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Media Statement

For Immediate Release

Date: 10 March 2026

Pikitup clarifies employees not responsible for waste scattering in Cosmo City

Pikitup wishes to clarify that its employees are not responsible for the waste being deliberately scattered in Cosmo City, as currently depicted on various social media platforms originating from the area.

Reports and videos circulating online suggesting that Pikitup workers are responsible for the littering are misleading. The employees of Pikitup have continued to perform their duties and are not involved in the deliberate thrashing of waste in the streets of Cosmo City.

The incident reportedly occurred when a group of protesting residents saw a Pikitup truck servicing the area and reminded the employees of an undertaking they made, that Pikitup would not be allowed to clean in the Cosmo City and surrounding areas until it accedes to their demands to be forcefully employed by the entity.

Last week, Pikitup, with the assistance of the South African Police Service, dispersed a group of protesting residents from Cosmo City, Malatjie, Honeydew and Zandspruit who had gathered outside the Randburg Depot demanding permanent employment without following the legally prescribed recruitment processes.

Pikitup believes that some of the individuals may be responsible for the current acts of littering because last Friday (06 March 2026), after being dispersed from the depot, the group allegedly proceeded to scatter waste from bins in suburbs adjacent to the Randburg Depot.

Pikitup urges residents not to spread misinformation and to support efforts to keep the city clean.

Ends

**Issued by
Pikitup
City of Johannesburg**

For media queries, please contact Anthony Selepe on 082 563 6972