



DA Gauteng Caucus Successes From 2019-2024

DA Gauteng Caucus Successes from 2019-2024

Message from the DA Gauteng Caucus Leader



Solly Msimanga MPL

My fellow Gauteng residents,
We have come to the end of our 6th Legislature term, and during the last five years, the Democratic Alliance (DA) has made great strides in improving service delivery in Gauteng.

As the official opposition, we have ensured that all our members are present at all the committee meetings held by the Gauteng Provincial Legislature. This is a crucial part of our oversight function as the official opposition because during the committee meetings we raised service delivery issues.

One of the key successes that we have had this year is the official scrapping of e-tolls. This system was imposed upon the residents of Gauteng in 2013, since then, we have been putting pressure on the Gauteng Provincial Government (GPG) to end this unwanted system. Our battle was not futile, and though it took many years, after many broken promises by the current government to end this system, we finally won it this year.

Our townships remain severely affected by crime and a lack of job opportunities. To help clamp down on crime, we have successfully passed a motion on fighting gangsterism in areas such as Westbury, Eldorado Park, and Riverlea, which has led to the establishment of a committee of inquiry.

The township economy remains crucial for job creation. It is for this reason that, as the Democratic Alliance (DA), we are constantly putting pressure on the MEC for

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Economic Development, Tasneem Motora, and Premier Panyaza Lesufi to do more to create the correct environment in Gauteng for the private sector to invest in our local economy.

Corruption, which first started as a small wound, has become infected and has now turned cancerous in this province. This is all because only a few connected individuals benefit from tenders, and high-level appointments in government departments go to devoted cadres. We have seen the result of this cancer when we exposed the following:

- The deaths of 144 Life Esidimeni patients who died due to malnourishment and neglect.
- Exposed the PPE corruption that took place during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Exposed how 20 million US dollars were paid to Microsoft instead of R20 million

These are a few successes we have had over the last five years. This clearly shows that, as the official opposition, we know and understand the needs of our residents. We understand the importance of holding the government accountable in spending our taxpayers' money.

But more importantly, the experiences shared in this document also highlight that the DA is not focused on ticking boxes to show that we have done the work. Instead, we are showing the residents we have a plan to deal with the most pressing service delivery issues, and we will continue to drive these issues until they are resolved. We also have a plan to rescue Gauteng residents from poor and ineffective service delivery. Our successes demonstrates our capabilities and readiness to govern this province which can be done by voting for the DA to govern Gauteng and improve living conditions.

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DA Caucus Chief Whip Review



Fred Nel MPL

The DA Gauteng Caucus consists of 20 Members of the Provincial Legislature (MPLs) who are able to cover all of the committees in the Gauteng Legislature. The DA has two members and one alternate on every committee, and we can keep an eye on every government department in the province and thus successfully play our role as the official opposition.

All our members are expected to drive issues in their portfolios to ensure that the Gauteng Provincial Government delivers on its mandate to benefit our citizens. This has often led us to unearth corruption and irregularities in the various departments and bring them to the public's attention.

Unfortunately, the governing party in Gauteng has been slow to deal with issues relating to maladministration, mismanagement, and corruption because of the involvement of their cadres in government departments. Numerous forensic reports have been handed to the premier, who still has to see the light of day.

As chief whip, my role is to ensure discipline among caucus members, the proper functioning of our office and the staff that work for us, and that legislative processes are followed.

Unfortunately, we have seen a deterioration in democracy in the Gauteng Legislature over the past five years, as numerous motions were not allowed to serve in the Legislature and MECs ducked official questions with increasing disdain. Various rulings of the speaker failed to serve at the Rules Committee, and this committee hardly ever sat during the term.

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The Legislature's speaker seemed more interested in overseas travel during her term than properly managing the institution. We also saw, for the first time, Legislature staff disrupting a Legislature sitting to protest against their working conditions and salary increases. Unfortunately, the management of the Legislature deteriorated compared to previous terms.

Our role has been to keep the Legislature accountable as much as it was to keep the provincial government accountable. This was achieved by our participation in the OCPOl committee and the Legislature Services Board.

The Gauteng Legislature has the potential to play an even more vigorous oversight role over the executive, and we will make that our focus in the next five years, especially if we get an opportunity to rebuild the Legislature.

