



NGAKA MODIRI MOLEMA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

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OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER

For immediate release

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MEDIA STATEMENT

EXECUTIVE MAYOR TAKES HIS COVID 19 VACCINE AT BOPHELONG PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL

“Cllr TJ Makolomakwa takes His COVID 19 vaccine ”

The Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality Executive Mayor has in the early morning of Friday, 19th March 2021 taken his Covid 19 Vaccination, at the Mafikeng Provincial Hospital. Makolomakwa’s vaccination comes just a month after the State President Cyril Ramaphosa took his vaccination. The South African government has started rolling out free Johnson & Johnson vaccine in state facilities. A state of the art temporary structure is housed in the hospital complex which is to service the residents of the Ngaka Modiri Molema district.

Following the second wave of the Covid-19, as people are led into panic and fearing for their lives. The government is rolling out free vaccine programme in three (3) phases which started in February 2021, aimed at servicing health care workers who are at a high risk of contracting the virus. A total number of 7000 health workers are targeted to receive the vaccine in the district. The second phase will target essential service workers such as the police, those in food transportation and correctional services workers. This phase is planned to take place between April and June 2021.

The third (3rd) and final phase targets vaccinating 670 000 out of a population of 1 million residents in our District, which are at high risk of dying from COVID 19 infections, such as people who are over 60 years of age, those with underlying health conditions. The aim is to roll out the programme from July to December 2021 which will bring community protection leading to normal way of life.

The vaccination centre in the Mafikeng Provincial Hospital has a capacity to service up to 800 people a day, and currently running at average of 240 health workers a day. So far the centre has vaccinated 1600 health workers in the district and ongoing.

It is said that the vaccine itself has some side effects just like any other vaccine that has ever been introduced. The side effects range from headache, vomiting , and

“Leaders in integrated municipal governance”



pain on the side where vaccination has been administered, but it must be noted that side effects range from person to person and there are some people who do not experience any side effects at all.

Dr JP Mbuilu the vaccination coordinator for Mafikeng Provincial Hospital in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District "explained that it is better to deal with side effects which normally take up to two (2) days on average and are containable than people losing their lives from the virus. A possibility of life without masks and disruption of services as well as ending the lockdown is highly hoped for".

The Vaccine is aimed to be administered to 22 million people in South Africa at the end of the programme.

The Executive Mayor continues to encourage community members to work together with public health officials and avail themselves to the local vaccination centres to get their once off shot.

"WORKING TOGETHER IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN THE DISTRICT"

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Release by: Communication Unit in Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality

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