

MOOI-uMNGENI TODAY

KEEP MAKING PROGRESS

NEW POLITICAL LEADERS FOR MOOI-uMNGENI

The Democratic Alliance (DA) has announced the appointment of two new political heads for the Mooi-uMngeni Constituency, covering the Mpofana, uMngeni, and Impendle municipalities. This decision follows the recent 2024 National and Provincial Elections, as the DA strengthens its leadership in the only DA-run municipality in KwaZulu-Natal.

The Mooi-uMngeni Constituency has gained particular prominence as home to uMngeni, the first DA-led municipality in the province, setting a new standard for governance, accountability, and service delivery in the region. With the strategic appointments, the DA aims to build on its momentum and further enhance service delivery, transparency, and growth within these communities.

The newly appointed political heads will focus on driving the DA's vision in Mooi-uMngeni, ensuring that Mpofana, uMngeni, and Impendle benefit from consistent, responsive governance. Their leadership is expected to foster greater alignment across municipalities and support continued growth in local government efficiency and community engagement.

The DA remains committed to setting a new benchmark in KwaZulu-Natal, providing an alternative model of governance that prioritizes the needs of its constituents and upholds the principles of accountability and sustainable development.

Edwin Macrae Bath, 34, is a Hilton resident and ratepayer with a Master's in Public Governance and an Honours in the Built Environment. He has extensive experience in public service, having worked for the Eastern Cape Development Corporation, the Western Cape Provincial Government, the City of Cape Town, and KwaZulu-Natal government. Currently serving on the Public Works and Infrastructure Portfolio Committee, Edwin applies his expertise to improve infrastructure and governance. Originally from Underberg and a St. Charles College alumnus, he is committed to the development of his community.



Mmabatho Tembe is the Deputy Speaker of the KZN Provincial Legislature, was born and raised in Durban. After matriculating from Queensburgh Girls' High School, she graduated from the University of KwaZulu-Natal with a Social Sciences degree in Psychology and Anthropology and an Honours in Counseling Psychology. She was elected as an eThekweni Metro councillor in 2016. In 2021, Tembe joined the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Legislature, contributing to Social Development and Quality of Life Committees and acting as DA KZN Legislature Caucus Spokesperson. She chairs the Ethics, Privileges, and Contempt Committee, leads the DA KZN Legislature Caucus, and serves on the Women's Caucus and Programmes Committees.

ELECTIONS 2024 - A TURNING POINT FOR SOUTH AFRICA







The 2024 General Elections in South Africa marked a demand for change, as citizens expressed frustration with governance, economic challenges, and failing public services. Voter turnout declined overall, especially among younger and rural voters, but urban areas saw higher engagement, reflecting a motivated electorate seeking new directions.

The ANC faced significant setbacks, particularly in urban and economically vital regions like Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal. Exhausted by power outages, crumbling infrastructure, and corruption, many voters turned to alternatives, ushering in an era of coalition politics. In this shifting landscape, the Democratic Alliance (DA) emerged as a credible alternative, appealing to centrist and liberal voters focused on governance, service delivery, and transparency.

The DA's strong track record, especially in the Western Cape, resonated with urban and suburban voters prioritizing economic growth, infrastructure improvement, and reliable services. In contested regions like Gauteng, the DA's stability and focus on practical solutions gained significant traction across the political spectrum. Meanwhile, left-leaning parties like the EFF continued to attract a niche voter base advocating for radical economic reform and state intervention, while conservative and right-leaning parties struggled to gain broader appeal.

Digital campaigning played a key role in the DA's success, enabling direct voter engagement and countering misinformation. By leveraging social media, the party reached younger audiences and expanded its digital footprint, pioneering a new era of political outreach.

The election results highlighted the value of accountable governance. The DA's municipal successes underscored its capacity for transparent leadership and effective service delivery. Positioned to lead with centrist, practical policies, the DA's vision offers South Africans a hopeful path toward stability, economic inclusivity, and people-centered governance, signaling a new chapter for the nation.

