

Dear Sir

Far from being an “unscientific and biased analysis” (The Star, 3 February) as claimed by mayor Amos Masondo and his spin doctors, the Democratic Alliance’s 9th annual scorecard of Johannesburg’s political and administrative leadership is based on facts and figures supplied by the ruling party itself. Targets for the year under review were set by the executive and outlined in the city’s business plan - a public document, while the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that track the progress of the various departments are presented before Council each quarter. The method used by the DA in compiling the reports was to measure to what degree the departments under the leadership of their respective Mayoral Committee members had achieved these goals set by themselves. This ensured that the process of compiling the scores was as empirically objective as possible, and aimed to remove any personal bias that may have influenced the scores.

The ratings were well deserved, as the people of Johannesburg do not need the DA’s scorecard to tell them that the mayor and his team have completely failed to live up to the vision of a world class African city. The evidence of this is all around us. A chaotic billings system, unresponsive call centre, crumbling roads with no markings, decaying infrastructure, poorly maintained council buildings, mushrooming and poorly serviced informal settlements, inadequate law and by-law enforcement, profligate and bankrupt municipal entities - the evidence is there for all to see.

The most serious indictment of this ineffectual administration though is the necessity for the insurance industry to man the intersections at countless malfunctioning traffic lights and lately, to repair the city’s potholed streets. Considering the excellent service these organisations render to the people of Johannesburg, perhaps Masondo and his team should outsource the entire running of Johannesburg to the private sector, pack their bags, and go home.

Yours Sincerely

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