

NWGB CRACKS THE WHIP ON SUSPICIOUS ILLEGAL OPERATIONS

The South African police services in partnership with the North West Gambling Board issued written notices to gambling suspicious sites operating illegally in Dr Kenneth Kaunda District of the North West province. Three illegal sites were visited in Klerksdorp, Orkney and Stilfontein in the Matlosana Local Municipality.

Over one hundred computers which are used for suspicious gambling as were found at these operations. These sites were fined 2500 rands for running suspicious illegal operation without a license.

While gambling remains important in the local and recreation sector as well as economic growth and development of the country, illegal gambling sites continue to rob the country of tax and levies that can help address socio-economic challenges such as poverty and unemployment.

The Chief Executive Officer of the North West Gambling Board, Mr Fortune Sekgaphane had earlier indicated that the Board losses more than 35 million rand per annum of revenue due to illegal gambling. Mr Sekgaphane insists that the Board will work hand in glove with police to rid the province of these operation.

“We have a commitment by the police to clean up all illegal operations in the province because we consider them, parasites on the system. Despite costing government millions in taxes and levies the illegal operations exposes our people to other social ills such as problem and addictive gambling and we as the Board are unable to account for them.

The North West Gambling Board has to date ran several responsible gambling campaigns in the province to raise awareness about the dangers of illegal gambling.

“Through these campaigns we are saying to our people, avoid these sites as they are a danger to your good selves financially and otherwise. It is simple to identify a licensed site; all licensed operators must display their licenses where everyone can see them. It is not only wrong to go gamble at the illegal sites but also a criminal offence, “Mr Sekgaphane said.

The North West Gambling Board was recently recognized by the industry for its efforts in eradicating illegal gambling in the country at the Gambling Indaba held at Emperors palace in Johannesburg.