

MEDIA STATEMENT ON THE LATEST UPDATE ON THE RESPONSE TO THE FLOODS DISASTER IN THE PROVINCE DELIVERED AT RESERVOIR HILLS ON 18 MAY 2026 IN CORNUBIA

Media Statement: Update on Relocation of 2022 Flood Victims in KwaZulu-Natal. The Provincial Department of Human Settlements is moving forward with the relocation of families affected by the 2022 floods in KwaZulu-Natal. We wish to inform the community about significant progress in this initiative. Key Milestones Achieved: Closure of Community Halls:

In December 2022, we successfully closed all community halls that were accommodating flood victims. Over 3,000 families were relocated to rented flats known as Transitional Emergency Accommodations.

Transition to Permanent Housing:

All Transitional Emergency Accommodations have been closed outside of eThekweni.

Recent developments include:

17 houses handed over to families in Copesville, Pietermaritzburg.

37 houses handed over to families in Illovo, leading to the closure of two Transitional Emergency Accommodations in eThekweni.

Upcoming Relocations: From Monday, May 18, 2026, to Friday, May 22, 2026, the Department will hand over 113 houses in Cornubia to families currently residing in Transitional Emergency Accommodations located in:

1. Sydenham: O'Flaherty Road
2. Dassenhoek
3. Mahatma Gandhi
4. Ntuzuma

Additionally, 104 families will be relocated to the refurbished Montclair Lodge in June 2026.

Future Developments: Plans are underway to complete an additional 450 houses in Cornubia by the end of March 2027. As of now, all Transitional Emergency Accommodations in eThekweni have been closed, with four more set to close by the end of June 2027, and the remaining accommodations will be closed in early 2027. Important Reminders: Families moving into their new homes are encouraged to care for the properties and refrain from selling them illegally. The Departments of Health, Social Development, and Education are collaborating to ensure these relocations proceed smoothly, with services adjusted

accordingly. Financial Impact: The National Department of Human Settlements has appointed a contractor to build 500 Temporary Units in Cornubia. The current rental burden for Transitional Emergency Accommodations is R128 million every 12 months. The three interventions—relocation to Cornubia houses, relocation to Cornubia Transitional Accommodations, and relocation to Montclair Lodge—are projected to save the state R66 million. The MEC for Transport and Human Settlements, along with the Mayor of eThekweni, will welcome the first families in Cornubia on Monday, May 18, 2026, at 12:30 PM. We appreciate the continued support and cooperation of the people of KwaZulu-Natal during this important transition. For further updates, please stay tuned to our official channels

Together Growing KwaZulu-Natal

I thank you