

By **Nomazima Nkosi**

Outgoing Tshwane mayor Randall Williams jumped before some in his own caucus and in the governing coalition as well as opposition parties would push him out.

They blamed Randall for several scandals that have cost the municipality millions of rand and damaged its reputation that happened under his watch even though he was not necessarily directly responsible for them.

A member of the coalition speaking on condition of anonymity said they had given the DA in the province an ultimatum either to let Randall go or lose coalition support for him in the motion of no confidence action.

“The AG report had scathing allegations against the CFO, some councillors and some of us felt the CFO was being used as a scapegoat as the coalition was also being blackened. We upped the ante and said we don’t want Randall and made this clear to the DA. Last night we gave them that ultimatum.

Another insider said Williams lost the support of the DA caucus and coalition partners due to the AG report and its findings.

“He had to provide an acceptable level of assurance but failed completely. This is probably the worst mayor in the history of Tshwane it was clear that he would lose the motion of no confidence submitted last week by minority parties,” the second insider said.

Another DA insider agreed

Williams’ resignation was the “honourable” thing to do adding his resignation would bring stability to the coalition

Ronald Morake  
ACDP CHAIRPERSON

# ‘Williams pays the price for Tshwane scandals’

Mayor’s departure was honourable and will stabilise metro - parties



Mayor of the City of Tshwane Randall Williams has announced his resignation from the position. / THULANI MBELE

that Williams had to take political responsibility even though the issues were technically under the ambit of the city manager’s office.

“He is not necessarily being blamed for the A-G report. It’s more a matter of principle, he had to take accountability as the face of the municipality.

“We had to bite the bullet so we can hold on to the mayoralty without the position being threatened. Also we had to get ahead of other parties. If we did not remove him, there was a motion looming where he would have been removed.

“Now that he has resigned we can in possibly still hold on to the mayoralty by putting up another candidate,” said the party member.

ActionSA chairperson Michael Beaumont said while they were surprised by Williams’s resignation they had expected there would be political consequences for the adverse audit report, the R292m lost due to tender irregularities to upgrade the Rooi-

wal water treatment plant “and a number of other service delivery issues”.

African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) chairperson in Tshwane, Ronald Morake, said Williams’ resignation was the “honourable” thing to do, adding it would bring stability to the coalition.

“It cannot be that we’re found wanting with a damning AG report and then we’re only holding officials to account. It cannot be the man in charge of this city is left unscathed. He knows what he

was getting himself into and he must take the fall,” he said.

“The AG made damning findings. It’s embarrassing to say the least. The mayor is the captain of the ship in Tshwane. If the ship goes down then the captain takes responsibility. It has been our sentiment as the ACDP that the mayor must go, not because he’s wrong but because they created a wall.”

Despite being members of the coalition, the ACDP doesn’t hold a mayoral committee position, something Morake said needed to change.

“There should be a reshuffle and form part and parcel of the mayoral committee. We can’t always be told after the fact. The mayoral position remains a DA position,” he said.

An official with inside knowledge of Tshwane said the city’s cash flow was not good: “There’s not enough cash to comfortably do what the city is meant to do and that’s the main problem... it’s not ideal for a metro to pay service providers 45 days late.” - Additional reporting Fikile-Ntsikelelo Moya

## Speaker rejects mayor’s resignation reversal

Williams can’t resign twice - Makwarela

By **Fikile-Ntsikelelo Moya**

Tshwane is headed for a potential political leadership crisis after mayor Randall Williams resigned effective end of the day yesterday, but later in the day rescinded it and said he would stay two more weeks.

Council speaker Dr Murunwa Makwarela has, however, insisted that by law, the only valid resignation is the first one, meaning all members of the mayoral committee would be out of their jobs along with the mayor by today.

Chief of staff in the mayor’s office Jordan Griffiths insisted William would stay mayor for two more weeks as per his amended resignation letter. “The executive mayor has formally written to the speaker retracting the date of resignation from midnight tonight and setting it to February 28. He has also sent a leave form to the chief whip. This is all within the required processes.

“MMC Peter Sutton will be acting executive mayor in the



**Murunwa Makwarela, speaker of Tshwane council**

interim with the mayoral committee set to meet on Wednesday. The mayoral committee will be fully executing their duties from now till February 28,” said Griffiths.

Makwarela was adamant that Griffiths was wrong and Williams’ first resignation was the only one legally valid.

“In terms of the Local Government Structures Act, sec-

tion 27, a councillor vacates office during a term of office if that councillor resigns in writing or is no longer qualified to be a councillor.

“The mayor has resigned in writing. It is not whether I accept it or not, it is the law that once he has resigned, he has resigned. You cannot resign twice. It does not work like that. That is why the resignation must be in writing to avoid things like these.

“What if he changes his mind again and gives us a different date? Which one must we take? It is not for me to decide whether the resignation was freely made or forced.”

He said if the mayor and mayoral committee did not resign, he would seek legal advice to confirm his position.

“You don’t joke about things like this. You don’t make emotional decisions. He has thrown the coalition and his MMC under the bus by not letting them know his intentions. They might have given him different advice,” said Makwarela whose party Cope, is part of the governing coalition.

Makwarela has up to 14 days to convene a council meeting to replace Williams.

### NKANGALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY



#### NOTICE FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT NKANGALA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT POLICY

Notice is hereby given that the draft Nkangala District Municipality Supply Chain Management Policy is available for public comment. The Nkangala District Municipality Supply Chain Management Policy contains details in line with the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2022.

The Nkangala District Municipality Supply Chain Management Policy can be electronically accessed from the municipal website at [www.nkangaladm.gov.za](http://www.nkangaladm.gov.za) or be requested via email from [masilelasi@nkangaladm.gov.za](mailto:masilelasi@nkangaladm.gov.za). A hard copy of the policy is also available for review at the Nkangala District Municipality Offices, 2A Walter Sisulu Street, Middelburg, for a period of twenty-one (21) days from the date of this advert.

Comments can be submitted in writing to Mr SI Masilela at the above-mentioned addresses or directed via email to [masilelasi@nkangaladm.gov.za](mailto:masilelasi@nkangaladm.gov.za). The inputs received will be assessed and incorporated into the Final Nkangala District Municipality Supply Chain Management Policy for approval by the Nkangala District Municipal Council.

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