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Leaders appeal for invaders to move for housing project to begin

WARD 68 councillor, Aubrey Snyman, appeals for residents who invaded the decanting units in Alabama and Percy Johnson roads, to move back to their homes so that relevant departments can begin demolishing the units.

According to MEC for Human Settlements and Public Works, Siphso Nkosi, who addressed community leaders and illegal dwellers at the decanting units on August 7, the units were to be demolished and proper housing will be built in the area.

Nkosi said he would make good on governments' promises and vowed

to fast track the completion of the housing projects which have been approved.

He said housing projects included 160 one bedroom flats being demolished and 22 new flats will be built, in place of the 160.

The balance of the homes will be built in the land at the area called the Arc, a temporary housing facility built by the Department of Human Settlements and Public Works.

Snyman said the process was halted due to the illegal occupation of the units by residents who claimed they were tired of their living conditions

and invaded the area.

"The MEC gave an update of the various projects that are currently taking place and future projects which will address some of the overcrowding that's taking place in ward 68. He then made a ruling that the people who have invaded the 30 decanting units must move out.

"He requested that community leaders to speak to the people to encourage them to move out and go back to where they were living previously.

"To date, they have not moved out and are still in the units. The

Department of Human Settlements is waiting for the invaders to move out so that they can continue with the balance of the flats that still need to be refurbished and this is creating a delay on the refurbishment projects.

"We appeal to residents who have invaded the units to move out so that the projects can commence," added Snyman.

According to Nkosi, the building plans have been done and are circulating for approval, and with a service provider finalised in August, work was expected to have already commenced.