

## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

### ORAL REPLY

#### QUESTION NO. 228 (N1543E)

#### **Mr A C Steyn (DA) to ask the Minister of Housing:**

- (1) Whether, with reference to a recent media report (details furnished) on the unfinished housing scheme in Masiphumelele, her department has taken any steps to ensure that (a) the audit that started more than a year ago will be finalised and that (b) alternative measures have been put in place to complete the project; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?
- (2) whether her department will consider reimbursing beneficiaries who took the initiative to complete their homes; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?
- (3) whether any charges has been brought against the original developer; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

#### **Reply**

- (1)(a) The Provincial Housing Department of the Western Cape has engaged the Special Investigations Unit to undertake a full investigation into all projects that have possibly been affected by corruption and fraud.
- (1)(b) As an alternative measure to complete the relevant housing projects, Thubelisha Homes have also been contracted to reconcile affected projects. Based on these reports, the Provincial Housing Department of the Western Cape will be in a position to decide whether to appoint Thubelisha Homes to complete the project or alternatively to re-start the project with different role-players.

- (2) Yes, the work done on the site will have to be assessed in accordance with the norms and standards initially set for the project. Payment for work done will be made through an Account Administrator and as a result a process for payment will have to be established.
- (3) Fraud and corruption charges have been laid against the material supplier. The case is ongoing and details can be released once the court has made a decision.