

MAYOR LAUNCHES HOME AFFAIRS BLOUBERG MOBILE OUTREACH PROGRAMME

Refiloe Manyathela was one of the first residents to be assisted applying for an identity card during Home Affairs Limpopo mobile outreach programme officially launched yesterday, 20 June at Papegaai Village, Ward 05 by the Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Maria Thamaga.

Manyathela, a grade 12 learner at Moloko Secondary School(Papegaai Village) said, she is thrilled to have applied for her first ID without paying money and thanked the government for bringing services to those in remote areas.

"I have applied for my ID for the first time today, and without paying a cent. I am very happy to be one of the beneficiaries of this Home Affairs mobile outreach programme as we stay far from town, whereby we would be expected to pay a lot of money for transportation."

Project Leader, Ezekiel Sofo indicated that, the Department is embarking on a national project, the National Mobile Outreach Programme with the objective of visiting the remote areas through mobile offices.

"Our target is everyone in the community but our main focus is on ensuring that we replace the green ID books, but also to make sure that we assist learners applying for IDs for the first time. We are rendering various services, that is; passport application, birth certificate reprint. The elderly, 60 years and above and those that are turning 16 are not paying".

Sofo further indicated that, their Blouberg office does not have a footprint live capture system and the area was identified in the basis that some people travel more than 60-80 kilometers to Mogwadi using a lot of money on transportation to access the services hence the focus is in Blouberg.

Mayor Thamaga has extended her gratitude to the Department for the great initiative and for caring about the lives of the people of Blouberg.

"Appreciation to our Minister, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi for sending his team to Blouberg Local Municipality - bringing services direct to the people. We are happy as the municipality to be the beneficiary of this programme. Our people will access these much needed services without having to worry about spending money on transportation to town. Re a leboga ge ditirelo di tlile bathong".

The Mayor was accompanied by Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Community Services, Cllr Shirley Raphasha and councillors in her portfolio as well as Ward 05 Councillor Gilbert Mashamaite.

