

## **Illegal selling of RDP houses to illegal foreign nationals: Duma acts firmly and offers to work with communities to protect KwaZulu-Natal**

Media and Public Statement by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements, Siboniso Duma

31 July 2025

Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: Over the past few weeks, we have been receiving complaints from ordinary members of society and councillors about individuals who are illegally selling RDP houses built by the Department.

In particular, there has been a groundswell of complaints about the illegal selling of RDP houses to illegal foreign nationals in various parts of the province.

We have also received a letter from the representatives of March-and-March in Nquthu requesting me as the executive authority to intervene.

I offer to act very firmly and decisively against any form of criminality in the interests of innocent communities.

We are building houses for South Africans who are in need of shelter, not for the generation of profit by greedy and irresponsible individuals.

We call upon the people of KwaZulu-Natal to join hands with the Department in showing a public display of disapproval against this irresponsible and greedy act.

For the record, as the Department, we will never turn a blind eye to complaints and expressions of anger against the alleged use of RDP houses for illegal activities such as selling drugs and hideouts for hit men and other criminals.

In this regard, we undertake to work with law enforcement agencies to flush out criminals from our human settlements.

Anyone with information about illegal selling of RDP houses must use the following Call Centre Numbers:-

- WhatsApp: 060 1055505
- Toll-free: 080 005505

Critically, we wish to send a strong message that it is a criminal offence to sell the RDP house within the first eight years of ownership without permission from the Department of Human Settlements.

Those who are doing it will forfeit their houses.

In terms of the Housing Amendment Act, any beneficiary who intends to sell the RDP house within or after the 8-year period should approach the Department of Human Settlements.

The Department will inherit the property and work with the municipalities to hand it over to a qualifying member of the community on the waiting list.

Finally, we undertake to work with the South African Human Rights Commission, Public Protector, and Auditor-General of South Africa around this matter.

We want to account for every cent of South Africans and to show public accountability.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

Enquiries

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