

FOR PSA MEMBERS: EASTERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (ECDOH)

10-11-2021

## Feedback: Multi-lateral meeting with Head of Department (HOD) Eastern Cape Department of Health (ECDOH)

A multi-lateral meeting between HOD, Dr Wagner, and recognised unions was held on 5 November 2021. The first item presented by the HOD was relating to her intervention in building sound relations in the Nelson Mandela Metro, which has been under the spotlight for wrong reasons.

This was the first multi-lateral meeting called by the newly appointed HOD, Dr Wagner, following her appointment three months ago. She indicated that she is aware of various challenges in the Nelson Mandela Bay Metro regarding service-delivery issues, which also formed part of the various labour relations matters that she needed to attend to. She gave her commitment to building relationships with all the social partners. She further urged the employer and labour to work together with a common vision to ensure a healthy environment where a quality health-care service is rendered to all communities without any hindrances.

The second item was feedback she presented on the strategic position of the ECDOH. As part of her future strategy for the ECDOH, she intends to create healthier communities by supporting them with ward-based outreach teams and improved technology, by having Community Health Workers visiting patients at their homes and enabling them to connect via technology during these visits, allowing such workers access to all medical information required.

The meeting was of an introduction and information sharing. Labour indicated to the HOD the need to have an urgent meeting with her to address multiple, urgent “burning issues” that are of great concern. The HOD, in response, confirmed that she will be calling bi-lateral meetings with each of the four recognised unions individually, at her earliest convenience to address these issues.

Members are requested to bring to the PSA's attention all issues they need to be escalated to the HOD to both the Gqeberha and Mthatha Offices for the attention of Riaan Vosloo on 082 880 8958 and Samkelo Mzuku on 072 625 9021.

Members will be informed on developments.

GENERAL MANAGER