

DPWI HOLDS DEPARTMENTAL LEKGOTLA FOR 23/24 FINANCIAL YEAR

By: Siphamandla Nyembe

Good organisations and/or institutions take time out to plan the manner in which they will conduct their business in the upcoming financial year. They gather all the relevant leaders and partners under one roof and discuss what improvements they can make in going about their business in the near future so they may serve their stakeholders well. The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI) is no different in this regard.

DPWI held a Departmental Lekgotla in Pretoria East on the 6th – 7th of February 2023. Present at the DPWI Lekgotla was Minister and Deputy Minister, Patricia De Lille and Noxolo Kiviet, along with all members of the Executive Council (EXCO) in the department, as well as, the Chief Executive Officers from the all the department's entities.

Minister of DPWI, Patricia De Lille gave the opening and welcome of the Lekgotla. In her speech, she touched on her expectations for the 2-day strategic planning session. She called on senior managers of the DPWI, and heads of entities, to get into the spirit of implementation as the time for planning is long gone. "If we don't prioritise implementing and we treat this two-day workshop as another talk shop, this will be fruitless expenditure," said Minister de Lille. She continued to plead with senior managers to adopt a sense of urgency and get into the mindset of taking their work seriously. "Managers are in such positions not only to fulfil the priorities of the DPWI, but to, ultimately, serve the people of South Africa," she said.

Representatives from each of the DPWI branches and Chief Directorates presented to the ministry and delegates present about how their respective branches plan to achieve their goals for the upcoming financial year. In the presentations were objectives and goals for these branches, the challenges experienced in the previous financial year, the budget plan for the upcoming year, as well as the structure and skilled personnel that are very much needed in some units.

After all the presentations were done, the Deputy Minister of DPWI, Noxolo Kiviet, shared her final remarks on the Lekgotla's proceedings, and closed off with the words; "It is not so much your aptitude that determines your altitude, but your attitude." With this quote, DM encouraged senior managers to change their attitude, take their jobs seriously and begin implementing their plans.