

Blocked gutters in CBD to receive 'urgent' attention

Angela Keyter's public appeal to the municipality in last week's Estcourt News may prove successful.

After following the recommended channels to report a damaged and litter-blocked gutter, Mrs Keyter received no assistance.

In a frank letter addressed to municipal management and council, she outlined the complaint

and accused the municipality of shunning ratepayers.

An excerpt from the letter reads:

"I have approached each and every one of you personally to resolve this matter. You all have forced me to go public because none of you care. I have shown all of you the problems, made your lives easier and still nothing. Enough is enough. It's time to

take us seriously because we have had it with an incompetent municipality. So many hundreds of you, feeding off a few ratepayers, and sweet bugger all service delivery."

Responding to Mrs Keyter's concerns, Municipal Manager Patrick Mkhize replied to the Estcourt News with a plan.

"The Public Works and Basic

Services departments, jointly with Community Services, had a meeting last week where it was agreed that the Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP) officer will draw up a programme for all the streets in town with drains and gutters that require urgent attention," he said.

Mr Mkhize substantiated that this entailed cleaning the channels and

removing litter and debris, which will be done by EPWP staff.

Thereafter, unblocking catch pits and removing sand will be handled by the municipality's civil department. "This programme was set to commence on October 14, but due to issues pertaining to staff protective clothing, the programme commenced on October 21," added Mr Mkhize.