

## ■ EASTERN CAPE

# Municipality denies claims of sex for jobs and houses

ENOCH Mgijima Municipality in the Eastern Cape yesterday said it had received no reported cases of “sex for jobs” within its Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP).

Municipality spokesperson Gcobani Msindwana said the allegations were investigated by the municipality’s community services directorate, but no one came forward to register a case.

Msindwana said workers were encouraged to report cases, and could rest assured their identities would be protected.

“We can confirm there was no reported case to the municipality.”

The DA on Monday alleged sex for jobs, sex for housing and sex for votes was happening in the Eastern Cape and across the country.

On Monday, DA premier candidate Nqaba Bhanga, together with the DA’s spokesperson for women, Nomafrench Mbombo, and the DA’s women’s network chairperson, Georgina Faldtman, indicated the party had written to the Commission for Gender Equality to request an immediate investigation.

The party claims affected women are reluctant to open criminal cases.

Faldtman said she became aware of “sex for jobs” in EPWP in Komani at the Enoch Mgijima Municipality in the province.

Faldtman said while she was on the campaign trail, three women approached her to tell their stories.

She said the young women said they had slept with local municipal officials to get RDP houses.

“We spoke to a woman who did not have sex for a house, but who lost a house she was entitled to because someone else did.

“Officials expect these women to sleep with them to get work and it is wrong. We continue to encourage the women to open cases,” said Faldtman.

| African News Agency (ANA)