

Protest at Winterveldt clinic over non-employment of locals

RAPULA MOATSHHE

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This was according to Tshwane district director of primary health care Modise Makhudu, who said the

"The department is disappointed for not being able to provide service during the community protest," Makhudu said.

"Community members protested outside Kgabo Clinic.

There were allegations that a new-born baby died outside the clinic

after its mother was prevented from entering the facility that day.

Makhudu said: "The matter will be investigated by the manager and thereafter we can comment."

He said community claims that the implementation of EPWP excluded local residents were unfounded. "The community complained about programme participants but from our record 29 are from Winterveldt."

He declined to be drawn into allegations that ANC Ward 19 councillor Esther Matsomane had mobilised protesters to cause chaos at the clinic, saying he didn't have "evidence to that effect".

Motsomane vehemently denied such claims, saying the protest was started by the community members, who were angry with poor service delivery at the clinic.

"It is also not true that the gates were closed by the community. They were closed by the security guards.

"The service is poor. You must come here. You must speak to the community," she said.

Motsomane said the facility was always overcrowded.

Councillors often had to transport patients to neighbouring health facilities, she said.

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