

BUSHBUCKRIDGE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

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PRESS STATEMENT

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO THE EDITOR

SUBJECT: NEW MAYOR VISITS LOCAL CHIEFS TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONS

The new Executive Mayor of Bushbuckridge municipality, Clr Renias Khumalo embarks on a four day journey of visiting the Traditional Houses of Bushbuckridge from yesterday the 06th of June until Thursday the 09th of June 2011. The Executive Mayor wants to strengthen relations between the municipality and the different local Chiefs within the municipality's area of jurisdiction.

The aim behind these visits is to reassure the local Chiefs that they still have a pivotal role to play in the running of the municipality, that government takes very seriously the role played by the Chiefs in the communities. The municipality believes that this engagement between the Executive Mayor and the local Traditional Houses will ensure the smooth running of the Municipal Council as activities in our communities will need the acknowledgement and blessings of the local Chiefs.

The role of local Chiefs dates back to the era of Colonialism and imperialism, when the Colonizers used an indirect rule system of governing Africans through Chiefs, so as to give the impression that Africans were ruling themselves, when they were not. It is on this background that even in our democratic dispensation, our government still values the role of local Chiefs with high esteem.

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