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Part A

a) Questions Tabled: 8026

Department	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	6th Term Total
<i>Oral</i>	49	73	62	55	24	107	321
<i>Premier's Office</i>	27	24	40	33	143	63	330
<i>Community Safety and security</i>	72	78	112	97	264	124	747
<i>Economic Development</i>	54	58	48	68	114	75	417
<i>Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment</i>	Under Economic Development	Under Economic Development	Under Economic Development	4	190	83	227
<i>Education and Youth Development</i>	72	43	93	103	393		
<i>70</i>	774						
<i>Finance</i>	33	47	49	39	87	54	309
<i>Health and Wellness</i>	87	110	149	169	485	176	1176
<i>Infrastructure</i>	41	33	79	59	257	54	523
<i>Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Research and Development</i>	95	122	159	148	348	158	1030
<i>Human settlements</i>	Under Cogta	Under Cogta	Under Cogta	3	293	22	318
<i>e-Governance</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	51	41	94
<i>Transport</i>	39	46	50	56	178	48	417
<i>Social Development</i>	42	91	58	68	281	253	793
<i>Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation</i>	60	57	65	63	159	96	500
Total	622	782	964	967	3267	1424	8026

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b) Motions: 7 tabled by the DA and 3 passed and 4 were unsuccessful.

Motion	Contents	Status
<i>Gender based violence</i>	This motion notes the increase in gender-based violence (GBV) across the province, the lack of adequate support for victims, and challenges like understaffed victim empowerment centers and DNA backlogs. It expresses beliefs that GBV requires a societal solution, victims need proper support, and those assisting victims must be sensitive to the issues. The motion resolves to have more trained personnel dealing specifically with GBV/LGBTQ+ victims, provide resources to victim empowerment centers, and lobby for devolution of SAPS to allow better resource distribution to aid GBV victims.	Passed
<i>Compensation for the victims of Life Esidimeni</i>	This motion notes the loss of 144 lives and suffering in the Life Esidimeni tragedy, that R159.46 million has been paid in compensation through arbitration and additional claims, and that more money has been paid to other claimants. It believes all avenues should ensure maximum accountability from those responsible. The motion resolves that the Gauteng government takes legal advice to use the Apportionment of Damages Act to recover compensation from former officials like the ex-MEC and HOD, and that the Premier reports back within 60 days on making the arbitration award a court order to enable recovery proceedings.	Passed
<i>Motion to establish a committee of inquiry into the killings and the rise in gangsterism in the province</i>	Motion to establish a committee of inquiry into the killings and the rise in gangsterism in the province. This comes after a spike in killing in communities such as Westbury, Eldoradopark and Riverlea.	Passed

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Motion	Contents	Status
<i>Outsourcing of property management function</i>	This motion highlights that the Gauteng Department of Infrastructure Development (GDID), as the custodian of provincially-owned land and buildings, has failed to fulfill its legal obligation under the Government Immovable Asset Management Act (GIAMA) to annually evaluate and submit asset management plans for maintenance and budgeting purposes. It notes that 10 provincial departments, including key ones like Health and Education, did not submit these plans for 2018/19, resulting in unsafe facilities, inaccurate asset registers, value loss and illegal activities on government properties. The motion questions whether the ANC will remain unmoved when courts consider this violation of the law.	Tabled
<i>Scrapping of e-Tolls</i>	Scrapping of e-Tolls	Tabled
<i>LGBTQIA+ Community: Observing Pride Month</i>	This motion notes that while South Africa has strong legal protections for LGBTQI+ rights, this community still faces persecution, violence and even murder due to intolerance and discrimination. It observes that only 22 African countries have decriminalized homosexuality, and there is a gap between legal rights and the lived realities of queer individuals, especially in townships. The motion resolves to form a multi-party committee to raise LGBTQI+ awareness, ensure training (particularly for law enforcement), properly document hate crimes, partner with similar bodies elsewhere, and protect and advance the rights of the LGBTQI+ community.	Tabled

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Part B

1. Health portfolio successes



Jack Bloom MPL
DA Gauteng Shadow MEC for Health



Nicola du Plessis MPL
DA Gauteng Health Spokesperson

a) Exposing the continuing corruption and waste in the Gauteng Department of Health:

- Using questions to reveal more evidence about who benefited from the fishy contracts at the Tembisa Hospital, including senior ANC figures like President Cyril Ramaphosa's nephew by marriage,
- Issues surrounding the murder of Babita Deokaran and Tembisa Hospital corruption. We issued 41 press statements on developments following the murder of Gauteng Health Department whistleblower Babita Deokaran, who exposed corrupt payments totalling R1 billion by the Tembisa Hospital. We also launched a petition for the Chief Financial Officer to be suspended and for the corruption at Tembisa Hospital to be investigated. We referred one matter to the Public Protector and another matter to the Public Service Commission. Jack Bloom MPL attended memorial events for Babita that engendered much goodwill for the DA in being seen to champion justice for her family.

