

Bethelsdorp gets second police station

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THE Bethelsdorp community in the Nelson Mandela Bay Metro is going to get a second police station.

The Metro Council decided on February 23 to transfer lot 11823 in Bloemendal to the Department of Public Works to build a police station on it. The police applied for the rezoning and transfer of the piece of land in September 2013.

Residents of Port Elizabeth's northern areas told the Minister of Police, Nathi Nhleko, during his visit to the area in February last year that it is unacceptable that only one police station is serving the large Bethelsdorp area.

Nqaba Bhanga, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Human Settlements, said in October last year that although there is a need for a police station in the area, the construction would have to be monitored closely. "To part with municipal land and then have nothing built on it for twenty years does not help the municipality," he then said.

Bobby Stevenson, DA spokesperson on safety and security, said the fight against gangsterism in the northern areas must be treated as a war and all resources must be utilised for it.

"I am going to ask questions in the legislature to the MEC for Safety and Liaison, Weziwe Tikana, about a time frame for the construction of this police station," he said.