

UNANNOUNCED OVERSIGHT REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS CONDUCTED AT PEOPLES HOUSING PROJECTS UNITS AT STEENBOK IN NKOMAZI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS – MEETING HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 2016

1. INTRODUCTION

The Portfolio Committee on Human Settlements, Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (the Committee) conducted oversight over the Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs as mandated by Section 114 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, (Act 108 of 1996), to oversee the performance of the Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (the Department), and hold it accountable through various measures.

2. PURPOSE OF THE UNANNOUNCED OVERSIGHT VISIT

The purpose of the oversight was to verify whether the Department of Human Settlements has completed the building of the Steenbok Houses which were due to be completed during the 2012/2013 financial year and to assess the service delivery by the Department of Human Settlements.

3. METHOD OF WORK

The oversight visits conducted at Nkomazi Local Municipality on 14 February 2017 were unannounced; hence the department was not notified.

4. BACKGROUND ON ISSUES RAISED DURING THE PEOPLES HOUSING PROCESSES (PHP) UNITS IN STEENBOK

The Department of Human Settlements has been assigned to co-ordinate and deliver these outcome to ensure that the activities are undertaken effectively and to produce the mutually agreed upon outputs and targets which in turn will contribute to achieve Outcome 8 which is "Sustainable Human Settlements and improved quality of Household Life" These units were built by the Department of Human Settlements during 2011/12 financial year but were not completed.

During 2012/13 financial year, the Department of Human Settlements then built another 74 units but only managed to complete 13. The 61 units were rolled over to the next financial year (2013/14). Most of the houses were abandoned at various levels (foundation and wall plate level). The owners of the houses at Steenbok tried to complete the units on their own.

5. OBSERVATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE DURING THE UNANNOUNCED OVERSIGHT VISIT HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 2016

The houses were completed and allocated to beneficiaries.

6 Findings made by the Committee

After the site inspection, the Committee found that:

- 6.1. There is a common challenge of shortage of water.
- 6.2. Some houses that were damaged by the storm were not attended to.
- 6.3. The Committee commended the Department for the progress made with regards to finishing the incomplete houses at Steenbok.

7 Recommendations made by the Committee

The Committee recommended that Department must:

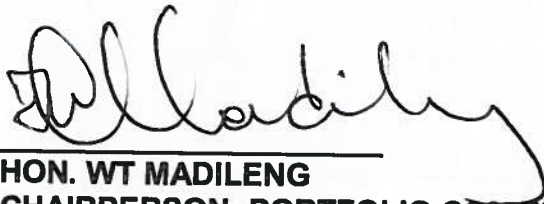
- 7.1. Engage the Department of CoGTA to assist in addressing the challenge of water; Encourage the municipality to provide water (as a temporary measure) whilst the bulk infrastructure is underway. A detailed progress report to be submitted on how far is the municipality resolving the issue of water.
- 7.2. Attend to all the houses damaged by storm and that the Department must provide a detailed progress report by 13 April 2017.
- 7.3. Continue to strengthen its monitoring system to ensure that a deadline are adhered to by all contractors and commends the Department for the completion of the Steenbok Houses and that a progress report be submitted to the Committee by 13 April 2017.

8 CONCLUSION

The Chairperson wishes to thank the Hon. Members of the Committee for their sterling participation and input during the deliberations on the Oversight visit, Nkomazi Local Municipality Councillors and also thank the Legislature staff for the support they provided the Committee during the deliberations.

Lastly, the Chairperson requests the august House to adopt the report with its recommendations.

A progress report should be submitted to the Legislature on or before 30 April 2017.



HON. WT MADILENG
CHAIRPERSON: PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE &
TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

16/03/2016
DATE