

IFP'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLEDGE: OF HONOUR, SERVICE & DELIVERY

"Giving Power to the People" - it has always been the cornerstone of IFP philosophy that people should govern their own lives to the fullest extent possible at the local level and that they should be empowered to do so effectively. That is why local government matters and why municipal democracy, municipal functions and municipal institutions are so important.

Since 1994, voters have become increasingly disillusioned with a governance system which, while benefiting the politically well-connected, has not done enough for the majority of the really poor. Add to this increasing corruption, endemic inefficiency, floor-crossing and some politicians' insatiable pursuit of self-interest, and it is easy to see why ordinary people often feel that there is not much point in voting.

Local government elections, however, is the vehicle to change all this. Voting for trust-worthy local candidates who are well-known and respected in the community and ensuring that they properly represent you in your council, is crucial to taking power back into your hands.

The IFP is committed to serving your interests by focusing on commitment, service, delivery and participatory local government. We, therefore, present our pledge of honour, service and delivery:

A Pledge of Honour

- To remain faithful to this pledge
- To implement the promises we make in our manifestos
- Not to cross the floor to any other political party during the floor crossing period
- To be free of corruption and to prevent corruption
- To ensure open, inclusive and participatory governance
- To serve the community to the best of our ability utilising all the resources at our disposal
- To behave – both professionally and personally – in a manner that is always above reproach

A Pledge of Service

- To work diligently within our communities and in the Council
- To serve the needs of the community
- To maintain an open-door policy towards all members of the community
- To actively participate in Council meetings and in community meetings
- To be the voice of the community in all Council meetings
- To regularly report back to the community on development in Council and on issues affecting the lives of members of the community

A Pledge of Delivery

- To prioritise development in the area being represented and in the community generally
- To bring relief to the most vulnerable sectors of our society, including the aged, the young and those worst affected by the HIV-AIDS pandemic
- To promote poverty relief
- To ensure the delivery of basic services, such as water, electricity, roads, sanitation, etc.
- To promote job creation
- To facilitate access by the community to government services
- To facilitate and enable the acquisition of all grants, including, child, disability, old age pensions, etc

A pledge not honoured is useless. The IFP is, therefore, committed to ensuring that its representatives – candidates and elected councillors – uphold this pledge. To this end, we pledge:

- To establish a monitoring mechanism to ensure that IFP councillors abide by their pledge
- To investigate all cases of corruption levelled against its councillors which are reported in writing to The IFP Political Oversight Committee, PO Box 4432, DURBAN 4000, or fax to 031 – 307 4964
- To act quickly and decisively should any of our councillors be found guilty of corruption
- To create an early warning system to detect malfunctioning councils
- To dismiss councillors not attending Council meetings and community meetings
- To dismiss councillors not working for their communities
- To ensure that the quality of our candidates is of the highest standard

NOW is the time to stand up and be counted. NOW is the time to blow the whistle on government inactivity, inefficiency and corruption. Do not become a victim of the system: change it to do as YOU want it to do.

“Make a better choice for all: vote IFP”