

## EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

Member of the Provincial Legislature

Heinrich Müller, MPL (Democratic Alliance Spokesperson on DRDAR)



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10 June 2025

## To: Hon Zolile Williams

MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature Per email

Dear MEC Williams

## RE: REQUEST FOR URGENT INTERVENTION INTO IRREGULAR BUDGET APPROVAL PROCESS IN INXUBA YETHEMBA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

I write to you with grave concern regarding serious procedural irregularities that took place today, 10 June 2025, during the council meeting of the Inxuba Yethemba Local Municipality (IYLM).

The Democratic Alliance caucus in the municipality has advised that the annual budget for the 2025/2026 financial year was purportedly adopted without following lawful council procedures. No vote was taken, no show of hands was recorded, and all microphones of opposition councillors were muted by the Speaker before she unilaterally declared the budget adopted, despite the above.

This conduct undermines the principles of transparent and lawful governance, and violates the laws and regulations governing the adoption of a municipal budget. Such irregularities have serious implications not only for the legality of the budget itself, but also for public confidence in democratic governance at municipal level.

In light of the above, we respectfully request that your office:

- 1. Launch an urgent investigation into the conduct of the council meeting of 10 June 2025 and whether due process was followed in adopting the municipal budget;
- 2. Investigate the conduct of the Speaker of IYM, particularly her role in bypassing lawful voting procedures and silencing opposition councillors;

- 3. Take appropriate remedial action to ensure that any budget adopted in the municipality is lawfully debated and adopted by council in accordance with applicable legislation; and
- 4. Provide assurance to the residents of Nxuba (formerly Cradock) and Middelburg that your office will not allow illegal conduct to go unchecked, especially when it results in increased hardship for local communities.

We remain committed to constructive engagement and to upholding the principles of good governance and accountability in our municipalities. Yours sincerely,

Yours sincerely,

HEINRICH MÜLLER, MPL

Shadow MEC of Agriculture Constituency Head: Eastern Cape Midlands

CC: Cllr Monde Desha, Eastern Cape Midlands Caucus Leader