

POLICY & BUDGET SPEECH

—— 2022/23 —













Hon. SK Mashilo (MPL) MEC: Human Settlements

Honourable Speaker Ms. Makhosazana Masilela

Honourable Deputy Speaker, Ms Jeaneth Thabethe

Honourable Premier, Ms Refilwe Mtshweni-Tsipane

Honourable Members of the Executive Council

Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature

Honourable members of other political parties in the Provincial Legislature

Chief Whip of the ANC, Hon. Fidel Mlombo

INngwenyama Zekhethu

Chairperson of the Provincial House of Traditional Leaders, Inkosi Ngomane II

Executive Mayors

SALGA Leadership

Director General, Mr MR Mampuru

Acting Head of Human Settlements Department, Ms. Hazel Zitha

Heads of Departments

Representatives from the ANC and other political parties

Business and Public Sector Representatives

Distinguished Guests

Members of the Media

Family and Friends

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Afternoon.

INTRODUCTION

- I welcome this opportunity to present the 2022/23 Budget Statement for the Department of Human Settlements, (Vote 13), under the provincial theme: 'Let's Grow Mpumalanga Together.'
- 2. Madam Speaker, this Budget Vote is presented during the youth month of June. This is a month in which we remember the spirited fight by the youth of 1976 as they challenged the education system of the apartheid regime, protesting against its unjust education policies and laws.
- 3. It is exactly 46 years since the country experienced such gruelling scenes.
- 4. This year's Youth Month is celebrated under the theme: 'The Year of Charlotte Mannya Maxeke: Growing youth employment for an inclusive and transformed society.'
- 5. In order to promote sustainable livelihoods and resilience of young people for a better tomorrow this budget vote should help our young people to:
 - Forge resilience and pursue opportunities for a sustainable livelihood, today and in the future.
- 6. And this is precisely the future we want to collectively forge and build for today and our future, as we work with our stakeholders.
- 7. In this way, we will be heeding the call by the President of the ANC, Oliver Reginald Tambo that, 'the children of any nation are its future. A Country, a movement, a person that does not value its youth and children does not deserve it future.'

MANDATE

- 8. The Department of Human Settlements derives its mandate from the Constitution of the Republic, (Act 108 of 1996), which makes ensuring the provision of adequate housing and integrated sustainable human settlements a must.
- 9. Madam Speaker, emphasis is drawn to Section 26 of the Constitution that expands the eminence of this portfolio in protecting that everybody has the right to have access to suitable housing and its related services.
- 10. The Constitution further provides that housing is a competency that is held concurrently by National and Provincial Spheres of Government.
- 11. We are therefore compelled to take reasonable legislative and other measures, within the available resources, to achieve the progressive realisation of this human right.

- 12.In 1955, The Freedom Charter pre-meditated that 'there shall be houses, security and comfort" to profit all its citizens without discrimination.
- 13. That said, we are continuing to improve the livelihoods of our communities, towards the realization of this goal.
- 14. Giving much impetus to this resolve, the **'right of access to adequate housing'** is construed as the right to the following;
 - a. security of tenure;
 - b. availability of services, materials, and community based facilities and infrastructure;
 - c. affordability;
 - d. habitability;
 - e. accessibility; and
 - f. location and cultural adequacy.
- 15.It has become evident Madam Speaker that this mammoth task of settling people cannot be the work of this Department alone, but, the all Departments, working together with the private sector.
- 16. We forge the working partnerships with the Private Sector guided by the advice from the father of our struggle, Oliver Tambo when he said: 'We who are free to eat and sleep at will, to write, to speak, to travel as we please; we who are free to make or break a revolution, let us use our comparative freedom, not to perpetuate the misery of those who suffer, nor to give indirect aid to the enemy they fight by withholding our own contributions.'

