

# Unutilised Public Works buildings must be used to create 'safe spaces' for KZN's women

The Democratic Alliance has raised the issue of a lack of safe spaces for women and victims of abuse, particularly in rural areas, during a sitting of the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature. The move, in the form of a motion, comes as the recent scourge of violent crime within both our country and our province points to complete breakdown of moral fibre.

While, it is critical that urgent action is taken in terms of policing to protect our women, there is also an immediate need to provide safe spaces. The DA is aware that KZN's Department of Public Works owns numerous properties around the

province which are not currently optimally used.

It is for this reason that we have called for these facilities to be used by NGO's as places of safety. In order for this to happen, we have also called on the province's Department of Social Development to assist in identifying such buildings.

We expect both these departments to heed our call in the interests of the many victims of abuse who have nowhere left to turn.

**Martin Meyer,  
MPL  
Democratic Alliance**