



PARLIAMENT OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**Bridget Masango**  
*Shadow Minister: Social Development*

Parliament of the Republic of South Africa  
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The Office of the Public Protector  
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Dear Sir/Madam

**IN RE: THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND CPS**

I wish hereby to formally request that your office launch an investigation into the nature of the relationship between Minister of Social Development, Bathabile Dlamini and Cash Paymaster Services ("CPS") and in reference to her handling of the social grants crisis which is currently unfolding under her watch.

Given the scope of the contract, the urgency of the matter and the potential impact of the South African Social Services Agency ("Sassa") failing to enter into a new contract by the given deadline, we believe that is incumbent on the office of the Public Protector to investigate.

We have reason to believe that the social grants crisis is self manufactured, and various reports have emerged about the Minister being personally involved in delays to finding a new contract. We, as the Democratic Alliance, have reason to believe that the Minister is acting improperly and exercising undue influence over the contract negotiations in pursuit of personal gain.

As you may be aware, in 2014 the Constitutional Court found the contract between Sassa and CPS to be unlawful and invalid. The Constitutional Court ordered Sassa to enter into a new agreement with a service provider, with the contract due to enter into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2017.

Despite the court order, Sassa has failed to enter into a new contract with a service provider, and the 17 million South Africans dependent on social grants are at risk of not receiving their grant payments on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April.

Due to the timeline and possible disastrous consequences of a failure to have a contract in place to manage the social grant paymentx, I further appeal to your Office to deal with this matter with the greatest urgency.

I am available for the provision of any further information or assistance that you may require.

I trust that your Office will arrive at a speedy and just conclusion on this matter, and I hope to hear from you in this regard.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'BS Masango', is written over a circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive. The stamp is a light blue circle with the text 'BS Masango MP' in a bold, sans-serif font centered within it.

**BS Masango MP**