

MEDIA STATEMENT

30 September 2020

Premier David Makhura suspends the Head of Department of Health

Gauteng Premier David Makhura has placed Professor Mkhululi Lukhele, the Head of the Department (HoD) of Health, under precautionary suspension with immediate effect.

The Premier is acting on the recommendations of the Special Investigating Unit following the update report presented to him on 22 September 2020.

The Special Investigating Unit found that the Head of Department failed to exercise his responsibility in the awarding of contracts to certain companies for the procurement of goods and services in relation to the government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The actions, or omission by the HoD may have resulted in the department incurring fruitless and wasteful expenditure.

Professor Lukhele will remain in precautionary suspension pending the completion of the investigations by the SIU and disciplinary proceedings for misconduct.

ENDS/

For media enquiries contact Thabo Masebe, Spokesperson for the Gauteng Provincial Government on 082 410 8087 or on <u>Thabo.Masebe@gauteng.gov.za</u>

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