

BPM Statement condemning violent protests between (BCF) Ba-Phalaborwa Community Forum and (LUF) Local Unemployment Forums

1. The political leadership of Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality condemns the current violent and destructive protests which surfaced over the past few days in the strongest terms.
2. These unfortunate activities resulted in the hospitalisation of other citizens with serious injuries inflicted on them; damage to properties and emotional stress.
3. It is rumoured that these violent protests are a coordinated effort by a selected few individuals with personal intentions and interests.
4. Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality remains committed to the intervention process that has been initiated in an attempt to resolve the conflict existing amongst the stakeholders.
5. We further appeal for calm and cool heads in dealing with this sensitive matters by all affected stakeholders.
6. However, those who insist in breaking the law and inciting violence should expect the police and the prosecuting authorities to enforce the law without any fear or favour.
7. The reality is that no good can come from these violent activities and disruptions as it will harm peace and stability. We are faced with a serious challenge of recovering from the disaster caused by COVID 19.
8. Hence, adherence to social distancing and putting on of masks remains paramount.
9. We further appeal to law abiding citizens to cooperate and work together with SAPS in maintaining order and discipline. Hence, every official protest should be guided by the relevant legislative framework which further respect the rights of other citizens.