

Media Statement

WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2014

MEC Maine pledges to turn the north west into construction site and encourages developers to deliver quality houses

Following the recent handing over project programme which the department has embarked on, the MEC for Local Government and Human Settlements, Collen Maine saw it fit to convene all the housing developers in the province to discuss housing delivery issues.

During the meeting, the MEC encouraged the contractors as well as departmental officials to play their part in moving the province to greater heights. "Our position as department remains to '*turn the North West into a construction site*'. To achieve this objective, we would need men and women contractors who are determined; committed to respond to their contractual obligations without fail. Where there are problems we remain duty-bound to resolve them. I expect maximum cooperation between yourselves and the department; remember you remain contracted to the department for a particular period to deliver quality houses for our people in the province," said Maine.

He further emphasised that the role of the National Home Builders Registration Council (NHBRC) should be taken to consideration when building houses. "We are going to intensify our working relationship with (NHBRC) as body which is responsible for quality assurance of these houses. We will further convene a special meeting with NHBRC, our internal inspectors, regional Directors to strategise on effective monitoring and implementation of projects to ensure quality work," he emphasised.

"I must warn you that from time to time I will visit the projects unannounced as a way of monitoring the progress of all the projects under construction. I also wish to advise you not to steal from government by doing shoddy work or leave incomplete projects and make a run for it. If we work together, no one will lose his contract," warned Maine.

The MEC further commit that these developers forums are going to be held rotational on monthly basis in four districts.

Maine encouraged and motivated them to continue to deliver quality houses to the beneficiaries and to always remember the importance of building quality houses and that by doing the good work; the province will always remain on top of all the other provinces as far as housing delivery is concerned.

According to Maine, the department aims to deliver 11 000 units for the current financial year and further mentioned that some of the projects are already underway.

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**ISSUED BY THE NORTH WEST DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND
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