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Office of the Municipal Manager

MEDIA RELEASE: WATER SUPPLY FULLY RESTORED IN HEIDELBERG AND SURROUNDING AREAS

TO: ALL MEDIA

ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS / JOURNALISTS

DATE: 02 OCTOBER 2017

Lesedi Local Municipality would like to inform all residents and businesses in the Heidelberg and surrounding areas that water supply has been fully restored.

This is after multiple bursts from the aged inlet water supply pipes from Randwater were discovered between R23 and Louw Street on the 26 September 2017 coupled with reduction in pressure from Randwater's supply which was announced by Randwater on the 05th September 2016. The pressure was reduced as a first stage precaution to reduce consumption during the current peak season. As a result, the municipality's reservoirs could not sustain enough levels until the repairs are completed on the burst pipes. The municipality's technical team has worked around the clock to repair the damaged pipes and effectively restored water under precautionary challenges of electrical cable networks around the affected water pipelines. This meant that due consideration had to be applied to avoid human injury incidents.

As a long-term solution and in line with the Integrated Development Plan (IDP), the Municipality is rolling out a multi-year project on replacement of the aged water pipes in the Heidelberg CBD starting in this current financial year.

The Municipality would like to further acknowledge SJM Industrial and Justine Properties who helped aid the crisis by availing their resources in a form of an excavating plant and a water tanker respectively. This goes to show that Lesedi is a municipality owned by its community. Lesedi Local Municipality would like to sincerely apologise for any inconvenience caused to affected residents and businesses during this distressed time.

However, it must be noted that although the water supply has been fully restored, Randwater's level 1 water restrictions is still in force effective from the 5 September 2017. Residents are urged to continue to use water sparingly and where possible use other water saving methods and means.

For any water related queries please contact our call center during working hours on week days: 016 330 0440 after hours line: 016 341 3116.

Issued by the LLM Office of the Municipal Manager. For media enquiries contact: Arthur Thokoane at 082 771 5486/016 492 0054, Email: Arthurt@lesedi.gov.za