CONTEXT

- 17. The 2021/22 financial year marks the third year of the sixth administration (2019 2024), an epoch that brought about much desirable optimism.
- 18. Our delivery during this financial year was mainly driven by regional focused methodology District Development Model (DDM). This vehicle assisted government to synergise and channel its resources towards realising tangible impact on projects.
- 19. Through the various programmes and services, the Department yielded **9 814** housing opportunities benefiting communities throughout the province.



- 20. Notwithstanding challenges that continues to affects the sector, our achievements were generally applauded by the forum of Minister and MEC's (MINMEC) during recent quarterly sittings.
- 21. Given the complexity and economic contestation in the built sector, our institution was not spared on challenges which are constant feature affecting the sector.
- 22. Chief amongst some challenges we had to intervene in some localities where there was illegal invasions of land and/or occupation of construction sites by community members including project stoppages, claiming a serious need for land and economical exclusion, respectively.
- 23. There were also delays in the start of some projects owing to changes in project areas and new councillors requesting to verify beneficiary lists before implementation, community unrests and disputes at some projects and appointment of liaison officers.
- 24. Madam Speaker, I would be doing disservice to our communities if I do not pause and thank the Law enforcing agencies for arresting three individuals involved in the unlawful selling of low cost houses.
- 25. We have further made a call to all communities to report any person engaging in the selling of these houses the Government has built for the needy.
- 26. Above all, the chronic lack of bulk infrastructure for servicing of sites at some municipalities and heavy rainfall prevented the acceleration of projects thus hampering maximum outputs.
- 27. Given the challenges facing the sector, Human Settlements Minister, Mmamoloko Kubayi and all Provincial MEC's have resolved that an intervention towards resolving these challenges is paramount.

- 28. It is against this background that the structure of the Human Settlements Development Grand (HSDG) has been reconfigured to allow for delivery of bulk infrastructure and the allocation for bulk has increased from 3% to 5%.
- 29. Minister Kuabayi charges that, "backed by a good plan, the allocation can be increased up to 30% of the grant, especially in rural provinces".
- 30.The MINMEC Forum resolved that with effect from 1st April 2022, the various housing programmes will change as follows:

Service	2019/20	2022/23
BNG Houses	R114 513	R139 722
Military Veterans House	R277 000	R317 000 Inclusive of the DMV contribution
Service Sites	R43 802	R52 957

- 31.As part of her Provincial Outreach Programme, Human Settlements Minister Mmamoloko Kubayi visited several projects at eMalahleni, Steve Tshwete and City of Mbombela Local Municipalities.
- 32. The engagements sought to intervene on blocked projects and to prioritise **emergency**, **asbestos**, and **mud houses**, amongst others.
- 33. Moreover, our long term plan includes ensuring that municipalities are assisted with proper beneficiary management, improved bulk infrastructure development, empower special groups such as women, youth, people with disabilities and small businesses/entrepreneurs.

REFLECTION ON 2021/22 PERFORMANCE

- 34. Hon Speaker and distinguished guests, allow me to reflect on our performance during 2021/22 financial year.
- 35. As the entire world gradually recovers from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and despite the odds such as scarcity of key building materials, the Department had been able to deliver on its mandate of providing quality low-cost houses in rural and disadvantaged communities across the province.

Housing Delivery

36.In the 2021/22 financial year, a total of number of **2 890** low-cost houses were planned for construction. The target was achieved with a total of 2 898 low-cost houses completed and handed over to the rightful beneficiaries.

