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**The Secretary** KwaZulu-Natal Legislature Private Bag X9112

**PIETERMARITZBURG** 

3201

Dear Madam,

#### WRITTEN REPLY

No. 12/2023 Dr I Keeka (DA) to ask the MEC for Public Works:

Regarding funds owed to Department of Public Works by the Department of Education:

1. How much is owed to the Department of Public Works by the Department of Education at present; [Please provide an aged summary]

#### Reply

The Balance owed by Department of Education as at 31 December 2022 is R172 Million. Below please find the Age analysis for Department of Education:

Age Analysis Client Departments as at 31 DEC 2022						
	DEC	NOV	OCT	SEP	AUG	
Client Department	CURRENT	30 DAYS	60 DAYS	90 DAYS	120 days +	TOTAL
Education	53 747 862,92	71 014 329,91	25 117 696,94	842 369,50	22 154 632,83	172 876 892,10

It must be noted that subsequently, an amount of R116, 650 million has since been received by DPW from the client department. The department continues to implement projects on behalf of the Department of Education, and as such claims are instituted against the client on a monthly basis.

- 2. If there is an outstanding amount:
  - (a) For what is this sum owed;

#### Reply:

The amount owed by the Department of Education relates to various projects under the following categories:

- Upgrades and additions & M/A Current/Planned Services
- Hiring of Buildings
- Rehabilitation and refurbishments of schools
- Miscellaneous projects i.e Water and Electricity, Boreholes

(b) When is it anticipated that this will be paid;

# Reply:

The Department continues to engage the client department to ensure that the claims are settled as soon as possible. Reconciliation of the account is conducted on a regular basis with the client department to resolve any discrepancies identified. Invoices are submitted to the client department on a monthly basis and payment is expected within 30 days in line with prescripts.

(c) What interaction has been had with the Department of Education to recover any funds; and

# Reply:

The Department continues to have various engagements with the Department Education to discuss the account, as mentioned above. However, it must be noted that the client department has indicated cash flow challenges as some of the funds are only received on a quarterly basis, as well as the prevailing spending pressures that exist within the department. However, the Department of Education continues to indicate commitment to settle outstanding claims as and when funds are received within their own budget allocations.

(d) What is the impact on the DPW given any outstanding amount?

# Reply:

The delays in the settlement of claims by client departments has a negative impact on the cash flow of the department. This is often evident when the DPW is unable to settle invoices from service providers within 30 days.

Mr SP MAJOLA

Acting HEAD: PUBLIC WORKS

Dr NNG MAHLABA, MPL

MEC FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND PUBLIC WORKS

DATE: 15/02/2023