

Mayor marks 100 days in office

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THE councillors from Umzimvubu Local Municipality hosted a media breakfast at Maxesibeni Conference Centre to mark 100 days, since Sobane Mnukwa became the mayor of the municipality.

Mnukwa said that 100 days was a very short period to bring about change and to continue with the implementation of municipal developmental programmes and projects.

He said they remained aware of the

mandate of the electorate and were under no illusion about the complexity of the task ahead.

“The complexity extends to the overall makeup of this local municipality. It is worth noting that my hundred days in office materialised during the Mandela month.

“As the newly elected Mayor of Umzimvubu Local Municipality, I have made it our mandate to improve the status quo of the municipality in terms of eradicating the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and crime,” said Mnukwa.

He said all their communities had been included in their vision, to avoid alienation, as they went about their task of creating a municipality that ensured constant dialogue between its residents and relevant stakeholders.

He added that in order to provide equal opportunities for everyone, there had to be an environment where businesses wanted to invest, entrepreneurship could thrive and government was supportive and enabling.

“This council is committed to creating a sound business environment where there is freedom to innovate.

“We have managed to workshop and review our municipal policies during a three-day session that was

held at Sophia Park in KwaBhaca (formerly known as Mount Frere).”

Mnukwa revealed that, in relation to vegetable production, the municipality had identified and assisted five municipal wards whereby more than 200 people benefited from the programme. According to him, the total cost of this initiative was R800 000.

He added that the task of building a better municipality was their collective task as the residents, businesses and churches of Umzimvubu.

“During my 100 days in office, 100 beneficiaries were employed for waste collection and litter picking.

“Another Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) programme

looking at town beautification and street cleaning employed 46 people which brought the total number to 146 at an invested amount of R3.4 million combined” said the Mayor.

Mnukwa also underlined the eviction of Chitwa residents, stating that the municipality was committed to taking all necessary steps to evict illegal RDP occupants in the area, so that the homes may be handed over to the approved beneficiaries, many of whom are elderly individuals who have been on the waiting list for years.

He said he condemned those who rented out RDP houses and advised those who seek rental accommodation not to occupy these structures.