



Salaries & Remuneration
Commission

Rewarding productivity

Ref. No: SRC/TS/CGOVT/3/61 VOL.IV (45)

25th August, 2017

All County Secretaries

HOUSING BENEFIT FOR DEPUTY GOVERNORS

Reference is made to the Special Issue of the Kenya Gazette Notice Vol.CXIX-N0.89 of 7th July, 2017 and specifically Gazette Notice No.6518 on Remuneration and Benefits for State Officers in the County Government.

As you are aware, the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 230(4) (a) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, set the remuneration and benefits for State Officers in the County Government as communicated via the referred Gazette Notice. Among the benefits set is the provision for a Housing Benefit by the County for the Governor, Deputy Governor and the Speaker of the County Assembly. The benefit is not provided in the form of house allowance but as a Housing Benefit (official residence).

The Commission would like to advice Counties on the Housing Benefit for designated State Officers in the County as follows:

- (a) The provision of this benefit for the Governor and the Speaker of the County Assembly is as stipulated in the letter Ref No: SRC/TS/CGOVT/3/61 dated 18th December 2013 and Ref. No: SRC/TS/CGOVT/3/61 dated 24th October 2016 **(Copies attached)**.
- (b) In case a County does not currently have a house within the County befitting the status of the designated State Officers, the County should enter into a lease agreement. This should be after ascertaining the rental value of the house to be leased guided by the Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development. In this regard, the monthly rent payable for a Deputy Governor's official residence should not exceed:
 - (i) **Kshs.185,000** per month for Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu Counties; and
 - (ii) **Kshs.90,000** for other Counties

The Commission further advices that Counties prioritize funds for the construction of such official residences in the 2018/19 Budget Cycle. The option for County Governments paying rent at the stipulated rates for the designated State Officers residential houses in the County shall cease by **30th June 2019**.

The Commission appreciates your continued support and is available for any further clarification.



Anne R. Gitau (Mrs.)
COMMISSION SECRETARY

CC:

The Principal Secretary

Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development
Nairobi

Principal Secretary,

The National Treasury
NAIROBI

Controller of Budget,

Office of the Controller of Budget
NAIROBI

The Auditor General,

Kenya National Audit Office
NAIROBI

The Secretary,

Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission
NAIROBI

The Secretary

Commission on Revenue Allocation
NAIROBI

All County Governors



**Salaries & Remuneration
Commission**

Rewarding productivity

Ref. No: SRC/TS/CGOVT/3/61

24th October, 2016

All County Secretaries

HOUSING BENEFIT FOR GOVERNORS

The Kenya Gazette Notice of 1st March 2013 by the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) made a provision for housing benefit by the State for the President, Chief Justice, Governors and Speakers. It stipulated that the benefit would not be provided in form of house allowance but as housing benefit (official residence).

The Commission however, noted that most Counties did not have houses within the Counties befitting the status of Speakers and Governors. The Counties were therefore, advised to enter into lease agreements. In ascertaining the rental value of the houses to be leased, SRC advised that Counties be guided by the Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development.

In 2015, The Commission collected data on prevailing market rents for houses across the Counties suitable for Governors and Speakers. Analysis from available data indicated that rents currently being paid were way above market rates. Consequently, the Commission advises that the monthly rent payable for a Governor's official residence should not exceed:

- (a) Kshs. 200,000 per month for Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu Counties; and
- (b) Kshs. 100,000 per month for other Counties.

The Commission further advises that Counties to prioritize funds for construction of Governors' official residences in the 2018/19 budget cycle. The option for County governments paying rent for Governors' residential houses shall cease by **30th June, 2019**.


