

② C60329 [housing]



Business Plan for the

# PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

2006 – 2008



## 1. MANDATE

### 1.1. General

Housing the nation constitutes one of the daunting challenges confronting South Africa.

- The Committee is committed in fast tracking housing delivery by playing a critical role in scrutinising, monitoring and overseeing the implementation of legislation passed by Parliament.
- To monitor and evaluate the performance of the Department of Housing and ensuring that it meets its constitutional mandate and its deliverables.
- To monitor and evaluate the performance of Housing support institutions.
- To encourage the mainstreaming of gender in housing delivery.
- To critically examine whether the integrated service delivery is taking place within the Social Services cluster, especially the Department of Land Affairs, Department of Local Government, Department of Water Affairs and Forestry and the Department of Minerals and Energy
- To encourage the participation of beneficiaries in housing delivery e.g. to engage with communities by means of public outreach forums.
- To promote the development of emerging housing contractors including women contractors to ensure quality housing and delivery .
- To promote development of housing support centres closer to communities.

## 2. MISSION

To ensure that Parliament gets value for money spent for the purpose of building houses. The committee will continue to encourage visible housing delivery and adherence to better quality of housing units.

## 3. VISION

To this end the Portfolio Committee on Housing:

Aims to work with all relevant stakeholders willing to participate in the building of houses and assist the department in its constitutional imperative and mandate of providing everyone with an access to adequate housing.

## 4. CORE OBJECTIVES

The priority areas for a Portfolio Committee is the set of objectives identified for the ongoing business of a Committee as derived from the mission.

The priority areas for Portfolio Committee on Housing is:

- Core Objective 1:** Process new legislation e.g. Social Housing Bill, PIE Bill and the Rental Housing Amendment Bill
- Core Objective 2:** To facilitate oversight functions over the Department of Housing, with a view to ascertain their strategic plan and priorities.
- Core Objective 3:** To perform oversight functions over the Department of Housing with a view to assess the provision of human settlement in provinces in terms of the Breaking New Ground (BNG) initiative.
- Core Objective 4:** To perform oversight functions over the housing support institutions in order to ascertain their fulfilment of mandate.

- Core Objective 5:** To perform oversight functions with other relevant departments who are central in the provision of houses e.g. local government.
- Core objective 6:** To facilitate the access of women and people with disabilities in housing and construction.
- Core objective 7:** To draw from international best practises how the housing delivery has been dealt with e.g. UN Habitat and international visits and exchange programmes.

## 5. CUSTOMER AND CLIENT ANALYSIS FOR THE COMMITTEE

List of departments / statutory bodies overseen by the portfolio committee and our customer / clients are:

- Department of Housing
- Department of Land Affairs
- Department of Local Government
- SALGA
- Provincial legislatures (MEC's, MPL's)
- Housing support institutions
  - a) National Housing Finance Corporation (NHFC)
  - b) National Urban Reconstruction and Housing Agency (NURCHA)
  - c) Servcon Housing Solutions
  - d) Social Housing Foundation
  - e) Thubelisha Homes

- f) People's Housing Partnership Trust
- g) National Home Builders Registration Council (NHBRC)
- h) Rural Housing Loan Fund (RHLF)
- i) Beneficiaries

## 6. CHALLENGES

**The following challenges were identified:**

- Effective communication between all relevant stakeholders
- Realisation of the cluster approach of service delivery
- Effective scrutiny of legislation
- Improve public participation by means of housing entities
- Scrutiny of other committee reports that have a bearing on housing
- The ongoing empowerment of committee members to increase oversight capacity through workshops seminars and conferences
- Consumer education e.g. rights and challenges to be applied

**The following problems were identified:**

- The support for the portfolio committee in terms of adequate administrative back-up and research facilities as well as the provision of appropriate venues with recording facilities
- The development and empowerment of staff to expand their knowledge base.
- Clear, user-friendly and regular account of committee expenditure.
- Quarterly reports of the Department of Housing

