

Media Release
For Immediate Release
22 October 2024

Office of the Ombudsman hosts its 2nd Annual Joburg Ombudsman Webinar: “Here to Hear You”

On 23 October 2024, the Office of the Ombudsman for the City of Johannesburg (the “Office”) will host its annual webinar under the theme “Here to Hear You” in observance of the International Ombuds Day. Presided over by the Ombudsman, Advocate Siduduzo Gumede, the online seminar will feature an esteemed panellist of thought leaders consisting of Advocate Stephen Tiroyakgosi (Ombudsman for Botswana), Mr. Vusumuzi Dlamini (Public Protector South Africa: Gauteng Provincial Representative) and Mr. Vusumuzi Magwebu (Ombudsman for the City of Cape Town).

The webinar aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the vital role played by Ombudsman institutions in safeguarding human rights and through focused presentations, the panellists will explore the legal framework, mandate of Ombudsman institutions and key principles guiding their work i.e., independence, impartiality, accountability and transparency when it comes to investigating matters of maladministration and human rights violations.

“By fostering dialogue and sharing best practices, we aim to empower citizens to advocate for human rights within their spheres of influence and enhance a general understanding of the crucial role Ombudsman institutions play in providing an impartial, free and efficient dispute resolution process that is equally dedicated to promoting and protecting the overarching principles of human rights”, commented Advocate Siduduzo Gumede, Ombudsman for the City of Johannesburg.

As the Office marks its 10th Anniversary, the webinar will help to highlight its impact on the human rights of residents of the City of Johannesburg and bolster values of good governance and accountability across the city. The Office will also touch on the newly promulgated Ombudsman By-Law, 2023, which now enables the Ombudsman to subpoena departments and ensure that all remedial actions are binding and that offenses, penalties, and consequences relating to non-compliance by the respective departments and entities are fully enforced.

To register for this opportunity to enhance the productivity of both the Office of the Ombudsman and government structures, please click on the following link to secure your spot:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/d3aba333-52ad-4995-87b1-3b4f33549e1a@0824d779-ab6e-4b2f-b001-cf2995fc7db6>

For more information, please email Corine.Lekhoane@joburgombudsman.org.za or call on 081 309 8360.

- Ends -

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