

FOR PSA MEMBERS: **EASTERN CAPE (EC) DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

06-05-2022

Feedback: EC Department of Health MEC and labour meeting – 4 May 2022

Following labour unrest at various clinics and facilities falling under the Nelson Mandela Bay District (NMB), the MEC for Eastern Cape Health called a meeting on 4 May 2022 with labour. The main topic of discussion that formed part of the reason for the labour unrest, was the shortage of staff and non-filling of posts.

Following robust discussions, the MEC requested labour to end the unprotected strike and called on employees to return to work on 5 May 2022. Following the request by the MEC, labour took a caucus break and formulated the following demands that were presented to the MEC for consideration, as a condition before employees will agree to return to work:

- That eight Professional Nurses (PNs) will be appointed at Motherwell clinic with immediate effect. Of the eight PNs, at least five must assume duties on 5 May 2022.
- 20 General assistants will be appointed by latest by 13 May 2022 for the identified clinics in the NMB District involved in the unrest, as they do not have any. Community Health Workers must also be considered for the appointments of these General Assistants.
- The employment of previous COVID-19 Global Fund Care Workers must continue with effect from 1 April 2022.
- No leave without pay to be deducted from employees' who participated in the strike salaries.

The PSA is proud to confirm that the MEC agreed to the demand by labour and employees agreed to return to work, bringing an end to the labour unrest. The employer is in process of recruitment of staff in line with the Annual Recruitment Plan (ARP) as R700 million have been made available.

Members will be updated on progress regarding the filling of vacant posts.

GENERAL MANAGER