

Abandoned Departmental car: Health MEC is thankful for tip-off and quick police response

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KZN Health MEC Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo has appealed to the public and government employees to respect state property, including the vehicles that are used to deliver services to the people.

This follows the discovery of a Toyota Avanza, which was found hidden in Mbumbulu yesterday.

MEC Dhlomo received a tip-off that the car had been abandoned for at least six hours. Although details are sketchy, and it was unclear whether the vehicle had been hijacked or stolen, it is believed that it was due to be stripped for the resale of its parts. The Department is currently conducting an internal investigation into the identity of the employee who was last authorised to use the vehicle, and how it ended up where it was found.

Reacting to the incident last night, MEC Dhlomo said, *“We received a tip-off that the vehicle had been parked in a very compromised situation in the area since midday. By (yesterday) evening, the car was still there. We then alerted the police who went in and found the car, abandoned and locked. The car has since been taken by police. We believe it was used by staff members in and around KwaMakhutha, but as yet, we don’t have the details as to how it landed there, and whether it was hijacked or not.*



“But we are very clear that the car would have been stripped. It had been parked there for six hours. We therefore call upon our citizens to respect government property, and respect the vehicles that we use in health to deliver services to our people. If this car had not been discovered, we would have been one car less tomorrow, because of people who want to compromise the very service that we’re trying to deliver to our people. I want to thank the informant who called me, as well as the police for responding quickly.