



**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**National Office:** Private Bag X121, Pretoria, 0001, Tel: (012) 352 1000, Fax: (012) 325 8382  
Public Service Commission House, Office Park Block B, 536 Francis Baard Street, Arcadia, 0083

**CONFIDENTIAL**

① Mr F Hartzenberg

☎ (012) 352 1064

File: 13/4/2/46

Ms EL Powell, MP,  
Democratic Alliance Deputy Shadow Minister for Water and Sanitation and Human  
Settlements

Per email: Daniellec@da.org.za

Dear Ms Powell

**INVESTIGATION: THE APPOINTMENT OF STAFF MEMBERS AND/OR CONSULTANTS  
IN THE PRIVATE OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION AND HUMAN  
SETTLEMENTS; AND, THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION AND  
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS' NATIONAL RAPID RESPONSE TASK TEAM (NRRTT).**

Your complaint lodged with the Public Service Commission (PSC) in the above regard, dated  
23 January 2020, refers.

The PSC analysed the complaint and determined that the matter pertains to the alleged  
irregular conduct of the Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation. Kindly note that  
the investigation of the conduct of Executive Authorities (EAs) such as the Minister of Human  
Settlements, Water and Sanitation does not fall within the ambit of the mandate of the PSC.

However, in accordance with the *Public Protector Act, 1994*, the Public Protector is mandated  
to investigate the conduct of EAs. In addition, section 4(1) of the *Executive Members' Ethics  
Act, 1998*, stipulates that the Public Protector must investigate an alleged breach of the code  
of ethics on receipt of any complaint by, amongst others, the President, a member of the  
National Assembly or a permanent delegate to the National Council of Provinces, if the  
complaint is against a Cabinet member or a Deputy Minister.



**PROVINCIAL OFFICES:**

**Free State** T: (051) 448 8696 F: (051) 448 4135 **Eastern Cape** T: (043) 643 4704 F: (043) 642 1371 **KwaZulu-Natal** T: (033) 345 9998 F: (033) 345 8505  
**Gauteng** T: (011) 833 5721 F: (011) 834 1200 **Northern Cape** T: (053) 832 6222 F: (053) 832 6225 **Mpumalanga** T: (013) 755 4070 F: (013) 752 5814  
**North West** T: (018) 384 1000 F: (018) 384 1012 **Western Cape** T: (021) 421 3980 F: (021) 421 4060 **Limpopo** T: (015) 291 4783 F: (015) 291 4683  
**PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE** T: (021) 418 4940 F: (021) 418 1362

With due regard to the above, the matter was referred to the Public Protector for further handling.

The PSC regards the matter as closed.

Yours faithfully



**DR TB LUTHULI**  
**COMMISSIONER**

DATE: 11/02/2020