

TO : ALL MEDIA

DATE : 13 JANUARY 2009

EMBARGO : FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWCASTLE FORENSIC MORTUARY POST MORTEM AND DECEASED'S BODIES STORAGE SECTIONS CLOSURE

The Department of Health would like to announce the temporal closure of the Newcastle Forensic Mortuary Post Mortem and Deceased's Bodies Storage Sections in Amajuba District from the 28th February 2009 for one-and-half years. The reason for closure is to upgrade (renovations and extension) these sections and ensure that they meet required standards and community needs.

Dannhauser, Madadeni and Utrecht Mortuaries will do Post Mortems until upgrading at Newcastle Forensic Mortuary is complete. However, the administration section of Newcastle Mortuary will remain open to give guidance to families about arrangements made to store and identify the deceased's bodies in a respectful manner.

This office appeals to the community to bear with this initiative and regrets any inconvenience caused.

Ends

ISSUED BY:

KZN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH