

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

12-09-2024

Department of Health Security Plan for Nelson Mandela Bay District

The PSA has been actively addressing the pressing issue of safety and security in Nelson Mandela Bay. Previous concerns were raised with the Office of Community Safety and Liaison, as well as the Minister of Police, to seek urgent interventions. The PSA is pleased to announce that the MEC for the Department of Community Safety and Liaison has responded. A delegation has been sent to provide updates on planned interventions to address security challenges, including the increase in robberies and attacks at government institutions in the Bay.

On Sunday, 8 September 2024, the PSA attended a meeting convened by the Nelson Mandela Bay District Regional Commander and the Department of Health, along with the Office of the MEC for Safety. Discussions were productive, with promising reports on improving security measures in the area. The PSA voiced serious concerns about dangers faced by workers following these attacks. The key issues on the agenda included:

- Robberies at clinics and schools
- Attacks on EMS officials responding to emergency calls
- Jurisdiction and boundary issues regarding SAPS operations
- Formation and revival of community clusters involving all departments

During the presentation, the SAPS Regional Commissioner acknowledged the challenges, particularly the shortage of vehicles. However, he confirmed that 300 additional police officers have been deployed to Nelson Mandela Bay to help address these concerns. The Commissioner also urged the Department of Health to present its safety plans, as discussed during safety-cluster meetings. The issue of jurisdictional boundaries will be taken up with provincial authorities, as it requires approval from SAPS provincial management. An update on the formation of the scheduled safety clusters is expected by no later than 18 September 2024.

For further inquiries or concerns, please contact: Mxolisi Nyandu - 082 880 8968 / mxolisi.nyandu@psa.co.za. Stay safe and informed!

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER