



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

04 MAY 2020

Exxaro Grootegeeluk Complex, Eskom, Department of Health and Lephalale Local Municipality jointly respond to COVID 19 pandemic.

Sunday, 03 May 2020: Exxaro, Eskom, Lephalale Local Municipality, Department of Health and Local Security cluster led by SAPS joined forces to officially launch a Lephalale based mass screening and testing campaign, which officially commenced on the 01 May 2020 and will end on the 6th of May 2020. This proactive approach seeks to detect the virus early, control further community local infections and deal with the influx of residents coming back to Lephalale.

The Lephalale Municipality established the Local Command Council where different stakeholders discuss plans and share ideas on how to combat the COVID 19 pandemic. It is in this forum that the stakeholders reached a consensus to put together a response plan in line with the identified risks.

“COVID 19 is an unprecedented pandemic requiring business solidarity to urgently respond. It is therefore one of the reasons why we as business felt that this mass screening campaign was necessary in our fight against COVID-19.” said Mr Ronaldt Mafoko, General Manager, Exxaro Grootegeeluk.

The mass screening stations are situated at Lephalale entry points. As of the 4th May 2020, the teams had screened approximately **9348** commuters passing by these two stations, and tested twelve patients who showed symptoms – fortunately none of the tested cases returned with a positive result.

As a key strategic employer, Eskom General Managers Ms Obakeng Mabotja, Ms Zandi Shange and Mr Wikus Van Janse Rensburg from Matimba and Medupi operations, unambiguously reiterated the need to keep the virus at bay – especially in Lephalale. “I would like to thank our health workers, and volunteers who are in the frontline of this pandemic– you do your best, and we would like to thank you for sacrificing your time with families to protect the community. “said Wikus Van Janse Rensburg.

Honorable Mayor, Cllr Jack Maeko lauded the initiative and asked that business to continue working together to ensure a better a Lephalale for all.

**The campaign is running from 01 May till the 06 May 2020.*

THE END

For media queries please contact:

Lephalale Local Municipality



Conscious Chiloane

Communication Manager

Conscious.chiloane@lephalale.gov.za

078 725 1020

Exxaro Grootegeluk Complex

Nozuko-Olwethu Mbatani

Communications Specialist

Nozuko.Mbatani@exxaro.com

062 991 8087

Eskom

Tumi

majai@eskom.co.za

072 346 0530