



**MEDIA ALLEGATIONS OF MISCONSTRUED OVERREACH/INTERFERENCE IN  
ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS &  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**27<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALL MEDIA

The Premier wants the to set the record straight pertaining to the factually incorrect reporting by News 24 newspaper, purporting the Premier having overreached herself in the matter between Mr KS Radebe and the Provincial Department of Public Works & Infrastructure who was charged with corruption and financial misconduct amongst many other charges.

In December 2024 the honourable Premier Letsoha-Mathae received a formal request for intervention on the KS Radebe (Director Supply Chain Manager)//Department of Public Works & Infrastructure case by the former HoD Public Works & Infrastructure Mr ME Mohlahlo.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024 the Department of Public Works & Infrastructure served Mr Radebe with a charge sheet containing serious allegations of acts of gross misconduct involving an amount of R17 613 073.40 the charges of gross misconduct that were proffered against Mr Radebe include fraud and or corruption, dishonesty (fraudulent payment), gross negligence as well financial negligence.

The legal department of Public Works & Infrastructure in a summarised report dated **03 December 2024**, addressed to the current HoD Ms Mosa Masimene who had taken her new role from **1<sup>st</sup> December 2024**, affirmed that the department had a solid and winnable case against Mr Radebe. In the report Ms Masimene was informed that the disciplinary hearing against Mr Radebe was held on the following dates 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024 and 12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024 and the disciplinary process was at an extremely advanced stage and had already been set down for 20 – 24 January 2025 for which the parties were expected to conclude their evidence and for the chairperson to give a directive for completion of the hearing.

At this point of the case, the report informed Ms Masimene regarding the exorbitant financial expenditure incurred by the Department in relation to the disciplinary process, which included the appointment of a forensic investigating company and 2 practicing Advocates who were appointed through the office of the State Attorney.

Furthermore, the report indicated to Ms Masimene that this matter was also audited and monitored by the AGSA, and that the Office of the AGSA would be keen to read the findings and audit opinions on the final forensic report on this matter.

Ms Masimene was explicitly informed by the report that the Department had considered other options, amongst others to stop the disciplinary process at this late stage, but either option was going to pose perplexing legal and practical situations, as there were no compelling and exceptional reasons for either option.

In conclusion, the legal report advised Ms Masimene that it would be best and prudent to allow the internal process to be concluded as the hearing was already at an advanced stage and could possibly be finalised in **early January 2025**.

Behind this backdrop and considering the succinct compelling legal advice to Ms Masimene from her new Department that has been handling the matter since its inception, **within just 4 days(4<sup>th</sup> December 2024)** in office the new HoD Ms Masimene insisted and through a letter directly instructed the office of the State Attorney to withdraw all charges against Mr Radebe without providing any reasons and

overlooking the advice from her legal department and advice from State Attorney through a letter dated **9<sup>th</sup> December 2024**, containing similar advice **not to withdraw the charges** and furthermore in conjunction with MEC Mance, Ms Masimene on the **5<sup>th</sup> December 2024** through a letter communicated the reinstatement of Mr Radebe to his previous role as head of Supply Chain Management within the Department before the charges were officially withdrawn and the Chairperson of the disciplinary hearing having applied his mind to the decision.

Given the above facts before the Premier, in response to the request for her intervention, Premier Letsoha – Mathae compelled by her executive authority decided to write letters to both the MEC of the Department of Public Works & Infrastructure Ms Mance and HoD Ms Masimene to provide clarity and reasons for their conduct and decision, and to date such clarity and reasons remains unknown to the Premier, the HoD only indicated to the Premier that she has sought advice from the DPSA on the matter as the custodian of the Public Service Regulations after she had already reinstated Mr Radebe to his previous role.

END...

**Media Enquiries:**

**Matshediso Setai**

**Provincial Spokesperson – Office of the Premier**

**[Matshediso.setai@fspremier.gov.za](mailto:Matshediso.setai@fspremier.gov.za)**

**0766303345**

