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MEDIA STATEMENT

Minister Nxesi kicks off the construction of the uMbumbulu Magistrates' court

Public Works Minister Thulas Nxesi has laid a foundation brick at the uMbumbulu magistrates' court construction site, symbolising the start of the construction of a new structure at the precinct and the renovation of the old court.

The project including both the extension and the renovation which will cost just below R30m, exc VAT, is scheduled to be completed in July 2015.

The court house in uMbumbulu dates back to 1895, when cases were conducted under a tree which still exists in the property today.

The current court structure has a Court Room, 12 Magistrates and administrative offices, Cash office facilities and two holding cells.

The new building being constructed will have prisoners offloading yard, SAPS and finger printing office, correctional services office consulting room, legal aid room, prisoners friend room, 2 Female and 2 Male Cells. On the upper level, it will have an entrance lobby and security office, inquest office, one criminal court room, a holding cell, witness room, adult witness room, court prep room, two sexual offences court rooms, intermediary room, child testifying room, child play room, two holding Cells, 3

criminal Court rooms, social workers room and archives.

The existing building will be altered and renovated to provide a family court, Magistrates office and Meeting room, Child Clerk office, Child Play, Domestic Violence Office, Maintenance offices, Registry office, Court Managers office and 5 administrative offices. Data and IT systems will also be fully upgraded.

During the construction phase, 34 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) beneficiaries from the uMbumbulu community will be trained in different trades including brick laying and plastering, plumbing, carpentry, electrical skills, painting and tiling. The practical 6 months on site training follows a 6 months theoretical training which forms part of the National Youth Service training.

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