

RESPONSE TO THE ALLEGATIONS

The former Councillor, Mr Mafana alleged that:

1. My club, Morning Stars Football Club benefited on the trip through sponsorship by the Chinese.
2. I personally benefited through receiving cellular phone and I-pad.

FACTS

The club was sponsored by ZTE, which is a Chinese Company involved in Engineering Industry in South Africa. It must be stated categorically that this sponsorship has nothing to do with the trip of former Cllr Mafana to Fuzhou, China.

Regarding the second allegation that I personally benefited through receiving cellular and I-pad, Mafana is better placed to account because he is the one who brought these to me and comrade Quphe. I could not get a gift register from the Office of the Speaker. I even approached the office of the City Manager but to no avail.

I am proud to report to the Executive Mayor that I have not engaged in any corrupt activities in order to steal municipal assets or funds for that matter. I have never solicited any bribes of whatever nature. I have remained true to the commitment I made to the ANC regarding corruption. I have at all material times lead by example and refrained consciously from taking from rate payers' money without being given.

The scandal of Fuzhou has nothing to do with what Mafana is referring to. He knows very well that I've never been to Fuzhou nor met anybody from that municipality to date. He knows that I have never been engaged in any talks either before or after his visit to China. He knows for a fact that both the Executive Mayor and the Speaker never wined and dined with the members from the said municipality. Mafana knows that we are not involved in this so called private business with Fuzhou municipality and he was never given any mandate by Oom Ben to represent the Metro and I suspect he never solicited any permission from Oom Ben either. I raise this because Oom Ben at some point in the mayoral caucus raised the matter of members taking visits without his permission and referring specifically to a certain trip to China.