



Water meter forensic investigation in final stages

Knysna Municipal Manager Mr Dawid Adonis said the forensic investigation into the procurement of water meters is in its final stages.

“The municipality received a complaint from a member the public which was considered by Council. They referred the matter to the Disciplinary Board for further investigation. It was resolved that forensic expert must be appointed. This recommendation was implemented and an appointment was made in March 2021. Once we have received the final reports it will be submitted to Council.”

Adonis said the same complaint was levelled at the Provincial Government in June 2020 and they are conducting a parallel investigation in the matter.

He said the installation of the water meters takes place in phases. “The current phase rolled out during April this year and will see another 2 000 meters installed by the end of the calendar year. Upon completion, 10 000 new units will have been installed throughout all wards of the greater Knysna municipal area over a three year period.”

He said the approximately 142 meters that were found to be defective were replaced by the supplier at no cost to the municipality.

Adonis said the installation of these sophisticated water management devices is an important aspect of our water and revenue management strategies. “The meters have numerous advantages – it prevent excessive water service charges by detecting leaks and provide consumers with the power to decide how much a household spend on water in any given month. It also allow us to maintain an accurate bearing on water usage and availability, and ensure that water services are paid for fairly and equally.

ENDS

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