



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

Press Release
01 September 2020

STRIDES TO TAKE GOGO OUT OF HER MISERY

“I wish the Good Lord spare me some more until I take occupation of my house”. There are moving words from Gogo Dingi Phakathi (100) from Amersfoort, Dr Pixley Ka Seme Local Municipality in Mpumalanga she uttered as her government subsidized house nears completion. Officials from the Department of Human Settlements visited the construction site to track and assess progress made so far in building her house. Gogo Phakathi has lived in a mud house with her family for the better part of her life.

Speaking to the officials, she expressed her gratitude and impatience into taking occupation of her house. “I am very blissful that the Department has come to build me this house. I see it is almost complete and I cannot wait to take occupation my house”, stated Phakathi. She added that she has been living the area for a long time and had somehow lost hope on receiving a house from government.

Meanwhile, Human Settlements, MEC Ms Norah Mahlangu has called on municipalities and local councilors who are an immediate point of contact to prioritise the vulnerable groups and elderly on project allocations. “Municipalities and ward councilors must prioritise the vulnerable groups from their projects allocations as this in in line with government policy”, charged the MEC. She also added that local government established structures such as ward committees must ensure that all vulnerable and deserving individuals apply for houses.

A national TV news channel recently reported on Gogo Phakathi’s plight, from which the Department moved in with the necessary intervention. The house is now at roof level and is projected for completion mid-September 2020. Gogo’s plight is among many of vulnerable beneficiaries the department is prioritizing to ensure that dignity is restored and sense of belonging is created.

ISSUED BY COMMUNICATION SERVICES
MPUMALANGA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
CONTACT PERSON: FREDDY NGOBE – 013 766 6014 / 082 859 4630/
fngobe@mpg.gov.za

