

# **PRE-TLP OVERSIGHT VISIT REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CONDUCTED AT SANCA ON 29 JANUARY 2015 - DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The Taking Legislature to the People (TLP) programme that took place at eMalahleni Local Municipality from 02 – 06 March 2015. As part of the preparations for the main TLP event, the Portfolio Committee on Health and Social Development (the Committee) undertook pre-TLP oversight visits from 27 and 30 January 2015.

One (1) project of the Department of Social Development (the Department) was visited. The House resolutions emanating from this Committee report will be referred to the Department for the necessary interventions and report back to the Legislature.

## **2. PURPOSE OF THE PRE-TLP OVERSIGHT VISIT**

The purpose was to:

- To assess the effectiveness of the programme and its impact in reducing drug abuse

## **3. METHOD OF WORK**

In preparation for the Pre- TLP, the research section conducted pre-site visits at Emalahleni Municipality during November 2014. Comprehensive research reports were compiled that informed the Committee's programme for the Pre-TLP. The Social Cluster was briefed on the findings by the researchers on 27 January 2015.

After the approval of the Legislature programme, the committee informed the department about the oversight visits to be conducted and the purpose thereof. Invitations were sent to the department, management of SANCA and the Municipality requesting them to be part of the visit.

On 29 January 2015, the Committee conducted an oversight visit at SANCA, eMalahleni.

#### **4. PRE-TLP OVERSIGHT VISIT AT SANCA**

South African National Council on Alcoholism & Drug dependence: SANCA (eMalahleni)

##### ***Background***

SANCA was established in 1971, as an initiative by the community due to the growing challenge of alcohol abuse and addiction in the area. Substance abuse remains a big challenge in eMalahleni area and the challenge is not only per individual but it is affecting families, businesses and the community. The Department reported that children aged 11 years mostly use glue and benzene, from age 13 years upwards; they use Nyaope and heroine and adults between age 36-62 years abuse alcohol and sleeping tablets.

The Centre was allocated a budget of R2, 394,212 for 2014/15 financial year. It has 20 personnel with 01 vacancy for a professional nurse of which was advertised and its application closing date was 30 November 2014, no appointment were made during the time of visit by the Committee. The Centre has two cars used for community outreach.

Its vision is aimed at prevention and treatment of alcoholism and drug dependence. The following services are rendered: Rehabilitation, Education &

awareness, Preventative, Research and Treatment. The Centre uses rented premises.

The number of service users accessing services has increased significantly over the past years and this has necessitated the opening of satellite offices in the Kriel and Thubelihle areas and other local municipalities to ensure that services are accessible to the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, including those in need of the services.

### **COMMITTEE INTERACTION WITH THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CENTER AND DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Funding and Expenditure**

The Committee noted that the Centre received funding amounting to R2, 394,212 for the 2014/15 financial year from the Department of Social Development and reported that the Centre would be considered for funding for the 2015/16 financial year. The Committee however, requested for the budget breakdown on the funding received by the Centre. The Centre through the Department provided the breakdown as follows:

| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>                                     | <b>AMOUNT</b> |
|--|---------------|
| <b>Personnel expenditure</b>                           |               |
| Salaries   |               |
| Bonus  | 2 070 9043.00 |
| Honorarium   |               |
| <b>Administrative/running expenditure</b>              |               |
| Stationery   | 39 595.60     |
| Postage  | 660.00        |
| Phone/fax  | 45 240.80     |
| Advertising  | 14 892.90     |
| Printing   |               |
| Other (Specify) Sundries, computer and other materials | 44 000.00     |
| Electricity and water                                  | 24 512.40     |
| Insurance  | 68 623.50     |
| Cleaning materials                                     | 13 200.00     |
| Maintenance  | 66 000.00     |

|                                     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Income/Expenditure</b>           |                     |
| Security                            | 12 721.50           |
| Medicines                           | 23 357.40           |
| Petrol                              | 79 998.60           |
| Maintenance & Repairs               | 50 758.40           |
| Other (specify) Licence             | 2 200.00            |
| Depreciation                        | 103 446.20          |
|                                     |                     |
| <b>Training</b>                     |                     |
| Staff development                   | 22 000.00           |
| Other (specify) Catering            | 30 184.00           |
|                                     |                     |
| <b>Special Programmes (specify)</b> |                     |
| Puppets, P/C                        | 49 400.00           |
|                                     |                     |
| <b>Other items (specify)</b>        |                     |
| Satellite Clinics                   | 44 000.00           |
| <b>SUB-TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>        | <b>2 815 695.30</b> |

The Committee further wanted to know the type of funding by the Department to the Centre, and the monitoring part of it by the Non Profit Organisations (NPOs). The Department reported that funding NPO's is in line with the NPO Act and Policy on Financial Awards. Both legislations stipulate that the Department should monitor the services rendered by the NPO's. The Department has allocated officials who monitor the services on a monthly basis. The funding is not a conditional grant as stipulated by the Division of Revenue Act; however the signed Service Level Agreement categorically states the services that the Department expects the NPO (SANCA) to render.

