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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **DIPALEESENG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY'S HOUSING SUBSIDY ALLOCATION FOR 2016/2017 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The housing subsidy allocation to Dipaleseng Local Municipality for 2016/2017 financial year by the Department of Human Settlement was presented at the Special Council meeting on Friday, 08<sup>th</sup> July 2016, and was subsequently approved by the Council. This was done in line the municipality's strategic priority and key performance area of providing sustainable human settlements and improved quality of household life for its residents.

One of the Department of Human Settlements' areas of responsibility relates to provision of housing subsidies to the needy. A housing subsidy is a grant by government to qualifying beneficiaries for housing purposes. In relation to this, the department has therefore budgeted an amount of R52 190 000.00, with the allocation of two hundred (200) housing units and preparation of six hundred and eighty eight (688) sites for the 2016/17 grant for the Municipality.

The allocation will further be broken down such that Ward 1 and 2 in Siyathemba will each receive twenty (20) units, Ward 4 in Siyathemba will receive sixty (60) housing units and one hundred (100) will go to Ward 5 in Grootvlei.

One hundred Informal Settlement Upgrading Units and People's Housing Process units to the value of R 11 095 000.00 per programme are allocated to Siyathemba and Grootvlei areas respectively. While for the Balfour area, a total of R 30 000 000.00 is set aside for the Integrated Residential Development Programme (IRDP) is meant for a phased planning and development of integrated housing projects.

The table below depicts housing programmes per intervention category, area; number of units/sites and the amount budgeted for on each category:

**TABLE 1: CATEGORISATION OF THE HOUSING SUBSIDY**

AREA	PROGRAMME	NUMBER OF UNITS/SITES/ OTHER	AMOUNT
<b>Balfour</b>	Integrated Residential Development Programme (IRDP PHASE 1)	688	R30 000 000.00
<b>Siyathemba</b>	Informal Settlements Upgrading	100	R11 095 000.00
<b>Grootvlei</b>	People's Housing Process (PHP)	100	R11 095 000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	-	<b>R52 190 000.00</b>

It must be noted that the Integrated Residential Development Programme ((IRDP) is meant for a phased planning and development of integrated housing projects.

**PHASE 1: Land, Services and Township Proclamation** could therefore entail planning, land acquisition, township establishment and the provision of serviced residential and other land uses.

DHS has however highlighted that the process of verifying fraudulently claimed housing units is in progress. It is indicated that from the 100 units allocated for Siyathemba a certain number (which will be communicated after verification process is completed) will be directed to address the frauds.

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