

FOR PSA MEMBERS: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - NORTHERN CAPE

13-05-2021

Update: Accommodation for Student Nurses in Kimberley - Northern Cape

On 11 May 2021, student nurses demonstrated at Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe Hospital, due to substandard accommodation that is provided to them by the Department.

The Department of Health secured accommodation for student nurses at various places within Kimberley and some of those do not comply with the stipulations of the Service Level Agreements. In one instance, it appeared that the accommodation was not cleaned for a long period of time and the conduct of the owner of the specific guest house towards students was unacceptable. The above led to students showing their dissatisfaction towards the unacceptable standard of accommodation.

It was only when labour intervened that the Head of Department's office attended and the matter was resolved. The PSA welcomes the removal of the students from the unacceptable accommodation. However, it cannot be tolerated that Service Level Agreements are not adhered to and that the Department fails to monitor the execution.

The PSA calls on the HOD to investigate the circumstances surrounding the 24 student nurses complaints that led to their need for alternative accommodation on 11 May 2021 and to further investigate the Department's control of Service Level Agreements.

For further clarity contact the provincial office at 053 839 1000.

GENERAL MANAGER