The Department accounts for the funding of NPO's to the portfolio committee. This is done monthly through the in-year Monitoring report written to Treasury, quarterly performance reports and the Annual Reports. The Annual Financial Statement categorically shows the economic classification Transfer of Funds to NPO's and this is done for each Sub-Programme that is funding NPO's. The Annual Report will also have a list of funded NPO's per Sub-Programme, also showing the amounts disbursed to each NPO's.

With regards to the Social Workers, the Committee asked if they were part of the staff establishment of the Department and if they were getting all incentives like the other personnel at the Centre. The Department reported that the Social Workers working for SANCA are not part of the Department's staff establishment. Therefore, they get incentives that are in line with SANCA's policies.

The Committee noted that the Department was only paying for Social Work services and that there were also delays in payments, and the 2015/16 Service Level Agreement was not signed. In its response, the Department indicated that the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of substance abuse require a multidisciplinary approach. The Department is only paying for services that are provided in line with its mandate. The medical services are in essence to be paid for by the Department of Health, as there is a sub-programme Mental Health and Substance Abuse in that Department. The department is not delaying to fund; funds are transferred on a quarterly basis once the claims have been received. The signing of Service Level Agreements would be done before the end of March 2015, as there is a process that unfolds for all funded NPO's. The Department funds 2100 NPOs

#### **Administration: Staffing**

The Committee noted that the advert for the post of Professional Nurse closed on the 30 November 2014 and to date no appointment was done, the Committee asked as to whose competency this was between SANCA and the Department. The Department stated that the appointment of a professional nurse is the responsibility of SANCA and no appointment was done due to financial constraints.

Regarding Social Work graduates, the Committee enquired whether the Department is paying them the same salary as those in the Department or are they getting their salaries paid by Centre. The Centre is responsible for the

remuneration of the Social Work graduates and they are not remunerated similarly to the Departmental Social Workers.

### **Infrastructure**

The Committee noted that the Centre is situated in a rented property, the Committee enquired if the Centre has a Business Plan for building purposes. The Department reported that a business plan was documented and presented to various private sectors that operate in the jurisdiction of eMalahleni and also those outside eMalahleni jurisdiction. Institutions such as the Lottery, but those applications were declined on the basis that the building does not belong to the Centre. The Centre nevertheless receives funding from Glencore Mining Company for the salaries of two Social Auxiliary Workers and received further funding for furniture for the Abet classes from Anglo American Kriel Colliery.

### **Land Issue/Title Deed**

Noting that the Centre is renting its premises from the Municipality, the Committee wanted to understand reasons that prohibit the Municipality from handing the infrastructure over to the Centre since the Centre has been occupying it for more than 40 years also acknowledging the work done by the Centre since its occupation. The Chief Building Inspector Mr. Silinda from eMalahleni Local Municipality committed to follow up on the matter and provide feedback on 04 February 2015. The Department then reported that on 04 February 2015, the Municipality requested all relevant documentation pertaining the application by the Centre and a site visit was also conducted. A meeting to deliberate further on the matter was scheduled for the 10 February 2015.

The Committee further enquired on the original lease agreement between the Centre and the municipality. The Department reported that the last lease agreement was signed on 05 October 1994 with a rental amount of R 50, 00.

### **Services rendered**

Appreciating the good work done by the Centre, the Committee enquired if the Centre was not overwhelmed and if all services were rendered effectively (areas of improvement). The Committee further asked if the Centre was receiving assistance externally. The Department reported that the Centre is overwhelmed, based on the shortage of human resource and considering the fact that the Centre is also servicing Victor Khanye and Steve Tshwete Municipalities and the Centre is not getting funding from those municipalities. The statistics of service users from eMalahleni is higher compared to other municipalities. The indicator of being overwhelmed by clients is measured by the number of human resource the Centre has, compared to the number of clients that are serviced by the Centre. Therefore this shows that there is a shortage of social service professionals and medical service professionals in the Centre.

### **Monitoring**

The Committee wanted to know if the Department was monitoring the services rendered by the Centre, and whether the Department conducted background checks on the clients served by the Centre. The Department has a mutual relationship with SANCA. The Department reported they both refer clients to each other. Therefore, the Department also monitors the services rendered by SANCA including checking the background of clients served by the Centre.