- 37. Also, during the 2021/22 financial year, the province experienced several catastrophic disaster events such as the Eloise tropical cyclone which ravished and destroyed low-cost residential dwellings, leaving affected households in misery and disarray.
- 38. Five (5) disaster incidents were reported to the Department by the Provincial Disaster Management Centre at different periods during the financial year ranging from heavy winds, thunderstorms, hailstorm, and flash floods.
- 39. Madam Speaker, through the assistance of the National Department of Human Settlements, we accessed the Provincial Emergency Housing Grant (PEHG) and R 40.9 million which was appropriated to assist through emergency roof repairs, remedial works, and provision of temporal residential units (TRU) to affected households.
- 40. To work with speed in responding to the future disasters, we are developing a policy that will guide on how fast and smart the emergency repairs can be effected, including the turnaround timeframe.
- 41.To date, a total 572 houses were repaired and 80 TRUs were successfully provided at the affected areas. This number excludes 151 new low-cost houses the Department had to prioritize to build for beneficiaries whose houses could not be repaired as they were either mud houses or shacks.
- 42.Lessons were learnt on the swiftness and response to such disasters with the need to improve on co-ordination at the grass-root and physical verification and technical assessment of damaged houses.
- 43. Since our Department is tasked with provision of sustainable Human Settlements, we are partnering with the Council of Geo-Science at National level in order to fully understand the cause of the disasters before they happen and before we build structures.



- 44. Another worrying factor, Madam Speaker, is the poor quality of the building material used and building methodology of self-build houses in rural communities.
- 45. These houses do not conform to building best practices and standards and as such, are unable to withstand the slightest abnormal weather conditions as they crumble under minimum pressure.
- 46. It is for this reason Madam Speaker that we will be making submissions to the Legislature for the reviewal of the **National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act**, **103 of 1977** to align it with the current building standards.
- 47. The Department will then conduct awareness workshops to communities on the standard of building material to be used when building a house, including environmental solutions such as planting of trees around homes as wind breaks, to curb disasters.
- 48. Allow me Madam Speaker to appreciate some contractors who built houses for the needy families in our Province. Present today and sitting in the gallery are; Mr. Siwela of White Hazey Construction; Ms Lettie Ndlovu Mashau of Motheo Construction, Dr Gabriel Ngomane of TnZ Construction, to name a few.
- 49.Let me also acknowledge the contribution and support by the Nelson Mandela and Collen Mashawana Foundations for their inputs in coming to the aid of the needy. We are also appreciative of a donation by Benex Trading who has built a house for a homeless beneficiary at Boschfontein in Nkomazi
- 50. We thank you for understanding that Government alone cannot eradicate the apartheid system of providing basic services. Without you, we are not complete.

Engineering and Quality Assurance

- 51. Madam Speaker, despite the budget reduction, the Department delivered 6857 serviced sites in various municipalities throughout the province.
- 52.A total of 2932 of these sites were completed under the upgrading of informal settlements programme which is a priority for the department.
- 53. The key challenge to delivering more sites still remains the unavailability of bulk infrastructure to support the projects.
- 54. To intervene in this situation, Department managed to complete the installation of 87 boreholes for communities, whilst 197 were installed in various schools within the province.
- 55. As we uplift the standard of living of our community, we have completed the Ermelo Extensions 32, 33 and 34, where we intervened on the sewerage spill challenges.

- 56. The process of handing over the project to the Municipality is being finalized to be before the end of June 2022.
- 57.1 must hasten and say Madam Speaker, the Embalenhle Sewer Pump Stations has been handed over to the Govan Mbeki Local Municipality to complete the remaining mechanical works.

Rental, Assets and Property Management

- 58. In keeping with our inclusive mandate, the Department had three social amenities planned for construction and completion during the financial year 2021/22.
- 59. Given the challenges associated with the sector and slow movement of projects due to Covid-19, the planned socio-economic facilities were at various stages of completion, namely roof level and earthworks.



- 60. Madam Speaker, it is a known fact that land remains one of the topical issues in the country in relation to development more so as we have witnessed land invasion, public protests and lawlessness by communities demanding land.
- 61. It is pleasing to report that the Department has acquired two (2) portions of land at Msukaligwa and City of Mbombela Local Municipalities. These are well located portions of land acquired for residential development in line with the enhanced mandate of sustainability and integration.
- 62. In our quest to intensify access security of tenure and land rights, the Department continued to register title deeds to beneficiaries. These legal documents can be used as an economic leverage for beneficiaries to improve their livelihoods.

