

**Media statement****Date: 20 August 2014****SIU RECOVERS THOUSANDS FROM HOUSING FRAUDSTERS IN THE NW**

The Special Investigation Unit (SIU) has recovered an amount of R904 (Nine hundred and four thousand rand) from housing beneficiaries who were found to be selling or leasing RDP houses in the North West alone. This was done in the fight against the unlawful act of sale or leasing of such houses. According to the North West MEC for Local Government and Human Settlements, Collen Maine, the fines, forms part of the departmental revenue for the 2013/14 financial year.

MEC Maine further called on other beneficiaries to refrain from doing such unlawful act, which he warned that there will be serious charges against perpetrators. He said that his department has spent R1, 342 billion of conditional grant in the financial year 2013/14, registering 100 percent spending of the allocated amount. "We embark on an exciting journey into the future, our visionary emphasis is on outcomes, rather than mere outputs. The 2014/15 Plan has set baseline for outcomes- measured delivery with greater emphasis on location, density, integration with infrastructure and amenities," said MEC Maine.

He said that financial viability and good governance in municipalities, is of utmost priority. "More focus will be on supporting municipalities with issues of compliance and access to basic services," he said.

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