

EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

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Attention: The MEC for Health

Dear MEC Gomba

Re: Despicable treatment of cancer patient in Livingstone Hospital on 11 June 2019

I wish to bring your attention to the fact that a cancer patient, one Mr Barnado, was subjected to subhuman treatment in Livingstone Hospital and was forced to lie on a bed so disgusting it is not fit for human use, for eight and a half hours before he passed away. Please see the attached photograph of the bed.

His sister who was there to be with him, begged the staff to put him on a more comfortable bed, but her pleas were ignored. She was also accosted by a security guard who made her delete the photos she had taken of the bed. Fortunately she had already sent a photo to a family member or this incident would no doubt have been swept under the carpet. She was also told that she may not sit on the chairs as they are for patients and not visitors, although other visitors were sitting on chairs in the ward.

The final insult was the fact that she was instructed to leave the room before her brother passed and so she could not be with him in his last moments. Who would be so cruel as to do this?

On behalf of the sister of Mr Barnado, I demand that a full investigation be done to establish who was responsible for such abominable behaviour towards both the patient and his sister, and that these people be held to account.

Yours in service,

Jane Cowley

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane Cowley'.