Administration

- 63. Since the enhancement of the mandate, through the Office of the Premier, the Department engaged the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA) to ensure that an organisational structure that is fit for purpose is realised.
- 64.To this end, we successfully completed the placement of staff on the newly approved organisational structure during the 2021/22 financial year. The approved Organisational Structure comprises of 494 positions on the post establishment.
- 65. There are currently 348 positions that are filled and 146 are all vacant which reflects a 29.5% vacancy rate. To consolidate on this, the Department will priorities the filling of critical and vacant positions for the 2022/23 financial year in line with available budget.
- 66. The filling of these vacancies will be in line with the Department's Employment Equity Plan as we close the gap between males and females at senior management level.
- 67. As a matter of urgency, 10 percent of these positions is envisaged to be filled within the second quarter and the remaining 19.5% will be staggered in the ensuing financial years of course guided by the availability of Compensation of Employees (CoE), including budget for goods and services.

STRATEGIC FOCUS FOR 2022/23

Integrated Development

- 68. Planning remains a critical pivot in our quest to realise habitable integrated, sustainable settlements. To this end, the Department will ensure the alignment and coordination of human settlements development plans with economic, transport and planning strategies which is central in restructuring the space economy.
- 69. To ensure the realisation of sound development, the Department will facilitate access to well-located land for human settlements purposes at ideal locations.
- 70. The Department will implement an active approach to engagement of all affected stakeholders in order to address spatial dislocation as well as to target government investment in specific such as the Priority Housing Development Areas.
- 71. Madam Speaker, prevalent developments in the Province have confirmed that proper Inter-Governmental and Inter-Departmental relations are central in ensuring integrated and coordinated planning; improved spatial, social and economic integrated in new development; and in ensuring the provision of basic infrastructure in projects.

- 72. Priority Development Areas (PDAs) comprising of eMalahleni; Steve Tshwete; Govan Mbeki; City of Mbombela; Nkomazi; Bushbuckridge; Thembisile Hani, Dr JS Moroka and Thaba Chweu shall be gazetted as Priority Development Areas (PDAs).
- 73. These priority spaces which have already been declared as such by the Minister in terms of the Housing Development Agency Act are being used as an instrument and contribution towards the District Development Model (DDM).
- 74. Madam Speaker, in line with the Human Settlements Master Plan, the Department is already focusing on implementing the additional 37 Integrated Human Settlements.
- 75. As far as mega projects are concerned, we will support the Nkosi City Development in the City of Mbombela.
- 76. We also have an informal settlements management and upgrading strategy in which we are formalising a number of informal settlements throughout the province.
- 77. One such informal settlement is at Coronation at eMalahleni and plans are afoot to move them to Siyangoba integrated project.
- 78. This is not only assisting with spatial targeting and addressing past spatial injustices, but will culminate in the delivery of a significant high number of housing opportunities closer to areas of work.
- 79. To show our seriousness in non-tolerance of illegal land invasions, we have established the Land Invasion Committee, chaired by Advocate Mabaso, to assist in clamping down illegal land invasions.
- 80. Madam Speaker, we are not going to tolerate people who illegally grab or invade land. In this endeavour, we request municipalities to strengthen their bi-laws to ensure the management of land invasion.
- 81. The situation at Hillsview has led the Department to facilitate a working relationship between the City of Mbombela and MEGA, in the spirit of cooperative governance. In the coming two weeks, this matter will be disposed of.

Engineering Services and Quality Assurance

- 82. Notwithstanding recorded achievements, the Department had to endure other related challenges that encompassed, amongst others, ailing poor bulk infrastructure at municipalities. Interventions were made through constant engagements with other sector departments to have alignment in our plans.
- 83. This is being done through the District Development Model (DDM) and direct engagements with key stakeholders like the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), COGTA, District and Local Municipalities.

