



MetroMonitor report: March – June 2022

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THE THIRD REPUBLIC

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Contents

Glossary	4
Summary	5
DA-led, ANC-led coalitions remain under pressure	5
Mangaung under administration, Nelson Mandela Bay not far off	5
Main report.....	7
Johannesburg	7
March 2022	7
April 2022	8
May 2022.....	9
June 2022	10
Tshwane	11
March 2022	11
April 2022	11
May 2022.....	12
June 2022	13
Ekurhuleni.....	14
March 2022	14
April 2022	14
May 2022.....	15
June 2022	15
Cape Town	16
March 2022	16
April 2022	16
May 2022.....	17
June 2022	18

Ethekwini	19
March 2022	19
April 2022	20
May 2022	20
June 2022	21
Nelson Mandela Bay	22
March 2022	22
April 2022	22
May 2022	23
June 2022	24
Buffalo City	25
March 2022	25
April 2022	25
May 2022	25
June 2022	26
Mangaung	27
November 2021	27
December 2021	27
January 2022	29
February 2022	29

Glossary

ABC	Abantu Batho Congress (party)
ACDP	African Christian Democratic Party (party)
AGM	Annual General Meeting
AIC	African Independent Congress (party)
AIM	Abantu Integrity Movement (party)
ANC	African National Congress (party)
CMP	Cape Muslim Party (party)
COGTA	(Department of) Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
COPE	Congress of the People (party)
DA	Democratic Alliance (party)
DM	District Municipality
DOP	Defenders of the People (party)
DWS	Department of Water and Sanitation
EFF	Economic Freedom Fighters (party)
FF+	Freedom Front Plus (party)
IDP	Integrated Development Plan
IFP	Inkatha Freedom Party (party)
IPP	Independent Power Producer
IRASA	Independent Ratepayers Association of South Africa (party)
JRA	Johannesburg Roads Agency
Mayco	Mayoral Committee
ME	Municipal Entity
MEC	Member of the Executive Council
MM / CM	Municipal Manager / City Manager
MMC	Member of the Mayoral Committee
MPAC	Municipal Public Accounts Committee
MPL	Member of the Provincial Legislature
NA	Northern Alliance (party)
NERSA	National Energy Regulator of South Africa
PA	Patriotic Alliance (party)
PAC	Pan Africanist Congress (party)
PR	Proportional Representation
PTT	Provincial Task Team
REC	Regional Executive Committee
RTT	Regional Task Team
SAMWU	South African Municipal Workers' Union
SANS	South African National Standards
SCA	Supreme Court of Appeal
SOE	State-owned Enterprise
UDM	United Democratic Movement (party)

Summary

DA-led, ANC-led coalitions remain under pressure

Despite managing to [pass](#) their [2022/23 budgets](#), coalition governments in the three Gauteng metros remained fraught. Opposition parties, particularly the ANC and EFF, criticised the budgets and refused to vote for them.

Council meetings faced ongoing disruption from the ANC and EFF, with the [DA and the EFF laying charges against each other](#) after the May council meeting was disrupted in Tshwane. ANC leader in Ekurhuleni, Mzwandile Masina, threatened to lay charges against the DA after he was [forcibly removed from a council meeting](#).

After a relative lull in March, opposition parties ramped up the pressure on the DA-led coalitions in Gauteng. The PA [threatened to pull out of Johannesburg and Ekurhuleni coalitions](#) after being criticised by the DA while Al Jama-ah brought [a motion of no confidence against the Johannesburg speaker](#).

The ANC had been preoccupied with its regional and provincial electoral conferences in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal but once these were concluded it reiterated its intention to [topple the DA-led coalitions](#).

The DA also faced threats from ActionSA, its coalition partner in Gauteng. The parties disagreed over the [choice of city manager in Johannesburg](#) while an ActionSA MMC in the metro [faced an investigation](#) by the DA speaker for interfering in tender processes.

ActionSA accused the DA in Tshwane of [ignoring tender irregularities](#) and Herman Mashaba [threatened to vote out the DA](#) in the metro if the party did not agree to in-source municipal workers. Mashaba also accused the DA in Ekurhuleni of [striking a deal with the EFF](#) in order to pass the annual budget.

The ANC faced its own pressures from coalition partners in the Ethekewini and Nelson Mandela Bay metros. Smaller parties in the Ethekewini coalition [voted against the ANC's choices](#) for MPAC chairperson and city manager. In Nelson Mandela Bay, AIM, UDM, GOOD and DOP [expressed unhappiness with the mayor and acting city manager](#).

Mangaung under administration, Nelson Mandela Bay not far off

Mangaung has been struggling for years. The embattled metro was first placed under provincial administration in 2020 for passing unfunded budgets in two successive years. By April Mangaung had been [placed under national administration](#). However, the [metro's council was not dissolved](#), much to the disappointment of opposition parties and civil society groups.

By May opposition parties had [increased their criticism of the national intervention](#), claiming that it had not resulted in improved service delivery. The Mangaung council [postponed its budget vote in May](#) as it had not allowed residents to give their input into the budget process.

Despite the promises from national and provincial government there was no evidence by June that the intervention had improved service delivery or governance in Mangaung. The metro had cycled through four acting city managers since the start of 2022.

The ANC-led Nelson Mandela Bay metro also lurched from crisis to crisis, losing coalition partners over the period. The metro was the only one failing to pass its adjustment budget by the February 28 deadline, and the co-operative governance MEC [threatened the metro with administration](#) if it failed to pass its annual budget.

The metro had two acting city managers by April, both under a cloud of corruption. Councillors asked the [Gqeberha High Court to intervene](#), with a judge describing the situation as 'utterly bizarre'. The metro failed to convene a number of council meetings over the period as [councillors habitually boycotted the meetings](#). By the end of June, the ANC's coalition partners were ready to remove the ANC-chosen mayor and city manager.

Main report

Johannesburg

March 2022

The Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital experienced more sabotage with the theft of copper pipes and cables. The Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital and Helen Joseph Hospital have had to absorb the overflow of casualty patients as Charlotte Maxeke's Casualty unit remains closed. All three hospitals are in Johannesburg.

The DA's spokesperson on health, Jack Bloom, defended staff picketing outside Chris Hani Baragwanath later in the month as the provincial health department announced that it was unable to renew 8 000 temporary posts due to budget constraints.

The dispute between the metro and 130 employees facing dismissal increased the political risk within the DA-led coalition. Four political parties - the UDM, PAC, Al Jama-ah, and AIC - accused the mayor of increasing unemployment. The UDM councillor is the MPAC chairperson.

