

MEDIA RELEASE – 30 May 2023

For Immediate Release

Capricorn and Waterberg District Municipalities receive clean audits awards from the Auditor-General

Today, the Premier of Limpopo, Mr Chupu Stanley Mathabatha oversaw the presentation of clean audits awards to Capricorn and Waterberg District Municipalities by the Auditor-General. The presentation of the awards was held at the Office of the Premier in Polokwane.

Premier Mathabatha expressed his pleasure in seeing independent institutions such as the Auditor General in their offices acknowledging good work. He noted that having structures such as the AG is crucial for a thriving democracy.

“I am always happy to see the AG in our offices. They know over the years that they are always welcome. For us to be a democracy we need structures like the AG that are independent to ensure that our democracy thrives. This is good practice, and it is always good to multiply this.”

The Limpopo Business Unit Leader of the Auditor-General, Mr. Stephen Kheleli, highlighted the significance of clean administration and how it happens during difficult times. He noted that clean administration is not achieved only during the audit process, but throughout the financial year.

“We do not want the noise about clean administration to end, for many reasons. Clean administration happens at difficult times, it happens in municipal space that is highly contested, space that is close to the citizens. Municipalities work within the context of hopelessness and frustrations of citizens that are legitimate. That is why where we see a glimmer of hope we want to make noise about it.”

Kheleli congratulated Capricorn and Waterberg District Municipalities for consistently upholding accountability, thus achieving a clean audit. He also commended the Provincial Treasury and the Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements, and Traditional Affairs for helping the municipalities.

The Executive Mayor of Capricorn District Municipality, Cllr Mamedupi Teffo expressed excitement for the award. She credited the hardworking team of councillors and administrators who ensured that systems were in place to maintain the clean audit. Cllr Teffo noted that the pressure is on to maintain the clean audit, and their goal is to push local municipalities to improve their audit outcomes.

Cllr Morris Mataboge of Waterberg District Municipality highlighted the hard work and commitment of both councillors and administration in stabilising the financial

administration of the district. He expressed gratitude for the political leadership's oversight role and the support they received from provincial departments. Cllr Mataboge emphasised that their responsibility is to give support to the local municipalities, and they have already started assisting local municipalities in doing their annual financial statements.

The recognition of Capricorn and Waterberg District Municipalities' clean audit achievements inspires hope and demonstrates that it is possible for local government structures to exist and discharge their responsibilities.

The Premier and the Auditor-General have encouraged other municipalities to follow in the footsteps of Capricorn and Waterberg District Municipalities.

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Issued by the Limpopo Provincial Government

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#LetsGrowLimpopoTogether  
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