

MEDIA RESPONSE

SUBJECT: INCOMPLETE MENTAL HOSPITAL

The Department of Roads and Public Works did not meet the envisaged deadline of December 2017 due to various reasons. Some of the reasons include underperformance of some of the sub-contractors as well as a delay in receiving special locks for access control that had to be imported. Currently there are 36 contractors on site. The new date for practical completion of 31st March 2018 is still under consideration by the Joint Management Committee comprised by National Department of Health; Provincial Department of Health and the Department of Roads and Public Works. The department has placed the following strategies in place to ensure that we meet the new deadline:

For the purpose of completing this project with the challenges that continued to be experienced on the site, the Department and the contractor agreed to finish the project in sectional/ zoned sequence. The facility was divided into four different zones containing various blocks. All wet works in all four zones has been completed. We are working according to a schedule to ensure that minor outstanding work is completed.

The building is currently being snagged. Some areas are complete and others are being snagged and desnagged. ('Snagging' is the process of identifying unsatisfactory or outstanding work/omissions for the contractor to correct prior to the practical completion.) The zones that have been completed are closed off and locked. Currently there are 36 sub-contractors are on site.

The following blocks have been snagged:

Open ward standard Block E3

The following blocks have been de-snagged:

Administration Block A

Forensic OT Block H

Multi- purpose Hall Block L

Waste Management Block S3

Workshop Block S4

Transport and Shuttle Department Block S10

The following blocks have been internally complete (100% complete)

Voluntary Child Care and Adolescence Block B

Overnight Ward Block C

Wellness Centre Block D

Library Block F

Forensic Medical Ward and OT Blocks J & K

Gate House Block U

Open Medium Ward Block E2

Stores and Services Yard Block S2

Forensic Core Block M1

Furthermore the Air-conditioning of the various blocks still has to be linked and landscaping still needs to be finalised. The decision to impose penalties will be determined by the outcome of the discussions about the granting extended time to the contractor.

According to the actual expenditure report current amounts to R 672 million.

The decision on the actual opening of the hospital and the operationalising thereof is the responsibility of the Department of Health.

Spokesperson of the Department of Roads and Public Works.