Samwu, Sanco, and others supported the employees and the mayor issued a statement outlining the metro's position and decision.

Violence erupted in Alexandra as members of the Operation Dudula movement clashed with foreign nationals over business ownership. The JMPD banned an anti-xenophobia march in response to xenophobic incitement from Operation Dudula and certain political parties. The march took place later in the month.

The metro had still not appointed a municipal manager and there was conflict in council over the choice of candidates. The EFF, ActionSA and other coalition partners favoured Floyd Brink, acting MM since February 2021. The DA opposed Brink, who had been found guilty of 'gross misconduct' in a forensic investigation.

The metro released its draft budget for 2022/23. Residents were concerned about the above-inflation proposed increases for water and electricity services at 9.75% and 9.61% respectively.

The metro claimed that townships and informal settlements accounted for most of the R38-billion debt owed to it. Water and sanitation charges made up the majority of the debt. At the same time, the metro's indigent database has grown by 10%-20% annually.

The South African Property Owners Association (Sapoa) criticised a new levy that the metro imposed on new developments. The levy is intended to offset the costs of providing bulk infrastructure to new developments.

Service delivery

South African Breweries (SAB) moved further off Eskom's grid with renewable energy agreements. [SAB's Alrode brewery in Johannesburg uses a biogas facility](#). SAB plans to move off the grid by 2025, with direct implications for metros' revenue from service charges.

[Half of the metro's residents reported unhappiness with service delivery](#), according to the GCRO's 2021 Quality of Life (QoL) Survey. The survey was completed in May 2021 and does not take into account any changes since then.

Residents of Finetown, near Lenasia South, [protested violently against electricity disconnections](#). The disconnections were due to non-payment and illegal connections.

The CEO of the JRA, Selemo Republic Monakedi, [resigned after less than two years on the job](#). His appointment in September 2020 was [criticised by both the DA and EFF](#) due to corruption and mismanagement at two Limpopo municipalities.

April 2022

Elvis Nyathi, a 43-year-old Zimbabwean, was [killed in Diepsloot by a mob](#). His killing followed the violent protests in Diepsloot by Operation Dudula. Over 100 additional police officers were brought into the area to restore calm.

Shadrack Sibiyi, head of group forensics and investigation services, [was suspended](#) by the acting city manager, Floyd Brink. Brink and mayor Mpho Phalatse had [been in opposition with each other](#) for some time.

The mayor delivered her [State of the City address](#), pledging more investment in renewable energy and water services infrastructure. The metro would hold an Energy Indaba in May.

The PA [threatened to pull out of coalitions](#) in Johannesburg and Ekurhuleni after the DA described his election as mayor of Central Karoo district as 'political thuggery'.

Al Jama-ah brought a [motion of no confidence against Johannesburg speaker](#) Vasco da Gama. The party accused da Gama of allowing the DA to interfere with council business and failing to safeguard the council's independence.

Gauteng Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs MEC Lebogang Maile claimed that [coalitions were delaying progress](#) in some Gauteng municipal councils.

The 130 workers whose permanent contracts were terminated by the metro [filed an interdict application at the Labour Court](#), asking that their contracts be renewed or extended.

Service delivery

Vandalism and cable theft cost the metro R24-million in damages and repairs over the last nine months. Cable theft is responsible for most of the power outages in Johannesburg.

The JRA stopped repairing and maintaining traffic lights that fall under the provincial government's jurisdiction. A previous agreement between the metro and the province had not been renewed since September 2020 and negotiations broke down.

May 2022

The DA placed its Johannesburg region under administration due to 'significant underperformance' in the 2021 local election. The party confirmed that all political posts, including those of councillors and the Johannesburg mayor, were safe.

Kenny Kunene, deputy leader of the PA, claimed that the party had no intention of withdrawing from coalitions in Johannesburg and Ekurhuleni. Kunene confirmed that the PA was in talks with the ANC but said that these talks were not about changing government in the two metros.

After losing their Labour Court big to have their contracts renewed the 130 dismissed employees pledged to continue fighting for their jobs

Ward committee elections finally began after being delayed in March due to a high number of objections.

A former branch chairperson for the DA claimed that he was being blackmailed for whistle-blowing. Jaques van Rensburg claimed that DA leaders in the province were using constituency bank accounts that were no longer allowed by the party.

The metro completed its consultation process with communities over the 2022/23 budget. The final meeting was held in Orlando, Soweto where residents prioritised housing, service delivery, and infrastructure.

Service delivery

The Johannesburg Development Agency (JDA) terminated service provider contracts due to project delays and poor workmanship. The total value of the contracts was about R244-million. Projects were expected to resume in the new financial year once replacement contractors had been appointed.

Soweto residents, angry over power cuts in their communities, assaulted one ward councillor and took another hostage. The area is supplied by Eskom and not by City Power.

June 2022

At the ANC Johannesburg regional conference, the newly elected chairperson, Dada Morero, stated the party's intention to [collapse the DA-led coalition](#) in the metro and replace it with an ANC-led one.

ActionSA councillor and MMC for economic development, Nkululeko Mbundu, faced an investigation by Johannesburg speaker Vasco da Gama. Mbundu was alleged to have [interfered with tender processes](#). ActionSA supported Mbundu, claiming that he was investigating irregularities in the tender process. A week later the National Treasury instructed the metro to [open a criminal case against Mbundu](#).

Embattled head of forensic and investigating services, Shadrack Sibiya, [resigned his position to rejoin SAPS](#). Sibiya accused the metro of not supporting him. The Johannesburg High Court [interdicted Al Jama-ah and one of its members](#) from making defamatory statements against Sibiya.

Tshwane

March 2022

The court ruled that the nullification [of the metro's fleet management tender](#) valued at R4-billion was suspended until June 30 to allow a new tender process to be concluded. Forensic investigations confirmed flaws in the awarding of the tender in August 2021.

The metro notified striking workers of their termination after municipal workers embarked on an [unprotected strike](#) due to the City's refusal to increase salaries. The workers, who were represented by Samwu, were requested to provide written reasons why their services should not be terminated by 24 March. Samwu distanced itself from the strikes, stating that it had not called for a strike.

April 2022

Tshwane launched a month-long [public participation process](#) for residents to comment on the 2022/23 Draft Budget and IDP. This was announced after the council approved the Draft Budget and IDP the previous week.

Tensions rose between [ActionSA and the DA](#) after the former accused the DA of being aware of allegations of tender irregularities related to the refurbishment of Rooiwal Waste Water Works since 2019. The DA questioned ActionSA's commitment to the coalition and questioned whether ActionSA wanted to be in coalition or join the opposition.

