**Mr S Esau (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**  **2971**

(1) Why has her department failed to establish a health and wellness centre, as per its 2014 Annual Performance Plan;

(2) What options were under consideration with reference to her department’s briefing to Parliament that her department was on the verge of procuring a centre;

(3) What are the current associated costs for the specified centre;

(4) (a) how many centres does her department plan to establish and (b) where will the specified centres be established, including the roll-out plan by the end of the 2015-16 financial year;

(5) What is the sustainability plan for the specified centres in the long term? NW3475E

**REPLY**

1) Acquisition of Infrastructure is done through the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Department of Military Veterans does not have control over the process hence failure to acquire health and wellness centre as planned.

(2) The Department has made the financial provision for the establishment of the Health and Wellness Centre and had identified several sites in Gauteng which were submitted to the Department of Public Works, together with the specifications of the envisioned centre to fast track the procurement process as advised by DPW. Furthermore the Department is also considering the possibility of renting the Health and Wellness Sites and out-source the related services based on the specifications developed for the centre.

(3) Currently the Department has not incurred any costs but has reserved R19 million based on projections of the procurement and the management of the facility.

(4) (a) The ultimate plan for the Department is to establish one Health and Wellness Centre in each Province.

(b) The location of the Health and Wellness Centre will be based on the suitability of the sites, however for the 2015/16 period the Department plans to establish one centre in Gauteng.

(5) The department has developed a business plan which will inform the annual budget to ensure the sustainability of the program.

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