Anne R. Gitau (Mrs.)
COMMISSION SECRETARY

CC:

Dr. Kamau Thugge, EBS
Principal Secretary
National Treasury
NAIROBI

Mr. Edward R.O. Ouko, CBS
Auditor General
Kenya National Audit Office
NAIROBI

Mr. George Ooko
Commission Secretary
Commission of Revenue Allocation
NAIROBI

Mrs. Agnes Odhiambo
Controller of Budget
NAIROBI

All County Governors



**Salaries & Remuneration
Commission**

Rewarding productivity

Ref. No: SRC/TS/CGOVT/3/61

24th October, 2016

**All Clerks
County Assemblies**

HOUSING BENEFIT FOR SPEAKERS

The Kenya Gazette Notice of 1st March, 2013 by the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) advised that the state should provide an official residence for His Excellency the President, the Chief Justice, Governors and Speakers of National and County Assemblies. It stipulated that the benefit would not be provided in form of house allowance but as housing benefit (official residence).

The Commission however, noted that most Counties did not have houses within the Counties befitting the status of Speakers. The Counties were therefore, advised to enter into lease agreements. In ascertaining the rental value of the houses to be leased, SRC advised that Counties be guided by the Ministry Transport, Infrastructure, housing and Urban Development.

In 2015, The Commission collected data on prevailing market rents for houses across the Counties suitable for Speakers. Analysis from available data indicated that rents currently being paid were way above market rates. Consequently, the Commission advises that the monthly rent payable for a Speaker's official residence should not exceed:

- (a) Kshs. 150,000 per month for Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu Counties; and
- (b) Kshs. 75,000 per month for other Counties.

The rental payments should be made directly to the owner of the house.

The Commission further advises that Counties to prioritize funds for construction of Speakers' official residences in the 2018/19 budget cycle. The option for County governments paying rent for Governors' residential houses shall cease by **30th June, 2019**.


**Anne R. Gitau (Mrs.)
Commission secretary**

CC.

Dr. Kamau Thugge, EBS
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All County Speakers



Salaries & Remuneration
Commission
Rewarding productivity

Ref. No: SRC/TS/CGOVT/3/61

18th December, 2013

To : All County Secretaries
All Clerks to County Assemblies

HOUSING BENEFITS FOR DESIGNATED STATE OFFICERS AT THE COUNTY

The Gazette Notice of 1st March, 2013 by the Salaries and Remuneration Commission made provision of a house as a benefit to the Governors and Speakers of the County Assembly. Subsequent visits to the Counties by the Commission revealed that implementation of the housing benefit has faced challenges due to lack of appropriate facilities under the control of the county governments and where such facilities exist for hire, the counties lack guidance on procedures to be undertaken before renting, leasing or even constructing the appropriate house.

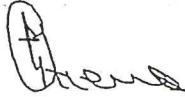
Following the visits and correspondence seeking clarification on the same, the Commission held consultation with other national government departments charged with the development of National Housing Policy. Consequently, the Commission during its 61st meeting held on 9th December, 2013 reiterated that the Governor and Speakers of the County Assembly, due to the nature of the function of the office, be provided with a house as a benefit.

For purposes of ensuring that the Governors and Speakers of the County Assemblies access the benefit, your office should liaise and work closely with the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development which is responsible for National Housing Policy and has dealt with similar issues in relation to State Officers at the national level in the past, for necessary guidance and facilitation. The cost of providing a house for the Governor and Speaker of the County Assembly to be met from the County budgetary provision.

By a copy of this letter, the Principal Secretary, Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development is requested to inform/instruct the field officers to provide necessary guidance/assistance to the County governments, for purposes of ensuring provision of appropriate housing in a cost effective manner. Please note that the provision of a house does not include payment of House Allowance to the incumbent of the offices.

The purpose of this letter therefore, is to provide clarification on the provision of a house as a benefit to the Governor and Speaker of the County Assembly. Your office is free to consult this office for any further clarification on the matter.

The Commission continues to appreciate your cooperation as it undertakes its mandate.



G. A. Otieno (Mrs.) MBS.,
COMMISSION SECRETARY

CC Ms. Mariamu el Maawy
Principal Secretary
Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development
NAIROBI

Mr. Kinuthia WaMwangi
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National Treasury
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All Governors

All Speakers, County Assembly