The mayor delivered the [State of the City](#) address despite disorder and threats of disruption. The EFF and ANC demanded that council speaker, Murunwa Makwarela, recuse himself from an official investigation into allegations of sexual assault and also misusing [VIP protection services](#). The council meeting continued as the investigation was not noted on the agenda and the mayor delivered his address.

Moeketsi Ntsimane, former municipal audit chief, demanded that the mayor publish his report on corruption in the municipality. Ntsimane was fired in early April and he argued that his dismissal was orchestrated by senior officials and politicians who he had implicated in [tender fraud and other corruption](#). There were further allegations that the mayor and others undermined the forensic investigation by preventing the investigators from reporting senior officials and politicians to law enforcement. Ntsimane argued that he was unlawfully dismissed as part of a cover up of corruption in the municipality.

The provincial government reported that Tshwane and Johannesburg had the highest wasteful expenditure in the financial year 2020/21. Gauteng MEC of human settlements, urban planning, and cooperative governance and traditional affairs, Lebogang Maile, held a media briefing on [the state of Gauteng municipalities](#) which also revealed that households and businesses owed municipalities R70.3-billion and R20.1-billion over a three-month period, respectively.

May 2022

Mayor Randall Williams proposed a constitutional amendment to fund [human settlements](#) infrastructure at the municipal level. The mayor explained that municipal projects on human settlements were currently unfunded which hindered efforts to improve infrastructure in this area. Williams was responding to concerns that had been raised on pit toilets in the city at a previous council meeting. Williams added that human settlements was an area of national and provincial government competence which meant that municipalities did not receive funding in this area. In addition, he stated that pit toilets were an ongoing issue in the city, despite a previous Minister of Human Settlements having promised that these would be eliminated.

William told a council meeting that the city could not [insource certain workers](#) as this would increase the municipality's salary bill and divert funds which were needed elsewhere. ActionSA threatened to withdraw from its coalition with the DA over the issue of insourcing cleaners and security guards.

ActionSA leader, Herman Mashaba, argued that the multi-party coalition had [agreed to insource the workers](#) and added that the party was willing to leave the coalition if the agreement was not upheld. The question of insourcing workers has been a contentious issue in Tshwane and in [2017](#) security guards protested and demanded that they were given permanent positions and a "living wage".

Tshwane council finally adopted the [forensic report on tender irregularities](#) in the City's contract with GladAfrica, an engineering firm appointed to manage municipal infrastructure projects in 2017. In 2018 investigators concluded that the [R12-billion tender was unlawful](#) but the then city manager Moeketsi Molosi, obtained an interim interdict to prevent the report being tabled at council until November 2018.

Both the DA and EFF pressed charges after a [council meeting was disrupted](#). The City's annual budget was supposed to be presented however EFF members clashed with security guards and the meeting was postponed. The EFF disrupted the meeting due to their demand that vulnerable workers (including waste management and security staff) should be insourced. The DA laid charges related to death threats, intimidation and other allegations while the EFF laid charges of assault and intimidation against the mayor and speaker after security guards were called into the council chamber.

MMC for Finance, Peter Sutton, indicated that the City would [continue its aggressive debt collection policy](#). Sutton claimed that the municipality's #TshwaneYaTima campaign had succeeded in collecting R700-million in a short space of time. Sutton also insisted that the campaign was vital for addressing the "culture of non-payment" and that the metro would continue to target defaulting customers as part of an effort to stabilise the City's finances.

Council was unable to convene an in-person meeting to table the budget and it was tabled at an [online meeting](#). It was reported that DA councillors received death threats while the SAPS teargassed protesters assembled at Tshwane House.

Further chaos also ensued inside the chamber after EFF members disrupted proceedings. The budget was passed with 108 votes at the online meeting however the EFF and the ANC left the virtual meeting arguing that it was “illegal”.

The MMC for finance presented a budget of R44.9-billion with R42.1-billion allocated for the operation budget and R2.8-billion allocated for capital infrastructure.

June 2022

The [High Court dismissed the City’s attempt to appeal](#) against an earlier ruling which overturned the controversial fleet management tender. The tender was valued at R4-billion and the court found that there were “irregularities” in the award process.

The AG’s findings showed that [Tshwane’s finances remained precarious](#). The metro was flagged among 28% of municipalities which were in a “dire” condition.

[The City of Tshwane](#) resumed its revenue collection campaign in a bid to recoup R17-billion owed to the metro by government departments, businesses, residents, entities as well as embassies. Council spokesman, Selby Bokaba, added that the campaign would also target prepaid electricity meters that have been tampered with.

Ekurhuleni

March 2022

Eskom claimed that [the metro failed to honour an agreement](#) to settle a debt of R544-million that it owed. The metro denied the claim, saying that it had adhered to the terms of the agreement. Eskom still charged the metro with a penalty fee for non-payment.

Operation Dudula spread to Ekurhuleni as [community members gathered in Daveyton to demonstrate and march](#) against foreign businesses in the Daveyton CBD. This followed the arrest of dozens of undocumented immigrants in Johannesburg townships.

The ANC caucus called on Eskom and Rand Water to write off a large portion of Ekurhuleni residents' debt. [Party members and communities marched on city offices](#), calling for residential debt to be slashed by 75%. The mayor called the ANC's proposal '[reckless and short-sighted](#)'.

Tensions flared between the DA and ActionSA when [Mashaba claimed that the mayor had signed a deal with the EFF](#) in order to pass the adjustment budget. Campbell insisted that there was no formal agreement with the EFF but confirmed that an EFF councillor was included on the interview panel for a city manager.

April 2022

Former mayor Mzwandile Masina said [he would lay charges against the speaker and mayor](#) after he was removed from council chambers. The speaker, Raymond Dlamini, claimed that Masina and another ANC councillor were removed after they repeatedly disrupted the meeting. The mayor's office [issued a statement](#) condemning the ANC's obstruction of council.

Cooperative governance and traditional affairs MEC, Lebohang Maile, claimed that [Ekurhuleni was the only stable municipality](#) in Gauteng. The metro also [did not incur any unauthorised expenditure](#) in the 2020/21 financial year. Ekurhuleni was also one of three municipalities that had [no overdue accounts with Eskom](#) over the same period.

As a result of the metro's improved political and financial position, the GCR Ratings agency [raised its debt status from junk to stable](#)

The metro [reappointed Dr Imogen Mashazi as city manager](#). Dr Mashazi had been city manager since 2016 and her contract was extended for six months after the 2021 election.

