

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**PROCUREMENT SCAM ALERT**



**Barkly East, 3 July 2025** - The Joe Gqabi District Municipality (JGDM) would like to caution bidders who have participated in our recent municipal tenders of an ongoing procurement scam detected in various parts of the municipality.

A fraudster, impersonating the Municipal Manager, is contacting bidders regarding recently closed bids. The scammer then demands payment to "expedite" the bid process. The municipality denounces this criminal act and calls for vigilance in light of such opportunistic elements.

The Joe Gqabi District Municipality emphasises:

- It NEVER requests payments to process or expedite bids
- All official communication regarding tenders follows strict procurement protocols
- Any request for payment to influence bid outcomes is illegal and fraudulent

Actions to take if contacted:

1. Do not respond to these fraudulent emails
2. Do not make any payments
3. File a police report immediately
4. Report the incident to our office

To verify the authenticity of any bid-related communication, please contact:

Office of the Municipal Manager  
Tel: 045 979 3000 or Email: [Fiona@jgdm.gov.za](mailto:Fiona@jgdm.gov.za)

Contact persons:

- Ms. Bukelwa Menziwa
- Ms. Fiona Sephton

The Municipality takes this matter seriously and is working with law enforcement to protect the integrity of our procurement processes.

**MEDIA ENQUIRIES**

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