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## DA announces reshuffling of KZN provincial legislature

THE DA in the province yesterday announced it was reshuffling its provincial legislature caucus, with the official opposition's former leader, Sizwe Mchunu, removed from the influential premier portfolio committee.

Mchunu, who will be replaced by DA provincial legislature leader, Francois Rodgers, will now serve in the portfolio committee of public works.

DA KZN legislature chief whip, Mark Steele, said the changes had become necessary after the appointment of a new provincial caucus leadership.

"The adjustments have also been made in order to present the people of KZN with the most effective official opposition team possible as the DA works towards achieving a change of the government in KZN in 2019," he said.

"South Africa's 2016 election results saw a deep political shift, where the message of change through the ballot box was received and endorsed by people across the country. The people of KZN are ready for that change."

The changes, which will come into effect on Monday, will see the official opposition's former national youth leader, Mbali Ntuli, moved from the education committee that oversees a department with the biggest budget being redeployed to the social development committee, swopping places with Rishigen Viranna, the current DA social development MPL who will take over Ntuli's portfolio of education.

Ntuli denied that her redeployment amounted to a demotion.

"Social development is also one of the most important committees. The redeployment will make it possible for me to focus on my other responsibilities in the party."

Ntuli, who is the spokesperson for the DA's provincial caucus, is also responsible for the official opposition's Mkhanyakude constituency.



Meanwhile, Hlanganani Gumbi, MPL replaces George Mari, MPL on cooperative governance and traditional affairs. Mari in turn replaces Gumbi on the human settlements portfolio committee.

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