May 2022

Patriotic Alliance deputy leader, Kenny Kunene, announced that his party would not withdraw from coalitions in Johannesburg and Ekurhuleni. Relations between the PA and the DA had cooled over April.

The Hawks were investigating a murder plot against the city manager after she was accused of blocking payments worth more than R100-million. Dr Mashazi received many calls from alleged hitmen who claimed they were paid to kill her. The payments allegedly came from unhappy service providers appointed by the previous administration.

MMC for Finance and Economic Development, Graham Gersbach, resigned before the draft budget was debated in council. Gersbach remained a DA councillor but claimed that the metro had not considered all of the public's inputs into the draft budget.

The council replaced Gersbach and another MMC, Ruhan Robinson, who took up a position in the provincial legislature.

The EFF warned the DA-led coalition that it would not support the 2022/23 budget in council unless the budget was 'pro-poor'. The EFF wanted the mayor to prioritise housing, land, and water supply in the budget.

The proposed 2022/23 budget included significant tariff increases for water and electricity. Electricity tariffs were to increase by 11% and water by 9.6%.

June 2022

The council passed the 2022/23 budget despite objections from the ANC caucus who criticised the budget as being 'out of touch'.

Ekurhuleni and Cape Town were the only metros to receive clean audits for the 2020/21 financial year. However, the auditor-general expressed concern that Ekurhuleni spent more than R19-million on consultants despite having a 28% vacancy rate in its financial unit.

A COPE councillor and MMC, Thembani Kalipa, was accused by IRASA of owing over R320 000 on his municipal accounts. Izak Berg, IRASA's national chairperson, claimed that 73 councillors in Ekurhuleni had not been linked to municipal accounts and another 12 councillors had accounts in arrears.

Cape Town

March 2022

The City of Cape Town hosted the [Africa Energy Indaba](#) to explore options for energy generation. The mayor indicated that the metro was concerned about energy security and hoped to tackle high costs by procuring energy from IPPs.

The metro officially opened the new [Khayelitsha bulk water pipeline](#) to improve water supply to this area of the Cape Flats. The pipeline cost R162-million and the MEC for Water and Sanitation, Zahid Badroodien, stated that the pipeline would enhance development, improve water pressure to residents living in higher-lying locations and prevent water leakage.

The municipality hosted more than [100 stakeholders from IPPs](#) to discuss strategies for energy security. The MEC for Energy, Beverley van Reenen, and Director for Energy, Kadri Nassiep, also gave a presentation on the metro's energy strategy.

The City published the [Draft Integrated Human Settlements Sector Plan](#) however [advocacy groups criticised it](#) as "too vague". Mayco member for human Settlements, Malusi Boo, asserted that the plan was aligned with international, national, provincial and municipal legislation and policies.

Ndifuna Ukwazi researchers stated that the plan lacked sufficient detail and did not offer clear processes for implementation. Stop CoCT, a civil society group, argued that the city could not keep up with the large number of informal settlements. Affordable housing is a contentious issue in Cape Town and the situation was exacerbated by the City's announcement (early in March) that construction of the [Macassar housing project](#) would be delayed until April 2023.

The metro [tabled the draft budget](#) for the 2022/23 financial year and indicated that residents would face tariff increases. The Draft Budget showed a rates increase of 5.2%, water and sanitation increase of 5% and an additional 1.5% which would fund increased access to water for poor residents in informal settlements. The mayor stated that the electricity tariff would increase by 9.5% but this was unavoidable given that NERSA approved Eskom's application for an increase of 9.6%. The [EFF and Stop CoCT](#) criticised the budget as "anti-poor".

April 2022

Activists from Reclaim the City and other non-profits complained that communities were excluded from participation in the City's [Affordable Housing Indaba](#). The mayor stated that the indaba would inform the City's accelerated affordable housing programme but housing activists argued that the mayor had not reached out to them nor responded to their communications. Activist groups also stated that affordable housing beneficiaries were excluded while a number of groups [staged demonstrations](#) outside the indaba.

Both the ANC and the EFF criticised the City's draft [budget allocation for informal settlements](#). The 2022/23 Draft Budget allocated R370-million for upgrading informal settlements out of a R2.6-billion total. ANC representative, Xolani Sotashe, complained that the allocation was inadequate, especially in light of the recent devastating fires in informal settlements. Sotashe claimed that the City's approach was "reactive" while the EFF argued that the budgetary allocation was inadequate as there are more than 835 informal settlements in the municipality.

The Department of Human Settlements for the Western Cape expressed concern about the growth of informal settlements in Cape Town and the rest of the province. The department stated that there was a 24.1% increase between April 2021 and April 2022

GOOD, the EFF and civil society groups were unhappy about the City's plan to invest R200-million in shares in the [Cape Town International Convention Centre](#). GOOD demanded that the mayor explain the decision to invest in a company that is not profitable while Stop CoCT and the EFF argued that the City's proposal did not advance service delivery or provide benefit to residents.

May 2022

Civil society organisation, Nehemiah Call Initiative, lodged a [complaint against the City](#), asking the SA Human Rights Commission to investigate the alleged targeting of homeless people in Mitchells Plain. The group reported that the City's law enforcement dismantled structures and confiscated homeless people's belongings.

It was also alleged that the city deliberately targets homeless people every winter. The City's approach to homelessness and evictions has come under fire in recent years, and in August 2020, the High Court found that the City [acted unlawfully](#) in evictions and demolitions of informal housing structures during the national lockdown.

Opposition parties in the provincial legislature argued that Anton Bredell, the MEC for Local Government, allowed the DA-led City of Cape Town to evade MPLs' questions on municipal affairs.

Activists criticised the City for incidents where [homeless families were fined](#) and their belongings confiscated in the CBD. Ndifuna Kwasi's Zacharia Mashele said that the City used the [Streets, Public Places and Prevention of Noise Nuisances](#) by-law to target the homeless despite a legal challenge which argues that the law amounts to discrimination against the poor. A number of advocacy groups were [concerned](#) about this by-law and instituted litigation at the High Court and Equality Court. Affordable housing remains a contentious issue in Cape Town and activists [argued](#) that the City had not addressed the issue with urgency.

Mayor Geordin Hill-Lewis announced the development of two inner city sites which would provide [760 affordable housing units](#). Hill-Lewis added that the City was developing more than 6 500 units at 50 properties across the municipality. Good's Brett Herron, who has often been critical of the City's

approach to affordable housing, welcomed the mayor's announcement and said that he was "encouraged" by the City's decision. Malusi Booi, Human Settlements MEC, stated that a public participation process would begin in June. ACDP councillor, Mongezi Mabungane, criticised the [delay in developing affordable housing](#) and argued that the City had only completed one of 11 affordable housing projects in the past five years.

