

EC HEALTH EXCERLERATE PROCESSES TO TURN THE SERVICES DELIVERY CORNER AND PURSUES BILLIONS LOST TO MEDICO - LEGAL CLAIMS.

The department is pulling all stops to strengthen its ability to render quality public health services to the more than 6,7 million people who visit public health facilities for treatment.

The department is committed to filling vacancies within the available budget. This includes filling leadership positions as this brings stability and ensure there's accountability.

Over the past year, the department spent over R13-million on new appointments which include doctors, nurses, hospital CEOs and top managers.

The department is also focusing on dealing decisively with medico legal claims that have continued to threaten the provision of health services in the province.

The recent appointments have been done to improve legal services capacity and in this area two directors have been appointed to deal specifically with medico legal claims

Four regional hubs have been established to assist the highly litigated hospitals and these hubs will be managed by senior legal practitioners.

Other appointments include CEO of Fort England Hospital in Makhanda, Deputy Director General in Bhisho, a Lilitha College principal, two infrastructure directors. More appointments are expected to be made within this financial year.

The department has also reassigned senior management to different positions of responsibility as part of strengthening leadership and improving service delivery.

Dr Nozipho Jaxa, has been appointed as the acting Chief Chief Director Communicable Disease and other Health Programmes , Deputy Director General human resources, Nwabisa Mavuso has been reassigned to the office of the HOD, General Manager Ms Nompumelelo Maseko appointed as acting Deputy Director General, Human Resources management.

A number of hospital CEOs are expected to assume duties on the 1st of November 2023. These are Tower Psychiatric, Hummensdorp and Settlers hospitals.

Two directors for planning and engineering services have also been appointed under infrastructure. The appointment of the engineer will also be ensuring that patient are not in the dark during load shedding or power cuts.

The new director is expected to work closely with stakeholders including Eskom in ensuring availability of electricity in our hospitals at all times including national department on exemption of certain hospitals in the province.

The resolve to strengthen human resources in the department is the top priority list and that has been bolstered with the appointment of new director for human resources management in Bhisho.

The newly appointed acting head of department, Ms Sindiswa Gede who assumed the responsibility on the 3rd of October 2023 wasted no time and established a human resources rapid response team that will be consistently tracking progress on all advertised positions.

Two Chief Directors are expected to be appointed as CEOs for Frere and Livingstone tertiary hospitals. Mthatha's Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital, the only central hospital in the province is also seeking to appoint a Deputy Director General as its CEO including a Chief Director as its Clinical Governance Manager.

St Elizabeth Regional Hospital CEO is also being sought at a director level.

These appointments surely enable the department to turn the corner in the provision of quality public Healthcare in the province.

The department remains jealous about public resources and all questionable medico - legal claims which have robbed the people of the Eastern Cape billions of rands are a subject of SIU and provincial treasury investigations and all those who may be guilty of this corruption must be very worried.

For inquiries, contact: Departmental spokesperson, Mkhululi Ndamase, MEC's spokesperson on 071 851 8338 or Departmental spokesperson Sizwe Kupelo on 083 378 0196

