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TO THE EDITOR

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY FIVE MILLION OWED TO MUNICIPALITY

HAMPERS SERVICE DELIVERY

A sum of money amounting to One Hundred and Sixty Five Million of Rands (R165 000 000) is been owed to the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality as a result of Refuse Removal and Water Provision services not been paid for by the Residents of Bushbuckridge entitled to receive such services.

The municipality is appealing to the community of Bushbuckridge particularly those residing in the developed sites to make payment arrangements with their nearest Municipal Regional Offices; the municipality entirely relies on services such as refuse removal, water and sanitation payments as well as government grants to provide services, and as a nodal point (rural) municipality without these payments of services the municipality is unable to accelerate service delivery.

The constitution of South Africa 1996 states that "everyone has the right to basic water supply and sanitation", however the perpetual nonpayment of services by residents is limiting this constitutional right. As a result of this, the municipality is compelled to use funds meant for other equally important municipal services such as grading and tarring of roads and construction of bridges. This affects service delivery negatively in the sense that funds for other projects are used for these services.

Residents who fail to make payment arrangements will compel the municipality to take drastic measures, by means of shutting down services of refuse removal and water provision to those with outstanding accounts.

Regards,

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