



## Office of the Speaker

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Mr Jonathan Erasmus  
Branch Manager  
OUTA Local-eThekweni Branch

2019-05-23

Dear Mr. Erasmus

**RE: ALLEGED IMPROPER CONDUCT AND BREACH OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT  
BY MAYOR GUMEDE OF ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY**

I refer to your letter dated 21 May 2019 which I had indicate that I will respond too once I have processed it.

I wish to record that it is not correct to suggest that the investigation which led to the charges and subsequent arrest of the Mayor stemmed from this Municipal Council and in particular that the office of the speaker might be aware of this. On inquiry on the assertions made in your letter I informed that the investigation in question is being conducted by the HAWKS. We are under strict instructions from those in charge of the criminal matter not to interfere or do anything which might jeopardise the investigation. Other than the fact that there has been an arrest, the Office of the Speaker is not in possession of any information upon which a reasonable suspicion can be formed that there has been a breach of the Code of Conduct for Councillors or otherwise any legal duty or standard. This also means that the office the Speaker cannot have any meeting where matter is the intended subject of the agenda.

I am acutely aware of the responsibilities of my office as the Chairperson of the Municipal Council and I would like to assure you and your organisation that we uphold a high standard of discipline and accountability in this Council and at all times promote the principles of good governance. Whilst we do appreciate the level of interest generated by the case against the Mayor, we do wish to caution against the temptation to interference with investigations. We all ought to give space to the law enforcement authorities to do their work without any perceived pressure.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William Lekgoa Mapena', enclosed within a circular scribble.

**COUNCILLOR WILLIAM LEKGOA MAPENA  
SPEAKER: ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY**