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# Plainsman

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CAPE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

## Ready to serve and protect

### Local labour and materials used to build new police station

FOUZIA VAN DER FORT

The state-of-the-art Lenteguur police station was unveiled this week when national Public Works Minister Thulas Nxesi handed over the police station and the local criminal record centre to Major-General Jeremy Vearey, the cluster commander for Mitchell's Plain and Strandfontein SAPS and commander of the Western Cape Gang Strategy - Operation Combat.

About 250 Lenteguur residents were involved in the construction of the R85 million facility, it was announced at the hand-over on Monday May 6.

Lenteguur resident Cornelius Basson, who is the Community Liaison Officer (CLO), said the construction had made a huge impact in the community.

"Employment was created. Although they did not earn a lot they were employed," he said.

Mr Basson said he was proud of being able to make a difference in his community.

"I made a change in some people's lives," he said.

He said some people had been permanently employed by the contractors.

Frederick Johnson, Cape Town regional director of Public Works, said 44% of those employed, com-



PICTURE: FOUZIA VAN DER FORT

Major-General Jeremy Vearey, Mitchell's Plain and Strandfontein's cluster commander and commander of the Western Cape Gang Strategy - Operations Combat - Colonel Elizabeth Hermanus, station commander; Captain Edwina Muller, acting head of visible policing; and Lieutenant-Colonel Sagadevan Reddy, detective commander, are ready to serve at the newly opened Lenteguur police station, corner of Melkbos Street and Merrydale Avenue.

prised local labour and that some materials were also sourced locally.

Close to 750 people sourced through the Mitchell's Plain Sub-council office were employed since construction started on February 15, 2011. Some of the building material was also sourced from local shops.

Sixty-six people, including 20 women, were trained in different

building industry trades in line with the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP).

These include carpenters, brick-layers, painters and electricians.

Anthony Sarels, 31, from New Woodlands; Rugshana Jacobs, 28, from Lenteguur; Nyameka Xhego, 34, from Philippi; and Ramano Goliath, 22, from Woodlands,

trained and skilled in carpentry are now permanently employed.

They had completed a month long theory programme before being placed on site for six months as apprentices.

"We would like to thank the EPWP for the opportunity.

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