



**EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE**  
Member of the Provincial Legislature

**Retief Odendaal, MPL**  
(Democratic Alliance Spokesperson on COGTA)



Provincial Legislature  
Private Bag x0051 or  
Independence Ave  
Bhisho, 5605

Tel: -  
Fax: -  
Cell: 082-462 0668  
e-mail: [retiefodendaal@telkom.sa.net](mailto:retiefodendaal@telkom.sa.net)

20 October 2025

**To: MMC: Budget and Treasury, Cllr Khanya Ngqisha (EFF)**  
**MMC: Safety and Security, Cllr Luyanda Lawu (ANC)**

**By Email:** [kngqisha@mandelametro.gov.za](mailto:kngqisha@mandelametro.gov.za); [llawu@mandelametro.gov.za](mailto:llawu@mandelametro.gov.za)

Dear Councillors,

**RE: COLLAPSE OF THE R17.35 MILLION “SAFER CITY” PROJECT AND  
DYSFUNCTION OF THE BUDGET PERFORMANCE MONITORING FORUM**

I write to you today to express concern regarding critical failures in the Metro’s budget performance monitoring forum and huge underspending in the safety & security capital budget.

During the 2024/2025 financial year, 22% of the city’s safety and security capital budget was spent. This failure to execute planned expenditure is unacceptable, particularly given the epidemic of crime faced by our mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters across the Metro.

R17.35 million of the R31.924 million capital budget was specifically allocated to the vital “Safer City” capital project. This project fell flat because no contract was put in place to deliver the work.

This means that R17.35 million intended for making our city safer has been lost due to procurement bungling on your watch. Since the Adjustments Budget was passed in March, this crime-fighting budget could have and should have been spent on securing our community.

This underspending is surely linked to the complete dysfunction of a critical oversight structure: the budget performance monitoring forum, a sub-committee of budget & treasury.

The committee met on 22 February 2024 and then did not meet again until 2 October 2025. This equates to 588 days without this critical committee sitting to perform its necessary work to address and oversee budget expenditure.

As members of the mayoral committee for the respective portfolios, you have failed in your governance duties, which is having a direct impact on residents.

I will be engaging with the MEC: Cogta, Honourable Zolile Williams, to insist that he address this maladministration in the Metro.

The people of Nelson Mandela Bay deserve better.

Sincerely,



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**RETIEF ODENDAAL, MPL**  
**Shadow MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs**  
**Constituency Head: Southern and Western Suburbs NMB**

**Copied:**

Executive Mayor, Cllr Babalwa Lobishe

MEC: CoGTA, Honourable Zolile Williams, MPL

DA NMB Caucus Leader, Cllr Rano Kayser

DA NMB Safety and Security Spokesperson, Cllr Jason Grobelaar

DA NMB Budget and Treasury Spokesperson, Cllr Brendon Pegram