



co-operative governance
& traditional affairs

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MEC MTSHWENI OF COGTA IN MPUMALANGA EXPRESSES CONDOLENCES TO FIRE VICTIMS

MEC for Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) in Mpumalanga, Ms Refilwe Mtshweni has expressed condolences to the family of two fire victims in Brondal Farm, east of White River, in Mbombela Municipality. The cause of the fire is not yet known. "We are saddened by this incident which led to the loss of lives. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of the victims," Ms Mtshweni said.

She further cautioned all communities in Mpumalanga to take precautionary measures against the outbreak of fires. "Mpumalanga is prone to domestic and veld fires during the winter season. Some areas are extremely cold and communities are at risk of household fires due to a high dependency on braziers," Ms Mtshweni said.

She further urged communities to take precautionary measures such as the following:

- Parents should never leave unattended fire braziers (imbawula) with children.
- Ensure that properties are clear of rubble at least 10-20 metres around the house as this may comprise corrosive materials such as leaves and wood piles.
- Communities should also ensure that roads to their properties are clearly marked and numbered for easy access by the Fire Services.

MEC Mtshweni says all emergency units are on high alert in the province to deal with any potential outbreak of fires. She advised communities to call the Provincial Disaster Toll free number for emergencies. The number is **0800 202 507**.

End.

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