



human settlements

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Press Release
26 January 2018

DEPARTMENT PLEASED WITH PERFORMANCE BY CONTRACTORS

Contractors have been urged to have a grip and put a final push to deliver nearly 3000 housing units before the end of the financial year. Head of Mpumalanga Human Settlements in Mpumalanga Mr Kebone Masange held a robust meeting to address active contractors to outline their progresses and expectations that must be accomplished before the end of March. Masange, who patently looked comfortable with the efforts and achievements made so far, insisted on all contractors to hold tight to their ethos as it has proven to yield positive results thus far.

Masange explained that the session had a clear mandate to remind everyone (contractors) as well as to confirm that they are still on track and that it will suffice to commend them for their passion and positive results in helping the Department bring congenial services to the people of the province, mostly the needy of shelter. He said the Department has been doing well and that it is pleasing to see how convenient they would finish targets on time and ensuring that services of good quality is delivered.

Masange mentioned that as a result of the latter, his Department has been injected with a R100 million which was taken from the Provinces of North West, Gauteng and Limpopo to help bring more projected units in the province. "The additional money the Department has received as a result of us not underspending but ensuring that we spent everything on our targets," he explained.

However, the Department has a remaining 3000 units that is yet to be completed before the end of March 2018. Speaking about this, Masange professed that the Department will be able to complete these units by mid-March. Apart from hailing flattering remarks for a job well done, the HOD took some time to address relentless challenges meted out to contractors by traditional leaders, ward councillors and deceitful community people who look to benefit illegally from projects carried out in the townships.

He however restated that this is blatant corruption and it cannot be condoned as it happens only to deprive beneficiaries their right to proper housing. "I have taken a conscious decision to involve the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta) to be present when introducing our contractors in these areas so that they can advise in this regard and never allow for this people to make ruthless demands that none of you (contractors) have no contractual obligations to," said HOD Masange.

The meeting had few complaints among them being the building of houses without the identified beneficiaries however the HOD gave a clear instruction that all contractors must not build a house without knowing the immediate beneficiary. In his remarks he mentioned that this was one of the reasons people would vandalize the houses and better yet, could even lead to wrongful allocation of houses.

ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTORATE
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