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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DIPALESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY TO GET NEW OFFICES

The site handover meeting and the sod turning ceremony done by the Executive Mayor symbolized the end of the old and beginning of the new for Dipaleseng's main municipal offices in Balfour town.

Renovations are soon to commence on the old building which over the years have shown signs of dilapidation, a cause for a serious concern for both employees and the public. Due to this, the provincial Department of Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs allocated funds to execute the project in the 2016/17 financial year.

The scope involves the renovation of the current structure, re-arranging the different departmental offices and the additional of new offices.

The municipality has a very limited space to accommodate the demand as it is in need of roughly 82 offices but currently the building only caters for a total of 52 offices. The pay point area is too small and often clients have to que outside due to limited space, roof and ceilings are collapsing and narrow passage ways.

The Executive Mayor shared a few words as he turned the soil to symbolize the initiation of the phased and multi-year project. A period of five months is set aside for the first phase and the second phase will take six months to complete.

He first placed emphasis on the significance of delivering a good quality end product and also highlighted the need to adhere to local economic development principles in terms of job creation and sub-contracting in order to stimulate the local economy. "The project will get the full support and cooperation from councilors and administration," concluded the Executive Mayor.

Safety precautions are going to be of utmost importance and strictly adhered to during this renovation project as construction activities will be conducted while personnel are working around the area. However, in order to allow for the smooth running of this project, some of the offices will be relocating to different areas in Dipaleseng which might cause slight changes and regrettable inconveniences in the delivery of certain services. The community will be duly notified of these changes and the municipality humbly requests that members of the community bear with during this time.

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