stood at 8.2 million in 2009 and 4.5 million in 1996, an improvement of 80.5%.

It is in the light of the national figures, with Sedibeng District Municipality with almost a million citizens that our contribution must be viewed.

It is this vein, that I invite all of you here present to join me and the MEC Humphrey Mmemezi in the hand-over of houses in Tshepong Ward 21 on the 31<sup>st</sup> January next week.

With powers vested in me, I take this opportunity to present for your attention the following:

- Adjustment Budget: 2010/11 Financial Year
- Human Rights Month: 2010/11 Financial Year
- Annual Report: 2009/10

I Thank You All