

More awards for housing department

Human Settlements and Public Works MEC Ravigasen Pillay said the top honours in so many categories had taken him by surprise.



Representatives from Ray Nkonyeni Municipality and the KZN Provincial Department of Human Settlements and councillors show off their array of awards. Photo: Supplied

For the fifth consecutive year, the KZN Department of Human Settlements has come out tops at the national Govan Mbeki Awards.

The prestigious awards ceremony was held at the East London International Convention Centre last Friday.

The department walked away with seven awards, just falling short in the coveted Overall Best Performing Province and Best Metropolitan categories.

It has won the Best Performing Province of the Year category since 2014.

The department received other awards, including Best Rental Housing Tribunal, and Best Community Residential Unit.

A very excited Human Settlements and Public Works MEC Ravigasen Pillay said the top honours in so many categories had taken him by surprise as the competing provinces had, he said, really upped the ante this year.

“Having won the Best Performing Province of The Year category four years in a row must have jolted other provinces into enhancing their performance but I am quite happy with the numerous category awards we took home. It was a total surprise and I did not expect so many of them given the fierce competition.”

According to the MEC, the department’s awards were ‘a powerful vote of confidence’ in KZN’s ability to get the job of housing delivery done.

“Numbers do count, and despite the limited financial resources we have, we are still able to deliver on our mandate as per Outcome 8. We are very excited. I want to congratulate our staff and all the municipalities who have worked hard to achieve these results.”