



EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

Member of the Provincial Legislature

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**To: Hon. Oscar Mabuyane MPL
Eastern Cape Premier
Eastern Cape Provincial Government
Per email**

**And To: Hon. Zolile Williams MPL
MEC for Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs
Eastern Cape Provincial Government
Per email**

Dear Premier and MEC

FORMAL REQUEST FOR SECTION 154 SUPPORT FOR THE INXUBA YETHEMBA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

The Democratic Alliance (DA) has formally written to the Executive Mayor, Chief Whip and Speaker of the Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality (IYLM), whom we hold responsible as the architects of the municipality's downfall and have demanded their immediate resignation.

While the Executive Mayor is driving a new Audi Q5, paid for by the ratepayers, service delivery in the municipality – which encompasses the towns of Nxuba (formerly Cradock) and Middelburg – has effectively ground to a halt, while blatant maladministration and the misappropriation of public funds have become entrenched.

The DA believes that the Executive Mayor, Chief Whip and Speaker must bear responsibility. In our letter, we demand that they 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 Municipality 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, characterized 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 the norm, 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.

Regarding municipal equipment, only one of the municipality's five tractors are operational, and none of its municipal TLBs (tractor-loader-backhoes) or tipper trucks are in working condition.

I write to you now, Hon. Premier, to request Section 154 support for the municipality. This support requires national and provincial governments to provide assistance to municipalities in managing their affairs.

In the premises the following action steps are respectfully and formally requested:

1. The immediate implementation of Section 154 interventions, as provided for in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 and as supported by procedures and mechanisms which are further set out in, *inter alia*:

1.1. the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, 54 of 2003;

1.2. the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 32 of 2000; and

1.3. the Guidelines from the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs.

We earnestly hope that you will be instrumental in lending your authority in this regard, for the good of our people.

Yours sincerely,



HEINRICH MÜLLER, MPL

**Shadow MEC of Agriculture
Constituency Head: Eastern Cape Midlands**