	Votes N+R	Percentage	Seats
 ANC	12 698 759	40.18%	159
 DA	6 961 361	21.81%	87
 M.K.	4 584 864	14.58%	58
 EFF	3 090 020	9.52%	39
 IFP	1 307 088	3.85%	17
 PA	677 719	2.06%	9

National results: National and Regional ballot

END OF YEAR AND HOLIDAY MESSAGE

As 2024 draws to a close, we reflect on a year of challenges, progress, and resilience. The KwaZulu-Natal Midlands has seen incredible strides in building a community that thrives on hope, unity, and hard work. This year, we have witnessed the power of collective action—whether through improving service delivery, fostering local economic growth, or strengthening the fabric of our society.

To the residents of this beautiful region, your unwavering commitment to building better lives for all has been truly inspiring. The Democratic Alliance is proud to have walked this journey with you, working tirelessly to deliver transparent, responsive governance and sustainable development. Together, we have tackled obstacles with determination and celebrated achievements that make us all proud.

As we enter the festive season, we encourage everyone to cherish these moments with family and friends. Let this time be one of peace, reflection, and renewal. While we celebrate, let us also remember to lend a helping hand to those in need, embodying the spirit of ubuntu that defines us.

Here's to a joyous holiday season and a prosperous 2025. Together, we will continue to make the Midlands a beacon of hope and opportunity for all.

PROTECT uMNGENI FROM THE MK

The DA is preparing to defend our gains in uMngeni. The 2026 local government election is going to be a very tough election. We are going to need every person and every Rand to RETAIN and GROW in uMngeni so that we can **KEEP MAKING PROGRESS!**

DONATE



Help us keep the MK out of uMngeni by donating to our local campaign. **Contact** 083 447 0726 or **email** kavango.plr@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER



To volunteer you can **contact** 082 859 5447 or **email** warrenl@dakzn.org.za

SIGN UP



To join the internal discussions of the DA and contribute to our policies and plans sign up as a member today by following this link: <https://membership.da.org.za/> or contact your local councillor

STOP THE BELA BILL!



The DA joining AfriForum in a protest against the Bill

The Democratic Alliance (DA) has intensified its opposition to the Basic Education Laws Amendment (BELA) Bill, recently signed into law by President Cyril Ramaphosa. The DA argues the bill centralizes school governance, restricts parental rights, and threatens mother-tongue education.

A primary concern for the DA is the bill's shift of power over school language and admission policies from School Governing Bodies (SGBs) to provincial departments. According to DA representatives, this undermines community control and opens the door to bureaucratic interference. DA leader John Steenhuisen criticized the bill, saying it "strips communities and parents of control, placing it into the hands of provincial authorities." Steenhuisen has sought meetings with President Ramaphosa to call for reconsideration of contentious clauses.

The DA also opposes new regulations on homeschooling, calling them overly restrictive, and warns that changes to language policy could weaken Afrikaans and indigenous languages in schools.

In response, the DA has taken a multi-pronged approach. It has directed its legal team to prepare for court action, claiming the bill's enactment and consultation process may have constitutional issues. Additionally, the DA organized public protests and encouraged stakeholders to speak out in public hearings. In Parliament, DA members have consistently voted against the bill and voiced concerns in committee meetings.

Steenhuisen emphasized the broader implications of the DA's stance, stating, "This fight is about more than just one bill; it's about protecting democratic governance in our schools." The DA remains committed to challenging the BELA Bill, vowing to continue its efforts to halt its implementation.

