Sihle Zikala

Chairperson: ANC KZN 31 March 2021

**Dear Sihle Zikalala, Chairperson of ANC in KwaZulu-Natal**

**RE: ZANDILE GUMEDE MPL (31/03/2021)**

I hope that this finds you well. I am writing to you in relation to the ongoing participation of one of your members in the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature, namely Hon. Zandile Gumede.

In respect of Hon. Gumede, it is the Democratic Alliance’s opinion that the continued participation of Hon. Gumede in the Legislature and especially the portfolio of CoGTA is bringing down the reputation of the institution. We further believe that should Hon. Gumede continue in her role in the legislature your reputation and integrity as Premier of the Province will suffer further damage.

Hon. Gumede has continuously been in the media for all the wrong reasons with a number of serious allegations made against her: including over 2000 charges of corruption. While we must respect the assumption of innocence until proven guilty, there is also a need to uphold and maintain the decorum and reputation of the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature.

In addition to the above, the ANC has deployed Hon. Gumede to the CoGTA portfolio committee. We see this as an insult to the people of KZN and the integrity of the work that the committee should be doing. Hon. Gumede’s failures in local government would in ordinary circumstances mean that she should be kept as far away as possible from decisions about local government. This is however not the case.

It is for these reasons that the Democratic Alliance in KwaZulu-Natal is requesting the immediate suspension of Hon. Gumede without pay. We trust that in the interests of protecting the institution and the integrity of the Legislature you will action this request.

Yours Sincerely



**Hon. Christopher. J, PAPPAS (DA MPL)**

**DA Spokesperson on Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs in KZN**