



correctional services

Department:
Correctional Services
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

15 January 2026

Correctional Services Condemns Deliberate Misinformation on Electricity Cut-Off by the City of Tshwane

The Department of Correctional Services (DCS) condemns the disingenuous conduct of the Mayor of the City of Tshwane, who has deliberately peddled falsehoods on public platforms in a calculated attempt to mislead the public.

The Mayor is aware of that the Department of Correctional Services does **NOT** own the building that houses its Head Office. Despite this, the Mayor deliberately fabricated and circulated false claims on social media to mislead and unjustly implicate the Department in wrongdoing.

It must be placed firmly on record that DCS occupies the premises as a tenant and has honoured its contractual obligations to the landlord. In turn, the landlord has duly settled municipal accounts. This is supported by verifiable proof of payment. The conduct of the City of Tshwane in this matter amounts to administrative recklessness, an abuse of authority, and a flagrant disregard for verified facts. The Department will not tolerate being dragged into a manufactured crisis and irresponsible public posturing.

The Mayor's actions further introduce unnecessary security risks to the country, given the constitutional and statutory mandate of the Department of Correctional Services in the incarceration and rehabilitation of offenders. Such conduct displays a disturbing lack of appreciation for the seriousness of this mandate.

Against this factual background, the decision to disconnect electricity and publicly associate the Department's name with allegations of non-payment is not only unjustified but indefensible. This conduct has exposed the Department to unwarranted reputational harm and gross public misrepresentation.

The Mayor of Tshwane and relevant municipal officials ought to have exercised the most basic level of due diligence before taking enforcement action against a Department that does not owe the Municipality. If the intention was to generate attention or drive engagement on social media platforms, such conduct should at the very least have been grounded in accurate, verified information and not deliberate deception.

Public office bearers are duty-bound to act fairly, responsibly and in good faith, in line with the Corporate Governance Policy and the applicable legislative framework. The Department of Correctional Services calls on the City of Tshwane to review its conduct in this matter and to issue an apology for the reputational damage caused to the Department.

ENDS

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