



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DEPARTMENT APPLAUDE FOR EXPEDITIOUSLY INTERVENTION

The Mpumalanga Department of Human Settlements has been applauded for expeditiously intervention in dealing with the slow-pace of human settlements delivery in Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality at the recent meeting held in Daggakraal with the Mpumalanga Provincial Legislature, Taking the Legislature to the People programme undertaken in the Municipality. The TLP programme creates a platform for the legislature to undertake an oversight exercise on government's performance and engage communities on service delivery.

During the briefing by the Social Cluster, Human Settlements MEC Speed Mashilo revealed that bulk infrastructure still remain a huge challenge in the municipality which require a serious intervention from both the department and the municipality. "As human settlements we will not be able to make our houses available and proper constructed if there is no bulk infrastructure, simply because when we finish building these houses people must come in and they cannot occupy them when there are no services hence the department has taken the integrated human settlements approach to service all sites before any construction take place" explained MEC Mashilo.

Addressing the meeting, MPL Mr Gillion Mashego stated that the department and municipality needs to work closer to be able to deal with this long awaiting issue of bulk infrastructure and that it must be clear in terms of who is responsible for the bulk infrastructure between the department and municipality to avoid duplication of finances. "After all someone needs to be accountable, so as a committee we want to promote and enhance intergovernmental relations and co-operative governance principles in the service delivery" said MPL Mashego. Mashego conclude by saying that the committee did not come here to police the Departments and Municipalities but to offer support.

In the last financial year 2021/22 the department planned to deliver **230** low cost houses at Vukuzakhe Township, **191** are completed and **39** are in completion stage. Mashilo mentioned that Vukuzakhe Township will also benefit from the multi-year project which will yield **500** housing units, servicing of **228** sites in Esizameleni and **627** in Siyazenzela this financial year 2022/23. The MPLs will continue with the oversight visit to Vukuzakhe and surrounding areas at Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality.

**ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORATE
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