

Jozi job applicants asked to declare their party positions

Mayor says move to prevent cadre deployment

By **Isaac Mahlangu** and **Loyiso Sidimba**

The DA administration in the City of Johannesburg wants to know if its prospective employees hold any political office.

This is stated in a new job application form for the city which compels applicants to disclose political positions – permanent or temporary.

Sowetan understands the requirement for job seekers was introduced soon after the DA-led coalition came into power in Johannesburg.

Even though Sowetan couldn't ascertain if any political position could either jeopardise or increase chances of employment, the move has been met with outrage by the South African Municipal

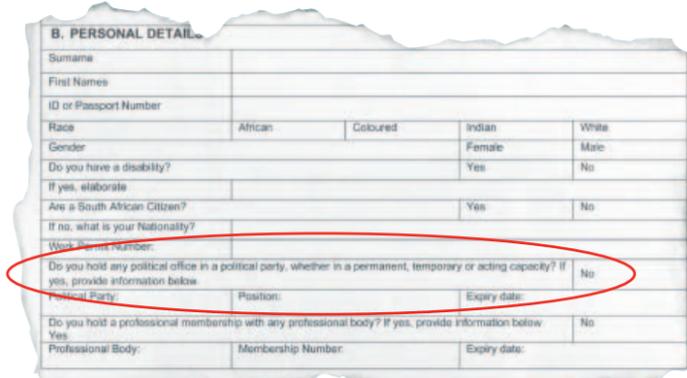


Johannesburg mayor Herman Mashaba

Workers Union. Samwu regional secretary Bafana Zungu said the question was abnormal. "Why must one declare their political affiliation?"

He said he's never heard of such a requirement and that Samwu was not consulted by the city prior to the introduction of the question on application forms.

However, Johannesburg mayor Herman Mashaba's spokesman Tony Taverna-Turison defended the move.



Details to be completed on an application form for prospective employees of the City of Johannesburg.

He said the question was about preventing cadre deployment and was in line with the Municipal Systems Act.

He said the declaration was a "standard" requirement for senior managers in the city.

"It asks you whether you hold political office not what party do you support."

"Section 56A of the act states that a manager or those directly accountable to a municipal manager may not hold political office in a political party," but

this didn't apply on other posts at municipalities. The act was, however, declared invalid by the ConCourt. Taverna-Turison said even if the forms were to be used across the board that would still be a positive move.

"I can confirm that the form applies to all senior managers," he said.

The ANC in Johannesburg, however, has described the move as "unfair and sinister".

Spokesman Jolidee Matongo said the question was in-

Act is unlawful

The Municipal Systems Amendment Act, signed into law by President Jacob Zuma in 2011, was declared constitutionally invalid by the Constitutional Court in March. Dubbed the "Cadre Deployment Bill", it introduced measures to ensure that professional qualifications, experience and competence were the criteria governing the appointment of municipal managers as opposed to political party affiliation. However, the SA Municipal Workers Union (Samwu) opposed the law, arguing it infringed on rights to participate in political activity. The apex court gave parliament 24 months "to correct the defect".

valid for prospective employees who should be hired on merit. "It's unfair that a city should ask potential employee such a question as appointment should not be done on party-political allegiances."

Matongo said when the ANC was still governing the city, all deserving potential employees stood a chance.

NEW HOMES IN GAUTENG - PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY MSP

Discover your **new** neighbourhood!

ON SHOW DAILY

- PERFECT LOCATION
- FAMILY FRIENDLY NEIGHBOURHOOD
- QUALITY FINISHES
- WALLED DEVELOPMENT
- BEAUTIFUL NATURE SURROUNDINGS
- SOLAR GEYSER

Selling from: R679 900 | **Monthly: R 7 485**
 2 beds | 1 bath | **Household income R24 952**
 Installation - 20yrs @ 12%

The images, perspectives and finishes shown in the advertisement are merely impressions of the proposed development and are therefore subject to change at the developer's discretion. The developer will not be held liable for any changes.

Contact us today
 SALES | RENTALS | DEVELOPMENTS | COMMERCIAL | FINANCE
 msp.property 087 802 9006



Joburg is working towards a cleaner city

Do you want a cleaner city? Do you want a litter-free neighbourhood? Then roll up your sleeves and join the City of Johannesburg's volunteer clean-up campaign: **A Re Sebetseng** – together let's make Joburg work!

City of Johannesburg Executive Mayor **Herman Mashaba** calls on all Joburg residents to partner with the City to clean up their neighbourhoods on the **last Saturday of each month**, starting from the **30th September**.

www.joburg.org.za
 @CityofJoburgZA
 CityofJohannesburg
 CityofJoburg