



North West Parks and Tourism Board

**North West Province
Republic of South Africa**



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HERITAGE HOUSE BREAK-IN AND THEFT OF RHINO HORNS

MAHIKENG CAS 307/6/2023

Report to

THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

WEDNESDAY, 02 AUGUST 2023.



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Introduction

- **The North West Parks and Tourism Board manages 4 populations of white rhino and two populations of black rhino**
- **Because of natural dynamics in these populations – i.e., natural mortalities, infighting, horn breakages, dehorning, etc, horns are , the horns are collected or picked up in the veld**
- **The registration and storage of these horns are managed according to the National norms and standards for the marking of rhinoceros and rhinoceros' horns - 2018**
- **Because of the demand and general value of the commodity, the horns are registered and stored in a specially constructed vault at the North West Parks and Tourism Board Head quarters**



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Background information

- **It is now common knowledge that;**
- **On Monday, 26th June 2023, at approximately 06:05, the Senior Manager: Resource Security was informed about an alleged burglary at NWPTB Head office**
- **Police from Mahikeng Police Station visited and processed the crime scene on the same day of the incident**
- **The crime scene area reveals that perpetrators were well informed of security measures on the premises**
- **Camera footage indicated that the incident lasted for approximately one and half hours**
- **Detailed account of this incident was presented to the Portfolio Committee meeting held on the 02/08/2023**



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To date...

- **Subsequently arrangements were made and SAPS, DFFE and NWPTB successfully moved the horns from Mahikeng to a safe location**
- **Security measures that were breached have been restored**
- **The entity received a security assessment report from the State Security Agency which identified key areas of intervention by management, arranged in the order of priority**
- **Areas of priority include the restructuring of the Security Division in the institution, appointment of a manager responsible for information management, strengthening of ICT measures, personnel security and other general security challenges**
- **The Board has already started with the restructuring process, personnel security and tightening ICT controls**



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Thank you