



MINISTER MACPHERSON EMBARKS ON AN EPWP LISTENING TOUR IN A BID TO REFORM THE PROGRAMME



Article by Tseke Masemola, Pictures by Maanea Maselesele

Today, the Minister of Public Works & Infrastructure, Dean Macpherson, embarked on an Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) listening tour, in uMngeni Local Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal. This marks the start of a supportive journey by the Ministry of the department to empower the voices of community members and hear their experiences with the Programme.

Minister Macpherson was joined by the Deputy Speaker of the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Legislature, Mmabatho Tembe; KwaZulu-Natal Member of the Executive Council (MEC) for Public Works, Martin Meyer; uMngeni Local Municipality Mayor, Chris Pappas; and Deputy Mayor, Sandile Mnikathi.

During the tour, Minister Macpherson attended to allegations of political patronage, corruption and job reservation for political party members associated with the Programme. These allegations are a result of the nature of job allocations within the EPWP. Minister encourages the community of uMngeni to engage frankly with issues these community members have personally encountered.

In his address to the community, the Minister emphasized that the listening tour would continue over the coming months, throughout the country, in aims to empower the voices of EPWP participants in all provinces, with the purpose of reconstructing the vision of the EPWP, to build a newly revitalised South Africa.

