

# Controversial Nkandla compound 'secure'

**Suthentira Govender and Orrin Singh**

Former president Jacob Zuma is safe and sound.

His spokesperson, Vukile Mathabela, said Zuma's Nkandla compound was secure and under no threat, despite pictures circulating on social media which showed a security fence broken in places.

The pictures sparked speculation the controversial R246m homestead was falling apart, while some raised safety issues regarding the former president.

The Nkandla municipality initially indicated it would embark on a fact-finding mission, but later did an about-turn, saying it was a private residence and that they could not enter the compound.

"We can confirm that this is not the former president's home [shown in the pictures]

but other properties outside, which SAPS and public works can be in a position to comment on," Mathabela said.

"If that was the former president's home it would mean a breach of security, but this is not the case.

"His home is still secure."

When a TimesLIVE team visited the area on Tuesday, there was little activity in and around the compound.

The part of the fence that appeared to be broken had been hastily patched up.

The homestead became a source of national controversy after it emerged that public funds were used to upgrade the compound.

These included a fire pool, the fence and a helipad. —

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