### **After Care and Re-integration services**

The Committee requested for the status quo on the after care and re-integration services. The Department reported that the Centre has a re-integrated and aftercare model which is used as a relapse prevention strategy. The After Care team is working with each service user to develop a schedule such as life skills, Abet etc. that ensures following the habits of abstinence from substance abuse much easier; the success rate though is on an average rate. Family group conferences and case conferences are rendered to ensure successful reintegration services. The challenge in this regard is that there is no half-way

house in eMalahleni or any part of the province for vocational skills. Presently, this service is rendered based on the Individual Development Plan.

### **Detoxification**

The Committee asked as to how many hospitals are currently offering detoxification services in the area. The Department reported that previously both Witbank and Middleburg Hospitals were offering detoxification services but currently only Middleburg Hospital is offering the service; Witbank Hospital is primarily focusing on Primary Health Care services.

### **IDP (Individual Development Plan)**

Noting that the Centre clients have IDPs, the Committee enquired if the Centre was involving other family members of the service users when developing their IDPs (Individual Development Plan). The Department reported that each user is unique and the programmes implemented have varying benefits for both the service users and their families, hence families are involved during the development of the clients' IDPs.

### **Substance Abuse Stakeholder Forum**

The Committee enquired if the Municipality participates in the Substance Abuse Stakeholders Forum. The Department reported that the Municipality is a major stakeholder in the Local Drug Action Committee in terms of Substance Abuse Act, Act 70/2008. SANCA Witbank handed over the chairperson position to the municipality and has further trained 18 CDWs and the mayoral Committee on substance abuse programme. However, the Centre would like to highlight that at present the performance of the municipality is not satisfactory, this may be the indicator that the Centre must continue with capacity building to strengthen the local drug action Committee.



### **Nkangala Youth Treatment Centre**

The Committee noted that there was a proposal for the construction of a youth treatment Centre at Nkangala and enquired on progress in that regard. The Department reported that they were provided land by the National Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport near the road to Klarinet, to build a substance abuse youth in-patient treatment Centre. However, the Department was later redirected to another area on the border of eMalahleni and Victor Khanye Municipalities.

The Department is currently awaiting a report from the Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport on whether to renovate the vandalized buildings or demolish and start afresh and build the youth treatment Centre.

### **Service Fee**

The Committee asked for clarity on the service fee for both the unemployed and those who simply cannot afford to pay. Affordability tests are done on every service user. Those who are unable to pay for services are serviced at no fee and for those who can pay; payment is received.

### **Sex Workers**

The Committee noted that the Centre does reach sex workers through their awareness campaigns and enquired if the Centre conducted progress evaluation on them. The Department reported that no progress evaluations were conducted on sex workers reached but, the Centre does engage with them on a quarterly basis.

### **Public Relations**

On public relations, the Committee asked if the Centre does use the radio and how often if ever. The Centre has a slot quarterly with the local radio station where listeners get an opportunity to interact and ask questions on services rendered by the Centre.

## **Social Support**

The Committee enquired on the support and participation of mining sector on drug awareness campaigns. Some organizations in the mining sector are supportive towards the Centre, i.e. SAMANCOR invites and compensates the Centre to conduct induction programme against substance abuse and also presentations and exhibitions on their wellness days. Anglo American Colliery does invite the Centre to engage its employees on their substance abuse awareness campaigns.

## **FINDING MADE BY THE COMMITTEE**

- a. The Centre has extended its services to Victor Khanye and Steve Tshwete Municipalities;
  - The Centre has a shortage of social and medical services professionals ;
- b. The Centre is operating in rented municipal premises and the rental fee was not included on their table of expenses on page 3 of this report;
- c. Only Middleburg Hospital is offering detoxification services to the Centre;
- d. There is an identified site for the Nkangala Youth Treatment Centre

## **RECOMMENDATION MADE BY THE COMMITTEE**

- a. The Department must consider formalizing the extension of SANCA services to Victor Khanye and Steve Tshwete Municipalities and its budget thereof;
- b. The Department in collaboration with eMalahleni Local Municipality must fast-track the process of assisting the Centre securing its own site and offices;
- c. The Department must look into establishing/securing another health Centre for detoxification services with in the province;

- d. The Department must fast-track the construction of the youth treatment Centre.

The Department should provide a progress report on the implementation of House resolutions before 31 August 2015.

#### **14. CONCLUSION**

The Committee appreciates the good work done by the SANCA and wishes them even more success in all services being rendered.

The Committee also appreciates X-strata for their commitment in paying salaries for two (2) Social Auxiliary Workers serving at the Centre.

The Chairperson would like to express her heartfelt gratitude to all the Honourable Members of the Portfolio Committee on Health and Social Development for their attendance and active participation during the oversight visit. She further wishes to thank the Councilors; the management of SANCA eMalahleni and the Department of Social Development for cooperation and the Legislature staff for providing support to the Committee.



**HON. P NGOBENI**

**CHAIRPERSON: PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

13/08/15

**DATE**