07 January 2019

**Honourable Butana Kompela**

Free State MEC for Social Development

Dear Honourable Lehasa,

**Request to launch an investigation into the illegal dumping of confidential applications**

I would like to request that the Department of Social Development launches an urgent investigation into the legality of the dumping of confidential applications seeking social assistance from the department.

The Democratic Alliance (DA) made this shocking discovery while we were conducting an oversight inspection of the non-functioning waste recycling plant in Thaba Nchu.

The DA is concerned that such crucial information is not stored in a safe place where the general public will not have access to it. Anyone can literally pick up these papers and do whatever they want with it, e.g, opening bank accounts or committing fraud.

Another concern is that when these clients go back to the department to check the progress they will not be assisted as their particulars are missing.

We request you give this matter your urgent attention and report back on your preliminary findings within 7 days. We trust that you will cooperate and find an appropriate solution in this regard.

The Free State government should be safe-guarding the well-being of its citizens. This is the reason why the DA is requesting that you prioritise this matter.

Herewith attached copies which were dumped.

Kind regards,



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**Hon. Patricia Kopane MP**