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DG's office takes charge housing needs for MECs and MPLs...

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ALL the housing requirements and needs of Members of Executive Committee (MEC) and Members of the Provincial Legislature (MPLs) will henceforth become the responsibility of the second highest office in the province.

This was announced by the Premier of Bokone Bophirima, Supra Mahumapelo during his marathon meeting with senior officials of the department held in Zeerust on January 19.

For years, the allocation of state houses to political leadership has been the sole responsibility of the Chief Directorate: Facility Management in the Department of Public Works and Roads.

Mahumapelo, said he appointed Director General, Professor Job Mokgoro to spear-head future accommodation needs of MPLs and MECs.

Such will also include the identification, allocation, renovations as well as the purchasing of furniture and equipment for the said houses in Mahikeng and Mmabatho.

In acknowledgement of the challenge Public Works and Roads is currently facing of “evicting” occupants of state houses deemed “illegal” or “non-compliant”, Mahumapelo said Mokgoro would issue a memo to alleged culprits identified by the department “within 24 hours”.

“ We must first start by engaging them before we think of eviction orders,” he said.

Though Mahumapelo did not elaborate in detail why the said function migrates to Mokgoro's office, he hinted it was because of “problems with one of the individuals” in the department.

*Meanwhile Mahumapelo rebuked officials and called for stern action to be taken against them who enter private properties of politicians without consultation, to carry out additional work on such properties at state expense.

He said he had to chase away a contractor from his property in Mmabatho, who was commissioned allegedly by the department to install an electric power generator.

A concrete base slab and electrical cables had already been set-up by contractor at Mahumapelo's house "without my knowledge".

He called on the department to investigate and identify the person responsible and take disciplinary action.

END

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