



24 January 2025

To all media houses:

COPE Condemns ANC's Dirty Political Tactics Ahead of Bekkersdal By-Election

For immediate release

The Congress of the People (COPE) has expressed disappointment over the ongoing use of dirty tactics by ANC members in Rand West ahead of the Bekkersdal by-election, who continue to play the man instead of the ball.

In a troubling development, an official ANC letter was found at the gate of COPE's candidate's house, falsely claiming that the COPE candidate is a member in good standing with the ANC and is supporting their party in the upcoming by-election.

This incident follows an earlier attack on COPE's Councillor candidate, Lwazzee Kesupile, who was assaulted by ANC members while conducting door-to-door campaigning and putting up posters in the Squatter area at Tambo Section. COPE intends to lodge formal complaints with the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) and the police regarding these events.

Despite these challenges, COPE remains committed to its mission to address the needs of the Bekkersdal community. During yesterday's campaign, residents appealed to COPE's Acting National Treasurer, Teboho Loate, to intervene in the ongoing water crisis, which has left taps dry for the past seven days.

It's not only the lack of water in the area but also the high youth unemployment rate, high crime rate and dysfunctional sewage system.

"As COPE, we have deployed a young and energetic candidate who is ready to hit the ground running and tackle these critical challenges once elected," said COPE Acting National Treasurer Teboho Loate.

COPE's Executive Committee will hold a consultative meeting with the provincial leadership of North West in Jouberton, near Klerksdorp on Saturday, 25 January 2025,

"The purpose of the meeting is to update the leadership collectives from municipal constituencies and the provincial leadership on the progress made in the national rebuilding process and receive a report on the party's activities in the North West province," Loate concluded.

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