



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
18 January 2023

TACKLING VANDALISM ON SERVICE DELIVERY

Communities and stakeholders ought to work together in combating recurrent vandalism of government projects. Human Settlements MEC, Mr. Speed Mashilo made this clarion call during his site visit to a 500 units' project currently being delivered at Vukuzakhe B Township in Dr Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Local Municipality. Accompanied by the local leadership and officials from both institutions, Mashilo conducted an inspection in-loco of damaged houses and the general progress of the project. The project has thus far delivered 67 houses and handed over to rightful beneficiaries.

Mashilo committed to provide temporary sanitation interventions until the project bulk infrastructure is completed. Moreover, work to repair the vandalised houses has already started. The registration and issuing of title deeds to beneficiaries at the project will start soon. However, he bemoaned the destructive character of some in the communities. "Here we are delivering a great project. All stands here are serviced and compacted internal roads. Therefore, vandalism and theft derails service delivery while resources remain limited with ever growing need for houses", bemoaned Mashilo.

Reacting on the MEC's visit, Acting Executive Mayor, Cllr. Hope Thwala was thrilled with the visit and characterized it as an epiphany of their promises to the community. "The visit is a catalyst as it brings everyone together to work towards quality service delivery. Moreover, the project is a response to promises and commitment made to many backyard dwellers in the locality", said Thwala. He added that the temporary sanitation interventions from the MEC is profound as they expect the bulk infrastructure to be completed in two months time.

The entourage interacted with one of the beneficiaries to get their feedback and level of satisfaction. One such beneficiary is Maria Shabalala (64) who was renting a shack in Vukuzakhe A. "I grew up staying at the farms (plaas) and went on to rent, I won't lie it has been challenging. I am quite happy now that I have a home", reacted Shabalala. She added that she is eagerly waiting for MEC's temporary sanitation facilities and a title deed. The project is expected to be completed by the 2nd quarter of the 2023/24 financial year. More project assessments and visits will be undertaken at various municipalities.

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

