



Human Settlements and Public Works
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Ref: Charlestown Housing Project Launch

Date: 03 October 2016

TO: ALL MEDIA

EMBARGO: IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 03 OCTOBER 2016

SUBJECT: LAUNCH OF R207 MILLION CHARLESTOWN HOUSING PROJECT

Dear Media Colleague

In yet another bid to bolster decent sustainable human settlements in KwaZulu-Natal, the MEC for Human Settlements and Public Works, Hon. Ravigasen Pillay will officiate at the launch of the first 500 units of a massive housing project in Newcastle Municipality in the northern part of the Province.

MEC Pillay together with Newcastle Municipality Mayor Councillor Makhosini Nkosi will tomorrow **Tuesday 04 October 2016** launch the R207 million Charlestown Housing Project in the Charlestown settlement near the border between KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga Province.

The project forms part of the eventual 1200-units Charlestown Housing Project in Newcastle Municipality's Ward 1.

The Charlestown Housing Project is an urban housing project for the Newcastle Municipality. The project value consists of R56, 4 million for internal services as well as R151, 2 million for the top structure.

The first phase of the project will be phased for 500 units and the bulk sanitation shall be implemented into two phases such that the first phase shall be able to handle the first 500 houses and the second phase will cover the full housing developments as planned as well as the existing houses of the Charlestown.

Owing to the fact that there is no water borne sanitation in Charlestown, each house will be supplied with a VIP toilet and the Charlestown water supply scheme is supplied by the Volkrust WTW.

The Volkrust WTW is fed by the Skuilhoed Dam. Water is then pumped to the Charlestown reservoir and a 12m high elevated steel tank. Water gravitates towards the residential areas from the above reservoirs.

In addition to the Charlestown Housing Project, the KwaZulu-Natal Human Settlements Department has also approved a mega catalytic Integrated Residential Development Programme (IRDP) project known as Jonhston-Blaaubosch-Cavarn (JBC) IRDP project with an estimated yield of 7 500 units.

In late July, the Newcastle Municipality in conjunction with the Human Settlements Department launched a massive slums clearance Siyahlala la Informal Settlement Upgrade Housing Project on the outskirts of the Central Business Development.

The KwaZulu-Natal Human Settlements Department is an enthusiastic stakeholder in the National Department's newly-developed programme of catalytic projects. This is intended to implement projects on scale especially in urban areas in a determined effort to meet the National Departments Medium-Term Strategic Framework targets.

ENDS

The details of the launch are as follows:

Venue: Charlestown Sportsgrounds (Near Charlestown Police Station)

Time: 10H00

Date: Tuesday 04 October 2016

For more information and media queries, please contact Mr Mbulelo Baloyi (Department of Human Settlements) on 079 871 3915 and Ms Thulile Maphanga (Newcastle Municipality) on 081 848 7325