- 84.To this end, the Department is allocating an increased budget (from 2% up to 30%) of its grant towards the bulk link infrastructure services supporting human settlements projects.
- 85.As things stand, our Department is contributing close to 70% on infrastructure development in Municipalities. It is imperative to urge all Municipalities to prioritize road infrastructure development where sites are serviced.
- 86. The aim of DDM is to ensure that we use the budget towards a development within the Municipality. Therefore, integrated planning and budgeting should be high as the Municipalities adopt their budget for implementation on the 01 July 2022.
- 87.Lessons can be learnt and emulated from the work done in Rondebosch, in Steve Tshwete Local Municipality, and in Ermelo on working in a collaborative manner between spheres of government.
- 88.A total of **7 220** sites will be delivered throughout the province not underscoring challenges of bulk infrastructure bottlenecks.
- 89. The department seeks to ensure delivery of quality houses through working closely with the NHBRC by ensuring all projects are enrolled and all the inspections are conducted timeously to the highest norms and standard.

Housing Delivery

- 90.Looking forward into the 2022/23 financial year, the Department has planned the construction of **2 887** low-cost houses which is a slight decline from the previous financial year.
- 91. This is in line with the new national directive to prioritize the provision of serviced sites over the construction of low-cost houses. This is to encourage those who have the means to build whilst prioritizing the more vulnerable for the provision of government subsidized houses.
- 92. The eradication of mud houses across the province has received attention in the 2022/23 financial year with the prioritization of ninety-one (91) mud houses in various villages in Mkhondo Local Municipality.
- 93.On the eradication of asbestos roofed houses in the province, the Department has commenced with the consolidation of a database of all asbestos roofed houses.

- 94. During this financial year, the Department will embark on assessing, removing, and replacing of asbestos roof in the following areas:
 - a. Govan Mbeki, in the Gert Sibande District Municipality
 - b. eMalahleni, in the Nkangala District Municipality
 - c. City of Mbombela, in the Ehlanzeni District Municipality
- 95. Given the huge number of houses that need to be addressed, an amount of R20 million is set aside for the intervention in the three districts however NOT neglecting mud houses which are already catered for on rural housing programme.

Assets, Rental and Property Management

- 96. Beyond the delivery of houses, this portfolio has a responsibility to deliver socioeconomic facilities, special interventions such as houses for military veterans and middle income earners, and also take care of the rental market.
- 97.In our bid to assist any military veterans in South Africa we rendered military services to any of the military organization, statutory and non-statutory the Department has planned to deliver 29 units throughout the province.
- 98. During the recent policy adjustment by Minister Kubayi, the Finance Linked Individual Subsidy Programme (FLISP) which now we call HEP ME BUY A HOME.
- 99. With effect from 1 April 2022, the FLISP quantum range has increased by between 7, 2% and 10% which translates to R147 045.00 per applicant, depending on other financial variables. To this end, the Department has planned to deliver 200 units during the current financial year.



- 100. Madam Speaker, our mandate entails the facilitation of sustainable and habitable settlements where people can play, pray and study.
- 101. One of our programme requires the delivery of socio-economic facilities such as community halls, child care facilities and taxi ranks within existing and new housing areas. Our plan is to roll-out seven of these facilities at various localities.
- 102. In undermining the then regime of people living in squalor conditions, the Community Residential Units (CRU) programme provides for the upgrading, conversion or complete re-development of existing state owned rental stock including hostels and existing occupied inner city or township buildings.
- 103. It is linked to the provision of secure rental tenure arrangement for the lower income households. The current financial year will see the Department delivering 300 CRUs at economic active municipalities where people migrate for better commercial opportunities.
- 104. Distinguished Guest, I must say that not every beneficiary is in need of a government subsidised house which is often referred to as an RDP, rather a product such as the Social Housing Programme which promotes sustainable social housing environment.
- 105. Social housing means a rental or co-operative housing option for the low to medium income households at a level scale and built form that requires institutionalised management.
- 106. As part of the Presidential Projects the Department has planned to deliver 852 Social Housing Units in the following municipalities:
 - Msukaligwa Local Municipality (360 units) Willow Creek, and
 - Govan Mbeki Local Municipality (492 units) Kwandokuhle.
- 107. To ensure security of tenure and the protection of the rights, ownership of immovable property against unfair practices, a total of **5000** title deeds will be registered and issued to rightful beneficiaries
- 108. Whilst we continue to deliver houses and other services, one of our key responsibilities is to ensure that there is harmony between tenants and landlords within the rental sector. Given the success rate in settling despites in previous years, we envisage to resolve **580** rental disputes for the current financial year.
- 109. With the ever increasing demand for houses and accommodation, land remains a critical component of development in the country. As earlier indicated, our planning will be enhanced to mitigate against unlawful land grab and invasion.