June 2022

The City passed the [IDP](#) and [Budget](#) which indicated a 5% increase in refuse tariffs, 6.5% increase for water and sanitation and 9.5% for electricity. The mayor acknowledged that many residents were unhappy about the [increased electricity tariff](#) but the City was constrained by Eskom's "unaffordable and unjust increases". Hill-Lewis stated that the metro sought to urgently reduce its reliance on Eskom to reduce loadshedding and lower the cost of electricity.

Stop CoCT activist Sandra Dickson complained that many residents could not afford their municipal bills as the annual increases exceeded inflation. The City received a number of [submissions on the IDP and Budget](#) through its public participation process and many submissions related to property rates and tariff increases.

The High Court [ordered the City](#) to return confiscated belongings to homeless people. Housing activist organisation Ndifuna Ukwazi approached the court after the metro conducted an operation targeting informal housing sites in the CBD. The organisation alleged that the City confiscated tents, building materials and other property belonging to homeless individuals.

Geordin Hill-Lewis published an article outlining [the municipality's strategies to tackle loadshedding](#). Hill-Lewis indicated that the first phase of the metro's IPP procurement tender process closed at the end of June but he warned that this would only provide relief in the medium term.

The mayor also proposed wheeling to mitigate loadshedding. Wheeling entails using a public distribution network to transmit energy from private generators to private users. Hill-Lewis advised that the City had created a wheeling framework which took into account the "complex legal, tariff and billing" issues and live-testing would begin by the end of the year.

Ethekwini

March 2022

Ethekwini municipality passed an adjustment budget that included a R80-million staff bonus.

Opposition parties criticised the payment but the budget was passed with only 54 DA councillors voting against it.

Interviews for a city manager continued. An opposition proposal to extend the interviewing panel to include the entire EXCO was narrowly defeated by the ANC and its coalition parties.

Muzumuni 'Mzi' Ngiba, the councillor for Ward 101, survived an assassination attempt outside the Cato Crest community hall. Ngiba himself was elected in a February by-election; the original candidate for the ward was shot and killed while campaigning before the November general election and was elected posthumously.

ActionSA searched for Makhosi Khoza's replacement after she was fired from the party. Khozawas the MPAC chairperson and was dismissed after being found guilty of putting the party into disrepute. ActionSA confirmed that Busi Radebe would replace Khosi as a PR councillor.

Mayor Mxolisi Kaunda was accused by the opposition of manipulating an online vote at the executive committee meeting on Tuesday. The city's DA leader, Nicole Graham, accused Kaunda of collapsing the meeting. The ANC had proposed an increase of 200% for the fee to launch objections to residential home values.

Disagreements over the next city manager of eThekweni have divided the ANC-led coalition. Smaller parties in the coalition complained that they were not consulted by the ANC. There are also accusations of political interference by the provincial ANC.

The coalition between the ANC and smaller parties grew increasingly strained and opposition parties looked to capitalise on the possible crack. Disagreements over the choice of city manager and new MPAC chairperson soured relations between the ANC and a bloc of smaller parties led by the ABC.

Service delivery

Ethekwini councillors have demanded that the mayor, Mxolisi Kaunda, provide detailed financial information that will shed some light on the municipality's financial standing. The municipality's basic service delivery has been so bad in certain parts of the municipality that there are concerns that residents may stage a rate boycott.

April 2022

The ANC failed to persuade its coalition partners to vote for its choice for city manager. The party had nominated Maxwell Mbili for the position but it was outvoted after its partner the ABC, along with the DA, IFP and other opposition parties, voted against Mbili. Mayor Kaunda blamed the outcome on 'social media influence'.

The mayor of Ethekewini Municipality, Mxolisi Kaunda, opened the door for cooperation with the opposition as the ANC's power in the city continued to diminish. Kaunda said that political parties need to come together to take control of the municipality and ensure that the running of the metro is smooth.

The IFP accused Ethekewini municipality employees of blowing up electrical transformers in Nsizwakazi, Klaarwater township. National executive member and MP, Joshua Mazibuka, claimed that a municipal vehicle arrived at the area and drove to the transformers. Soon after the transformers went up in flames then the whole area experienced power failure.

The KwaZulu-Natal supporters of President Cyril Ramaphosa tried to win over former Ethekewini mayor Zandile Gumede, who was popular in the Ethekewini area. Gumede was chosen as the ANC's Ethekewini regional chairwoman despite being charged with corruption.

The newly elected Ethekewini regional leadership was accused of interfering with the work of Ethekewini municipality by establishing a control centre to coordinate the government's response to flooding

May 2022

The MPAC position in the metro remained vacant. IFP leader Mdu Nkosi said the opposition was preparing to take the position. The opposition had successfully blocked the ANC's choice for MPAC chairperson, Max Mbili, from being appointed as the city manager.

Relations between the ANC and Philani Mavundla's Abantu Batho Congress (ABC) deteriorated with Mavundla claiming he was being ignored and sidelined. Mavundla voted against the ANC's choice of municipal manager.

Max Mbili, the ANC's choice for city manager, filed a lawsuit to contest his exclusion. Mbili was the front-runner to be named the new city manager, but opposition parties voted against his appointment amid claims that the provincial ANC had intervened with his selection.

The ANC's coalition came under increased pressure as opposition parties worked to create a new majority coalition. Nicole Graham, DA leader in the metro, said her party was in talks with all opposition parties, including the ABC, to save the city from a "corrupt and clueless" ANC. Controversy over the city manager position looked set to continue as Musa Mbhele, the acting city manager, was scheduled to leave at the end of June. Mbhele could not continue to serve as city manager beyond his one-year term.

The [coalition of smaller parties](#) working with the ANC downplayed worries about the coalition's stability. There were rumours that Philani Mavundla, ABC leader and deputy mayor, had fallen out of favour with the bloc after voting against the appointment of Max Mbili as city manager.

An ANC ward councillor and other [suspects were detained](#) in connection with the death of Siyabonga Mkhize and Mzukisi Nyanga. Mkhize and Nyanga were murdered in November in Cato Crest while campaigning for the local government election.

[Muzimuni "Mzi" Ngiba](#), ANC councillor for Ward 101, was detained on suspicion of killing his predecessor. Ngiba was detained with alleged henchmen Nkosinathi Emmanuel Nkosi, Mlomo Ngcobo, and Vincent Mlondo for the murders of Siyabonga Mkhize and Mzukisi Nyanga, as well as the attempted murders of two other people.

