



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Hon Christopher Pappas MPL- Democratic Alliance**DA Spokesperson: Agriculture and Rural Development**

Telephone: +27 33 3557761 ● Cell: 081 017 6622

PappasC@mpl.org.za**14th February 2020****Dear Premier,****CC:** Hon. Sibhidla Saphetha

I hope that this letter finds you well.

I am writing to you following the dismal presentation given by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development at a follow up SCOP meeting held on the 12th February 2020.

At the meeting there was an unanimous decision by the SCOPA committee to agree to a DA proposal to reject the report presented by the Department in its entirety. The report was subsequently withdrawn by the Department.

Agriculture, and the development it brings to rural communities, cannot be taken lightly in a Province with as many challenges as KwaZulu-Natal. In turn, the Department responsible for executing governments mandate on agriculture and rural development must operate in an effective and efficient manner. You have repeatedly mentioned this in various speeches.

It is quite clear that the department is under severe distress and requires bolder actions to rid it of some of its endemic problems. I would therefore like to submit that:

- 1) The Premier place the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development under administration
- 2) The Premier signs a performance agreement with the MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development

We require decisive leadership and a capable government to address the issues of high unemployment, inequality and poverty. I implore you to take these bold steps to turn this vital Department around.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Christopher Pappas MPL
B. Town and Regional Planning
Member of the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee