



Mr D. J. Maynier
DA Shadow Minister of Finance
Parliament of South Africa
P. O. Box 15
CAPE TOWN

Dear Mr Maynier

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION IN TERMS OF THE PROMOTION OF
ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT 2 OF 2000**

The PAIA request submitted via email by Hon. Mr David John Maynier, MP, refers.

In terms of Section 12 (a) of PAIA the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation cannot grant your access to the Mandate Paper since it is a classified Cabinet record (12. This Act does not apply to a record of – (a) the Cabinet and its committees)

However, cognisant of the need to communicate the work of the department to all citizens of South Africa, the Minister in the Presidency for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Hon. Mr Jeff Radebe, released a media statement on 7 September 2017 on 'the mandate paper for budget 2018' (see Annexure 1). This is the only public document that provides more nuanced content and context of the Mandate Paper.

Furthermore, the Minister indicated that "the Mandate Paper is an instrument for budget prioritisation, and the process through which it is developed will be strengthened as part of the process of institutionalising planning, which includes the introduction of legislation." At this stage it is part of the process that will culminate into the engagement of all stakeholders towards institutionalisation of planning more broadly, which was kick-started during the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Forum hosted by DPME on 12 and 13 October 2017.

The formal release is likely to occur in 2019 once these consultative processes are finalised and for now the Mandate Paper is work-in-progress.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Stanley Ntakumba
PAIA Deputy Information Officer, DPME (paia@dpme.gov.za)

Date 17/10/2017