



Page: 6

Publication: Mid South Coast Rising Sun - Main Reach: 19850 Title: Ugu District welcomes new Magistrate's Court in Port Shepstone AVE:R 13514.42 Publish date: 27 Feb 2024 **Author: Staff Reporter**



Minister Ronald Lamola and Minister Sihle Zikalala cut the ribbon to the new facility while other officials look on.

Ugu District welcomes new Magistrate's Court in Port Shepstone

DEPUTY MAYOR Cllr Mandla Chiya has, on behalf of the Ugu Council, welcomed the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development's pursuit of improving access to justice to communities of the Ugu District. Speaking at the official opening on Thursday, February 22, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development Ronald Lamola and Public Works Minister Sihle Zikalala, Cllr Chiya said the government's role in improving infrastructure and ensuring that even the poor of the poorest have access to soliciting justice should not go unnoticed.

"The Port Shepstone Magistrate's Court will assist in gender-based violence and femicide cases," added the Deputy Mayor. This new

high-security court complex boasts 16 courts that are made up of the local magistrate's court, regional court and high court. There are also specialised courts such as the sexual offences court, child maintenance court, family court, and equality court.

According to Minister Lamola, "As a means to enhance one-stop access to justice, the court will further encompass the Office of the Family Advocate, Master of the High Court, Legal Aid South Africa, South African Police Services as well as the Department of Social Development".

Issued by Ugu District Municipality