b) Exposed PPE corruption:

- Exposed further details of PPE corruption during Covid-19, as well as the wasted spending, including the R500 million spent on the abandoned Anglo Ashanti Hospital and the R100 million spent on incomplete wards at Kopanong Hospital.
- Anglo Ashanti Hospital: We were the first to query building delays and fishy contracts, with more than R500 million wasted on a hospital in a rural area that was barely used and is now abandoned. The probing at the Health Committee and the Premier's Office Committee succeeded in getting extra information about who was responsible for making the disastrous decision to upgrade this hospital.
- On 31 January 2021, we launched a petition calling on the provincial government to make every effort to get vaccines from around the world, wherever they are available, instead of relying on the national government's slow efforts. Issues raised included the shortage of Covid test kits and delays in getting results, problems with the vaccine roll-out, wasted money and irregular spending on the Nasrec field hospital, suspect infection figures, surgery backlogs caused by Covid, oxygen shortages, poor

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Covid-prevention measures in hospitals, and massive misspending and corruption in using Covid emergency funding. We called for the suspension of officials over PPE corruption and criticised building delays for new wards that were never completed at the Kopanong, Jubilee, and George Mukari hospitals.

c) Life Esidimeni tragedy:

The DA has continued to drive this issue, press statements were issued, questions were tabled, and it was raised in the Health and Premier's Office oversight committees. In December 2019, the DA tabled a motion for debate in the Gauteng Provincial Legislature (GPL) concerning the continuing issues of the Life Esidimeni tragedy. The motion proposed that the former Health MEC, Qedani Mahlangu, pay part of the damages awarded to the Esidimeni victims. Other media statements and questions covered outstanding payments to the victims, patients still missing, issues of accountability, and issues surrounding the inquest into the 144 deaths.

d) Highlighting the consequences of late payments to suppliers, including food shortages at hospitals and broken switchboards:

- Food shortages and poor-quality food—these included photographs of hospital food and a social media campaign for people to comment on their own experience with hospital food.
- Exposed the effect of perennial late payments to suppliers.
- Exposed irregular spending includes security contracts that are endlessly rolled over.

e) Fighting for access to adequate healthcare services:

- Exposing poor occupational safety compliance at hospitals.
- The scandal of persistent generator failures at various hospitals and clinics.
- Medical negligence cases in various hospitals, the huge payouts, a focus on baby deaths at neonatal wards, particularly at Chris Hani Baragwanath, and a yearly question on Serious Adverse Events (SAEs) recorded at hospitals.
- The poor treatment of mental health patients at hospitals.
- Poor safety and violent incidents at hospitals, which the DA questions every year.
- Exposed the plight of Ostomate patients. The DA was contacted by the Ostomate Association to assist them with information from the department on the shockingly low number of bags given to Ostomates. We publicised the reply received from the department, and the Chairperson of the OA has now been able to interact with the department to get improvements.
- Raising various issues concerning poor emergency ambulance response times.
- We exposed the shortage of plaster in Paris at the Thelle Moegarane Hospital, where doctors were forced to use cardboard splints. We got private donations of plaster of Paris to the hospital and pressured the hospital management to get enough supplies.
- Unidentified bodies in government mortuaries: we ask a question on this every year, and push for an internet site that would assist relatives in identifying bodies.
- Linen shortages at hospitals: we ask a question on this every year, as it is a persistent problem as hospitals are forced to use inefficient provincial laundries.
- Putting pressure on the department to cut long surgery waiting lists and improve cancer treatment. Exposed long waiting lists and waiting times for surgery at various hospitals based on a standard question we ask every year.

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- We publicised the DA stance on the NHI Bill and submitted a minority report to the Gauteng Legislature's Health Committee.

f) Fighting for the decentralisation of hospital maintenance:

- A campaign to decentralise maintenance to hospital managers, including a motion debated in the GPL, raised the issue with the Gauteng Department of Health Oversight Committee to do a study on it, which pushed the department to respond.
- A focus on the troubled management at the Bheki Mlangeni Hospital, including a petition to fire the hospital manager following a jobs-for-cash scandal.
- Continuing pressure to get action on hidden reports on the devastating fire at the department's headquarters in the Bank of Lisbon building, including questions to the Premier's Office and a PAIA application. A major achievement was forcing the release of the damning investigation reports on the Bank of Lisbon fire after various questions and a PAIA request.
- Highlighting various building delays for clinics and hospital refurbishments as part of a sustained campaign against corruption and inefficiency at the Gauteng Infrastructure Development Department.
- Exposed various issues at the Helen Joseph and Rahima Moosa hospitals, including the firing of Dr Tim de Maayer, water shortages, crowded facilities, and broken equipment. Acting on a tip-off from a whistleblower, we asked a question that exposed the poor attendance record of the CEO, who tried to discipline de Maayer for exposing poor conditions for child patients.



Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation

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2. Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation (SACR) Portfolio Successes



Kingsol Chabalala MPL
Shadow MEC for Sports, Arts, Culture
and Recreation



Wildri Peach MPL
Spokesperson for Sports, Arts, Culture
and Recreation

- Successfully forced the Gauteng Department of Infrastructure Development to
- reduce the budget for the demolition of HM Pitjie Stadium in Tshwane from R84 million to R19 million. The DA questioned how the department could spend such a ridiculous amount of money on a stadium that is in ruins. We tabled questions in the Gauteng Provincial Legislature (GPL) and delivered member statements in the house demanding that the department review the budget as it was too much and a waste of taxpayers' money. DA's interventions have yielded positive results because the budget has been significantly reduced. This means that we have saved R65 million from the department's coffers that could be used to build 13 state-of-the-art combi courts for R5 million each.
- Successfully pushing for the completion and operationalisation of the following
- libraries: Boipatong Library, Evaton North Library, and Rustervaal libraries.
- Exposing corruption within the department, they have spent R70 million on unknown equipment in the past three financial years. We forced the department to begin the process of consolidating and verifying procurement information over the past three years.
- Exposing that the department is wasting millions on gala dinners, they have spent R13,6 million on organising gala dinners for the Gauteng Sports Awards in the past two financial years and R13 million on a two-hour exercise session.
- Exposing that the Gauteng Film Commission (GFC) has wasted over R1 million on special meetings. The Commission had a budget of R616, 400.00, but the board overspent the budget by close to R400,000, with up to R1,000,600.00 spent on
- special meetings.
- Exposed irregular appointments that the department has wasted money on a
- psychologist to document the history of soccer. The service provider appointed was not compliant despite being awarded the tender.



Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA)

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3. Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) Successes



Solly Msimanga MPL
Shadow MEC for Cooperative
Governance and Traditional Affairs



Nico De Jager MPL
Spokesperson for Cooperative
Governance and Traditional Affairs



Ina Cilliers MPL
Member of Cooperative Governance
and Traditional Affairs

a) Exposed Emfuleni Local Municipality corruption:

- Over half a billion was wasted on overtime.
- Missing generators
- Over R87 million was wasted on labour disputes.
- A senior engineering technician, Silence Munwai, has been receiving an annual salary of R597 022,00 while he has been sitting at home doing nothing.
- Emfuleni spent over R20 million on 19 public officials suspended and sitting at home.
- Wasting R168 million on consultants instead of using in-house services

b) Exposed Emfuleni lack of service delivery:

- The abandoned Sebokeng Driving Licensing Testing Centre has been fixed and is now fully functional due to the DA's interventions.
- Fighting for access to electricity, we submitted a petition to the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) demanding that Eskom replace broken and faulty transformers, as some residents have been without electricity for over 7 months.
- Fighting for access to water, petitioned the municipality and the Gauteng Department of COGTA.
- Successfully forcing Emfuleni to fix the neglected Waterdal Road, where millions have been wasted yet the road is still in terrible condition.
- The Vereeniging taxi rank was renovated following the DA's pressure on the Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport.

c) Exposed corruption and maladministration in Sedibeng District Local Municipality:

- Exposed that foreign substances were found in Sedibeng Mayor's Mercedes Benz GLB (X247) engine. This vehicle, which cost taxpayers around R700,000, was
- purchased for the Executive Mayor of Sedibeng District Municipality, Cllr Lerato Maloka, which she later rejected because it was purportedly not purchased per her specifications and has been found to have a foreign substance in the engine.
- The DA called on COGTA MEC, Mzi Khumalo, to investigate a suspicious case of

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- foreign substances found in Sedibeng Mayor's rejected Mercedes-Benz.
- The missing mayoral chain was exposed, and a case was opened only after the DA raised the issue.
-

d) Successfully fought for access to basic services:

