



finance

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Ref: 8/2/1/2

25 August 2014

Media Statement

Light at the end of the tunnel for North West Provincial Audits

The North West Department of Finance is leading by example when it comes to financial management and accountability. This came to light during the budget vote tabled before provincial legislature which highlighted achievements and future plans of the department in executing its oversight function.

Delivering the department's speech, Finance, Economy and Enterprise Development MEC Wendy Nelson said that although previous provincial audit outcomes are nothing to be proud of, there is light at the end of the tunnel following department's intervention measures. She announced that the department received clean audit for the past financial year (2013/14). MEC Nelson said the department's achievement is overshadowed by negative audit outcomes by other departments and municipalities and plans are afoot to ensure future positive outcomes.

"I also need to indicate that although the Auditor General's assessment shows improvement, more still needs to be done. The Department of Finance needs to ensure that all departments, municipalities and state owned entities move towards unqualified audit opinions," said Nelson.

She is optimistic that the intervention measures put in place to remedy the situation in most municipalities, departments and state-owned enterprises will yield desired audit outcomes in future.

"I am indeed delighted to applaud the provincial government on the improved strides towards achieving clean audit. The Office of the Auditor General had a session with provincial departments and the state owned entities to provide in-depth feedback on the previous financial years' audit assessment. The results as presented showed that we are indeed moving in the right direction and that the years of interventions are beginning to yield positive results. We will continue to play an oversight role as the Department of Finance to work towards a total clean audit report in future."

Nelson informed legislature that the previous years' audit assessment report of the provincial departments and public entities shows that the matters of emphasis of the previous report by the Auditor General are receiving attention.

End

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