June 2022

The DA, IFP, and [deputy mayor of Ethekwini Municipality](#) opposed the mayor's budget speech. Nicole Graham, the leader of the DA Ethekwini caucus, responded to the budget speech by declaring that her party would not support it because it raised too many concerns that had not been adequately addressed. "The city's sanitation infrastructure is now in full tatters," Graham added. "It was already in a dangerous situation before the floods."

Many council members in the [Ethekwini Municipality still lacked offices](#) six months after local government elections. Thabani Mthethwa, a DA councillor, expressed his concerns. At a council meeting, Mthethwa once again urged the Speaker to speak with the councillors about the causes of the delays.

The DA suffered a major setback when [Nicole Graham](#), its caucus leader and a member of the council's executive committee, announced her intention to pursue an MBA in Australia. Graham had been a DA member since she was 17 years old. She joined the council as an ordinary councillor in 2007 and established herself as a tough opposition councillor over the years.

Nelson Mandela Bay

March 2022

Mayor Eugene Johnson announced during a council meeting that she wanted [12 more political appointees](#) for her office. The 12 political appointees would cost an additional R3.2-million a year. The increase in political appointees came at a time when the council is yet to pass the 2021/2022 adjustment budget after failing twice.

The council meeting convened on 23 March to appoint a permanent [city manager descended](#) into chaos. Noxolo Nqwazi, who had been serving as acting city manager, declared three vacancies with the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC). These three vacancies were all NA councillors, including the council speaker, Gary van Niekerk.

The UDM, an ANC coalition partner, called for [Noxolo Nqwazi to be removed](#) and face disciplinary action. The motion was passed, but those who later walked out of the council meeting argued that there was no longer a quorum when the appointment of economic development, agriculture and tourism executive director Anele Qaba as acting city manager, came up for debate.

Nqwazi [asked the court to suspend](#) the decision that Qaba act as city manager, along with a decision made by councillors that she be suspended and her appointment revoked. According to the speaker, Gary van Niekerk, there was allegedly no quorum when Nqwazi was appointed city manager, as several parties and coalition partners walked out of the meeting.

Eastern Cape co-operative governance MEC, Xolile Nqatha, threatened to place the Nelson Mandela Bay municipality under administration. This came after the council failed twice to approve the 2021/2022 adjustment budget. In addition, approximately R1-billion in grants was withheld from the metro by National Treasury, affecting service delivery. The MEC warned that if the NMB council failed to approve the 2022/2023 budget he would [recommend dissolution of the council](#), an administrator would be appointed and a fresh election held.

April 2022

The metro asked the [Gqebera High Court to decide](#) who was actually in charge of the city's administration between the current two city managers. Noxolo Nqwazi and Anele Qaba approached the High Court to resolve the matter.

The metro received more than [R300-million in conditional grants](#) but was unable to make use of it due to chaotic council meetings. The metro faced the risk of forfeiting funds to the fiscus if the conditional grant was not spent timeously.

The [Civil Society Coalition](#), a pressure group comprising organised business, the religious sector, civil society and Nelson Mandela University (NMU), reunited to tackle instability in the metro. The group

demanded that political parties convene an urgent meeting to resolve the issue regarding the metro having both a municipal manager and an acting municipal manager.

A [by-election](#) for the Ward 20 councillor's seat was scheduled for 4 May. The ANC, AIM, EFF and Azapo fielded candidates for the by-election. The seat became vacant when ANC councillor Zwelandile Booi was killed in February 2022.

The metro's 2021/2022 [adjustments budget was finally passed](#) on 26 April 2022 after three postponements and several failed council meetings. At the same council meeting, the 2022/2023 draft annual budget was noted.

May 2022

[Two ANC member were killed](#) on 2 May 2022. Ward 43 councillor, Andile Andries, and the party's regional executive committee member and branch secretary, Lubabalo Keso, were killed. The shooting occurred in KwaNobuhle, Kariega, outside Andries's home. The motive behind the killing was unknown, however party politics and the raging taxi war in the Eastern Cape were the suspected reasons behind the murders.

The major storage dams supplying the metro with water were [expected to run dry](#) in mid-June 2022. Day Zero was expected to have a devastating impact on the metro's economy and communities. In addition, there was a high possibility that the sewage system would collapse and cause a health and humanitarian crisis.

The metro [faced blame for the impending Day Zero](#). Residents complained that the municipality's failure to repair water infrastructure contributed immensely to water wastage in the metro. An organisation called the Nelson Mandela Bay Water Crisis Committee demanded that the municipality account at the Human Rights Commission.

DA federal council chair, Helen Zille, announced the opening of the [process to select a mayoral candidate](#). Zille called for the nomination of candidates for a possible mayor. The metro's DA caucus also met to discuss how the party could build a strong coalition to run the metro.

The metro had a R314-million [Informal Settlements Upgrading Partnership Grant](#) that needed to be spent by June 30 or be forfeited. The grant was primarily earmarked for installing electricity in informal settlements and building temporary housing; however, the grant was not spent due to the council's failure to approve the 2021/2022 adjustments budget.

A leaked PwC forensic report into the city's contracts included allegations against economic development executive director and current acting city manager, Anele Qaba. Qaba was accused of [tender misconduct](#). After these allegations emerged, the mayor recommended Qaba's suspension.

Another NMB council meeting failed to go ahead as scheduled due to councillors from several different [parties](#) boycotting the meeting. The meeting was scheduled for the 26th of May 2022. Some councillors

boycotted the meeting due to the conflict over Noxolo Nqwazi continuing to occupy the city manager seat and Anele Qaba being elected as acting city manager.

AIM councillor and economic development political head, [Khusta Jack, was considering leaving](#) the ANC-led coalition. The party shared that it would make its announcement on 3 June 2022. Jack said his party was unhappy with the ANC's conduct when it came to council issues as well as his department being bypassed by the mayor through private meetings.

June 2022

The [2022/2023 draft budget](#) was supposed to be passed by end-May with the IDP. By 2 June the council had failed to pass both items. The mayoral committee had not held a meeting since February.

[Lonwabo Ngoqo was voted in](#) as the new city manager. Ngoqo was previously Bitou city manager and was dismissed in 2012 over allegations of financial misconduct. The DA, ACDP and FF+ voted against his appointment. Four days after Ngoqo's appointment the [UDM withdrew its support](#), explaining that its decision was based on information regarding Ngoqo's previous acts of financial misconduct.

Just two days after her dismissal, former city manager Noxolo Nqwazi filed an urgent [application for an interim interdict](#). Nqwazi petitioned the High Court to stop the appointment of newly elected city manager, Lonwabo Ngoqo.

