



EFF STATEMENT ON NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS R5 BILLION EXPENDITURE ON RENTALS

Monday, 25 January 2021

The EFF notes with concern that in the financial year 2019/20 the national government has spent R5billion on renting private property. Notably is that, the highest expenditure was on Police housing, standing at R93 million annually. This was revealed by the Minister of Public Works in response to a parliamentary question by the EFF.

The department has buildings which they lease out all over the country. It is therefore puzzling that they lease out buildings and yet pay rental for private buildings. This is a classic case of fruitless expenditure, possibly being done for corrupt ends. It may very well be that majority of these private leases for government are steeped in corruption meant for the personal enrichment of politicians. The Ministry admitted that there are even overpayments related to rents of some of these buildings. Above, why rent out offices when you have free offices you could occupy?

We call for the immediate review of all private leases and rental contracts with a view to immediately end them. We also call for an investigation to the overpayments and over pricing of all the leases. No one must take advantage of the public purse.

There is never a reason for state departments and institutions to rent buildings when government has buildings for free. Where this is necessary, it must be for a very short period, or with a view to buy the property.

ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS

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