- By exposing the corruption of the local councillor and Eskom officials, we assisted in the electrification of parts of Protea South.
- The DA wrote to the Minister of Water and Sanitation, Senzo Mchunu, Gauteng Premier David Makhura, and the Rand Water CEO, requesting that they share their plans regarding the water crisis in the province.
- The DA received thousands of signatures on its Water Crisis Petition to the Premier and COGTA MEC to lobby their national counterparts to engage with the South African Defence Force to assist with water tankers during the water outages.
- The DA marched to the office of the Minister of Water and Sanitation, Senzo Mchunu, to deliver a memorandum of demand in response to the constant lack of water experienced by Gauteng residents and its accompanying hardship, jeopardizing their livelihoods and overall well-being.
- The DA also be engaged with the Department of Water and Sanitation with regards to its refusal to grant a license to Rand Water to increase its water capacity supply.
- The pressure exerted by the DA also resulted in the hauling of Rand Water before the Portfolio Committee on Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) in Gauteng.
- The DA pressed the then Gauteng Premier, David Makhura, to replicate Municipal Cost Containment Regulations and establish a lifestyle audit for all government officials and political leaders who hold government positions.
- The DA proposed that the current Gauteng MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), Mzi Khumalo, urgently outline a turnaround strategy for Emfuleni, as it currently cannot provide service delivery to its residents.
- DA pressure forced then-COGTA MEC Lebogang Maile to investigate the illegal extension of employment contracts for Emfuleni political staff.
- The DA wrote to the then COGTA MEC, Lebogang Maile, demanding that he investigate the R376 million Evaton Renewal Project (ERP) in the Emfuleni Local Municipality.
- In Merafong, the spotlight has continuously shone on cable theft in the area. We have also built a good relationship with SAPS regarding the rampant cable theft and received an undertaking that this issue will be dealt with quickly.
- Initiated a podcast that unpacked the impact of load-shedding and cable theft on the community of Merafong.
- Constant focus on the mega housing projects in the West Rand
- Decay of infrastructure on the West Rand
- Exposed the fact that the Provincial Disaster Management Centre in Midrand is not fully functioning. During an oversight inspection, the DA discovered that the offices were empty and there were only a few staff members at the office.



Social Development

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4. Social Development portfolio successes



Refiloe Nt'sekhe MPL
DA Gauteng Shadow MEC for Social
Development



Bronwynn Engelbrecht MPL
DA Gauteng Spokesperson for Social
Development

a) Exposing the department's underperformance and irregular practices

- Exposed the 8-year failure by the department to comply with Treasury Circular 21, which led to non-performance with dignity packs (sanitary pads and products for people living with albinism) and school uniform distributions, which resulted in the department returning over R1 billion to the Treasury.
- Failure by the department to develop legislation for homelessness.
- Exposed irregular deviations, which were highlighted by the Auditor General in the 2021 and 2024 annual reports.
- Fighting the appointment of the Head of Department, Matilda Gisela, who had two adverse findings by the Special Investigative Unit (SIU) in 2018 when he was working for the Department of Human Settlements and in 2023 when she was with the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD).
- Exposed the failure to transition people in Gauteng from welfare to work.
- Exposed the lies by the department that people would be moved to a rehabilitation farm, exposed the farm was not even bought by the department.
- Exposed that the funding model for Beauty Hub and Daracorp was incongruent with other NPOs' funding.
- Fighting the appointment of a contractor, FSG Africa (Pty) Ltd., to conduct a forensic audit of NPOs whose CEO, Mr Vernon Naidoo, is an alleged sex pest.

b) Exposing the plight of the most vulnerable residents of Gauteng and the lack of service delivery from the department

- Exposing that the department does not support disaster management capabilities, people from the Johannesburg Marshall town fire were dumped at a recreational facility in Bez Valley during Covid-19, and homeless people were dumped in community halls.
- Poor gender-based violence response (GBV) as there are no proper victim-friendly rooms at police stations.
- Exposed the department's poor adoption and foster care process rate, which is denying children loving homes and families.
- Exposed food bank corruption.

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c) Saving the welfare sector from closure

- Exposed the destruction of NPOs by MEC Mbali Hlophe with the reprioritisation of funds.
- Exposed terrible conditions faced by mentally ill patients at Kairos Home in Tshwane resulted in the centre being investigated by police, leading to its closure and the patients being transferred to other facilities with adequate care and services.
- Assisted the Avalon old age home to obtain R1.5 million in bailout funding from the department.
- Assisted Ezekiel House Tierpoort with their registration status.
- Assisted Bramley Children's Home House in getting their third funding in December 2022.
- Assisted Epworth Children's Home to fully register as the Child and Youth Care Centre (CYCC) with the department.
- Assisted Mohlakeng Old Age Home dismissed staff members to receive their retrenchment packages.
- Assisted a 3-month-old baby who was raped to be housed in Bethany CYCC.
- Assisted Yabana CYCC to fully register and get funding.
- Assisted Lockwood Village with acquiring a health certificate.
- DA pressure led to the opening of the Tembisa Rabasotho SAPS SASSA office. The pressure exerted by the Democratic Alliance (DA) to ensure that Tembisa residents have access to a conducive SASSA office has led to the Minister of Social Development, Lindiwe Zulu, permitting a dual procurement process to get a new office. The office was too small and could not accommodate the officials and residents coming to access social services. The residents were forced to queue outside because there was no waiting area. The DA submitted a petition with over 2000 signatures to the National Assembly demanding upgrades to the Rabasotho SASSA office. Furthermore, on 14 September 2022, the DA's activist Nombulelo Dubula, a resident of Ward 7 Tembisa, made a presentation to the Social Development Portfolio Committee in the National Assembly about the state of the Rabasotho SASSA office and demanded urgent intervention.



