

## **Gauteng government partners with SIU to fight corruption and restore integrity**

24 April 2018

The Gauteng Provincial Government has concluded a partnership with the Special Investigating Unit (SIU) to eradicate corruption and create a culture of integrity in the Public Service.

Premier Makhura and Head of the Special Investigating Unit, Advocate Andy Mothibi signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Newtown on Tuesday during the SIU consultative stakeholder engagement forum to cooperate in fighting and eradicating fraud, corruption, maladministration and malpractice in Gauteng government and to promote good governance.

Delivering a keynote address at the event, Premier Makhura said criminally charging people found guilty of corruption would show that government means business in stamping out corruption in the society.

Premier Makhura said Gauteng government want to see people found guilty of corruption go to jail and the money lost recovered.

Makhura said he was hopeful that through the partnership with the stakeholders such as SIU would assist in catching senior government officials and politicians involved in corruption and criminal activities.

“This partnership is very important because it will ensure that cases that we refer to the SIU are prioritised.

“Corruption undermines government's ability to deliver services to the people. We are concerned that disciplinary processes in government take too long. People stay home for two years while still drawing a full salary,” said Makhura

The premier noted that the provincial government was cultivating a culture of ethics and integrity.

Gauteng has put in place a number of initiatives to fight corruption in the province. Some of these include the following:

- The establishment of integrity management units in all Gauteng departments to promote ethical leadership and clean governance;
- The introduction of Open Tender System, which has assisted in minimising and reducing corruption incidents in awarding huge government tenders; and
- The establishment of the Gauteng Ethics Advisory Council amongst others.

He further noted his administration believed strongly in ethical leadership and was working hard to cultivate a culture of clean, accountable, open government and an active citizenry.

“In the past three years, we have ensured that two-thirds of our departments and entities achieve clean audit outcomes

The stakeholder engagement forum was held under the theme ***“Working together towards ridding society of corruption, malpractice and maladministration.”***

The head of Special Investigating Unit, Advocate Andy Mothibi said they had a new business model which makes provision for them to evolve its focus towards proactively combating all forms of corruption through strategic prevention interventions. He said this would be done by identifying and targeting high priority and vulnerable sectors such as health, housing, State Owned Enterprises and education.

“Corruption is responsible for poor service delivery, it degrades the fibre of society and reduces trust in government,” said Mothibi.

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**For inquiries, contact Ms Phumla Sekhonyane on 071 860 4496 or [phumla.sekhonyane@gauteng.gov.za](mailto:phumla.sekhonyane@gauteng.gov.za).**

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