

Media Alert: MEC to attend bail hearing for the Deputy Manager arrested for corruption

TO: ALL MEDIA
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Today; the MEC for Health in KwaZulu-Natal Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo will attend the bail hearing of the Deputy Manager (Supply Chain Management), a female around 45 years of age, who was arrested yesterday following a sting operation by the South African Police Force and the Department.

She will appear in the Durban Commercial Crime Court where she is expected to apply for bail later this morning. The MEC will be in court to attend her bail hearing and also issue a statement to the media.

The Deputy Manager (who cannot be named at this stage) was arrested after the department was informed of monthly bribes that she collected from service providers. Yesterday (Tuesday, 24 May 2011) she was caught by the police in Durban, Sania, where she was meeting a service provider to collect the bribe. At this stage it is not known how much was paid to her however investigations are continuing.

Her arrest is part of the department's effort, announced two years ago, aimed at rooting out corruption and wastages that led to over-expenditures in the previous years amounting to close to R2 billion. A number of senior managers and officials have either been dismissed or are facing criminal and internal charges and others have opted to resign. A joint task team from various government departments is leading this effort and is assisted by the cooperation from the public and staff with information.

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