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Finance, Economy & Enterprise Development  
North West Provincial Government  
Republic of South Africa



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## **Media Statement**

### **Department of Finance reviews performance of the first five months**

The North West MEC for Finance, Economy and Enterprise Development Wendy Nelson together with management of the department held a two day strategic plan session to review performance against policy priorities of the new administration in the first five months and also to plot strategies to be implemented in future to achieve its mandate.

The collective further assessed whether its support programmes to various departments, municipalities and entities yield the desired impact particularly in the area of financial management. The department assists the provincial administration through the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) and Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) support programme particularly in the compilation of credible annual financial statements.

In her tone setting remarks, MEC Nelson implored managers to take a leaf from her book by ensuring that work gets done within a reasonably possible time. She encourages manage to improve turnaround time to ensure that service delivery is not compromised.

She further indicated that in order to execute its oversight function properly, the department has to jack up two key areas namely Municipal Finance Management (MFMA) support and supply chain management.

“MFMA support and supply chain management are two priority areas and as a department we have to play our oversight role as stipulated by the legislation in order to improve service delivery by municipalities which are the first line of service delivery. The province is there to support and we need to build MFMA support to become what we want it to become.”

Nelson said supply chain should be done in a much better and co-ordinated framework in line with the legislation. She said the province has some unscrupulous service providers who charge exorbitant amount of money for goods and service rendered.



Together moving Bokone Bophirima forward.

“Government pays much more than we need to pay to procure goods/services and we must put plans to ensure that there is value for money in the way that government does its business. We cannot afford to procure goods and services at highly inflated prices,” said Nelson.

She further called for supply chain indaba to be held soon to address issues relating to procurement.

Nelson further cautioned against over reliance on consultants saying it does not make sense to pay millions of Rands to them whilst government has employed suitably qualified people to perform duties done by consultants.

She said appointment of consultants should not be a norm but should only be done when there is a serious capacity problem.

The department further recommitted itself to pay service providers with thirty working days after the submission of an invoice for goods and service rendered. The department aims to come with an invoice tracking system to ensure that payment is done with a reasonable time.

**End**

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