- 110. To pace ourselves ahead of any unforeseen demands, we have planned to acquire six (06) pieces of well-located land for human settlements development.
- 111. The Department will this year undertake a land assembly exercise which entails identification, valuations, and negotiations with a view to acquire at a later period especially for land need at the City of the Mbombela, Govan Mbeki, Steve Tshwete, and Victor Khanye, amongst other local municipalities.

BUDGET OUTLOOK

- 112. Madam Speaker and Hon. members, it is an open secret that the world in general is experiencing enormous financial hardships. With increased government-led infrastructure spend and greater private sector spend on the cards for 2022, the construction industry is more positive about the year ahead.
- 113. The construction industry is expected to register a marginal annual average growth of 0.2% between the years 2022 to 2025, with growth being restricted due to the government's focus on fiscal consolidation, owing to the deteriorating fiscal situation in the country.
- 114. The government expects the country's public debt to rise from 63.3% of GDP in 2020 to 81.8% by 2021, and further increase to 93.5% by 2026.
- 115. This is one of the key insights gleaned from a 2022 Construction Industry Outlook survey conducted in Africa and the Middle East in the final quarter of 2021.

BUDGET PRESENTATION 2022/23

- 116. Having highlighted the global financial challenges and dwindling budgets especially in government, the overall appropriated departmental budget has decreased from R1, 616 billion in 2021/22 financial year to **R1, 507 billion** in 2022/23 financial year.
- 117. The 2022/2023 budget is broken down into the following programs:

PROGRAMME	PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
PROGRAMME: 1	ADMINISTRATION	171 834 000
PROGRAMME: 2	HOUSING NEEDS, RESEARCH & PLANNING	61 588 000
PROGRAMME: 3	HOUSING DEVELOPMENT	1 259 782 000
PROGRAMME: 4	HOUSING ASSET MANAGEMENT	13 681 000
		1 506 885 000

118. Hon. Members, Ladies and Gentlemen, allow me to highlight the allocated budget of **R1**, **507 billion** which is made out of the following grant allocations:

Human Settlements Development Grant
 Informal Settlements Upgrading Partnership Grant
 Equitable Share – operational budget
 EPWP
 R924 416 000
 R274 653 000
 R305 816 000
 R 2 000 000

JOB CREATION

- 119. Madam Speaker, for the development taking place in the entire Province, the Government Departments are the market. We buy our material, be it bricks and cement, door and window frames, building and plastering sand, from various established service providers.
- 120. This leaves our youth and women without sustainable income. The recent report on the rate of unemployment in South Africa is 35.3%.
- 121. As per Stats SA, the unemployment rate increased in eight of the nine provinces in the third quarter compared with the second quarter. The **largest increases** were recorded in **Mpumalanga** (from **13,3% to 27,8%**) and Free State (from 25,3% to 35,5%).
- 122. To correct this and contribute towards job creation, the Department will embark on establishing the cooperatives per District Municipality, working together with the Local Municipalities.
- 123. Our target is to ensure that by the beginning of the second quarter, cooperatives of women, youth and those living with disabilities are established in all three District Municipalities
- 124. Our theme of 'Let's grow Mpumalanga together' will remain a slogan if we do not come with initiatives to create sustainable jobs.

GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

125. According to Thomas Sankara, the youngest President the Continent of Africa has ever had, who ascended to power at the age of 33, "The woman leads a twofold existence indeed, the depth of her social ostracism being equally only by her stoic endurance. To live in harmony with the society of man, to conform with men's demands, she resigns herself to a self-effacement that is demeaning, she sacrifices herself."

- 126. I would be failing in my duty if I do not advocate to the restoration of the dignity of women by ensuring that they get decent jobs and salaries so that they can support themselves and get out of toxic and violent situations.
- 127. The Gender Based Violence and Femicide is indeed reversing our democratic gains of women emancipation. We need to condemn it.

CONCLUSION

- 128. Madam Speaker and Hon. Members, as the government continues to push for the provision of adequate housing to qualifying and needy beneficiaries, including water and sanitation the realisation of such basic human rights requires that all hands ought to be on deck, to see the realisation of these rights.
- 129. Given the material conditions on the ground, the Department will continue to prioritise its programmes with emphasis on the rapid release of land through the delivery of serviced sites and bulk infrastructure development.
- 130. This does not by any stretch of imagination that delivery of top structures to cater for the elderly, special groups, child headed households, and military veterans, amongst other vulnerable groups will be short-changed.
- 131. To this end, we will continue to engage stakeholders within the sector, communities, private sector and government departments to better our performance.
- 132. Having painted this picture and took account of these material conditions, ours is not by any stretch of imagination to fail or be despondent.
- 133. In summary, Madam Speaker, during the course of the 2022/23 financial year, the Department plans to deliver, amongst others a total of **2 887** fully subsidised housing units, service **7 220** sites, deliver **300** CRUs, roll-out 852 social housing units and issue **5000** title deeds.

Acknowledgements

- 134. Madam Speaker, my salutation goes to Africa's oldest liberation movement, the African National Congress (ANC) and its Alliance partners, for giving me an opportunity to lead this important portfolio.
- 135. I thank the Premier, Ms Refilwe Mtshweni-Tsipane, for providing leadership, my colleagues at the Executive Council, my office and my family for their continued support.
- 136. Let me also appreciate the supervision and oversight role played by the Portfolio Committee on Human Settlements, Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs, led by the Chairperson, Hon. Gabisile Tshabalala.

- 137. Lastly, my gratitude goes to the Acting Accounting Officer, Ms Hazel Zitha, the management, and the entire Department's staff complement (employees), for their authentic tenacity to guarantee the delivery of housing and other related services to residents.
- 138. Just like the youth of 1976, we commit to remain resolute in ensuring that the delivery of integrated, sustainable human settlements is realised despite the odds.
- 139. As said by Oliver Tambo, the fight for freedom must go on until it is won; until our country is free and happy and peaceful as part of the community of man, we cannot rest.
- 140. Madam Speaker, May I therefore request this august house to approve the budget proposal of **R1** 506 885 billion for the Mpumalanga Department of Human Settlements (Vote 13), for the 2022/23 Financial Year.

Ngiyathokoza!

VISION

Integrated sustainable human settlements and improved quality livelihoods

MISSION

To coordinate and facilitate the creation of integrated sustainable human settlements through:

- Servicing of sites, construction of houses, issuing of tittle deeds, resolution of rental disputes and other socio-economic facilities for poor communities
 - Collaboration with other state department in delivery public facilities
 - Collaboration with the private sector and other government agencies

VALUES

The values of the Department rest on Batho Pele principles.

The Department is committed to maintain the following values:

CORE VALUES

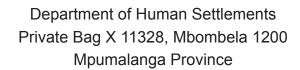
Equality

Integrity

Accountability

Professionalism

Value for money



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