

MEDIA RELEASE PSA calls on Limpopo Premier to root out corruption in Mogalakwena Municipality

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The Public Servants Association (PSA) condemns the killing of the Chairperson of the Mogalakwena Municipal Public Accounts Committee, which is alleged to be because of greed and corruption in the Municipality.

The killing is said to be related to the imminent forensic report after the Mogalakwena Municipality incurred more than R1.1 billion in fruitless and wasteful expenditure in the past financial year. The PSA calls upon the Premier of Limpopo to act decisively and lead by example to demonstrate commitment to the eradication of corruption.

The PSA previously warned Limpopo Premier, Chupu Mathabatha, that failure to deal decisively with corruption will set a dangerous trend, hence the same *modus operandi* of colluding with service providers alleged in the Premier's Office is suspected at the Municipality. The PSA pointed out that the investigation on the allegation of staff members in the procurement unit colluding with travel agencies to charge exorbitant fees for international travel, previously highlighted by labour, is still awaited.

The PSA indicated that it has become a norm that when leaders are found guilty of corruption or irregular expenditure, they are either transferred or simply asked to resign without any consequences. Mogalakwena Municipality was singled out by the Auditor-General as one of the worst municipalities in the country and thus far no visible corrective measures have been taken by the Premier.

The PSA stated that money wasted on consultants could better spent on service delivery. The Union called on the Premier of Limpopo to undertake a thorough audit to ensure that persons with the appropriate qualities and skills are employed in leadership positions in all municipalities in Limpopo.

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