Education

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5. Education portfolio successes



- We were successful in getting a lower quintile for Fred Norman Secondary School in Ennerdale, from quintile 5 to 4, so that this no-fee school could get some support.
- The DA efforts led to the South African Democratic Teachers' Union's (SADTU) Gauteng Central Region suspending their planned pickets that were intended to disrupt schooling in that region.
- The DA pressured the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) to shut down the dilapidated district offices in Parkmore, Johannesburg, which were posing a safety risk for district officials.
- DA pressure on the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) dating back to 2014, when Panyaza Lesufi was appointed MEC, resulted in the official inauguration of Noordgesig Primary School in 2020. The community had been waiting for nearly 10 years for the old asbestos school to be demolished and rebuilt with a brick-and-mortar structure.
- The DA pressure resulted in the restoration of electricity to Botebo Tsebo Secondary School in Zone 14, Emfuleni. The school had been without power for more than a year.
- The DA successfully pressured the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) to prioritise the replacement of asbestos infrastructure with brick-and-mortar structures at Randfontein Secondary School at a budget of R112 175.
- The pressure exerted by the DA on the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) led to the earlier (April) opening of the 2024 online admissions for Grades 1 and 8. This move was aimed at ensuring that all learners are allocated to schools before the start of the new academic year.
- The DA stood firm in opposing the Basic Education Laws Amendment (BELA) Bill, also known as the "Lesufi clauses" in Gauteng.
- The DA assisted excluded learners in Lilly Avenue informal settlements to find placement in schools for the 2024 academic year.
- The DA pressure led to a probe into suspected financial mismanagement at Kwa-Dukathole Comprehensive School.



Roads and Transport

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6. Roads and Transport successes



Fred Nel MPL
DA Gauteng Shadow MEC for Roads
and Logistics



Evert Du Plessis MPL
DA Gauteng Spokesperson for Roads
and Logistics

The Roads and Transport Department faced several challenges and a revolving door of MECs during the term under review. These are some of the issues we drove within the portfolio during the past term.

- The scrapping of e-tolls remained at the top of the agenda for the DA in the portfolio, and we continued to put pressure on the provincial government to announce the date for the scrapping of e-tolls. After years of promises that the system would be scrapped, the system was finally scrapped in April 2024, but the saga has not ended there. The provincial government's commitment to pay a contribution of nearly R19 billion towards the scrapping of the system remains vague, and we still need to establish how the loan (if awarded) and other contributions will be funded from the provincial fiscus.
- Covid-19 had a major impact on transport in Gauteng. We had to deal with security issues and engage with how public transport will recover from the pandemic.
- Prasa's infrastructure was pillaged during the pandemic, and we had to exert pressure, together with our national counterparts, on the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa) to restore their infrastructure to restore Metrorail services.
- Driver license extensions saw flooding of driver license testing centres (DLTCs) in the province, and many motorists became illegal drivers as a result of government policy, especially affecting the livelihood of those who drove commercially. Once again, we highlighted the plight of motorists and professional drivers, and in conjunction with our national counterparts, we were able to exert enough pressure to see the extension of deadlines for driver license renewals.
- Covid-19 had a major impact on Gautrain, which had to cease operations during the lockdown period. We conducted oversight over the recovery of the rail service, specifically because of the ridership guarantee that could have spiralled out of control.
- We also had to conduct oversight over several road-building projects that were besieged with problems.
- The K46 was mired in controversy after the contractor could no longer fund the project despite being paid for it. After suitable pressure, the road is now finally

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nearing completion with a new contractor. But it still cost the taxpayers double what it was supposed to.

- The K69 and K54 also struggled to progress due to the interference of business forums and land occupiers but are now progressing due to oversight continually conducted to maintain pressure.
- Boeing Road in Tshwane was also delayed due to tender issues, but construction finally started after continuous pressure was exerted through issue driving.
- The R101 in Tshwane carries heavy traffic and is deteriorating fast. Through relentless pressure and working with councillors in the area, we have finally achieved more maintenance money being allocated to the road. We also succeeded, together with pressure from local councillors, to improve the safety of the road around Swartkops High School after learners were knocked over numerous times.



