



CITY OF JOHANNESBURG

Councillor Belinda Echeozonjoku

Caucus Leader of the Democratic Alliance

TO : **Dr Floyd Brink – City Manager, City of Johannesburg**
DATE : 05 February 2026
SUBJECT : Breakdown of Law Enforcement due to Supplier Non-Payment

Dear Dr Brink,

I trust you are well.

I write to you in my capacity as Ward 74 Councillor and the Leader of the Official Opposition in Johannesburg, following an integrated oversight visit conducted in Ward 74, which raised serious concerns regarding the City's ability to enforce its municipal by-laws.

During this oversight, it became evident that City officials are currently unable to issue fines for by-law non-compliance. Even in instances involving serious and repeat contraventions, officials were restricted to issuing non-compliance notices only, despite the clear legal basis for immediate enforcement action. This was confirmed by multiple officials on site and appears to be an operational constraint rather than an isolated incident.

Officials indicated that this is not limited to speed camera operations, as previously reported in the media, but extends across several City departments.

This situation raises serious concerns regarding compliance with the City's statutory obligations. In terms of section 4(2)(j) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 32 of 2000, a municipality must ensure that it has mechanisms in place to enforce its by-laws.

Furthermore, section 96 of the same Act requires a municipality to collect all money that is due and payable to it, which is directly undermined by the City's inability to impose fines where legally required.

In addition, section 62(1)(c) of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, 56 of 2003 (MFMA), places a clear duty on the accounting officer to ensure that the municipality has and maintains effective, efficient, and transparent systems of financial and risk management. The failure to pay service providers timeously, resulting in a collapse of enforcement capability, suggests a breach of this obligation. Section 65(2)(e) of the MFMA further requires that all contractual obligations and payments be settled within the prescribed period, which appears not to have been adhered to in this instance.

The operational paralysis currently experienced exposes the City to financial loss, reputational harm, and increased legal risk, while simultaneously disadvantaging compliant businesses and residents who continue to adhere to municipal regulations.

I therefore request urgent written clarification from your office on the following matters:

- The specific service providers whose non-payment has resulted in the suspension or limitation of by-law enforcement mechanisms;
- The departments and enforcement functions affected, including the scope and duration of the enforcement breakdown;
- The reasons for non-compliance with MFMA payment requirements in this regard;
- The remedial actions being implemented to restore full enforcement capacity; and
- Clear timelines for the resumption of normal by-law enforcement operations across the City.

Given the seriousness of this matter and its implications for governance, revenue collection, and public order, your urgent response is requested.

Yours Sincerely,



Cllr Belinda Kayser-Echeozonjoku
DA Johannesburg Caucus Leader