

**Five children have perished when their house caught fire in Shakashead, Stanger: Duma expresses his condolences and sends his team to work with KwaDukuza Local Municipality**

Media and Public Statement by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

28 February 2026

Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House: Sadly, five children have died tragically in a shack fire in Shakashead, Stanger.

One child, the mother (Ntombovuyo Menemene) of the children have been taken to the hospital. The father (Sivuyile Noyila) sustained minor injuries.

We salute the mother who saved the surviving child - Yana Menemene (2).

The remains of the five children have been taken by SAPS Forensic Team for an investigation.

The departed souls are the following:-

1. Asamkele Somtsewu (19)
2. Amila Menemene (3)
3. Sonwabise Noyila (14)
4. Sokhula Somtsewu (1) twin
5. Solulele Somtsewu (1) twin

According to KwaDukuza Local Municipality's Disaster Management team, the fire broke out around 05h05. They found the shack engulfed in flames.

We wish to express our deepest condolences to the surviving family members.

I am currently liaising with the Mayor of KwaDukuza Local Municipality, Cllr Sduduzo Gumede, following this incident.

We have assigned a team from my office and Department of Human Settlements to work with KwaDukuza Local Municipality to assist the affected family.

The team is currently meeting with the surviving father who will be provided with counselling.

Ends

Issued by the MEC for Transport and Human Settlements

Enquiries

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