Economic Development

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7. Economic Development Successes



Patrick Atkinson MPL
DA Gauteng Shadow MEC for
Economic Development



Nicola du Plessis MPL
DA Spokesperson for Economic
Development

- Changes to the Performers Protection Bill and Copyright Amendment Bill brought by the DA were adopted, and the industry and individuals are protected in the Bill.
- Changed the conversation in the Economic Development Portfolio to look at how corruption is affecting the economy.
- Exposed how many hours of load-shedding Gauteng experienced and how this has affected the economy by asking questions in the Gauteng Provincial Legislature. In 2022, the province lost over 300 000 job opportunities, and R103 million in potential Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was also lost. A total of 3212 were experienced in 2022.
- DA exposes that Gauteng Liquor Traders are being denied their right to sell alcohol legally due to the backlog of issuing liquor licences.
- DA exposed maladministration and financial misconduct at the Gauteng Gambling Board.
- DA pressure led to the appointment of a permanent CEO for the Gauteng Enterprise Propeller in 2021.



Agriculture and Rural Development

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8. Agriculture and Rural Development Successes



Bronwynn Engelbrecht MPL
DA Gauteng Shadow MEC for
Agriculture



Jade Miller MPL
DA Gauteng Spokesperson for
Agriculture

- African Horse Sickness: The DA put pressure on OBP to supply AHS vaccines by the end of December 2023.
- Illegal dumping at the Klipspruit River: after the DA submitted questions, the department went to investigate and issued fines to businesses that were responsible for illegal dumping.
- Agripark-Flora: assisted in ensuring that the Soshanguve Agripark in Pretoria is extended.
- Agripark-Rooiwaal: increased security at Rooiwaal to curb the theft of broiler chickens.
- Agripark-Rooiwaal had plastic sheets of tunnels replaced together with the City of Tshwane.

CRIME SCENE DO NOT



Community Safety

DA Gauteng Caucus Successes from 2019-2024

9. Community Safety Successes



Crezane Bosch MPL
DA Gauteng Shadow MEC for
Community Safety



Ruhan Robinson MPL
DA Gauteng Spokesperson for
Community Safety

- The DA convinced Bheki Cele, the Minister of Police, to conduct an oversight visit to the Ga-Rankuwa Police Station on 17 June. The purpose of the visit was to witness firsthand that the station was without electricity, which hindered the staff's ability to perform their duties and forced them to close the gates as soon as it got dark. Finally, electricity was restored at Garankuwa SAPS as a result of the DA's pressure.
- Assisted the Boschkop Police Station in having a permanent station commander and allocated adequate and additional resources to rescue motorists who were severely affected by spikes.
- DA's motion for additional resources to be allocated to fight gender-based violence was successfully adopted in the Gauteng Provincial Legislature (GPL).
- DA's motion on fighting gangsterism in areas such as Westbury, Eldorado Park, and Riverlea was successfully adopted in the GPL. A Committee of Inquiry was established.
- The DA forced Faith Mazibuko, Gauteng's MEC for Community Safety, to retract an advertisement for 6000 crime prevention wardens less than 24 hours after it was published. The DA questioned why candidates were needed to provide a motivating letter from the ward councillor, arguing that posts should be assigned based on fit-for-purpose and talent rather than political party affiliation.
- Negotiations and requests by the DA to the Gauteng provincial SAPS resulted in the allocation of additional resources to assist the under-resourced Olievenhoutbosch.
- DA pressure prompted the closure of the old and decaying SA Police Service headquarters at Pretoria's Telkom Towers North building, which was endangering the health of workers and suspects at Pretoria Central Police Station.
- DA pressure compels the then Minister of Transport, Fikile Mbalula, on the Road Traffic Management Corporation to ask for urgent efforts in finalising outstanding processes that would allow Gauteng Traffic Police to be declared an essential service to provide 24-hour surveillance of Gauteng roads.



