



MEDIA STATEMENT

For Immediate Release

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UMVOTI DRUG ACTION COMMITTEE & AIDS COUNCIL ELECTED

Greytown, Umvoti- In a groundbreaking initiative, Umvoti Municipality under its Special Programmes Unit in the Office of the Mayor Cllr GZ Malembe, has spearheaded the establishment of a Local Drug Action Committee and HIV/Aids Council.

The committees were established in accordance with the South African constitution and as further proclaimed in the Municipal Systems Structures Act.

Commenting on the establishment of the committees, His Worship Mayor Cllr GZ Malembe said that "While we undertook setting up committees because we are mandated to do so by law, I must emphasize that as council, we are on a mission to drive a holistic and effective special programmes strategy linked to strategic intergovernmental and cross-sectoral stakeholder collaboration, through which we aim to accelerate Umvoti's socioeconomic development agenda. We promised our people that we would be an engaged leadership and I am of the firm view that we will achieve that through this broad stakeholder collaboration."

The fundamental role of the newly established structures will be:

- **To ensure the streamlining of HIV/Aids and Drug Action activities across all municipality programmes, particularly consideration of HIV/Aids programmes when drafting the IDP.**
- **To ensure cross-sectoral alignment and coordination where it concerns the implementation of HIV/Aids and Drug Action programmes;**
- **To combat HIV/Aids infections and drug abuse;**
- **To promote positive sexual behavior;**
- **To eradicate stigma associated with HIV/Aids; and**
- **To advocate for and promote healthy and moral conduct in Umvoti**

Members of the newly established HIV/Aids Council are:

- **Chairperson- Cllr MR Dlamini (Umvoti Deputy Mayor)**
- **Deputy Chairperson- Mr Bonginkosi Chonco**
- **Secretary- Mrs Sthuthukile Mchunu**
- **Deputy Secretary- Miss Nondumiso**

Members of the newly established Local Drug Action Committee are:

- **Chairperson- Cllr MR Dlamini (Umvoti Deputy Mayor)**
- **Deputy Chairperson- Zanele Thusi (Civil Society)**
- **Secretary- Lindani Ntombela**
- **Harmony Retreat- Kwenzakwenkosi Sithole**
- **SAPS- Thembelihle Ngobese**

Additional Members:

- Mrs Mkhize- Department of Education
- Lungisani Ndlovu- COGTA
- Buyani Bekwa- Department of Correctional Services
- Bajabulile Mofokeng- SASSA
- Ntokozo Mkhize- Department of Social Development

The Special Programmes Unit headed by the Manager: IGR, Mr Menzi Nkosi, can be reached via the mayor's office on 033 413 9800 or menzi.nkosi@Umvoti.gov.za

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Issued by the Umvoti Municipality Communication Unit.

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