## 7. MAIN TASKS

| Main Tasks  | Activities  | Outputs                           | Responsibility   | Time frame |
|-------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|------------|
| Legislation | Process/ Amend legislation<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Actions</b><br/>Briefings by Department<br/>Reading of Bills<br/>Analysis of Bills<br/>Conduct research<br/>Amendments formulated<br/>Drafting of Amendments<br/>Passing Legislation</li> </ul> | Legislation processed/<br>amended | All committee members, researcher, departmental officials and the State Law Advisers | Ongoing    |
|             | Conduct public hearings   | Public hearings conducted         | Committee and interest groups  | Ongoing    |

| Main Tasks           | Activities  | Outputs  | Responsibility   | Time frame   |
|----------------------|---|--|--|--|
|                      | Drafting of reports<br><br>Table reports  | Reports drafted<br><br>Reports tabled  | Committee Secretary  | Ongoing  |
| Conducting oversight | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrutinising Budget Votes of the Department of Housing</li> <li>• Scrutinising strategic plan</li> <li>• Scrutinising annual reports</li> <li>• Scrutinising quarterly reports</li> <li>• <b>Action for all the above</b><br/>Briefing by Department</li> <li>• Implementation of the strategic plan</li> <li>• Briefing on the Medium Term Budget Policy Statement</li> </ul> | Budget Votes scrutinised<br><br>Strategic plans scrutinised<br><br>Annual report scrutinised<br><br><br><br>Assess whether the capital flow is in line with the strategic plan<br><br>Implementation checked | All committee Members<br><br>All committee members<br>All committee members<br>All committee members<br><br>All committee members<br><br>All committee members | Ongoing<br><br>Ongoing<br>Ongoing<br>Ongoing<br><br>Ongoing<br><br>Ongoing |

| Main Tasks | Activities   | Outputs   | Responsibility        | Time frame |
|------------|--|---|-----------------------|------------|
|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Briefing on the Medium Term Expenditure Framework</li> </ul>                          | Expenditure scrutinised                                 | All committee members | Ongoing    |
|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Briefing on the quarterly financial statements of the department</li> </ul>           | Finances checked  | All committee members | Ongoing    |
|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adoption of the revised Committee Business Plan</li> </ul>                            | Business plan adopted                                   | All committee members | Ongoing    |
|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adoption of the committee budget proposal</li> </ul>                                  | Budget proposal adopted                                 | All committee members | Ongoing    |
|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor implementation of legislation</li> </ul>                                      | Implementation checked                                  | All committee members | Ongoing    |
|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Actions</b></li> </ul>   |   |                       |            |
|            | Visits to all provinces monitoring and overseeing implementation   | Housing projects scrutinised                            | All committee members | Ongoing    |
|            | Briefing by the department   |   |                       | Ongoing    |
|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessing the effectiveness of labour intensive method in housing delivery</li> </ul> | Evaluate success of economic empowerment – job creation | All committee members | Ongoing    |



| Main Tasks   | Activities   | Outputs  | Responsibility        | Time frame |
|--|--|--|-----------------------|------------|
| Letsema campaign                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women in Housing and Construction Conference</li> </ul>   | Assess women's participation in housing delivery   | All committee members | Ongoing    |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit to provinces, assessing the success of, amongst others, People's Housing Process (PHP)</li> </ul>   | Encourage beneficiaries in the participation in housing delivery   | All committee members | Ongoing    |
|  | Members of the committee to participate in building of homes in each province  | Active participation in building of homes  | All committee members | Ongoing    |
| UN Habitat participation                             | Sending a delegation to the UN Habitat at Vancouver, Canada in June 2006   | Learn from their experiences   | Delegated members     | Ongoing    |
| International experience fact finding foreign visits | Fact finding mission on the best housing practices e.g Cuba in October 2006  |  | All committee members | Ongoing    |
| Monitoring and evaluation                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Housing support institutions – public hearings and visits               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NURCHA</li> <li>- NHBRC</li> <li>- NHFC</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | Obtain value for money spent and to check whether their operation are in line with the set of objectives | All committee members |            |

| Main Tasks                               | Activities  | Outputs  | Responsibility        | Time frame |
|--|---|--|-----------------------|------------|
| Promote people's contract                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- RHLF</li> <li>- Social Housing foundation</li> <li>- Thubelisha Homes</li> <li>- Servcon</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public hearings with housing beneficiaries</li> </ul> | Check client satisfaction with quality and delivery    | All committee members | Ongoing    |
| Promoting of integrated housing delivery | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public hearings with Mayors and SALGA</li> </ul>   | Check the role of Local Government in housing delivery | All committee members | Ongoing    |