BREAKTHROUGH IN NDLOVU'S MURDER

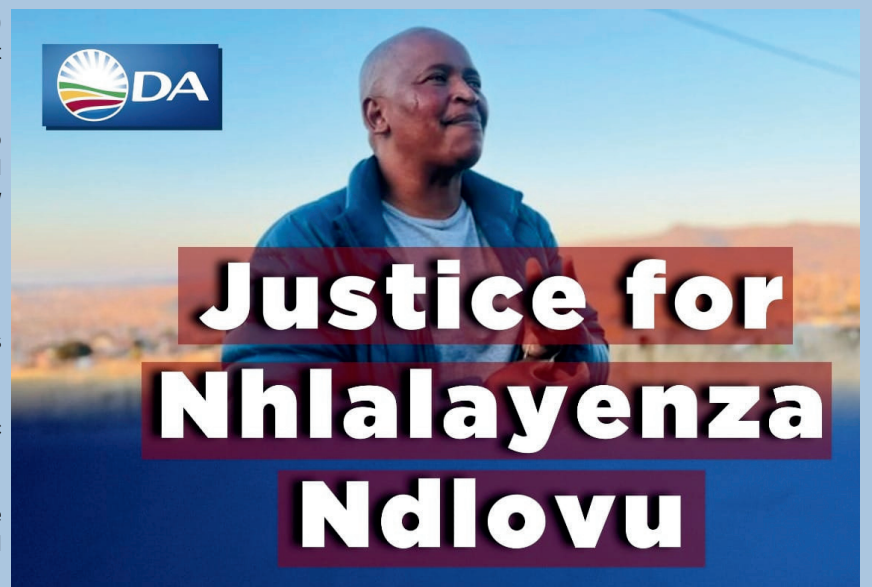
In a significant breakthrough, police have arrested a suspect in the murder of Democratic Alliance (DA) councillor and uMngeni Municipality Chief Whip Nhlalayenza Ndlovu, nearly a year after he was fatally shot at his Mpophomeni home in December 2023.

The suspect, 31-year-old Thobane Masobho Hlongwa, was charged in early October with murder, conspiracy to commit murder, possession of an unlawful firearm, and possession of unlawful ammunition. Hlongwa appeared in the Howick Magistrate's Court on October 7 and initially planned to apply for bail, though he later withdrew the application.

The DA, alongside civil society group AfriForum, has expressed concerns over the limited communication surrounding the case and has called on Police Minister Senzo Mchunu to ensure transparency and thorough investigation. Both parties have also urged SAPS to prioritize Hlongwa's safety in custody, given KwaZulu-Natal's history of witness intimidation in political cases.

Known for his dedication to the community, Ndlovu's death has intensified calls for the protection of public officials and accountability for politically motivated crimes.

As the investigation progresses, Ndlovu's family and supporters are hopeful for answers and justice for the respected public servant. The DA has reaffirmed its commitment to honoring Ndlovu's legacy through continued service to the uMngeni community, while awaiting justice for his untimely death.



HOPE FOR SOUTH AFRICA - GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY

The Democratic Alliance (DA) joined the Government of National Unity (GNU) following the 2024 general elections to safeguard South Africa's stability and prosperity. The election results called for a collaborative approach to governance, and the DA stepped up, not to perpetuate the status quo or keep the ANC in power, but to prevent a destabilizing alliance with the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) and MK Veterans Association. Our role in the GNU is to steer South Africa toward a future of growth, stability, and accountable governance.

Protecting South Africa from Radical Instability
Joining the GNU was a strategic decision to prevent the destructive policies of the EFF from threatening our economy and democratic foundations. With this coalition, the DA has ensured that South Africa is protected from policies that could lead to economic decline and social unrest.

A Coalition of Hope and Responsibility
The GNU reflects South Africa's need for change, stability, and progress. The DA's presence within it is not to support failing leadership but to safeguard integrity, accountability, and an unwavering focus on delivering results. We are here to make a difference and move our nation forward.

Our Commitment to Real Progress
In the GNU, the DA has a clear agenda:

- **Economic Growth and Job Creation:** We will prioritize a sustainable economy that creates jobs and attracts investment.
- **Poverty Alleviation:** We are committed to bridging socio-economic divides with policies that support the most vulnerable.
- **Capable and ethical Governance:** Through this coalition, the DA brings a commitment to efficient and ethical governance, driving meaningful improvements in service delivery and transparency.

The DA Stands for Stability and Solutions
The DA's participation in the GNU is about real change, not partisanship. Our ministers and deputy ministers are empowered to lead initiatives that address South Africa's challenges head-on. This coalition marks a new era for South African politics, one that prioritizes stability, growth, and an unwavering commitment to the nation's best interests.

The Democratic Alliance is here to put South Africa first.



