public works & infrastructure
Department of
Public Works & Infrastructure
FREE STATE PROVINCE

Media Statement
To: All Media

MEC MANCE ENGAGEMENT SESSION WITH THE NEWLY APPOINTED DEPARTMENTAL INTERNS

The MEC for the Free State department of Public Works and Infrastructure, MEC Dibolelo Mance, met with the newly appointed interns on 03 July 2025 at OR Tambo House, Bloemfontein. The meeting signifies an important session in the journey of their placement in the workplace.

The Department in collaboration with BANK SETA has partnered to facilitate a structured graduate internship programme for unemployed graduates. The programme is set to run for a period of twelve months, (renewable) and seek to address economic challenges - high youth unemployment, skills mismatches, and public trust deficits in government institutions.

The initiative aims to support youth employment and skills development in alignment with national priorities. The 36 interns funded by the BANK SETA are placed across key functions within the department inclusive of finance, cost and management accounting, information technology, communication, quantity surveying and mechanical engineering.

“Let me start by extending the warmest welcome to our new cohort of 36 bright, qualified, and highly capable graduate interns. You are not just joining a department; you are entering a strategic arm of government that builds the physical and institutional foundation of service delivery. Welcome to the engine room of infrastructure development, asset management, and public service renewal,” said MEC Mance.

One of the newly recruited interns, Ntsheledi Mabina, was delighted to be part of the programme. "I feel honoured to be part of the internship programme. It is a life-changing experience, it is going to help with equipping me with the necessary skills and work experience. It’s been a month but I am already empowered as a young individual in the workplace.”

The department continues making a significant stride in up-skilling and empowering the young graduates of the Free State Province.

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