

## **INTERNET** ARTICLE

## Community received information on service delivery

16 February 2021

The Ministry of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation together with Mbhashe Local Municipality conducted a public hearing meeting with the community of Drayini in Dutywa on the 16 February 2021.

Ms Zimasa Olajide from the Ministry said they went to the community following a letter of complaint drafted by a community member, Ms Nolungile Dingiswayo, who reported to the Minister's Office that her house was destroyed by following heavy rainfalls. Ms Olajide added that they are not only attending to housing problems, but they will also be focusing on issues pertaining to water and sanitation in the area.

A community member, Ms Zolisa Ntantala highlighted challenges of water supply although they have taps installed. She further said the Ministry promised to deliver water tanks at strategic places in their area, so as to enable community members to regularly wash their hands during this pandemic of Covid-19

Zoliswa Ndzandzeka, a Ward 3 committee member at Mbhashe Local Municipality addressed the question of water tanks. She explained that three tanks were delivered to communities where there is no water infrastructure. She further acknowledged that there are taps which are dry, but with the intervention made by the Department of Water and Sanitation together with Amathole District Municipality, boreholes were drilled and four water tanks were erected to serve as water storages. Water will then be transferred from those tanks to the reservoirs where main pipeline is connected.

During the public hearing meeting, DWS officials informed communities on health and hygiene awareness matters and also distributed 60 bottles of sanitisers and 60 bars of bath soap to the elderly people and to the child headed families. The aim is to encourage community members to regularly wash hands with soap and clean water to prevent the spread of Covid-19 and other infectious diseases.

Lameki Jumba