



## public works & infrastructure

Department:  
Public Works and Infrastructure  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



### **Presentation on the Precautionary Suspension of the Director-General of the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI).**

18 August 2020

# Purpose

To update the Portfolio Committee on Public works and Infrastructure the process followed regarding the precautionary suspension of Director-General Advocate Sam Vukela.

# Precautionary Suspension of DG

- On Tuesday 28 July 2020, I placed the Director-General of the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure (DPWI), Advocate Sam Vukela on precautionary suspension - effective as of Wednesday 29 July 2020 - pending the finalisation of the disciplinary processes instituted against the DG.
- This action followed from a Minute I received from President Cyril Ramaphosa on 17 March 2020 to inform me of his decision to delegate his powers to the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure to initiate disciplinary processes against the Director-General, Adv Sam Vukela.
- The Office of the State Law Adviser appointed a legal firm Cheadle Thompson & Haysom Inc to assist with the matter.

# Precautionary Suspension of DG

- This process follows reports I received into two investigations:
  1. A report by PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PWC) which investigated allegations of irregularities related to the provision of moveable infrastructure for official funerals; and
  2. A report by the Public Service Commission which investigated allegations of irregular appointments within the Senior Management Service of the Department.
- The precautionary suspension of the Director-General shall remain in effect until such time as the disciplinary hearing has been finalised and the allegations has been tested.

# Precautionary Suspension of DG

- Such hearing shall, in accordance with Item 2.7(2)(c) of Chapter 7 of the SMS Handbook, commence within sixty (60) days of the date of delivery of the letter to the Director-General.
- I sought legal advice and assistance to start the process as directed in the minute of the President.
- An internal disciplinary process that will be chaired by a senior advocate will be convened in due course.
- In order to protect the integrity of the process and the rights of the Director-General in terms of the Labour Relations Act, no further comment will be made until the process has been concluded.

# Thank You



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