Official reply: 31 March 2015

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION 261 /2015**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

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**261. Mr M Waters (DA) to ask the Minister of Social Development:**

(a) When will the Kempton Park office of the SA Social Security Agency be opened and (b) what are the reasons for the delay? NW284E

**Reply:**

1. South African Social Security Agency has initiated a procurement process to acquire office accommodation through the Department of Public Works at the beginning of this financial year. It was envisaged that this office would have been reopened in the third quarter of 2014/2015 financial year. However due to non - responses of suitable bidders, this has since not materialised as envisaged. In insuring that the service is provided in Kempton Park while searching for permanent office space the Agency had secured a temporary office through Ekurhuleni municipality whereby services are provided three times a week.
2. The lack of suitable office accommodation in Kempton Park and none responses from potential bidders has caused the delay in securing the office space. An effort to intensify the search for a suitable space has been made through revising the accommodation needs assessment and resubmitting to Department of Public Work for procurement instructions to be issued out again and continuous engagement with the Ekurhuleni municipality is ongoing.