

04 September 2025

Mr S. More
Municipal Manager
Mangaung Local Municipality
2nd Floor
Bram Fischer Building
Cr. Nelson Mandela Drive and Markgraaf Street
BLOEMFONTEIN
9301

By email: sello.more@mangaung.co.za
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Dear Mr More

LETTER: MANGAUNG METRO'S BANKRUPTCY AND SERVICE DELIVERY COLLAPSE

It is with grave concern that AfriForum addresses this letter to you regarding the state of governance and service delivery in Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality.

Despite the fact that you have reportedly awarded yourself a 100% performance score for your Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), the stark reality is that the municipality under your management is now bankrupt. A bankrupt institution cannot possibly claim success. The residents of Mangaung are living the consequences of this collapse every day: refuse remains uncollected, streets are dirty, infrastructure is crumbling, and the most basic services are not being delivered.

This contradiction between your self-assessment and the lived reality of Mangaung's residents highlights a profound failure of leadership and accountability. It is deeply concerning that, while the municipality has been financially mismanaged to the point of insolvency, its senior leadership still deems its performance to be flawless.

To symbolise this disconnect, AfriForum will today hand over to you a toy refuse truck. This is not meant as a gesture of disrespect, but as a stark reminder that until competent governance and accountability are restored, the management of the Mangaung Metro is failing at the level of children's play. AfriForum, in contrast, has already stepped in to ensure that refuse removal services continue in certain areas – because the community cannot be left to suffer where the Metro fails.

AfriForum demands that you:

June 2024

Address: 58 Union Avenue, Kloofsig, Centurion • **Tel.:** 086 10 200 30
Member Affairs – Email: ledesake@afriforum.co.za • **Directors:** Ms A. Bailey, Mr P.J.W. Buys, Dr H.K. Coetzee, Mr P.L. Dekker, Mr F.J.D. de Klerk, Mr G.R. de Vries, Dr D.J. Hermann, Mr W.G. Human, Mr C.M. Kriel and Dr R. Pretorius. • **Company Secretary:** Mr W.A. Vogel.
Registration number: 2005/042861/08 • **NGO number:** 054 - 590

1. Publicly acknowledge the municipality's bankrupt state and its service delivery collapse;
2. Take urgent and transparent steps to restore financial accountability; and
3. Prioritise the immediate outsourcing or transfer of critical services – such as refuse removal – to capable entities, AfriForum included, so that the residents of Mangaung may once again enjoy the dignity of basic municipal services.

The residents of Mangaung deserve better. Leadership is measured not by scores on paper but by the state of our communities. It is time to put honesty and accountability ahead of self-praise.

Yours sincerely

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AfriForum
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