MINISTER EYES HOWICK GOVERNMENT PRECINCT

The Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure recently visited Howick for a comprehensive briefing on the ambitious Howick Government Precinct project. This visit aimed to provide the Minister with a status update on the development plans, discuss the challenges that have delayed the project, and explore new strategies to accelerate its progress.

During the briefing, local officials highlighted a fresh approach to revitalizing the project. The key proposal involves transferring the precinct land to the local government, which would then partner with the private sector to drive development. This proposed public-private partnership model would enable the construction of a mixed-use development, combining public facilities with commercial and retail spaces, to better serve the Howick community.

Once complete, the precinct would host essential government offices, including the Department of Labour, Home Affairs, SASSA, the Department of Social Development (DSD), as well as facilities for the police and justice departments. By consolidating these services

within a single, easily accessible area, the project aims to improve public service delivery and streamline administrative efficiency.

The Minister expressed support for the new approach, recognizing the potential for greater collaboration between public and private sectors to overcome previous project barriers. This visit marks a significant step forward in realizing the Howick Government Precinct vision, with the goal of creating a vibrant, multi-functional space that meets the needs of residents and businesses alike.



Minister Dean Macpherson and Mayor Chris Pappas at an intergovernmental public meeting aimed at unlocking the potential of the EPWP programme and finalising land swaps to establish a government precinct in Howick.

3 YEARS OF DA GOVERNMENT

RESCUED SINCE 2021

A NEW PARKS DEPARTMENT



The DA-led uMngeni Municipality has revived its Parks and Gardens Department, which had collapsed under previous ANC leadership. Now equipped with a dedicated budget for staff, equipment, and operations, the department is tackling years of maintenance backlogs and revitalizing public spaces.

Efforts include clearing invasive plants, restoring parks and sports fields, maintaining cemeteries, and ensuring fire safety by creating fire breaks. The department is also responsible for the municipal swimming pool, providing a safe recreational space for residents. This revival underscores the municipality's commitment to maintaining safe, green, and welcoming spaces for the community, ensuring uMngeni is both functional and inviting.

ROADS -ROADS -ROADS

The DA-led uMngeni Municipality has made unprecedented investments to tackle the severe backlog in road and stormwater maintenance inherited from previous ANC leadership. The municipality has tripled the roads budget from R11 million to R33 million and invested R35 million in specialized equipment, aiming to create a safe and sustainable road network. Efforts include improving road markings, adding speed humps, and replacing worn signage to enhance safety and navigation. These upgrades address years of neglect, with a focus on repairing potholes, strengthening stormwater systems to reduce flooding, and ensuring longer-lasting infrastructure. The DA-led administration is committed to restoring uMngeni's roads to support a growing, thriving community.

The approach to rehabilitating the entire network include focusing on primary roads followed by secondary and then feeder roads. An approach that ensures equitable work in all communities has been adopted. The DA led council passed the largest ever capital budget with the bulk going to roads and storm water.

-  **Increased roads budget from R11million to R33 million**
-  **Purchased R35 million in specialised vehicles**
-  **Achieved 100% expenditure on grants allocated for roads infrastructure**



INVESTING IN ELECTRICITY INFRASTRUCTURE



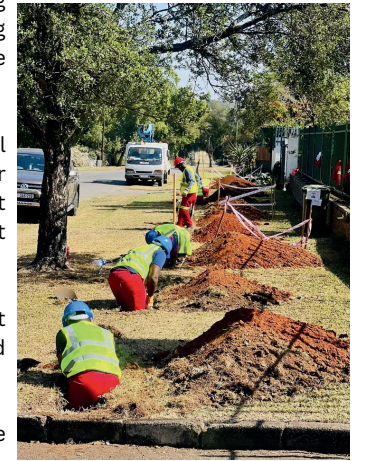
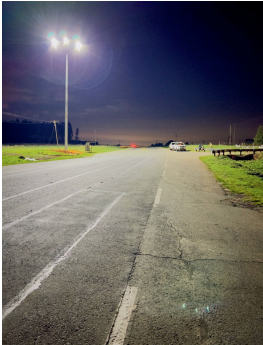
The DA-led uMngeni Municipality has committed to major upgrades in electricity infrastructure to enhance safety, sustainability, and efficiency for its residents. Key initiatives include the installation of traffic lights that operate during power outages, maintaining essential road safety during load-shedding. Additionally, over 2,000 new LED street lights and three mast lights have been installed across the municipality to improve visibility and reduce crime. Additionally, uMngeni has taken over the maintenance of street lights in all Eskom supply areas.

In Nottingham Road, Phase 1 of the street lighting project is nearly complete, providing much-needed illumination to this busy area. Cedar's street lights are also being retrofitted to energy-efficient models, reducing both energy usage and maintenance costs.

The municipality's Eskom account remains fully up to date, demonstrating fiscal responsibility. To further enhance reliability, uMngeni has allocated capital for maintaining substations and essential electrical infrastructure. A free meter replacement program is underway, ensuring residents benefit from more accurate billing and efficient energy management.

522 solar power packages were given to the people of Shiyabazali informal settlement while municipal libraries have been fitted with solar power to reduce consumption and keep them operational during power outages.

Through these actions, uMngeni Municipality sets a strong example of practical, proactive governance in addressing the community's energy needs.



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR GOVERNMENT



Since the DA took office, the real estate sector in uMngeni has flourished. Recently, the DA-led municipality met with local estate agents to discuss ways to enhance partnership and support continued growth in the sector.

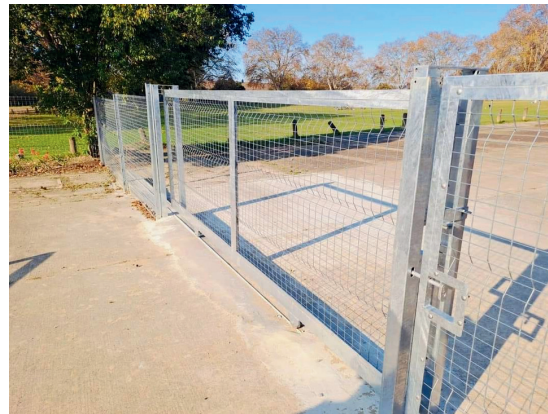
In a historic first of its kind gathering, the DA-led uMngeni Municipality united traditional leaders to discuss key issues around land use management, environmental preservation, and infrastructure development.

The DA-led uMngeni Municipality is committed to inclusive public participation, drawing record numbers from both urban and rural communities to provide input on municipal planning and budgeting.

The DA-led uMngeni Municipality engages with local emerging farmers to explore ways to support and strengthen small-scale agriculture in the region.

TRANSFORMING HOWICK FALLS

The picturesque Howick Falls, once a gem of the Midlands, had in recent years fallen into disrepair, with rampant drug use, decaying infrastructure, and a complete absence of basic amenities, making it unsafe for locals and tourists alike. Under the DA-led uMngeni Municipality, however, a transformational redevelopment project is underway, supported by a R10 million grant, to restore this iconic site to its former glory and renew its economic and social potential.



small businesses, creating a lively market atmosphere. This revitalization also includes a fresh corporate image that positions Howick Falls as a vibrant destination.

In the first phase, which is nearly complete, safety and accessibility have been the priority. Robust fencing now secures the falls area, while new paving and a security presence provide a welcoming, safe environment for visitors. To foster community engagement, a new public braai area offers a gathering spot for families and friends, and trading facilities support local

Phase two will focus on making the area more tourist-friendly by adding ablution facilities and a tourism information and welcome center. The center will provide essential visitor services and insights into local attractions, further enhancing the area's appeal. These improvements are not only about restoring the falls' beauty but also about positioning Howick Falls as a key tourism hub that strengthens the local economy and aligns with the DA's vision for responsive, community-centered governance.

Through these strategic investments, the DA-led uMngeni Municipality is breathing new life into Howick Falls. Where neglect once reigned, vibrant spaces and economic opportunities are now taking root, turning the falls into a model of sustainable urban renewal. This revitalization marks the beginning of a new era for Howick Falls—an era of safety, beauty, and community pride.

