



# Provincial Treasury

Department:  
**Provincial Treasury**  
North West Provincial Government  
Republic of South Africa



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Ref : 8/2/1/2

**21 July 2014**

### Media Statement

#### Government will continue to support municipalities

The North West MEC for Finance and Enterprise Development Wendy Nelson says government will ensure provincial municipalities get all the support they require and are fully capacitated to deliver quality services to communities.

Although she does not believe in throwing money to solve problems, MEC Nelson told the Provincial Municipalities' Chief Financial Officers Forum in Mahikeng that provincial treasury has dedicated resources to help them deal with their challenges. She said government remains committed to work with all spheres to ensure the repositioning of municipalities as part of the broader rebranding of the North West Province.

She said since her assumption of duties she has become increasingly aware of collective responsibilities to ensure that municipalities, as coal face of service delivery are run efficiently to improve service delivery to the citizens of the province.

She further cautioned against reckless, fruitless and wasteful expenditure and called for prudent spending of public funds and resources.

"We are responsible for good spend but ultimately for ensuring that we spend within the necessary confines of the law. As part of ensuring accountability new means of consequence management should be put in place to ensure adherence to policy and legislation. We must remain conscious of the fact that we are dealing with the public purse and must act responsibly."

Nelson reiterated government's commitment to ensure that all suppliers are paid within thirty (30) working days of rendering service and goods. These will also include payment of creditors such as electricity utility Eskom, Water Boards and the Auditor General's fees and she will be meeting with them in the near future to resolve the problem of debts owed by municipalities.

As intervention measure, the national treasury, provincial treasury and the department of local government and human settlements will engage municipalities to sign payment agreements.



Where necessary, some municipalities are going to be assisted with the development and implementation of a financial recovery plan.

Nelson also indicated that provincial departments owing municipalities will also be engaged to ensure that accounts are serviced.

She informed the gathering a dedicated official will be made available to each municipality assist in the closure and ratification of all accounts owed by municipalities.

She said no municipality will be allowed to make late submission of the financial statements to the Auditor General. She said submission should not be for compliance purpose only but to ensure that issues raised and highlighted by the Auditor General are addressed and the quality of information contained therein is of the highest standard to ensure positive future audit opinion.

**End**

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