



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Building No 6 & 7, No 7 Government Boulevard, Riverside Park, Extension 2
Mbombela, Mpumalanga, Private Bag X11328, Mbombela, 1200
Tel: +27 (13) 766 6088, Fax: +27 (13) 766 8441

Litiko
Lekuhlaliswa Kwebantfu

Departement van
Menslike Nedersittings

UmNyango
Wokuhlaliswa Kwabantu

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CALL FOR HOUSING REGISTRATION THROUGH NEEDS REGISTER

The ever increasing housing backlog and demand in the country has resulted in many challenges, amongst them a need in ensuring that there is a fair and transparent allocation of housing opportunities to communities. In consultation with all provinces, the National Department of Human Settlements created an electronic system to register the records of all persons who require any form of shelter/ housing opportunity assistance.

This comes about after many complaints on the identification of potential beneficiaries by municipalities. There were no structured waiting lists and allocations/identification of potential beneficiaries were left in the hands of individuals. This has led to complaints of nepotism and queue jumping. “The National Housing Needs Register (NHNR) is a web based application to record the details of all persons that may require any form of shelter assistance from government i.e. RDP houses, serviced sites, rental units, FLISP and even those outside the subsidy threshold. This system is designed to be transparent and auditable”, explained Beneficiary Management Director, Mr Logan Appasamy,

In terms of a policy directive, the NHNR is the sole database from which potential beneficiaries will be sourced, and the roles of the various role players are clearly spelt out therein. “The Department encourages all persons who may require any form of shelter assistance to register their needs with their local municipality. Also if persons have already registered their needs, and their details/ circumstances have changed they need to update their details at their local municipality” said Appasamy.

He emphasised that placing ones records on the NHNR does not mean that the person is applying for a subsidy, all it indicates is that a person has registered his/her needs and when their turn has reached they will be contacted by the municipality at which stage they will then fill in a subsidy application form. By having such an updated NHNR it helps both the municipality and the Department to more effectively undertake demand/need based planning for effective implementation. Currently there are over 200 000 people who have registered their needs in respect of RDP houses, serviced sites, rental units, bank financed units, persons outside governments assistance threshold etc. on the NHR for Mpumalanga.

**ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORATE
MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
CONTACT: FREDDY NGOBE – 013 766 6014 / 082 859 4630/ fngobe@mpg.gov.za**

