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19 January 2026

**URGENT NOTICE: FRAUDULENT EMAILS AND PROCUREMENT SCAM
WARNING**

The Municipality wishes to bring to your attention a fraudulent activity that has been reported involving emails purportedly originating from an official municipal email address, namely **cfo@phumelela.gov.za**.

It has come to our attention that certain service providers on the panel of consultants have received emails requesting them to make contact via a specified cellphone number and to pay a certain amount of money in exchange for preferential treatment in relation to the sports facility procurement process.

Please be advised that:

- These emails are fraudulent and were not sent by the Municipality or any of its officials.
- The Municipality does not request payments, favours, or inducements for procurement preference under any circumstances.
- All procurement processes are conducted strictly in line with the MFMA, SCM Regulations, and approved municipal policies.

Service providers are hereby strongly warned:

- Not to respond to such emails or requests.
- Not to make any payments to individuals claiming to represent the Municipality.
- To immediately report any suspicious communication to the Municipality.

Furthermore, as a precautionary measure, the affected official email address will not be utilised until a thorough investigation has been concluded and assurance has been provided regarding its security.

The Municipality has initiated internal processes to investigate this matter and to prevent further incidents of this nature. This matter has further been reported to the South African Police Services for investigation.

Your cooperation in remaining vigilant against fraudulent activities is appreciated.

Kind regards

MRS. GPN MHLONGO- NTSHANGASE
MUNICIPAL MANAGER