

MEC diagnoses ailing health centres

By **KGALALELO TLHOAELE**

GAUTENG Health MEC Dr Gwen Ramokgopa visited public health facilities in Tshwane yesterday.

She was welcomed to Odi Hospital in Mabopane by protesters.

Staff members picketed, slept on floors and abandoned their posts. Residents also joined the protest.

“We walked into a confrontation between expanded public works programme workers and unions.

“The dispute was about posts, as everyone wanted a fair chance to apply,” she said.

She said there the hospital was dealing with issues of harassment and nepotism.

“I’m going to be briefed about the issues, and a team from head office must investigate,” she said

Ramokgopa also visited KT Motubatse Clinic in block XX of Soshanguve and Soshanguve Clinic 3 in block BB.

She asked patients and staff how they thought the department could help, and listened to complaints about poor service delivery.

“People come to the clinics early and sit in long queues.

“We need to have a functional booking system.

“The clinic manager said they have tried to implement a booking system.

“Those who had not booked appointments would be seen last, but this caused tension,” she said.

Ramokgopa said the other issues were the filing system and electronic patient records.



A staff member gives Gauteng Health MEC Dr Gwen Ramokgopa (centre) a tour of Odi Hospital, where workers and members of the community held a protest.

Photo by Morapedi Mashashe