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MEDIA RELEASE

To: News Editors
From: Kgamanyane Maphologela
Director: Communications & Stakeholder Management
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City recovers R1.9 million municipal debt owed by Bosmont Primary School.

The City of Johannesburg has recovered R1.9 million from Gauteng Department of Education for a long-standing municipal debt that was owed by Bosmont Primary School.

The City, through its aggressive Credit Control Campaign which is targeting households, businesses, and government departments with ballooning municipal debt – was in July forced to restrict the school's water supply over its huge debt. Prior to the City taking drastic measures to restrict municipal services at the school, the City had on multiple occasions, engaged the school management over its growing debt to no avail.

Kgamanyane Maphologela, Director of Customer Communications for the City's Group Finance Department, warns that the City will not hesitate to cut services from perpetual defaulters and those who do not honour their payment arrangements.

"The City has repeatedly warned perpetual defaulters that their services, which is water and electricity, will be cut effectively should they continue not to pay the City what is due. The City has been hard at work intensifying the cut-off operations against those owing and implementing its Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy," says Maphologela.

Maphologela reiterates that the City considers illegal connection of services as a serious offence, and as a result it has heightened the fight against theft of electricity and water.

The City calls on all property owners who are struggling to pay their accounts for various reasons, to approach the City to avoid being cut-off by making arrear debt payment arrangements.

“We call upon all property owners to come forward before services are terminated at their properties. The City remains open to negotiations for payment arrangements,” says Maphologela.

Customers who wish to make payment arrangements should visit their nearest customer service centres or alternatively email **creditcontrol@joburg.org.za**

ENDS –

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