

Freddy Sonakile
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NW Provincial Legislature, Unit 1, Mmabatho

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Auditor General North West cc. Auditor General National

By email: Mthokozisi Sibisi (mthokos@agsa.co.za)

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<u>Urgent Request for a Specialised Audit into Petrol Card Usage Across All North West</u> Municipalities

Dear Auditor-General,

I write to you on behalf of the Democratic Alliance (DA) in North West to formally request a specialised audit into the use of petrol cards across all municipalities in the province. This request follows serious concerns regarding potential misuse, irregular spending, and inadequate oversight of municipal fuel expenditures.

During the presentation of the 2023/24 municipal audit outcomes to the Provincial Public Accounts Committee, it was noted that petrol card usage was audited in Moses Kotane Local Municipality. However, given the widespread financial mismanagement in the province, evidenced by the fact that not a single municipality in North West received a clean audit for the 2023/24 financial year, we believe it is imperative that this investigation be extended to all municipalities.

There have been numerous reports and allegations of fuel card fraud across various local governments, pointing to systemic weaknesses that enable abuse and misappropriation of public funds. At a time when municipal budgets are already under severe strain, it is unacceptable that funds meant for service delivery could be diverted through unchecked fuel expenditure.



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We urge your office to:

- 1. Conduct a specialised audit into petrol card usage across all North West municipalities to determine the extent of irregularities, fraudulent transactions, and non-compliance.
- 2. Ensure accountability by identifying officials responsible for any misuse and recommending appropriate disciplinary or legal action.
- 3. Recommend and enforce stricter financial controls to prevent further abuse of municipal resources.

The DA remains committed to ensuring that public funds are spent transparently and in a manner that prioritises service delivery for the people of North West. We trust that your office will consider this request with the urgency it deserves.

We look forward to your response and are available to engage further on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Freddy Sonakile, MPL DA Caucus Leader, NWPL