

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**TO: All Media**

**ATT: News Editors, Health Reporters**

**For immediate release**

**Tuesday, 22 September 2020**

### **ACTING HEALTH MEC COMMENDS THE DEPARTMENT FOR IMPROVED INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEMS AS ATTEMPTED BREACH OF SCM PROCESS IS INTERCEPTED**

As a result of improved internal control systems, the Gauteng Department of Health was able to intercept an attempted breach of supply chain management (SCM) processes in a recent process to procure Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). This has led to the immediate precautionary suspension of the acting Supply Chain Management head on Friday, 18 September 2020.

The allegations against the official in question are that he failed to follow proper processes in the procurement of PPE. Furthermore, the official is also alleged to have conducted an act of dishonesty in discharging his duties thus bringing the Department into disrepute. The matter is now subject to an internal investigation.

Commenting on the development, acting health MEC Jacob Mamabolo said that “We are pleased that the early detection of the attempted non-compliance of SCM processes has not had any material effect on the Department. The process of procuring additional PPE stock had to be restarted and it is now on track.”

MEC Mamabolo pointed that it is important to note that the checks and balances being introduced in the Department are beginning to yield results. “This is a clear demonstration of the robustness of the internal control measures we have put in place. The Department’s procurement processes are now subjected to vetting and risk assessment by the Risk Management Unit.”

The MEC reiterated that while PPE remains an absolute essential in the protection of frontline workers and in the battle against Covid-19, due processes still have to be followed when it comes to procurement.

Ends/

#### **Issued by the Gauteng Department of Health**

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