
MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS: MS M T KUBAYI, MP
ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL: MR S C ZAMA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NUMBER: PQ 2698(NW3088E)

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 1 SEPTEMBER 2023

REPLY RECOMMENDED BY:

MS M MUTHIGE

**ACTING DDG: ENTITIES OVERSIGHT, IGR MONITORING AND
EVALUATION**

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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Mr L Mphithi (DA) to ask the Minister of Human Settlements:

- (1) Whether her Department has a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Nelson Mandela University; if not, what is the position in this regard, if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) Whether she will furnish Mr L Mphithi with a copy of the MoU; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) Whether the MoU involves job opportunities for the students enrolled in a course sponsored by her Department; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

REPLY

- (1) The National Department of Human Settlements (NDHS) and the then Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) currently known as NMU, entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on 6 November 2012. The signed MoA provided for the establishment of a Chair of Education in Human Settlements Development Management. The established Chair of Education in Human Settlements Management was responsible amongst other things, for the design and delivery of a unique professional degree known as the Bachelor of Human Settlements Development Degree.

This degree is an undergraduate 4-year integrated multidisciplinary qualification with a focus on human settlement issues. (See **Annexure A- MoA**)

The partnership was extended for a further two years and an addendum was added to the original Agreement. The addendum extended the scope of the NMMU Chair of Education in Human Settlements and focused on the Capacity Development programme for the Human Settlements Portfolio Committee. (See **Annexure B – Addendum**).

In 2019, NDHS identified a need to conduct an impact evaluation study. It was informed by the view that the Chair is strong enough to be self-sustainable and the partnership therefore will be coming to an end. **Annexure C- Final report of the Impact Evaluation Study.**

(2) A copy of the MoA and related addendum to the Agreement are attached as Annexure A and B in this response. The activities related to the MoA and related addendum expired on 31 March 2016 with the addendum expiring on 30 December 2019.

(3) 42 students successfully completed the Bachelor of Human Settlements Development degree from the commencement of the MoA up to when the contract expired between two parties.

The expired MoA did not include the provision of job opportunities for the enrolled students that were recipients of the Departmental bursary because the NDHS already had a Scholarship Implementation Unit that was responsible to facilitate the placement

of graduates with Provincial Departments of Human Settlements and the Metropolitan Municipalities. The immediate placement of students became a challenge due to the reduction in compensation of employees' budgets in the different spheres of government, and the impact of COVID 19 on the operational budgets of the Provincial Departments of Human Settlements and the Metropolitan Municipalities. A graduate placement programme is in its development stage within the Department with a view to absorb unemployed graduates who were funded or supported through funding from the human settlements sector.

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MS M MUTHIGE

**ACTING DDG: ENTITIES OVERSIGHT, IGR, MONITORING AND
EVALUATION**

DATE: 07/09/2023

Recommended / not recommended

MR S C ZAMA

ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE:

Approved / not approved

MS M T KUBAYI, MP

MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

DATE: