

DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LAND REFORM

NO. 1466

22 DECEMBER 2017

CALL FOR COMMENT ON THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LAND REFORM'S INTENTION TO RE-ALIGN AND AMEND THE DEFINITION OF AREAS OF JURISDICTION OF THE DEEDS REGISTRIES IN JOHANNESBURG AND PRETORIA

The general public is hereby invited to comment on the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform's intention to re-align and amend the areas of jurisdiction of the deeds registries in Johannesburg and Pretoria.

In terms of section 1 of the Deeds Registries Act, 1937 (Act No. 47 of 1937), the Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform may, from time to time, subject to the laws governing the public service, by notice in the Gazette—

- *Establish or disestablish deeds registries;*
- *Establish or disestablish sub-deeds registries within the area of deeds registries; and*
- *Determine the names and situation of such offices, define the respective areas thereof, or amend any such determination or definition.*

The Department of Rural Development and Land Reform intends the following:

- To amend the definition of the area of jurisdiction of the deeds registry in Pretoria, to the City of Tshwane, as from 1 April 2018;
- To amend the definition of the area of jurisdiction of the deeds registry in Johannesburg, to the Province of Gauteng, excluding the area served by the deeds registry in Pretoria, as from 1 April 2018.

The *status quo* in respect of the area of jurisdiction of the deeds registries for the registration of the opening of townships, as contemplated in section 46A of the Deeds Registries Act, 1937, and the registration of farm and agricultural land, will remain until legislation has been amended to allow for registration to take place in accordance to the definition of the areas of the deeds registries in Pretoria and Johannesburg, as to be amended.

The purpose for re-alignment of the jurisdiction areas of the deeds registries in the Gauteng Province is to ensure improved access to deeds registration services to all citizens of the province. The current service delivery model is of such a nature that clients have to travel long distances in order to access deeds registration services.

Re-aligning the areas of jurisdiction for the Pretoria and Johannesburg Deeds Registries will ensure that the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform implements constitutional reforms in the current service delivery landscape. The main objective being access and efficiency in the delivery of deeds registration services to the public.

Invitation to make written submission:

The public are hereby invited to make written submissions in favour of or against the above to:

The Chief Registrar of Deeds
Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
Private Bag X918
Pretoria
0001

For attention: Ms P Gubuza

Or E-mail to: deeds.alignment@drdlr.gov.za

Written submissions must reach the Chief Registrar of Deeds on or before 31 January 2018.