SPEAKING NOTES BY MAYOR CLLR. MXOLISI KAUNDA AT THE MENS HEALTH SERVICES SECTOR, 17 MARCH 2023, JACOBS CRU HALL

- Programme Director,
- Chairperson of the Community Services Committee, Cllr. Zama Sokhabase,
- Deputy City Manager, Dr. Musa Gumede,
- Councillors,
- Head of the City's Health Unit, Mrs. Rosemary Van Heerden,
- Traditional Healer Practitioner, Mr. Makhoba,
- Religious sector,
- Our speakers,
- Ladies and gentlemen,

- Our health care facilities have been experiencing an increase in the number of male patients with various ailments, particularly Sexually Transmitted Deceases.

- Therefore, we saw it fit to start a programme that focuses on men's health.

- One of our main concerns is that men are not using protection (condoms) during sexual intercourse.
- Through this campaign, we also encourage men to go for screenings for STIs at early stages.

- Understanding that some men do not have medical aid, we do bring medical doctors on site for private consultation.

- The programme also looks at other preventative measures like taking Prep which is medicine for HIV negative people to remain on the negative status. Men will first have to test for HIV and get a negative status for them to be initiated into the Prep programme.

- We also encourage male circumcision to prevent STIs and HIV.

- The municipality is also working with the traditional healers' sector to encourage referral of clients to medical healthcare facilities.