The AIM, UDM, GOOD and DOP called for the [removal of executive mayor](#) Eugene Johnson. The parties were part of the ANC-led coalition but claimed that the mayor had made questionable decisions.

Previously dismissed NMB speaker, Gary van Niekerk, [won a court case](#) against a faction within the NA that removed him and two other NA members in December 2021. The court ordered the member's reinstatement. Van Niekerk was expected to resume his duties and call a council meeting.

By 10 June, only six days remained before the [Impofu Dam ran dry](#) and 13 days until the Churchill Dam was empty. The dams' collapse would result in about 40% of the metro being without water. Combined dam levels were below 13% and over 100 suburbs and townships in the western half of the metro were expected to be affected.

The NMB council adopted its [2022/23 budget](#). Property rates would increase by 5.5% and by 5% for water, sanitation, and refuse. The electricity tariff increase would be 7.4%, subject to approval by the National Energy Regulator of SA (NERSA). The metro allocated R15.4-billion for the 2022/23 financial year, of which 90% was allocated for operational costs and the balance for capital projects.

Day Zero was expected to hit the metro in the first week of July. Day Zero loomed not only because of a drought but also due to a sustained lack of service delivery in [water infrastructure development and maintenance](#).

Buffalo City

March 2022

The ANC PTT [dissolved the REC](#) in the metro's Dr WB Rubusana region. The REC was replaced with an interim structure, the RTT. This decision came less than a month before the ruling party's elective conference in April. Most of those who were a part of the dissolved REC were retained for the new RTT however those who were facing criminal charges were forced to step aside.

Nearly 30 ANC councillors deployed to the council after the local government election faced the possibility of [losing their council seats](#). Some of the affected PR councillors were not subjected to proper selection processes before they were deployed to council therefore making their selections irregular.

The Hawks investigated three [fraud and corruption-related cases](#) in the metro. The Hawks' addressed Parliament in a presentation on corruption and Covid-19-related cases in the local government sphere.

April 2022

Metro [staff cost the metro R11-million](#) after more than a thousand city employees took sick leave between October and November 2021. A council report indicated that the metro experienced an unusually high cost in sick leave due to employee absenteeism. The metro planned to be stricter when validating medical certificates.

In January, 14 water and electricity meter readers were dismissed due to refusing to perform specific duties. Their actions sabotaged the municipal billing system causing inaccurate billing of 160 000 accounts, prejudicing BCM consumers and ratepayers. The dismissed staff [won their appeal](#) at the bargaining council, which found that their dismissal was procedurally unfair.

Ratepayers' associations threatened to unite and sue the [metro](#). Residents complained about inaccurate billing on their water and electricity accounts. The metro installed 18 440 smart meters for electricity and 46 724 smart meters for water by December 2020. Residents claimed that the metro's billing system was flawed.

May 2022

The metro spent R328-million on [water and electricity smart meters](#). Many metro residents complained about the inaccuracy of the new smart-metering billing system. Residents urged the municipality to admit the faultiness of the new billing system and come up with solutions.

During the ANC's Dr WB Rubusana elective conference, the deputy mayor of the metro, Princess Faku, was elected ANC Regional Chairperson of the region. ANC branches [called for the replacement of the metro's mayor](#), Xola Pakati, along with Faku.

June 2022

On 31 May 2022, the council approved the [2022/23 medium-term budget](#). Metro spokesperson, Samkelo Ngwenya, said that the metro had approved a pro-poor budget with significant water and electricity tariff reductions. Electricity tariffs were reduced from 9.61% to 7.47% and water tariffs were reduced from 9.64% to 6.78%.

70% of the approved budget was allocated towards [infrastructure development](#). The infrastructure developments in the IDP included construction of more than 60 000 residential units, water and sewerage infrastructure upgrades, enlarging the East London Port, and extending the North West Expressway.

The Auditor General's 2020-21 financial year municipal audit outcomes indicated that [BCMM obtained a qualified opinion with findings](#). The AG indicated that there were material irregularities relating to revenue management and the metro failed to bill a number of its customers for water services provided during 2019-20 which resulted in a R9.6m revenue loss for the metro. The municipality's failure to pay service providers promptly incurred millions of rand in penalties on various initiatives which was wasteful expenditure.

The BCM municipal manager post became [vacant](#) after Andile SiLala's five-year term lapsed. The position was advertised on 16 May 2022 and before the 2 June closing date, more than 80 applications were received. Mayor Xola Pakati said that three names would be shortlisted and sent to the ANC for a decision.

Mangaung

March 2022

Although Free State premier Sisi Ntombela boasted about Mangaung achieving an [unqualified audit](#), it seemed premature given the considerable issues in the city, including the high level of indebtedness to Bloem Water, service delivery issues and ongoing political instability.

The parliamentary committee on cooperative governance [reprimanded the Mangaung](#) council for its repeated failure to prepare for briefings. The committee met metro officials and their provincial counterparts to assess the decision to place the metro [under administration in 2020](#). Metro officials arrived ill-prepared despite their previous failures to appear before the committee earlier in 2022. The chair, China Dodovu, reprimanded metro officials for their failure to table a report and to prepare for the briefing. MPs also warned that the committee was empowered to recommend dissolution of the metro.

Eskom criticised the [high levels of debt owed by](#) Free State municipalities with 15 of 19 municipalities in arrears. By the end of February, defaulting municipalities' debt totalled R16-billion. Mangaung was included in the group of municipalities.

April 2022

The NCOP advised that the metro be placed [under national administration](#). The NCOP conducted an oversight visit and reported that the situation was “dire”. Although Mangaung was previously placed under provincial administration in December 2020, the NCOP found that conditions had worsened and the province lacked the capacity to implement a financial turnaround.

Cabinet approved a national [intervention in the troubled metro](#) on 8 April. National government invoked its constitutional powers under Section 139 of the Constitution to take over Mangaung, and cited ongoing financial challenges and service delivery failures. Cogta MEC, Mxolisi Dukwana, cited ANC infighting, poor governance, and financial mismanagement as [factors contributing](#) to the metro being placed under administration.

Minister of Cooperative Government and Traditional Affairs, [Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma](#), visited Mangaung as part of the Presidential Imbizo and stated that national government would “fix” the metro. [Opposition parties](#) welcomed the national intervention but warned that infighting in the ANC was a factor which harmed corporate governance and service delivery. Mangaung was the first metro to be placed under administration in 2020 for adopting unfunded budgets in 2028/19 and 2019/20.

