a world class African city

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



EXTERNAL

Joburg

a world class African city

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3. MMC Foreword

4. Title Deeds

6. Bringing Knowledge to the Communities

8. Community-based Engagements

9. High Impact Service Delivery Operation

10. Anti-fraud and Corruption Campaign

11. Benchmarking Sessions

14. Oversight Visits

16. Adverts

MMC FOREWORD

In the second quarter of the 2025/2026 financial year, the Department of Human Settlements continued with the work it initiated in the previous quarter, which is helping to turn the department's performance around. At the heart of this ambition was ensuring that we unblock the projects and ensure that they are all budgeted for. With the help of all the senior directors, the department embarked on a process of re-interrogating its business plan to ensure that every project we spend our energy on has an allocation.

On top of being able to bring efficiency to our budget process, the department has also been able to introduce a new contractor at the Helen Joseph hostel, who will address the infrastructure issues that have been raised by the residents for a long time.

As part of the monitoring process of the work that the department is doing in Slovo, the department met with Parliament's Portfolio Committee for Human Settlements on 17 October 2025. The committee was in the province to conduct oversights on different human settlements projects. During the visit, the committee was comprehensively briefed on the work that has been done through a task team made up of different stakeholders, including the leadership of the community of Slovo.

Formalisation of informal settlements remains a key component of the work that the department does, and nothing frustrates this programme like illegal occupation of land in these spaces. It was for this reason that we had an operation in the Denver informal settlement supported by the South African Police Service, Home Affairs, and other stakeholders to demolish illegal structures. Illegal mining activities had frustrated our efforts to electrify the area, and zama-zamas occupied most of the spaces that were needed to allow for the electrification process to resume.

The operation was a success, and the police praised the department for its work, as they had been trying to stop illegal mining activity at the Denver informal settlement. In this quarter, we have also had some challenges that we had to overcome. In September, a fire ravaged a section of the Madala hostel, leaving a few families without a place to stay.

However, on 5 December 2025, an elated community from Madala hostel, accompanied by the izinduna, welcomed us after the units that had been gutted were restored, along with the roof and kitchen.

On 11 December 2025, we issued title deeds to 293 residents who had received their homes years ago. This programme is critical to the work of the department as it provides security of tenure to the beneficiaries of the BNGs.

As we enter the final lap of this administration, we are implementing systems to enhance project delivery and make a meaningful impact on the residents of Johannesburg.



TITLE DEEDS







A Day of Joy and New Beginnings in Lenasia South

For 85 families in Lenasia South, Region G, it was the start of a new chapter filled with hope, dignity, and security. After years of waiting, these families finally received their long-awaited title deeds, officially becoming homeowners.

With pride and purpose, MMC for Human Settlements, Councillor Mlungisi Mabaso, personally handed over the title deeds to beneficiaries who have dreamed of this moment for decades. “Homeownership is not just about having a roof over your head—it’s about creating a legacy for your children and building stronger communities,” said Mabaso.
The atmosphere was electric. Smiles turned into tears of joy as neighbours embraced and families celebrated the certainty that comes with owning a home. What was once a distant dream is now a reality—a future secured, a foundation laid for generations to come.

These title deeds mean more than legal documents; they represent freedom from uncertainty and the assurance that no family will face the fear of eviction. They empower parents to provide stability for their children and give communities the confidence to grow and thrive.

“85 families. 85 stories. One unforgettable day,” Mabaso reflected, emphasizing the City of Johannesburg’s ongoing commitment to restoring dignity and building communities of hope. This initiative is part of a broader effort to address backlogs and ensure that every deserving beneficiary enjoys the full benefits of homeownership.

TITLE DEEDS CONT.

A Gift of Security: 293 Families Receive Title Deeds in Drieziek

The Department of Human Settlements has brought joy and security to 293 families in Drieziek, Region G, by handing over title deeds that confirm home ownership. This milestone marks a significant step in addressing the backlog of title deed allocations.

Member of the Mayoral Committee (MMC) for Human Settlements, Mlungisi Mabaso, expressed his commitment to ensuring that every deserving beneficiary receives the security of tenure they have long awaited. “This is the third time we’ve returned here in 12 months because of the backlog. We wanted to give you a Christmas present by securing tenure through home ownership. After today, you never have to worry about evictions,” he said.

MMC Mabaso also reminded beneficiaries of the legal requirements regarding their homes. “Thank you for not selling your houses. It is illegal to sell your house before the eight-year period prescribed. We want to reclaim RDP houses that have been sold and give them back to beneficiaries who truly deserve them,” he added.

Home ownership is more than just a title deed—it is a foundation for families to build a better future. “You must be able to provide shelter for your children, and home ownership through a title deed is that gift,” Mabaso emphasized. He assured residents that the department will continue rolling out more title deeds in the next financial year to address the remaining backlog.

