



CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

## **Councillor Mgcini Tshwaku**

Member of the Mayoral Committee  
Department of Public Safety

### **Media Statement**

#### **For Immediate Release**

**27 June 2024**

### **MMC FOR PUBLIC SAFETY CLLR MGCINI TSHWAKU WELCOMES NEW EMS CHIEF**

The MMC for Public Safety, Cllr Mgcini Tshwaku, and senior leadership of Public Safety and the City's Executive have welcomed Andries Mucavele as the new Chief of Johannesburg Emergency Management Services.

Chief Mucavele was officially welcomed to his new role as Chief of EMS with a commissioning ceremony on Thursday, 27 June 2024.

Mr Mucavele, who has a qualification in Fire Technology, and 23 years' experience of service within the Johannesburg EMS, started his career as a firefighter and worked his way up the ranks, occupying crucial roles such as Divisional Chief, Director of Operations and now Chief of EMS. His wealth of knowledge and experience will bring about much needed stability and improvements in the city's Emergency management services.

"With Mr Mucavele's distinguished background, experience, and commitment to public safety, we are confident in his ability to lead our emergency response efforts with diligence, compassion, and effectiveness. In times of crisis and emergencies, as the city we rely on the expertise and leadership of individuals like him to ensure the safety and well-being of our residents. His vision for proactive emergency preparedness and swift response protocols aligns seamlessly with our commitment to serving the people of Johannesburg. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Chief Mucavele on his appointment and express our unwavering support as he assumes this crucial role which has been vacant at EMS," said the MMC Tshwaku.

Chief Mucavele has demonstrated his excellent leadership skills in his previous capacity as the Acting Head of Department for Public Safety.

Some of the key actions that will require his immediate attention include:

1. Stabilising EMS by ensuring that critical positions are filled;
2. Moving with speed to capacitate the Department to be able to respond to medical and fire emergencies.
3. Fast tracking the securing of a license for the City to operate its own emergency medical and ambulance services;
4. Ensuring that a proactive approach to EMS is implemented;
5. Increasing the number of inspectors to enforce City by-laws;
6. Ensuring that all frontline personnel are equipped with the right tools of trade;
7. Ensuring that firefighters are motivated, up-skilled and get the necessary emotional support.

“As you settle into your new role, please know that you do not face these challenges alone. You have our full support as the Political office, as well as the unwavering commitment of your team, and the trust of the communities we serve. We stand with you, ready to assist, collaborate, and innovate to ensure that our Emergency Management Services can operate at their fullest potential,” added MMC Tshwaku .

Ends

Issued by the Office of the MMC Public Safety