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Public hearings on the Home Owners Protection Bill and the Expropriation Bill, have seen KZN's Departments of Human Settlements and Public Works face an angry tirade from citizens over the failure of this ANC-run government to honour its many promises.

It stands to reason that the departments have chosen to conduct the hearings in rural regions rather than urban areas – where they know that the demand for answers from government would undoubtedly be much greater.

In the King Cetshwayo Municipality, residents expressed their frustration at not receiving title deeds for many years and are clearly fed up with the excuses from local government officials. Some claimed that despite having registered for housing in 2019, the buildings are still at foundation level. Tellingly, they also said that they now see the promises as an ANC election ploy

and that they feel exploited.

Further complaints included a lack of assistance for owners whose homes were storm-damaged, corruption around housing allocations and a lack of housing for the disabled. These citizens have begged for their housing to be completed and are desperate for accurate, timeous updates on housing – which are not forthcoming from municipalities.

Sadly, the reality is that many will go to their graves without having experienced the dignity of having their own home. People's eyes are opening up to the KZN Taliban-faction ANC's empty promises. The result of this will be seen at the ballot box next year. Our province's citizens can only take so much.

Marlaine Nair, MPL
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