



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**Press Release**  
**17 June 2016**

### **SUBSTANTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNED FOR NKOMAZI**

Residents of Nkomazi Local Municipality in Mpumalanga are set to benefit from a budget of R49 million to deliver 523 planned units this financial year. The Human Settlements Department will soon roll out housing units through the People's Housing Process (PHP), Rural Development, Emergency Housing Assistance and Military Veterans interventions at various parts of the municipality. Human Settlements MEC, Ms Violet Siwela assured the public sequel to concerns that housing delivery in that area is slow.

In line with this mandate, the municipality will also benefit from the R12 million set aside to provide high mast electricity lights planned for this year. Other municipalities to benefit from this budget include Bushbuckridge; Chief Albert Luthuli; and Mbombela Local Municipalities. The enhanced mandate compels the Department not to only focus on housing provision, but ensuring that sustainable human settlements are coordinated and delivered through the involvement of key stakeholders. The new approach advocates for the delivery of social and economic facilities, such as schools, clinics, police stations, and crèches and roads, electricity, and serviced stands, amongst others.

Since the advent of democracy, the Department has delivered nearly 200 thousand housing units to deserving beneficiaries in the province of which over 13 000 units were delivered in Nkomazi alone. Furthermore, a total of 312 stands and a community hall and a day care centre were delivered in Nkomazi in the last few years. "During the previous financial years, we saw significant delivery on our programmes. It must be stressed though that budget alone could not help us arrive at our envisaged destination, but good plans, partnership and proper execution did" said MEC Violet Siwela during the presentation of the 2016/17 Financial Year Budget Vote in April 2016.

The province has planned to deliver a total of 8 620 units, 7 466 sites, 100 units on Community Residential Units, 15 000 title deeds, purchase land at Steve Tshwete Municipality and six social amenities with a total budget allocation R1.3 billion during the 2016/17 period. The Department's policy seeks to undermine the previous trend of building stand-alone low cost housing units far away from all necessary socio-economic facilities and services required for human habitation. "The new spatial patterns of sustainable and integrated human settlements have begun to bridge the gap of segregation that was inherited by the democratic South Africa", concludes Siwela.

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**ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORATE**  
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