For many, this day was life-changing. Minnie Mkhwanazi, one of the beneficiaries, shared her heartfelt gratitude: “This house will benefit my kids. Since 1994 we have been waiting. I used to be anxious, thinking I might pass away before securing home ownership for my children. But today, I can rest knowing that even when I’m gone, they will be taken care of.”

The Department of Human Settlements remains committed to restoring dignity and security to families through home ownership—one title deed at a time.







BRINGING KNOWLEDGE TO THE COMMUNITY





Region A, Ward 113 residents in Diepsloot learned more about the City's Human Settlements programmes and services during an Educational Awareness Campaign.

BRINGING KNOWLEDGE TO THE COMMUNITY CONT.

At Mayibuye Clinic in Ward 110, Region A, community members gathered for an engaging education and awareness session on the City's Human Settlements programmes.
The session opened meaningful conversations about housing opportunities and services, empowering residents with valuable information on how to access available support.





COMMUNITY-BASED ENGAGEMENTS

Region C held a series of community-based engagements and High-Level Service Delivery activities. Some of these engagements took place in Retirement Villages, others in Community Centres to bring the services to where the people are.











HIGH IMPACT SERVICE DELIVERY OPERATION

Executive Mayor Councillor Dada Morero, in collaboration with the City of Johannesburg's Department of Human Settlements, other departments, and municipal entities, led a #HighImpactServiceDeliveryOperation in Region A to improve basic services and restore functional infrastructure across communities.

The following were the focus wards 80,92,110 & 111







ANTI-FRAUD AND CORRUPTION CAMPAIGN



In partnership with JOSHCO, the City of Johannesburg's Department of Human Settlements held an anti-fraud and corruption campaign, educating the community about RDP Houses and Rental Flats.
Don't fall victim to scams!



BENCHMARKING SESSIONS



To strengthen the relationship between the various divisions of government and share best practices, the City of Johannesburg's Human Settlements hosted their coastal counterparts, the eThekweni Municipality and KZN Provincial government, at a benchmarking session. The three entities looked at the Transitional Residents Areas (TRU) and hostels at Alexandra, in Region E.





BENCHMARKING SESSION CONT.













The Department of Human Settlements, together with the Johannesburg Social Housing Company (JOSHCO) and the Lufhereng Development Team, was honoured to host the Nquthu Municipality for a successful benchmarking session.

These sessions strengthen collaboration across municipalities by sharing best practices, aligning development strategies, and promoting integrated human-settlement planning.

By learning from one another, government entities are better equipped to deliver sustainable, dignified housing solutions for all communities.

OVERSIGHT VISIT AT SLOVO PARK

The Parliament Portfolio Committee conducted an oversight visit at Slovo Park Informal Settlement in Region G of the City of Johannesburg. These oversights aim to track progress in the human settlements, such as the upgrading of informal settlements and removing any hurdles faced by the various arms of government in the delivery of services to citizens







OVERSIGHT VISIT AT SELBY STAFF HOSTEL



MMC for Human Settlements, Cllr Mlungisi Mabaso, conducted an oversight visit to the Selby Staff Hostel to assess living conditions following reports of illegal structures, unsafe electrical connections, and hazardous living environments.

The MMC noted that urgent intervention is required to remove illegal connections and structures to ensure safer and improved living conditions for hostel residents.









Joburg

a world class African city

ADVERT



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

SAYS NO TO CORRUPTION!



RDP HOUSES ARE FREE OF CHARGE. ***MAHALA!***

- **DO NOT** pay anyone who says they will give you a house
- **DO NOT** pay City officials money for queue jumping
- **DO NOT** pay City officials for a C-Form
- **DO NOT** give your C-form to anyone, the only time the department takes your C-form is when we give you a house
- **DO NOT** buy a C-Form. The system will pick up that it is a fraudulent copy and you will be arrested and prosecuted
- Human Settlements does not sell RDPs
- There are **NO** application fees
- **NO** facilitation fees - all admin is free
- Be careful of fake messages sent via social media on platforms such as Facebook, Instagram or WhatsApp
- You will be arrested and prosecuted for creating fake notices
- We urge the public to be cautious of fake news on social media
- **The MMC does not communicate with the public via WhatsApp.**

Department of Human Settlements Official Social Media Accounts:

City of Joburg Human Settlements Department

@cojdeptofhuman

@cojdohs

Joburg

a world class African city

REPORT SUSPECTED FRAUDULENT OR CORRUPT ACTIVITIES:
Call: Toll-Free 0800 00 25 87 | SMS: 32840 at R1.50 per SMS Email: Anti-corruption@tip-offs.com or whistle@joburg.org.za Group Forensic Investigating Services (GFIS) , 48 Ameshoff Street (Sappi Building) 6th floor in Braamfontein


Joburg
a world class African city