

Message from the Department of Human Settlements

Claims of selling RDP houses illegally is a major concern for Government. According to the Housing Amendment Act of 2001, a beneficiary is prohibited from selling an RDP house within eight years of it being handed to them. Even after the eight-year period, a beneficiary should contact the Department to inform and involve them in the sale of the house.

These sections in the Housing Ac, 1997 (No 107 of 1997) are applicable:

- Section 10.A.(3): When the person vacates his or her property the housing department shall

be deemed to be the owner of the property & application must then be made to the Registrar of Deeds by the provincial housing department for the title deeds of the property to be endorsed to reflect the department's ownership of that property.

- Section 10.A.(4): No purchase price or other remuneration shall be paid to the person vacating the property but such person will be eligible for obtaining another state-subsidised house, should he or she qualify therefor.

Please note that a title deed is issued to a legitimate beneficiary and if you buy the RDP house, it will still belong to the rightful owner.

It is not easy to change the title deed if the house was sold within the period of eight years. Should you want to buy an RDP house, contact the Department to enquire about the house and who the rightful owner is as some beneficiaries have a tendency to commit a scam of selling a house to more than one person and it will be seem legitimate as the title deed is still under their name.

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