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MEDIA STATEMENT

To : All Editors and Journalists

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Department and JB Marks Local Municipality sign agreement to speed-up housing delivery

The North West Provincial Government through Department of Human Settlements has granted the JB Marks Local Municipality accreditation to perform Level One subsidy functions. This means that the municipality will be responsible for managing and administering housing subsidies in the area.

Speaking during the signing ceremony, North West Premier Lazarus Mokgosi said the agreement will facilitate a collaborative framework in which the Provincial Government and the Local Municipality operate as partners towards a shared commitment to service delivery and excellence. "Housing is not merely about brick and mortar; it is the cornerstone of dignity, security, and opportunity. Through this implementation protocol, we are entrusting the JB Marks Local Municipality with greater autonomy and resources to address the housing needs of our residents".

"This decentralization of power is a bold move that underscores our belief in local governance and its proximity to the people, for they better understand the needs of a community than those who pass-by its streets every day", said Premier Mokgosi.

Premier Mokgosi further said that the signing of the agreement will go a long way in addressing the housing backlog the Department of Human Settlements is currently faced with. He said with this development, the municipality will be able to implement housing projects faster and the department will retain its role of oversight.

Sharing Premier Mokgosi's sentiments, MEC for Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs Gaoage Oageng Molapisi said that the municipality will be responsible for the management and administering of housing projects and programmes as per the level one accreditation functions, this includes budget planning, identification of housing projects and programmes, beneficiary management and housing subsidy registration among many other

He added that the department has already appointed a service provider as part of its post accreditation support plan to assist the municipality with the implementation protocol. “The department will provide the municipality with all the necessary assistance for them to be able to carry out these tasks and ensure that communities receive efficient housing services”.

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Issued by the Department of Human Settlements (North West)

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