

116 families in Leandra limbo

Political Reporter

ONE hundred and sixteen families in Leandra township in the Eastern Transvaal are waiting for a decision from the Department of Cooperation and Development to know whether they can stay or must move to KwaNdebele.

Threats to force them to move are being opposed by the Leandra Action Committee (LAC), which says that the Peri Urban Board promised in 1973 to build houses for everybody in Leandra.

A new township is being

built in Leandra, but officials have said that only those with Section 10(i)a, b or c rights can stay in the new township.

Only 712 houses were built for the 18 000 people of Leandra and the LAC believed the new township was being used to force many of them to go to KwaNdebele.

According to Mr M A Nkabinde, chairman of the LAC, the authorities were not giving any of the new houses to pensioners, unmarried people or those with Section 10(i)c rights.

He also said yesterday that

the R35 rental for the new houses was excessive since they had no electricity.

Mr Toby Verwey, the director of finance of the Highveld Administration Board, said the problem had been discussed at a meeting two weeks ago. The question of the 116 families had been referred to the Chief Commissioner, Mr Willie van Niekerk, for a final decision on whether they could stay in Leandra.

Mr Van Niekerk was unavailable for comment yesterday.

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