



Date:	20 June 2025
To:	<p>The President of the Republic of South Africa Mr Cyril Ramaphosa</p> <p>The Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Mr Velenkosini Hlabisa</p> <p>The Minister of Finance Mr Enoch Godongwana</p>
From:	CJ Steyl MPL
Subject:	Request for decision on Section 139(7) intervention in the Ditsobotla Local Municipality

Dear Sirs,

Following my letters dated 10 January, 05 March, and 06 May 2025, we are requesting your urgent decision to place the Ditsobotla Local Municipality under Section 139(7) national government administration, the matter refers:

1. The illegal parallel Council established in March 2025 by Mr Olaotswe Bojosinyane, where Councillor Molefe Morutse (ANC) was unlawfully elected mayor, and Cllr Manana Bogatsu (EFF) elected Speaker, after the illegal removal of the legitimate mayor and speaker, have gained control over the Ditsobotla municipal bank account;
2. The illegal troika is now withholding the salaries of Councillors and municipal workers who refuse to legitimise their unlawful structure and behaviour, threatening termination of employment of municipal workers and the removal from office of Councillors who refuse to recognise their authority, under the guise of an unlawful employee verification drive. This is tantamount to intimidation, coercion and extortion. Criminal cases have been opened at the Lichtenburg Police Station against all three individuals;
3. There is no authority in law for any Municipal Manager or Speaker or Mayor to withhold the remuneration of Councillors and municipal workers outside of the legislative framework guiding disciplinary action, of which none can be initiated by the illegitimate structure;
4. Schedule 7: The Municipal Structures Act, Act 117 of 1998, as amended, outlines the process for disciplinary action against Councillors. It is only the member of the Executive Council responsible for local government that may, after due process, initiate the removal of a Councillor;
5. The Basic Conditions of Employment Act, Act 75 of 1997, as amended, informs the fair processes required for disciplinary action against employees of the municipality read with the Municipal Structures Act, Act 117 of 1998, and the Municipal Systems Act, Act 32 of 2000, as amended.



6. Residents continue to suffer under severe service delivery collapse in an environment that is volatile, seeing regular violent protests;
7. The legitimate Council structure and its administration is unable to effectively respond to service deliver needs, specifically the extended and constant electricity and water outages, due to the inability to transact through the municipal bank account.
8. The unlawful withholding of salaries of municipal workers cause further hardship as employees are now at a desperate stage where even if they wanted to respond to service delivery needs, they are unable to even get to work, never mind sourcing parts and equipment to conduct maintenance or bring emergency repairs;
9. Four High Court judgements have ruled against the reinstatement of Mr Mr Olaotswe Bojosinyane as Municipal Manager.
 - I. Court order dated 15 March 2025, issued by Justice Titus AJ. The full judgment, with reasons dated 27 March 2025;
 - II. Court Order dated 1 April 2025, issued by Madam Justice Reid J. MEC's review application which declared appointment unlawful and set aside;
 - III. Court Order dated 30 April 2025, issued by Madam Justice Reid J enforcing the court order of 14 March by Justice Titus AJ;
 - IV. Court Order dated 9 May 2025, issued by Madam Justice Khan AJ against Absa Bank Limited to grant access to legally appointed Acting Municipal Manager.
10. Mr Olaotswe Bojosinyane and Councillors Molefe Morutse and Manana Bogatsu are in contempt of court and engaged in unlawful behaviour that further destabilises the Ditsobotla Local Municipality.

As you would appreciate, the situation in Ditsobotla is untenable and continues to deteriorate resulting in violent protest action due to the complete collapse of basic service delivery and failed governance.

We request that you announce your decision to place the Ditsobotla Local Municipality under Section 139(7) as a matter of urgency.

All other interventions under Section 139 provincial administration, including the decision to dissolve the municipality in 2022 have failed. The only constitutional mechanism available to test, in order to structurally restore good governance practises and service delivery in the interest of residents would be to intervene under Section 139(7) in order to secure a strong foundation for the to be elected Council to continue rebuilding the municipality after the local government elections to be announced for 2026.

Our request under Section 139(7) include:

1. A fully funded financial recovery plan administered by National Treasury;
2. An independent financial forensic audit;
3. An independent skills audit of all management;
4. Lifestyle audits of all elected political office bearers and municipal management;
5. Disciplinary action to remove compromised politicians and municipal officials from office and prosecution of all individuals complicit in criminal activity;



CJ Steyl MPL
Democratic Alliance North West Provincial Legislature
Email: chriss@da.org.za
Tel: 078 652 5284
www.da.org.za

6. The recruitment of skilled, qualified and experienced officials through a fair and transparent process without any political influence; and that,
7. The Asset Forfeiture Unit must recover all losses identified in the forensic audit.

It is our submission that the national government's intervention under section 139(7) can no longer be delayed.

We look forward to your urgent and favourable consideration, in the interest of Ditsobotla residents.

CJ Steyl MPL
North West Provincial Legislature
(Issued electronically without signature)