Human Settlements

DA Gauteng Caucus Successes from 2019-2024

10. Human Settlements Successes



Mervyn Cirota MPL
DA Gauteng Shadow MEC for Human Settlements



Evert Du Plessis MPL
DA Gauteng Spokesperson for Human Settlements

- The Gauteng Department of Human Settlements (GDHS) succumbed to DA pressure to issue title deeds to the rightful beneficiaries of the Inxiweni Walkup RDP houses in Tembisa, Ekurhuleni. It had been 13 years since the beneficiaries of Inxiweni were allocated their houses without being issued title deeds.
- The DA exposed the failure to relocate people affected by the Covid-19 pandemic in Alexandra township to temporary residential units (TRUs).
- The DA exposed the continued failure of the Alexandra Renewal Project.
- The DA uncovered the deterioration of Madala, George Goch, and other hostels in Gauteng.
- Pressure from the DA prompted the initiation of a forensic investigation into the allegations surrounding the funding and loans to Nonkwelo Investments, a company owned by the Deputy President, Paul Mashatile's son, by the Gauteng Partnership Fund (GPF).
- DA filed a complaint with the South African Human Rights Commission to seek urgent interventions to force the Gauteng Department of Human Settlements to eradicate pit toilets in Evaton (Emfuleni Local Municipality).



Finance

DA Gauteng Caucus Successes from 2019-2024

11. Finance successes



Ruhan Robinson MPL
DA Gauteng Shadow MEC for
Finance



Mike Moriarty MPL
DA Gauteng Spokesperson for
Finance

Constantly pushing for consequence management and disciplinary action against officials found guilty of misconduct to be concluded quickly.



e-Government

DA Gauteng Caucus Successes from 2019-2024

12. e-Government Successes



Ina Cilliers MPL
DA Gauteng Spokesperson for
e-Governance



Nico De Jager MPL
DA Gauteng Spokesperson for
e-Governance

Exposed that, due to an act of negligence, the Gauteng Department of Treasury has lost R6 843 737.90 of taxpayers' money. Subsequently, the official responsible has had to pay back the money.



Infrastructure Development

DA Gauteng Caucus Successes from 2019-2024

14. Infrastructure Development Successes



Alan Fuchs MPL
DA Gauteng Shadow MEC for
Infrastructure Development



Nico De Jager MPL
DA Gauteng Spokesperson for
Infrastructure Development

- Exposed that Gauteng spends R35 million on rentals per month while government buildings stand empty.
- Exposed that the Kopanong Precinct Project, meant to house government officials, failed the audit tender process. The tender for this project must now be readvertised.
- DA exposes that the following projects have not been completed:
- The creation of new wastewater treatment plants and bulk sewer capacity as part of the Sedibeng, Zuurbekom, and Lanseria Regional Sanitation Schemes
- Creating an airport city as an element of the Aerotropolis
- Gautrain phase two, the objectives of which were to purchase 12 additional train sets and to expand the existing network.
- Installation of solar PV panels on Gauteng buildings
- Recommissioning of the Kelvin, Rooiwal, and Pretoria West Power Stations
- Decentralising the Tambo Springs Freight and Logistics hub by building new roads and upgrading others
- Create a mega-human settlement in the West Rand in terms of the Masingita City Development Node.
- Trigeneration at hospitals uses technology to generate cooling, heating, and power.
- Implementation of additional transmission powerlines from the Matla to the Jupiter Power Stations
- Building a new Lillian Ngoyi District Hospital
- Social housing and mixed-use developments in the Lanseria area
- Exposing the so-called construction mafia that is disrupting infrastructure projects often leads to the project being abandoned.
- Exposed the shoddy workmanship at Mayibuye Primary School. This led to the school being fixed and finally opening at the start of this year.
- Through oversight inspections, the DA found that the Khutsong Clinic in Extension 2 was abandoned by the contractor. The then MEC for Infrastructure Development, Tasneem Motara, undertook that the construction of the clinic would be completed in March 2020, but this has not yet happened.

DA Gauteng Caucus Successes from 2019-2024

Ready to Govern Project Ensures the DA is Ready to Take Over Government

The DA Gauteng Caucus has been conducting a ready-to-govern programme for over two years. The objective of this programme was to ensure that we are ready to walk into government in Gauteng and immediately be able to provide strategic direction and ensure resources are aligned with our desired strategy.

The project consisted of thousands of pages of research work, various consultations with industry experts in government and private sector, and a number of engagements with the Western Cape Premier and his MECs.

The caucus ready-to-government document covers every department in the Gauteng government through an analysis of its current state and setting objectives for a desired future state. The document also entails plans to achieve the desired states for the government departments. The document also informed the DA's provincial manifesto. Apart from a chapter on each provincial government department, the document also investigates funding models for government, potential partnerships, managing the transition of power, and a plan to manage the Gauteng Legislature.

This was the most comprehensive, ready-to-govern project ever undertaken by the DA. We have been preparing ourselves, and we are ready to rescue Gauteng. Despite this, however, we do understand that there may be many things that we don't know yet. But be assured, the DA is ready to govern in Gauteng!

DA Gauteng Caucus Successes from 2019-2024

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