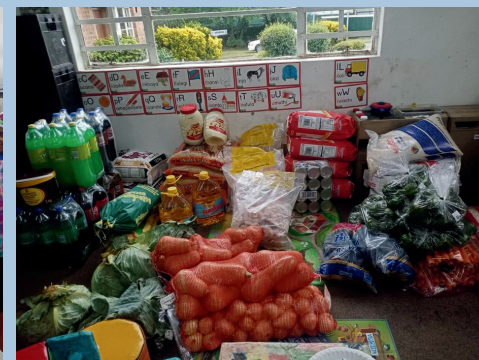
A DA THAT CARES



Collect food for the SPCA



Starting a sewing club for women in the rural areas



Providing food relief for victims of the storms



Honouring the fall on poppy day

In the heart of the Midlands, the Democratic Alliance (DA) is proving that politics can be about more than policies—it's about compassion, empowerment, and uplifting communities. Through our care programme, the DA is addressing pressing challenges such as food insecurity, youth development, and small-scale entrepreneurship.

The programme supports food gardens, helping families grow their own produce to promote self-sufficiency and sustainability. It also fosters youth development through sporting initiatives, providing equipment, coaching, and opportunities to nurture talent and build life skills.

In the agricultural hub of KwaZulu-Natal, the DA empowers small-scale farmers to improve yields, access markets, and create jobs. Similarly, sewing clubs receive support to help members develop skills, create products, and earn incomes, while soup kitchens ensure vulnerable residents don't go hungry.

This programme is sustained through public donations, enabling the DA to extend its impact to the most deserving beneficiaries. By being transparent and inclusive, the party is building trust across communities and showing that collaboration with the public can lead to real change.

The DA's commitment to work in all communities, regardless of political affiliation, reflects its core values of hope, unity, and progress. From urban centres to rural areas, DA representatives are creating a brighter future through meaningful partnerships and impactful initiatives.

PLEASE DONATE TO OUR CARE PROGRAMMES

Help us keep the MK out of uMngeni by donating to our local campaign. **Contact** 083 447 0726 or **email** kavango.plr@gmail.com

Fundraising Leaders
CLlr Piet Le Roux
CLlr Sandile Mnikathi



Empowering small scale farmers garden in rural Impendle



Supporting our local NPOs



Fighting hunger through the establishment of community gardens



Supporting youth in sports through the donation of a soccer kit

SAYING GOODBYE TO A STALWART



It is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye to Gregory Krumbock, a towering figure in South African politics and a dedicated member of the Democratic Alliance (DA). Greg passed away on September 3, 2024, at the age of 64, following a prolonged struggle with a heart condition. His passing leaves an indelible void, but his legacy of dedication, strategic acumen, and steadfast commitment to South Africa will continue to inspire.

Greg's journey began far from South Africa in West Berlin, where he was born on July 17, 1960. His family relocated to South Africa when he was an infant, and he grew up in Cape Town, attending the South African College Schools (SACS) and later earning a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Cape Town. His engagement in politics started young when he joined the Progressive Federal Party (PFP) Youth in the mid-1970s, eventually representing the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands on the National Executive of the PFP Youth.

In 1998, Greg became the Executive Director of the Democratic Party, managing the 1999 General Election campaign, which was pivotal in the party's history. That same year, he was elected to Parliament, initially representing Mpumalanga and later KwaZulu-Natal. Over the years, Greg held multiple roles, notably as Shadow Minister of Tourism from 2009 to 2012, where he championed new ideas and transformative initiatives.

More than his titles, Greg will be remembered as a master strategist. His keen political instincts and unwavering commitment helped shape the DA's electoral successes and contributed to the party's growth and national influence. Many who worked alongside him recall his energy, intelligence, and the rare combination of compassion and determination he brought to every challenge.

Greg's legacy is one of vision and dedication. His passing is a profound loss to the DA and to the broader South African political landscape. He leaves behind a generation of leaders and supporters who carry forward his ideals of service, transparency, and unwavering commitment to improving lives.

Thank you, Greg, for your immeasurable contributions. You will be missed, but your impact will endure in the hearts and work of all who had the privilege of knowing you.