

WC

WEATHER TODAY

CAPE TOWN:

HIGH 21°

LOW 13°

BEAUFORT WEST: HIGH 20°

LOW 8°

HERMANUS

'Why was Tafelberg sold?'

Provincial ANC wants a full inquiry into the sale of a contentious Tafelberg property

VINCENT CRUYWAGEN

THE ANC in the Western Cape has voiced its dismay at the sale of the contentious Tafelberg site and has requested a full-scale inquiry by the standing committee on transport and public works.

It will also lay a complaint with the public protector.

The ANC's reaction comes after the Western Cape government this week resolved to proceed with the sale of the Tafelberg property to the Phyllis Jowell Day School.

Premier Helen Zille said: "On the basis of what was presented to cabinet, including the pipeline for affordable housing in the metro, legal advice from senior counsel, affordability risk, fiscal constraints in the economic climate, the cabinet resolved that the Tafelberg site is not ideally suited to affordable housing, especially as the state subsidy cannot be utilised there under national policy."

The cabinet decided on the sale of the Tafelberg site to the Phyllis Jowell Day School.

The ANC in the Western Cape MPL spokesperson on public works and transport, Cameron Dugmore, yesterday said they would lobby for the Tafelberg site to be expropriated in public if the DA proceeded to sell the land to the Phyllis Jowell Day School.

"There is clearly mounting evidence that the sale itself was unlawful, with



GOING, GOING, GONE: The ANC has asked for a full-scale inquiry into the sale of a Tafelberg site. PICTURE: WIKIMEDIA

the province failing to come clean about allegations of conflict of interest and the process followed in terms of the Provincial Property Management Act and the Government Immovable Asset Management Act.

"Last week the Premier refused to provide the standing committee with a report into allegations of conflict of interest regarding the sale," Dugmore said.

He said the department of transport and public works had also not provided the committee with the minutes of the

provincial property management committee meeting where the decision to dispose of the property was allegedly made.

"We will be writing to the chairperson of standing committee on transport and public works today and requesting that our committee launch a full-scale inquiry into the attempt by the DA government to dispose of this site to private buyers.

"We will also be laying a complaint with the public protector and requesting her office to launch a full investi-

gation into this matter," Dugmore said.

"We will be seeking a meeting with the Phyllis Jowell Day School, to ask them, in the public interest and support of social housing for the domestic workers of Sea Point and others, to withdraw from the sale."

Dugmore lambasted the DA's argument that Sea Point did not fall within a "restructuring zone" as designated by the national Minister of Human Settlements.

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