

Democratic Alliance statement by
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DA welcomes departure of bunking Brigadier

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I am pleased that Brigadier Govindsamy Mariemuthoo has been moved this month from his position as Station Commander of Jeppe Police station after the controversy caused by my disclosure that he was absent for 156 days in two years.

He took 70 vacation days, 64 days' temporary incapacity leave and 22 days' sick leave, being absent in total about 30% of the time.

Mariemuthoo has been appointed as Deputy Cluster Commander where I hope his daily attendance is monitored closely and he does the job he is paid to do.

Brigadier David Ngcobo is the new Jeppe Station Commander. He was previously Station Commander of the Alexandra Police Station where he was suspended in June last year after four people were gunned down by a rogue police constable from the station.

While this is a blot on his record I hope that he can turn things around in Jeppe where crime has recently spiked upwards.

Serious incidents include a woman who was raped and murdered at the Darras Shopping Centre in Kensington and a man murdered in 7th Avenue in Bezuidenhout Valley.

House break-ins have also soared alarmingly in the area.

Local DA councillors Carlos da Rocha and Victor Penning will give their best efforts to assist Brigadier Ngcobo in fighting crime effectively.

Unlike his absentee predecessor, he needs to be a permanent hands-on presence in combating crime.

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