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CAPE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

Street children on agenda

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Children living on the streets was the focus of the second sitting of the Atlantic Seaboard Social Development Forum last Tuesday, March 16.

The forum is an initiative of ward 54 and 115 councillors, Nicola Jowell and Ian McMahon, to join forces with NGOs and other stakeholders to discuss social issues and challenges facing the Atlantic Seaboard communities.

Ms Jowell said although it was started to focus on Ward 54 it is in essence about the whole Atlantic Seaboard and perhaps the whole Sub-council 16 area.

Director for the Western Cape Street Children's Forum, Janice King, formed part of the stakeholders on the forum last week.

Ms King said the Atlantic Seaboard and the CBD are among their focus areas for this year.

The meeting heard that giving money to children on the streets encourages them to stay out of school, leave their homes and stay on the streets.

Ms King said begging promotes trafficking, exploitation and the abuse of vulnerable children and introduces them to street life, substance abuse and drug addiction.

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■ The 21st edition of the Italian Film Focus will take place from today, Thursday March 25 to Tuesday March 30 online. The event is promoted by Controluce, the Italian Institute of Culture in Pretoria, the Embassy of Italy in South Africa, the Consulate of Italy in Johannesburg, the Consulate of Cape Town, the Embassy of Italy in Zambia, and the Embassy of Italy in Zimbabwe. Pictured is an image from the movie *Miss Marx*, directed by Susanna Nicchiarelli. Full story on page 14.

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