



GAUTENG PROVINCE
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

ATT: ALL NEWS EDITORS

DATE: THURSDAY, 08, MARCH 2018

Gauteng Human Settlements condemns social media messages calling for people with housing problems to take them to a political party

The Department of Human Settlements' Deputy Director General for Beneficiary Management Keith Khoza said that the government remained the first stop for people who have housing challenges.

This is after a message which is purported to be from Ephraim Ralethole was posted on the social media platform, Twitter, calling on people with “..Housing challenges around Jo’burg Region”, the tweet further lists contact details of people and also calls on people to visit what is claimed to be the EFF regional offices address.

Khoza said: “People who have housing challenges, especially those who want RDP houses and rental social houses should contact the Department or nearest municipality for information.”

Khoza also called on political parties not to take advantage of the vulnerable citizens by playing with their emotions.

“Housing remains an emotive issue in Gauteng. Despite having built over 1.2 million houses, the Province continues to have a backlog of 600 000. We call on residents of Gauteng not to be misled by opportunistic people or politicians,” he said.

Khoza called on political parties to act as examples and provide leadership by not exploiting the already vulnerable citizens with housing challenges.

He also called on people not to be gullible and allow their plight to be used by people with alternative motives.

“The Department is implementing Mega Human Settlement Projects as part of dealing with the housing challenges. Mega Projects have different housing typologies such as RDP, Rental Unit, Social Houses, and Flisp houses as part of dealing with a number of housing challenges that have engulfed residents of the Province. We call on them to exercise restraint and not to be misled,” he said.

Khoza said that the Department will escalate the matter using the most appropriate channels to ensure that political parties or members of political parties do not abuse their standing in society.

Issued by the Gauteng Provincial Government. For more information contact the Department of Human Settlements – DDG: Keith Khoza on 082 823 9672 or Chief Director: Communications Services: Tahir Sema on 071 609 0058.

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