

MEC Dhlomo assures families in mourning that autopsies will be completed in time for burials this weekend

29 November 2018

Kwazulu-Natal Health MEC Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo has moved to assure families who have lost their loved ones due to unnatural causes that autopsies will be completed in time tomorrow (Friday) for burials this weekend.

This follows a meeting earlier today between the leadership of the Department and their counterparts at the provincial SAPS

An illegal go-slow by workers at the Fort -Napier Medico-Legal Mortuary has resulted in delays in the completion of autopsies, necessitating the activation of a contingency plan to deal with the situation.

Speaking after meeting, MEC Dhlomo said the Department has been receiving calls from the public, members of the royal household, MPs and MPLs, religious leaders – all of whom were enquiring whether burials will take place this weekend. He has allayed their fears and expressed his confidence that burials will take place.

“We want to indicate our gratitude to the SAPS for the support they’ve given to us. We have had a meeting with them, and that meeting is going to result in us being able to say that all those who had plans to bury their loved ones will be able to do so. We are going to do everything humanly possible, assisted by the SAPS to do all post-mortems. We request relatives of the deceased to go and collect bodies on Friday. But if, for some reason, there are a few cases where we may not be able to complete the autopsy on Friday, we’ll be able to complete those on Saturday morning.”

He urged families with any enquiries to please call the KZN Health Provincial Operations Centre on Toll Free: 0800 005 133. They will be requested to leave their details, and will be contacted and given an update.