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DA SPOKESPERSON ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

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Hon. Minister Thembisile Simelane

Democratic Alliance demands ministerial accountability as governance collapses across key housing entities

Following the Department of Human Settlements briefing last week it became very clear that the department is in freefall:

- The CEO of the National Home Builders Registration Council (NHBRC) was suspended for misleading the Council and mishandling the George building collapse;
- The National Housing Finance Corporation (NHFC) CEO is under investigation for misuse of funds and irregular leases, while the board's term has quietly expired;
- The Social Housing Regulatory Authority's (SHRA) top leadership has been terminated, creating a regulatory vacuum; and
- Community Schemes Ombud Services (CSOS) continues to flounder after the resignation of its Chief Ombud amid a corruption probe.

There is clearly a catastrophic collapse of governance across several housing entities under the Department of Human Settlements. This dysfunction seems to be deepening under the watch of senior officials and political heads in the department. There is a strong need to restore order and credibility.

This situation directly impacts South Africans as the dysfunction within these housing entities undermines the delivery of affordable housing, essential regulation, and financial support for homeowners. Without proper leadership and accountability, vulnerable communities face further delays and mismanagement in securing safe, stable living conditions.

To make matters worse, most of these entities' boards are either non-functional or in violation of the PFMA due to vacancies. This is not administrative slippage, but a sheer gross political neglect.

The DA demands decisive ministerial intervention. Minister Thembisile Simelane we urgently ask you to provide the following information:

- When will the Minister urgently fill all executive and board vacancies, in compliance with legislation;
- Can the Minister provide a full report to Parliament detailing the status of ongoing investigations and if there is any disciplinary action; and

- Can the Minister explain how and why the Department allowed this systemic breakdown to occur.

The facts are now on the record. The time for excuses has expired. Minister Simelane, we urge you to act or take full responsibility for this disaster.

Your Sincerely

LUYOLO MPHITHI, MP

**Spokesperson on Human Settlements
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