

M E T R O

DA remains silent over discreet payment of R1m in court-awarded legal costs to De Lille

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THE DA was tight-lipped over the alleged discreet payment of nearly R1million in court-awarded legal costs to Public Works and Infrastructure Minister Patricia de Lille.

De Lille, the former mayor, had turned to the courts on numerous occasions to defend herself against her former party which she left in 2018.

When she resigned from her position as mayor De Lille established the Good Movement party.

Good secretary-general Brett Herron said four times De Lille had to seek protection from the courts as the DA allegedly manufactured stories about the reason that she left.

“A particular bone of contention was De Lille’s insistence that affordable homes be built for people of colour in inner-city areas and formerly whites-

only neighbourhoods to begin to integrate the post-apartheid city. Soon after her resignation, the City cancelled all the inner-city housing projects she had lined up for implementation. The courts are still to pass judgment on five defamation cases launched by De Lille and close colleagues, relating to the same period and set of lies.”

The DA did not respond to questions about the alleged payment yesterday.

De Lille’s spokesperson Zara Nichol-

son said the amount was not paid directly to De Lille, but to her legal team for four legal cases the DA had lost against her.

Meanwhile, De Lille has hit back at Human Settlements MEC Tertuis Simmers who accused her of misleading the public about parcels of land that were meant to be released in the province.

According to Simmers, his department and other housing agencies have lodged formal requests and been wait-

ing for five parcels of land that were announced to no avail.

He called for De Lille to state which parcels have been released, where they’re located and what the potential human settlement yield is. Simmers said it was important that when land is released and or transferred that the power of attorney (PoA) must be provided.

“Should the power of attorney not be available, a third party is unable to

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