

MEMORANDUM

STUDENT SAFETY AWARENESS MARCH 27 JULY 2017

The University of the Free State (UFS) and the Central University of Technology (CUT) have committed to ensuring the safety of their student populations. However, in the recent past we have observed an increased number of incidences, some of which had fatal consequences for our students.

Our students have continuously experienced harassment, rape, robberies, assaults, intimidation, and all manners of related violent conduct. To this effect, we have realised that our single efforts are not sufficient in preventing and responding to these heinous crimes and heartless criminals.

For this reason, we have partnered as these two institutions to say, enough is enough.

This march is further extending the partnership to include the SAPS, the city of Mangaung, and the Free State Provincial Government. This is a clarion and an urgent call to say, we cannot afford a single incident more against any of our students and the community we serve.

Ultimately, we want to have a solid partnership that intersects the universities, the city, and the province, which is humanising and caring towards its communities.

Therefore, we call on a partnership from all stakeholders, and hereby demand the following from the Mangaung Local Municipality and the Free State Provincial government:

1. We demand the increase of visible policing and crime prevention platforms around student residential areas
2. We demand that additional policing resources must be deployed to the identified crime hotspots
3. We demand interventions from the city of Mangaung and the Free State government to ensure the safety of off-campus students.
4. We demand that the municipality, together with universities, facilitate a process to establish an appropriate accreditation process for student housing
5. We demand the development and adoption of municipal by-laws that regulate student housing in line with national standards, as prescribed by the Department of Higher Education and Training
6. We demand the establishment of a rental housing tribunal that will resolve disputes between lessees and lessors
7. We demand the establishment of a multi-stakeholder forum, specifically directed at monitoring and addressing issues around student housing



8. We demand the fast-tracking of the implementation and establishment of grant-funded student housing, as committed to by the Department of Human Settlements
9. We demand the fast-tracking of a partnership between the university and the municipality regarding the implementation of an affordable integrated transportation system.
10. We demand the extension of Wi-Fi coverage for off-campus students in all student residential areas.

We therefore demand a response to our demands within seven working days.

Submitted by:

Received by:

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MEC: Police, Roads, and Transport

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SRC President, CUT

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