

EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

Member of the Provincial Legislature

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11 February 2025

To: The Executive Mayor Hon. NP. Zonke

Eastern Cape Midlands

Per email

And To: The Chief Whip Cllr. L. Davids

Eastern Cape Midlands

Per email

And To: The Speaker Cllr. TP. Mbotya

Eastern Cape Midlands

Per email

Good Day

DEMAND BY THE DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE FOR THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR, CHIEF WHIP AND SPEAKER, OF INXUBA YETHEMBA TO RESIGN IMMEDIATELY

I write to you as the Constituency Head of the Eastern Cape Midlands as appointed by the Democratic Alliance ("DA").

We, the DA and people of Inxuba and Middelburg have watched your actions, we have attempted to engage with you, we have pleaded and we have struggled with you all, just as the people struggle under your governance.

There is no choice left but the following: the DA hereby demand that you, the Executive Mayor, Chief Whip, and Speaker of Inxuba Yethemba ("IYM") resign immediately. We hold you responsible for being the architects of the municipality's downfall.

Madam Mayor, while you drive your new Audi Q5, paid for by the ratepayers, service delivery in your municipality - which encompasses the towns of Cradock and Middelburg – has effectively ground to a halt as a result of blatant maladministration and the misappropriation of public funds, which behaviours have become entrenched.

You, the Executive Mayor, Chief Whip, and Speaker must bear responsibility. We demand that you take the honourable course of action and resign, as this is in the best interests of IYLM and its residents.

It is beyond contestation that the IYM is in crisis and on the verge of total collapse.

The municipality is grappling with a staggering debt of over R600 million owed to Eskom, which continues to escalate daily. As a result, residents are subjected to unreliable electrical services, characterised by frequent power outages, broken streetlights, and unchecked electricity distribution losses and theft.

Crumbling roads and clogged stormwater drains are widespread on nearly every street. Daily water outages, often without explanation, have become a consistent feature, leaving thousands of residents reliant on water tankers. Furthermore, the unchecked flow of raw sewage through the streets and into the Great Fish River is not only a public health hazard but also a blatant environmental crime that can no longer be tolerated.

I must advise you that I have also written to the Eastern Cape Premier, Oscar Mabuyane, to request Section 154 support for the municipality. This support requires national and provincial governments to provide assistance to municipalities in managing their affairs.

It is imperative that you, the Executive Mayor, Chief Whip, and Speaker acknowledge your catastrophic failures and resign for the benefit of all residents.

The DA will continue our fight for ALL the people of IYM, ensuring that incompetence does not deny them access to basic services and the fundamental rights to which they are entitled.

Yours sincerely,

HEINRICH MÜLLER, MPL

Constituency Head: Eastern Cape Midlands