

Debate Budget - Human Settlements Hon. CJ Steyl 23 July 2025

North West Provincial Legislature Office

Caucus Leader: Freddy Sonakile
Caucus Chief Whip: Gavin Edwards
Chief of Staff: Carin Brits
Email: dumak@da.org.za

www.da.org.za

NW Provincial Legislature, Unit 1, Mmabatho

Honourable Speaker,

Allow me to get right to the point.

The North West Housing Corporation, which is to receive just short of R45 million, should ideally be dissolved.

This entity is mired in questionable practices, and when considering these, it is evident that the mandate of this entity is just to create another platform for ANC cadre deployment and pursuing projects that line the pockets of ANC-connected individuals and companies.

It is a massive concern that the justification of the existence of the Housing Corporation is to largely address homelessness, yet on this indicator, the entity has failed.

The Housing Corporation is now aggressively pursuing an agenda to become an implementing agent for the failures of the Department of Human Settlements.

It is because capital projects like the mega smart city or multi-tier housing developments run into billions, a great opportunity to loot.

But, Honourable Speaker, even if the Housing Corporation delivered on its core mandate, the R45 million annual funding falls far too short to bring any real change to thousands of homeless people in the province.

More than half of the allocated R45 million goes towards the compensation of Housing Corporation employees.

For years, this entity was managed and governed by CEO Sello Mogodiri.

Under pressure from the committee, a resolution was adopted that MEC Molapisi fast-track efforts to appoint an executive board.

Unfortunately, MEC Molapsisi missed a golden opportunity to appoint an independent, skilled, qualified, and experienced board of professionals.

Instead, an interim board to the Housing Corporation was announced, comprising former ANC politicians, many of them complicit in the entity's long-standing dysfunctionality.

This ANC cadre-deployed interim board's tenure has now been extended until such time as a permanent board can be recruited.

No clear timelines have been announced for the recruitment, interview schedule, and appointment of a duly constituted permanent board.



North West Provincial Legislature Office

Caucus Leader: Freddy Sonakile Caucus Chief Whip: Gavin Edwards Chief of Staff: Carin Brits Email: dumak@da.org.za

www.da.org.za

NW Provincial Legislature, Unit 1, Mmabatho

Honourable Speaker,

On Monday, President Cyril Ramaphosa fired the Minister of Higher Education, Nobuhle Nkabane, from office for, wait for it, appointing board members and chairpersons to SETAs who are also evidently ANC cadres and former politicians.

This caused a national outcry. And rightly so because South Africans are tired of the ANC's cadre deployment policy.

What made this abuse of power worse is that she lied to Parliament that the appointments were made following an independent selection panel process.

All these supposed independent panellists have basically rejected Nkabane's claims.

Caught not only in a lie but also in the perversion of cadre deployment. And today Nobulhle Nkabane is out of a job.

Honourable Speaker,

It is amazing what accountability can do in the interest of South Africans.

This is the change people voted for, a government of national unity that takes action.

Honourable Speaker,

It is a travesty that the Housing Corporation owes the City of Tshwane more than R20 million in unpaid rates, taxes, and utilities for Morula Sun.

It is a grave injustice that the Tshwane Deputy Mayor, Cllr Eugene Modise, owes the Housing Corporation R12,5 million in rental for Morula Sun.

And the cherry on the cake of ANC collusion and cadre deployment, Goldrush, a company linked to Deputy President Paul Mashatile through his sister-in-law, owes the NWHC just short of R6 million for rental at Morula Sun.

Through you, Honourable Speaker,

MEC Oageng Molapisi, the Chief Whip, Motlalepula Rosho, and all the ANC members in the portfolio committee who defended this ANC cadre deployment to the Housing Corporation should take note – accountability will soon come to North West.

And there will be tears. Because the DA will fight this cancer with everything we've got.

Honourable Speaker,

The provincial government's own statistics show that about 88% of households live in a formal dwelling.

This is quite a remarkable achievement considering the rural nature of our province and the levels of inequality and poverty.

FREEDOM. FAIRNESS. OPPORTUNITY. DIVERSITY.



North West Provincial Legislature Office

Caucus Leader: Freddy Sonakile
Caucus Chief Whip: Gavin Edwards
Chief of Staff: Carin Brits
Email: dumak@da.org.za

www.da.org.za

NW Provincial Legislature, Unit 1, Mmabatho

But the provincial housing backlog stands at about 400 000 units.

Sadly, the target for completing new BNG houses for this year is set at only 6 747 units.

That is, completing blocked projects that go back as far as 2011/12.

It would take almost 60 years for this department to address the 400 000 housing backlog at its current annual target.

In short, many beneficiaries on the housing list today will die without ever owning a house, and more is the travesty that their grandchildren will be at pensionable age when they receive the house the ANC promised their grandparents.

Many North West residents fall within the missing middle, that is, earning between R3,500 and R15,000 per month, which denies them the ability to receive a subsidised house or to access a mortgage.

To support this missing middle, the government introduced FLISP; sadly, the annual target for FLISP is only 44. Another failure.

The Department of Human Settlements also struggles to register title deeds because, Municipal Planning Tribunals are dysfunctional. The failure to restore the dignity of beneficiaries by extending full ownership denies them economic empowerment.

And then, to address the demand on serviced township development brought about by rapid urbanisation, the Department of Human Settlements should upgrade informal settlements; the annual target is about four informal settlements at phases 1 to 3.

Another failure was also brought about by the dysfunctionality of collapsed North West municipalities unable to legally zone township development areas and establish bulk services to these areas.

Honourable Speaker,

The DA rejects the R1,8 billion budget for the Department of Human Settlements.

End.