The Minister of Transport, Fikile Mbalula, ordered a forensic audit of the controversial [Integrated Public Transport Network \(IPTN\)](#) after allegations of corruption and the metro's failure to meet deadlines in implementing Phase 1 of the initiative. There was also an allegation that a middleman scored a facilitation fee of R20-million. The project was launched in 2016 and has cost the metro R2-billion thus far with little to show in terms of implementation.

The Free State Hawks confirmed that they had begun [investigating fraud and corruption](#) at the municipal Solid Waste Management Sub-Directorate, after allegations of excessive payments to some staff. The metro also faced an investigation into 119 ghost workers who allegedly were paid more than R5-million in January. An anonymous whistleblower stated that former ward councillors and politically connected people (associated with the ANC) were among the ghost workers.

Mayor Mxolisi Siyonzana brought an urgent application asking the High Court to interdict [acting municipal manager, Mzingizi Nkuwana](#), from carrying out duties associated with the position and from entering council premises. Siyonzana petitioned the court after the council voted to extend Nkuwana's fixed term contract. While the court found against Siyonzana, the mayor ordered Nkuwana to return any municipal property in his possession and to vacate his position. Nkuwana argued that Siyonzana's opposition was grounded in factionalism and stated that he had tried to stamp out corruption in which the mayor was implicated.

Nkosazana Dlamini-Zulu instructed the metro to disconnect electricity and water supply to provincial departments who defaulted on debt. Minister of Finance, Enoch Godongwana, stated that the [provincial government owed the metro R1.9-billion](#) in rates and taxes but the metro disputed this, arguing that it was owed R850-million.

Godongwana described the metro as both a "perpetrator and victim" and added that the metro owed Bloem Water R747-million. Godongwana added that the metro had not achieved Treasury's benchmark of a 95% collection rate but achieved 86% in the 2020/21 financial year.

While there was [speculation](#) that the metro council might be dissolved, the council remained in place after the national government's intervention. Mangaung pressure groups including Mangaung Concerned Community called for dissolution of the council as council members presided over corruption under their watch.

Municipal workers [protested](#) and blockaded the council's offices on 26 April after the metro failed to pay salaries. There was a heavy police presence at metro offices and workers waited for the mayor to address them. [Protesters](#) demanded their salaries, overtime and other remuneration. The newly installed acting city manager, Teboho Motlashuping, came to address disgruntled employees. The metro indicated that [outstanding salaries](#) would be paid by end-April.

The Minister of Finance, Enoch Godongwana, published a [gazette](#) establishing the terms of reference for national government's intervention in Mangaung. Godongwana announced the imminent appointment of [a team](#) who would be responsible for implementing a financial turnaround in the beleaguered metro. The multidisciplinary team would include a Cabinet representative and experts in governance, financial management, and service delivery. The team would report to Godongwana and Dr Dlamini-Zuma.

May 2022

Opposition parties including the DA, EFF and ASSD called for [a vote of no confidence](#) to unseat mayor Mxolisi Siyonzana. Siyonzana [survived the motion](#) although opposition parties believe that he is responsible for poor conditions in the dysfunctional metro.

[Protesting employees gathered at the metro's head offices](#) and stated that the city had not fulfilled its undertaking to pay salaries as promised at the end of April.

The ANC instituted [disciplinary charges](#) against municipal speaker Stefani Lockman-Naidoo and other ANC councillors after they supported opposition councillors' attempts to suspend senior manager David Nkaiseng for his alleged role in hiring ghost workers. It was reported earlier this year that [ghost workers](#) cost the metro more than R5 million in salaries.

Opposition parties complained about [service delivery failures](#) and were not convinced that national intervention in Mangaung would succeed in addressing the ongoing chaos in the metro. The DA constituency head for Mangaung, Werner Horn, argued that service delivery failures had worsened despite the metro being placed under administration in April.

[Water and sanitation](#) in Mangaung will receive a boost in the form of a R10-billion pipeline from the Xhariep dam. The Minister of Water and Sanitation, Senzo Mchunu, announced that the project would be completed by 2028 and it would cater for the metro's growing population.

Centlec (the bulk electricity supplier to Mangaung) announced that it would begin [disconnecting non-paying customers](#). Centlec indicated that defaulters included private and public institutions in Mangaung, Kopanong and Mohokare. Earlier in 2022, Centlec concluded an agreement with the Free State provincial government in terms of which the latter would pay R90-million monthly to settle its debt.

The metro's council struggled to pass its [annual budget](#) and had to postpone voting due to fears of disruption by protesters. This came after Mangaung Concerned Community (MMC) and other advocacy groups criticised the council for not including public submissions in the budget process. The organisations argued that the budget vote should be postponed to afford residents the opportunity to properly give input.

June 2022

The AG's report indicated that the metro [spent less than 2% of its budget on repairs](#) and maintenance. Mangaung has been notorious for maladministration and poor service delivery as also confirmed by Minister of Water Senzo Mchunu's statement in April where he noted that 46% of the city's water was lost to leakage due to poor maintenance and repair.

Mangaung [forfeited more than R40- million](#) in national conditional grant funding as a result of its failure to spend the funds. The MEC for Cogta, [Mxolisi Dukwana](#), announced his intention to meet the

AG after her report illustrated that Free State municipalities increased wasteful expenditure by R2-billion.

After two delays, the council [finally passed the 2022/23 municipal budget](#) on 22 June. Council previously failed to pass the budget after less than half of councillors voted. It was suspected that the budget failed as some ANC councillors (who constitute the council majority) did not vote. Opposition parties and the NCOP argued that ANC factionalism was an important factor contributing to dysfunction in Mangaung council. The EFF [rejected the budget](#) and stated that its rejection was due to the municipality's failure to serve the people. The EFF also criticised the high rate of youth unemployment in the province and argued that the budget did not address youth economic empowerment.

Minister of Transport, Fikile Mbalula, announced that his department would collaborate with the National Treasury to investigate the controversial [Integrated Public Transport Network \(IPTN\)](#) in Mangaung. Since its commencement in 2016, the project has cost R2-billion but there were allegations of fraud and corruption in regard to the procurement of buses and project management. Mbalula stated that corruption allegations would also be referred to the SIU and other law enforcement agencies.

In response to parliamentary questions, Cogta minister, Dr Dlamini-Zuma indicated that the national team appointed to oversee a [financial turnaround in Mangaung](#) did not have the power to determine the validity of motions of no confidence in office bearers. Dlamini-Zuma stated that the team's responsibilities were related largely to implementation of the financial recovery plan and this did not cover issues related to political matters. On 28 April, the Minister of Finance, Enoch Godongwana, gazetted [terms of reference](#) which set out the intervention team's responsibilities.