

KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Office Leader: Francois Rodgers, MPL Deputy Leader: Cllr Sithembiso Ngema Chairperson: Dean Macpherson, MP Provincial Managing Director: Chris Laubscher

Tel: +27 31 263 0351 <u>www.dakzn.org.za</u> Suite 125, Island Office Park, 35 – 37 Island Circle

> Councillor D Roberts Ward 36 Msunduzi

Dear Mr Hlela,

Of late, our councillors have noticed an upturn in delays to repair water leaks in some of our neighbourhoods. When the attending staff and foreman are questioned, we are told that the availability of spares is the biggest problem they are currently facing. This situation is being exacerbated by the fact that the areas all rely on 110mm piping for services, and it seems that our stores are unable to provide the required size for repairs. In Ashburton, Cllr Elliott has faced more than ten sequential bursts and had to wait for spares to be procured before repairs could be started. Going as far as buying spares out of pocket to ensure water gets returned to a rate paying community.

Similarly, I have had the unfortunate experience of Croft Road and surrounds being without water for more than 72 hours due to the availability of 110mm pipe. And then a day later the same thing in Windsor Avenue. Our councillors from the northern areas are also lamenting the lack of spares availability. Leading to extended delays in repairs. The two instances here that spring immediately to mind being Veena and Harappa roads.

I certainly feel that it is now urgent that you address this situation and offer feedback to all the councillors concerned as to what your plans are to ensure spares availability and the active measures that will be taken to stop extended breakdown and lack of water times. The people involved are ratepayers and as such know they have paid for a service that is not being received. This leads one to question whether the money being paid for these services is going where it belongs, or whether some nefarious diversions to fund other projects, has resulted in your departments inability to fulfil their function.

I kindly request a written response from you and/or your senior managers as to what your plans are and when they will be implemented by. This response should be delivered back to me by no later than close of business Friday 11th October 2024.

Kind regards

Councillor Douglas Roberts

Ward 36 Msunduzi

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