



Hon. Siviwe Gwarube, MP
Minister of Basic Education
Republic of South Africa

**RE: FORMAL NOTIFICATION AND REQUEST FOR NATIONAL OVERSIGHT — ALLEGED
SALE OF TEACHING POSTS AND “SEX-FOR-JOBS” ALLEGATIONS WITHIN THE KZN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Dear Minister Gwarube,

I write formally in my capacity as the Democratic Alliance’s KwaZulu-Natal Spokesperson on Education and a Member of the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature to bring to your attention the continued failure of the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education to account for its investigation into extremely serious allegations concerning the alleged sale of teaching posts and possible “sex-for-jobs” practices.

Following the circulation of videos in July 2026 containing serious allegations involving senior officials within the Department, the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Education publicly stated that HOD Nkosinathi Ngcobo had ordered a full independent investigation.

The Department indicated that the allegations were regarded seriously and that the process would be fair, credible and impartial.

What has followed has instead been an extended period of silence.

On 2 September 2026, I formally wrote to MEC for Education Sipho Hlomuka and HOD Ngcobo and afforded the Department seven days to provide a comprehensive account of the investigation, including who was appointed to conduct it, its status, the allegations examined, any disciplinary or precautionary action taken and whether evidence of possible criminality had been referred to law-enforcement authorities.

That period has now expired without a satisfactory formal response.

I have consequently today referred the available information relating to these allegations to the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation, the Hawks, for assessment and investigation of any conduct that may fall within its mandate.

Minister, this is not an attempt to prejudice the guilt or innocence of any individual.

It is about something much larger: public confidence in the integrity of the system through which educators are appointed.

Thousands of young South Africans qualify as teachers hoping that their knowledge, ability and commitment to children will earn them an opportunity to serve. They must never be left believing that a teaching post can instead be secured through money, connections, or sexual access.

The possibility that vulnerable jobseekers may have been exploited in their pursuit of employment demands the highest possible level of scrutiny.



I therefore respectfully request that you:

1. **Formally seek an account from MEC Sipho Hlomuka and HOD Nkosinathi Ngcobo** regarding the status and outcome of the independent investigation announced in July;
2. **Establish whether an independent investigating body was in fact appointed**, its terms of reference, appointment date and present status;
3. **Seek confirmation that all potentially relevant evidence has been preserved**, including electronic communications and records relating to appointments where appropriate;
4. **Ensure that any educator or employee wishing to provide information is able to do so through a safe and confidential mechanism**, free from intimidation or occupational retaliation;
5. **Seek clarity on whether any findings suggesting criminal conduct, corruption or abuse of office have been referred to the appropriate law-enforcement agencies**;
6. **Request an explanation for the provincial Department's failure to provide a substantive response** after being formally placed on terms; and
7. Exercise the appropriate **national oversight and intergovernmental mechanisms available to the Department of Basic Education** to ensure that this matter is not permitted to disappear without a credible conclusion.

There is also a fundamental question of accountability that can no longer be avoided.

HOD Ngcobo was the accounting and administrative authority who announced that an investigation would take place. He must therefore account for what became of that process.

MEC Hlomuka, as political head of the provincial Department, must account for why allegations capable of fundamentally undermining confidence in educator appointments have been met with weeks of institutional silence.

The public cannot be told that an independent investigation has been launched when a scandal erupts and then be expected to forget about that investigation once public attention begins to fade.

Either the allegations are substantiated, in which case there must be decisive consequences, or they are not, in which case a credible independent investigation must be able to demonstrate that.

Silence achieves neither.

Minister, you have publicly emphasised the importance of accountability and good governance within provincial education systems. I therefore ask that your office treat this matter with the urgency it warrants and provide a written indication of the steps you intend taking following receipt of this correspondence.

Most importantly, this must be about protecting the people who have the least institutional power.

No newly qualified teacher should ever have to ask herself whether her degree is enough. No educator should fear that refusing an improper demand could cost them their career and no public official should be able to use their position to escape scrutiny where credible allegations of corruption or exploitation arise.

I will make available to your office the relevant correspondence, public statements, video material and documentation submitted as part of the escalation of this matter.



KWAZULU-NATAL
LEGISLATURE

HON. SAKHILE MNGADI, MPL

Member of the Provincial Legislature

322 Langalibalele Road, Pietermaritzburg, 4200
Tel: 061 402 9328 | Email: Mngadis@kznleg.gov.za
www.kznleg.gov.za

I look forward to your urgent response.

Yours sincerely,

Sakhile Mngadi, MPL

DA KZN Spokesperson on Education

Member of the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature